Woodland Birds of North East Victoria An Identification and Conservation Guide

Victoria's woodlands are renowned for their rich and varied bird life. Unfortunately, one in five woodland bird species in Australia are now threatened. These species are declining due to historical clearing and fragmentation of habitat, lack of habitat regeneration, competition from aggressive species and predation by cats and foxes. See inside this brochure for ways to help conserve these woodland birds.

Victorian Conservation Status

Listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG 1988)

CR Critically Endangered **EN** Endangered

VU Vulnerable

* Member of the FFG listed 'Victorian Temperate Woodland Bird Community'

₩ Ground layer

Understorey

Tree trunks

Canopy

Nests in hollows

Size: Approximate length from bill tip to tail tip (cm)

Guide to symbols

Food Source

Wectar and pollen

Seeds

Fruits and berries

Small prey

Websites:

Birdlife Australia birdlife.org.au

Birds in Backyards birdsinbackyards.net

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action deeca.vic.gov.au (see environment.vic.gov.au web pages)

Land for Wildlife Search: Land for Wildlife Victoria Greening Australia greeningaustralia.org.au

Trust for Nature (Conservation Covenants on private land) www.tfn.org.au

Landcare Victoria landcarevic.org.au

Revegetation guides and remnant protection incentives

Search: NECMA Revegetation Information

For more information:

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Wangaratta (03) 8508 0008 Wodonga (02) 6071 6201

Benalla (03) 8622 7601

Melbourne (03) 9347 0757

deeca.vic.gov.au Birdlife Australia

birdlife.org.au

North East Catchment Management Authority

Local Call: 1300 216 513 necma.vic.gov.au

Goulburn-Broken Catchment Management Authority

Shepparton (03) 5822 7700

gbcma.vic.gov.au

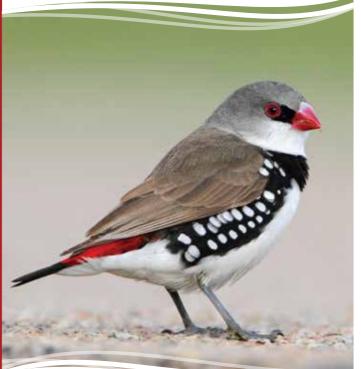
Acknowledgements:

Photographs donated by: Dean Ingwersen (DI) Chris Tzaros (CT) Glen Johnson (GJ) Cover photograph: Diamond Firetail Stagonopleura guttata VU * 12 (CT) Compiled by: Catherine Nield & Glen Johnson (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)) Chris Tzaros & Dean Ingwersen (Birdlife Australia)

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An Identification and Conservation Guide















Square-tailed Kite Lophoictinia isura VU 52 (CT) **>**



Painted Button-quail Turnix varius * 19 (CT) M M



Musk Lorikeet Glossopsitta concinna 22 (CT) 👺 😢 🐚 💁





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Superb Parrot (male) Polytelis swainsonii – **Nationally Vulnerable** EN * 40 (DI) 🎉 😰 🕡 🔊 🧖



Turquoise Parrot (male) Turquoise Parrot (female) Neophema pulchella VU * 21 (CT) Neophema pulchella VU * 21 (DI)



Red-rumped Parrot (female)

Psephotus haematonotus 27 (CT)

Superb Parrot (female)

Polytelis swainsonii – Nationally Vulnerable

EN * 40 (CT) 🎉 😰 🕡 🝙 🐚 💁

Black-eared Cuckoo



Barking Owl Ninox connivens CE * 41 (CT)









Southern Whiteface **Buff-rumped Thornbill** Aphelocephala leucopsis - Nationally Vulnerable Acanthiza reguloides 11 (CT) 10 (DI) 🖳 🔐 🙆



Fuscous Honeyeater Ptilotula fusca * 15 (DI) 👺 😢 💁 🕎



White-plumed Honeyeater Ptilotula penicillata 16 (DI) 👺 🖳 💁 🕎



Striated Pardalote

Pardalotus striatus 10 (CT)

Painted Honeyeater

Regent Honeyeater Anthochaera phrygia Nationally Critically Endangered



Spotted Pardalote

Pardalotus punctatus 10 (CT)

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater

Lichenostomus melanops 18 (CT)











Geopelia striata 22 (CT)

Bush Stone-curlew Burhinus grallarius CR * 56 (CT)

Spotted Quail-thrush

Cinclosoma punctatum 26 (DI)

Little Lorikeet

Parvipsitta pusilla 17 (CT)

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Purple-crowned Lorikeet Parvipsitta porphyrocephala' 18 (DI) 👺 🔘 🕿



Lathamus discolor - Nationally Endangered CE * 25 (CT)



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White-throated Gerygone Gerygone olivacea 10 (DI) **2**

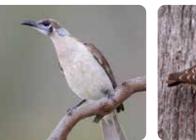
CR * 22 (CT) 👺 🖳 💁 🐴



Red Wattlebird Anthochaera carunculata 35 (CT)



Brown-headed Honeveater Melithreptus brevirostris * 13 (DI) 👺 💌 💁 🕎



Little Friarbird Philemon citreogularis 27 (DI) *** ***



Grey-crowned Babbler Pomatostomus temporalis VU * 27 (DI)



Noisy Friarbird

Philemon corniculatus 33 (CT)

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Varied Sittella

Daphoenositta chrysoptera 11 (CT)

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White-browed Babbler

Pomatostomus superciliosus 20 (CT)

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Black-chinned Honeyeater Melithreptus gularis * 15 (DI) ****** 🖳 🗻 🕎



Restless Flycatcher

Myiagra inquieta 20 (DI)

Crested Shrike-tit (male) Falcunculus frontatus 18 (DI)

Rufous Whistler (male)

Pachycephala rufiventris 17 (DI)

Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike

Coracina novaehollandiae 33 (CT)



Crested Shrike-tit (female) Falcunculus frontatus 18 (DI)



Rufous Whistler (female) Pachycephala rufiventris 17 (DI)









Grey Shrike-thrush

Colluricincla harmonica 24 (CT)

Scarlet Robin (male)

Petroica boodang 13 (CT)

Red-capped Robin (male)

Petroica goodenovii * 12 (CT)

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Red-capped Robin (female)

Petroica goodenovii * 12 (DI)

Dusky Woodswallow

Artamus cyanopterus 18 (DI)

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Scarlet Robin (female)

Petroica boodang 13 (DI)



Hooded Robin (male)

Melanodryas cucullata VU * 16 (CT)

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Jacky Winter

Mistletoebird (male)

Dicaeum hirundinaceum 11 (DI)

:

Microeca fascinans * 13 (CT)



:

Hooded Robin (female)

Melanodryas cucullata VU * 16 (DI)

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Red-browed Finch

Neochmia temporalis 12 (CT)

Struthidea cinerea * 31 (CT) **W W**



Victoria's woodlands are renowned for their rich and varied bird life. Unfortunately one in five woodland bird species in Australia are now threatened. The most rapidly declining species are those that rely on mature trees (especially hollow-bearing trees) and those that forage, nest or live on the ground. Under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988), the Victorian Temperate Woodland Bird Community is listed as a threatened ecological community. Twenty-two of the twenty-four species from that community are found in North East Victoria and are shown in this brochure.

Why are woodland bird numbers declining?

Historical clearing and fragmentation impacts Since European settlement over 80% of woodlands in south-east Australia have been cleared. Remaining remnants are generally isolated and small, and often below the critical size needed to sustain healthy populations of many bird species.



Natural regeneration with a diversity of habitats provides important refuge for woodland birds (GJ)

· Lack of habitat regeneration

Native tree and shrub seedlings and grassy woodland groundcover species are highly susceptible to domestic stock grazing (and in some instances kangaroo browsing pressure). Many woodland remnants in poor condition lack native plant diversity and therefore have low habitat value for woodland birds.



Manorina melanocephala 26 (CT)

Common Myna Acridotheres tristis 24 (CT)

 Predation Woodland bird species that nest or forage on the ground are particularly vulnerable to predation by cats and foxes.

- **Protect and expand existing remnants** the bigger the better.
- vegetation.
- grazing to manage exotic grass/weed levels. Aim to achieve native tree, shrub and ground cover regeneration.
- important small bird habitat. Reduce other high threat invasive species.
- species to enhance diversity and re-create understorev structure
- Retain important habitat features such as fallen timber, dead trees
- Control pests and predators especially rabbits, cats and foxes (where
- **Gain further knowledge & ideas:** Refer to further information and



Brush-tailed Phascogale Phascogale tapoatafa VU (CT)

Sauirrel Glider

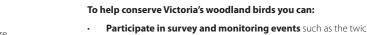
Petaurus norfolcensis VU (GJ)



at increasing the size and quality of existing remnants and creating or widening wildlife corridors wherever possible. This not only benefits the bird community but many other species, such as the threatened Brush-tailed Phascogale and Squirrel Glider that rely on habitat connectivity to move throughout the landscape.



You can help



- Participate in survey and monitoring events such as the twice annual Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot Survey weekends and the annual Lurg Woodland Bird Survey.
- **Submit records** of birds you have seen (especially rare or threatened species) to databases such as the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action).
- Join a local community group such as Field Naturalists, Environment, Friends of, or Landcare.
- **Be a responsible pet owner** and confine your pets. Wandering cats are major predators of native birds.

Tips for Land holders / Land managers of woodland patches:

- Protect the best bits first such as diverse native habitats or streamside
- Enter **Conservation Covenant** agreements to provide permanent
- Fence patches to permanently exclude stock or allow infrequent pulse
- **Control weeds**: Replace woody weeds with native shrubs to provide
- **Restore:** Plant seedlings of key native tree, shrub and groundcover
- (especially those with crevices or hollows) and rocky outcrops.
- contacts on the back of this brochure.





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