

Regent Honeyeater Captive Release & Community Monitoring Project – Update #38 – July 2020

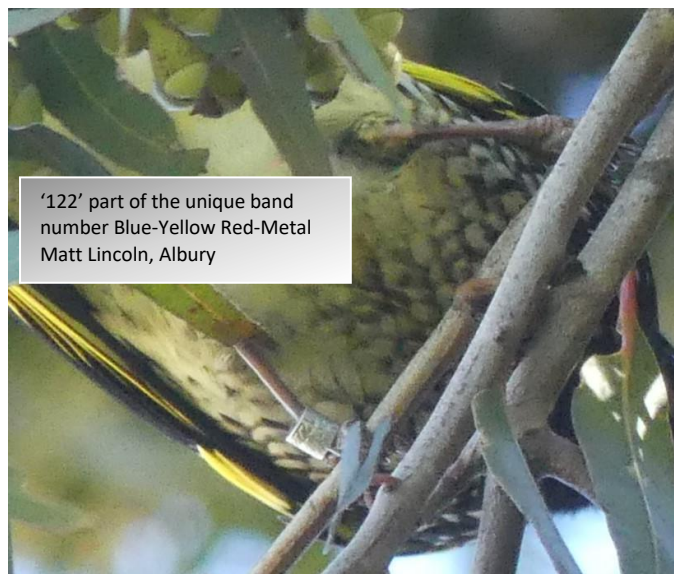
Hi everyone (Regent Honeyeater email group),
Update #38 -- 3yrs + post 2017 release

Border Crossings

Regular readers will recall ([Update #36](#)) that our 'one leg band only' Regent, Orange-Metal Green-Black (OMNP), became the first of our 2017 cohort to be observed three years post release. It was observed in Chiltern Mt. Pilot NP at the start of June for around a week (including once together with a wild Regent) but, despite lots of searching, has since escaped detection.

Recently Murray Lord, while holidaying in the Albury Wodonga area before the COVID closure, chanced upon two Regents in a flowering gum just near the Hume Dam spillway carpark – on the NSW side of the border.

A team of locals were mobilised. First Matt Lincoln confirmed one of the Regents had a single metal band on the left leg – and his photos detected part of that bands' unique stamped number.



And OMNP is accompanied by (or at least is closely shadowing) a wild female Regent – potentially the same as that it was recorded with over a month ago.



Why the 34km movement?

Naturally occurring Mugga Ironbark flowering has almost finished in the National Park at Chiltern – yet there's good flowering of planted specimens in reserves and gardens in Albury Wodonga. Certainly, the planted Spotted Gum near the Weir wall currently has exceptional flowering.



Finally, key photos from the many 100's taken by Neville Bartlett categorically captured the entire band number: '053-12280'. Regent OMNP – minus it's three colour bands – had been confirmed again!



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Missing bands



Blue-Yellow Red-Metal
Neville Bartlett

Four legs – one band



Blue-Yellow Red-Metal
(left) & wild female (right)
Neville Bartlett

The Coongulla connection continues!

Last [Update #37](#) we reported on the amazing sighting of Blue-Yellow Red-Metal (BYRM) - the first confirmed sighting of a Regent five years post its release (2015 in this instance).



Blue-Yellow Red-Metal
John Gwyther, Coongulla

John Gwyther recently confirmed that despite having gone undetected for five years, BYRM has now been regularly recorded over the last month in another garden, 400m from its original bird bath sighting location, in Coongulla, near Lake Glenmaggie in Gippsland.

All four bands still on show



Blue-Yellow Red-Metal
John Gwyther, Coongulla

BYRM in Banksia



Blue-Yellow Red-Metal
John Gwyther, Coongulla

Please report any Regent / Swift sightings asap:
Glen Johnson DELWP 0418 501 936
Mick Roderick BirdLife Australia 0421 761 237