Regent Honeyeater Captive Release & Community Monitoring Project – Update #33 – June 2019

Hi everyone (Regent Honeyeater email group), Update #33 – 2yrs + post 2017 release

New flight record

Readers will recall (Update #31) that our released Regents demonstrate great capacity to reach (relatively) far flung places including East Gippsland and Melbourne. We can now report a new distance travelled record.



The locality, western Sydney, is a straight-line distance of 463 km from the Chiltern release point (see Map over leaf).

Although somewhat blurred the unmistakable trait of a 2017 released bird, an Orange master band over Metal is evident on photo above.



The landholder Leslie Kelly reported that during its two-day garden visit the banded bird occasionally called and was accompanied by another, noncalling and un-banded Regent i.e. a wild bird. The banded birds calling together with its distinctive coloration shows it's a male.

At this stage we can't be sure on which of the eight 2017 release males it may be, i.e. that have Orange Metal (left leg) and had one or more White bands (right).

This record registers the longest documented 'single sector' distance travelled of any released Regent to date – and the *fourth longest confirmed movement* ever by a Regent Honeyeater.

This incredibly valuable information helps improve our understanding of the species longevity, habitat use, and movement potential in the environment.

Chiltern update

Several Regent observations in Chiltern Mt. Pilot National Park (Ballarat Road/White Box walk area) have been recently recorded, including verification of at least one wild (un-banded) bird. A team of locals are actively searching the Park to track down, check for bands and photograph these birds.

Time to Spot a Regent!

We'd really appreciate everyone keeping an eye and ear for Regents in your patch. Please let us know ASAP if you spot any or hear of Regent observations. Remember to check for bands with binoculars and take / forward photos where possible.

Please contact us if you have any queries:

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PTO for movement map





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