



BIRD

Acanthiza uropygialis

Chestnut-rumped Thornbill

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Residency
-	-	V	-	Resident



Photo: © Tom & Marie Tarrant (www.aviceda.org)

Conservation Significance

The species has been described as 'probably declining' within the AMLR.¹ Within the AMLR the species' relative area of occupancy is classified as 'Extremely Restricted'.²

Description

Small busily active thornbill. Forehead light brown and speckled white, face pale with white eye-ring. Upperparts dull brown with a chestnut rump. Tail black with white tip.³

Distribution and Population

Endemic to mainland Australia. Widespread in SA but not found in the south-west or north-east of SA or Kangaroo Island.⁵

Post-1983 AMLR isolated records from Rowland Flat, Sandy Creek CP, Horsnell Gully RP, near Rockleigh, Tepko, Monarto, Aldinga Scrub CP and Onkaparinga RP.²

Pre-1983 AMLR filtered record at Onkaparinga RP.²

Habitat

Occurs in a range of arid and semi-arid woodlands with an open understorey. Has declined within the agricultural regions. Small populations occur in mallee, box and native pine woodlands at the margins of the MLR region (G. Carpenter *pers. comm.*).

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation groups are Grassy Woodland, Heathy Woodland and Mallee.²

Biology and Ecology

Breeds from July to December, but not during drought seasons. Nest is a dome of dried grasses, bark fibres and occasionally some cobweb with a side entrance; lined with feathers, fur and soft plant material. Usually placed in a hole in a tree, log, fence post or building 1-6m above the ground.⁴

Mainly insectivorous but occasionally eats seeds, mostly foraging in shrubs and trees, sometimes on ground. Most food is gleaned from foliage and branches but they also probe beneath loose bark or on fallen trees and branches.³ Often forages with other species including other thornbills and small insectivores.³

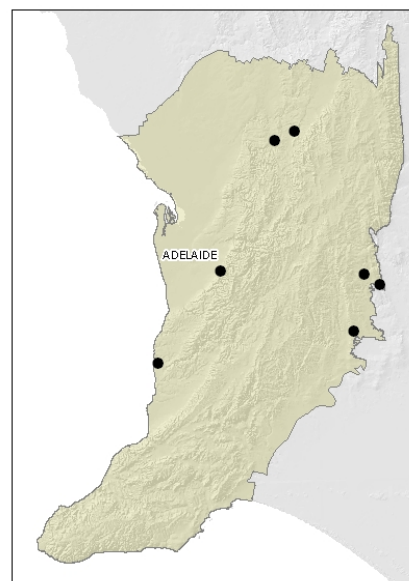
Aboriginal Significance

Post-1983 records indicate the AMLR distribution occurs in Ngarrindjeri, Kurna and Nganguraku Nations. It also occurs in Ngadjuri Nation (bordering Peramangk Nation).²

Threats

Current direct threats have been identified and rated for this species. Refer to the main plan accompanying these profiles.

Regional Distribution



Further information:

Biodiversity Conservation Unit, Adelaide Region
Phone: (61 8) 8336 0901 Fax: (61 8) 8336 0999
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Prepared as part of the Regional Recovery Plan for Threatened Species and Ecological Communities of Adelaide and the Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia 2009 - 2014



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ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Threatened Species Profile

Department
for Environment
and Heritage

Map based on filtered post-1983 records.² Note, this map does not necessarily represent the actual species' distribution within the AMLR.

References

Note: In some cases original reference sources are not included in this list, however they can be obtained from the reference from which the information has been sourced (the reference cited in superscript).

1 Cale, B. (2005). *Towards a Recovery Plan for the Declining Birds of the Mount Lofty Ranges*. Scientific Resource Document for Birds for Biodiversity. Unpublished Report.

2 Department for Environment and Heritage (2007). *Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Regional Recovery Pilot Project Database*. Unpublished data extracted and edited from BDBSA, SA Herbarium (July 2007) and other sources.

3 Higgins, P. J. and Peter, J. M., eds. (2002). *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Volume 6: Pardalotes to Shrike-thrushes*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

4 Reader's Digest (1997). *Reader's Digest Complete Book of Australian Birds*. Reader's Digest (Australia) Pty Ltd.

5 Simpson, K. and Day, N. (1999). *Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*. 6th Edn. Penguin Books, Australia.

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