



BIRD

Psephotus haematonotus

Red-rumped Parrot

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Residency
-	-	U	-	Resident



Photo: © South Australian Ornithological Association

Conservation Significance

The AMLR distribution is part of a limited extant distribution in adjacent regions within SA. The species has been described as 'probably declining' within the AMLR.² Relative to all AMLR extant species, the species' taxonomic uniqueness is classified as 'High'.³

Description

Medium-sized, slender parrot. Adult male bright green, with blue-green head, red rump, and yellow shoulders and belly. Female is duller, olive-green, with green rump and faint yellow or light green scales on the belly. Young birds of both sexes are duller in colour. Call is a two-syllable whistle 'suweet-weet'.¹

Distribution and Population

Found in south-eastern Australia, throughout most of NSW (less so on the coast) and VIC, with an isolated population in north-eastern SA and south-western QLD. Aviary escapes may have increased populations in some areas, especially around the NSW Central Coast and Sydney.¹

Post-1983 AMLR filtered records numerous across the region apart from the southern central zone of Fleurieu Peninsula (between Deep Creek and Inman Valley).³

Pre-1983 AMLR filtered records limited, scattered across the region.³

Habitat

Found in open grasslands or lightly timbered plains,

along watercourses and in mallee farmlands with access to water.¹

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation groups are Grassy Woodland and Riparian.³

Biology and Ecology

Feed in pairs or small flocks on the ground, eating seeds and leaves of grasses. Will also feed on fruits and flowers in trees. Often seen feeding in suburban parks. They will feed with other parrots, including Eastern Rosellas and Galahs.¹

Breeding season August to December. Clutch size of three to seven, usually five. Incubation period 21 days, and time in the nest 30 days.¹

Mate for life. Female chooses and prepares nesting site, usually a hollow in a Eucalypt (but will sometimes use a nest-box or other artificial site). Eggs are laid on a decayed wood bed and the female incubates the eggs while the male regularly feeds her. Young may be fed for a while after fledging.¹

Aboriginal Significance

Post-1983 records indicate the AMLR distribution occurs in all Aboriginal Nations - Kaurna, Ngadjuri, Nganguraku, Ngarrindjeri and Peramangk.³

Threats

Threats are probably a combination of factors including:

- lack of, and competition for nesting hollows
- predation by domestic pets, especially cats
- road kills when feeding on roadsides.¹

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

Further information:

Biodiversity Conservation Unit, Adelaide Region
Phone: (61 8) 8336 0901 Fax: (61 8) 8336 0999
<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/>

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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



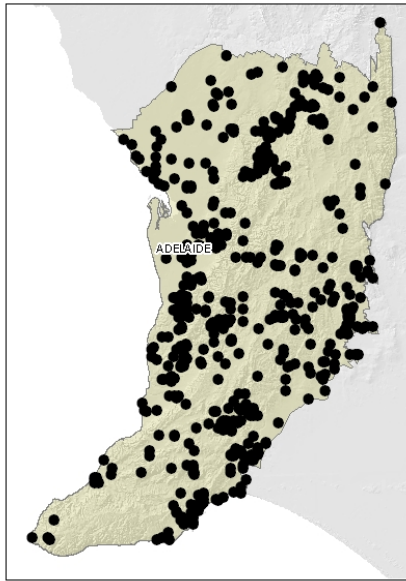
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Department
for Environment
and Heritage

Regional Distribution



Map based on filtered post-1983 records.³ 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 Australian Museum (2005). *Birds in Backyards: Bird Finder*. Available from <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net> (accessed November 2007).

2 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.

3 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.

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