

TAXON SUMMARY

Baudin's Black-Cockatoo

(Long-billed Black-Cockatoo)

1	Family	Cacatuidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Calyptorhynchus baudinii</i> Lear, 1832
3	Common name	Baudin's Black-Cockatoo
4	Conservation status	Near Threatened: c

5 Reasons for listing

This species has disappeared from about 25% of its range and is assumed to have declined in density over at least another 25% that has been partially cleared. There has thus been a decline in density over half the species' range (Near Threatened: c).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	40,000 km ²	high
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	2,000 km ²	low
trend	stable	medium
No. of breeding birds	12,000	low
trend	decreasing	low
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	15 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

None described.

7 Past range and abundance

Endemic to higher rainfall parts of the south-west of Western Australia, mostly between Perth, Albany and Margaret River (Saunders, 1974a, 1979, Saunders *et al.*, 1985, Saunders and Ingram, 1995, Schodde and Mason, 1997).

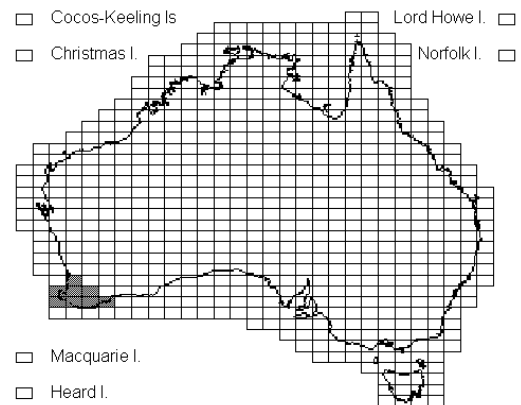
8 Present range and abundance

Overall extent of range probably stable since settlement (Saunders *et al.*, 1985, Saunders and Ingram, 1995), but, within the range, disappeared from about 25%, and population thought to have declined elsewhere since 1950s (Johnstone, 1997). Numbers of mature birds estimated at 10,000 to 15,000 (Higgins, 1999).

9 Ecology

Baudin's Black-Cockatoos are found in temperate forest and woodland dominated by the eucalypts Jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*, Karri *E. diversicolor* and Marri *E. calophylla*. They nest in hollows in mature eucalypts, particularly Marri, Karri and Wandoo *E. wandoo* (Saunders, 1974a), usually laying two eggs, although breeding success only estimated at 0.6 young per pair (Johnstone and Storr, 1998). Nests are thinly dispersed through the available feeding habitat, with greater densities perhaps being prevented by intense

competition between nesting females (Saunders *et al.*, 1985). In forested areas, Baudin's Black-Cockatoos mainly feed on the seeds and flowers of Marri (Saunders, 1974a,b). They also take seeds from apples and pears in orchards (Long, 1985, Halse, 1986).



10 Threats

Up to a quarter of the habitat of Baudin's Black-Cockatoo has been cleared for agriculture (Mawson and Johnstone, 1997, Johnstone, 1997). In remaining habitat, density appears to have declined as a result of selective removal of large Marri, from which the species obtains most of its food (P. Mawson). Nest sites could have become limiting had past forest management continued (Saunders *et al.*, 1985, Mawson and Long, 1994, Saunders and Ingram, 1995), but it is now planned to stop all woodchipping by 2003. Cessation of woodchipping will also reduce the number of feeding trees that are removed. Although the species has been fully protected since 1996 (Halse, 1986, Mawson and Johnstone, 1997), illegal shooting by orchardists still occurs (P. Mawson), and it is not known whether losses from shooting exceed productivity.

11 Recommended actions

- 11.1 Develop a repeatable population monitoring technique.
- 11.2 Initiate monitoring in different parts of range.
- 11.3 Help orchardists develop a non-lethal damage mitigation technique and enforce more vigorously legislative provisions that make shooting illegal.

12 Bibliography

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Saunders (1992).

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