

## TAXON SUMMARY

# Forest Raven (New England)

1	Family	Corvidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Corvus tasmanicus boreus</i> Rowley, 1970
3	Common name	Forest Raven (New England)
4	Conservation status	Near Threatened: c

### 5 Reasons for listing

Although there is little information available regarding either population size or trends, the subspecies is listed as Near Threatened on the basis that habitat loss within the historical range is likely to have caused a reduction in population density of over 50% (c).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	60,000 km <sup>2</sup>	medium
trend	stable	low
Area of occupancy	4,000 km <sup>2</sup>	low
trend	stable	low
No. of breeding birds	10,000	low
trend	stable	low
No. of sub-populations	1	medium
Generation time	10 years	low

### 6 Intraspecific taxa

*C. t. tasmanicus* (Tasmania, southern Victoria and south-eastern South Australia) is Least Concern.

### 7 Past range and abundance

New England Region, N. S. W., between Tenterfield and Barrington Tops, along the Dorrigo Plateau to the coast between Port Stephens and Coffs Harbour (Rowley, 1970, Debus, 1980, 1983, Secomb, 1977, S. Debus). One breeding pair may occupy 40 ha (Rowley, 1973a) and pairs occur at 1-2 km intervals along the New South Wales coast (Debus, 1980), but there remains no measure of overall abundance. Identification of trends in population size and distribution are confounded by difficulties with identification.

### 8 Present range and abundance

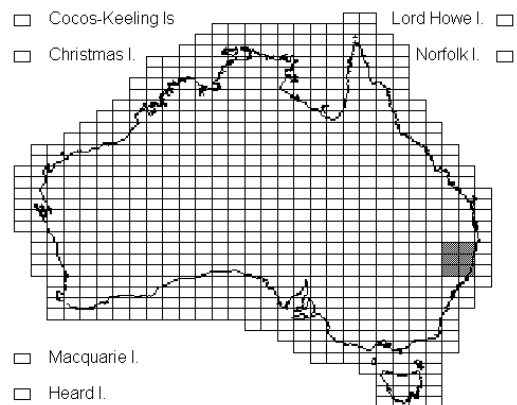
As above.

### 9 Ecology

This subspecies of Forest Raven lives in eucalypt forests, paperbark swamps, coastal heath and farmland, but is absent from the rainforests and from the cleared plains west of the Tableland (Debus, 1980). Forest Ravens are omnivorous, taking carrion (including road kills), insects, eggs, chicks and plant matter (Brothers, 1979, Rowley and Vestjens, 1973, S. Debus). They lay 3-5 eggs in a cup nest near the top of a tree (Rowley, 1973b).

### 10 Threats

Habitat destruction through widespread clearance is the principal threat to the Forest Raven in northern New South Wales, which may also be advantageous to Australian Ravens *C. coronoides* and Torresian Crows *C. orru*, with which Forest Ravens compete for territories (Rowley, 1970, Debus, 1982).



### 11 Recommended actions

- 11.1 Determine current population size and area of occupancy as a basis to determine future trends.
- 11.2 Monitor all sites where species recorded by Rowley (1970) and Debus (1980).

### 12 Bibliography

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Comments received from  
Stephen Debus.