

RECOVERY OUTLINE

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren (Mt Lofty Ranges)

1	Family	Pardalotidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Hylacola pyrrhopygia parkeri</i> (Schodde and Mason, 1999)
3	Common name	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren (Mt Lofty Ranges)
4	Conservation status	Endangered: B1+2abcde

5 Reasons for listing

This subspecies occupies about 250 km², is known from only three locations (Endangered: B1) and the extent of occurrence (a), area of occupancy (b), habitat quality (c), number of sub-populations (d) and, hence, number of mature individuals (e) are all likely to be declining. Although there are estimated to be fewer than 2,500 mature individuals, at least one sub-population probably contains over 250 mature individuals (so not C2a or b).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	5,000 km ²	medium
trend	decreasing	medium
Area of occupancy	250 km ²	medium
trend	decreasing	low
No. of breeding birds	2,000	low
trend	decreasing	low
No. of sub-populations	7	low
Largest sub-population	500	low
Generation time	4 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

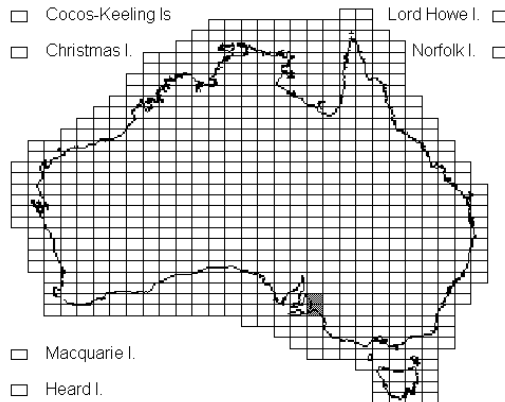
H. p. pedleri (Flinders Ra.; Schodde and Mason, 1999) is Vulnerable. *H. p. pyrrhopygia* (south-eastern Australia) is Least Concern.

7 Past range and abundance

Mt Lofty Ra., S. A. (Schodde and Mason, 1999). Five populations were identified during the bird atlas of the Adelaide region (SAOA, 1977), with records from Adelaide Hills, between Belair and Highbury, Wistow district, between Mt Barker and Callington, east and south of Mt Compass, Waitpinga Beach and Deep Creek area.

8 Present range and abundance

During the more recent Atlas (Paton *et al.*, 1994), recorded only in the Adelaide Hills and along the southern coast of the Fleurieu Peninsula. Currently known from Deep Creek Conservation Park, Newland Head, Scott Conservation Park, Cox's Scrub Conservation Park and neighbouring blocks, Mount Billy, Scott Creek and the face of the Adelaide Hills (Cleland, Horsnell's Gully, etc.,; G. Carpenter, H. Possingham L. Pedler). There have been no recent records from near Mt Barker.



9 Ecology

Chestnut-rumped Heathwrens live in heath and dense undergrowth within eucalypt forests and woodlands, most commonly found in rocky areas (H. Possingham). They feed on insects and seeds, and build domed nests near or on the ground and lay 2-3 eggs (Howe, 1917, McGill, 1970, Beruldsen, 1980, Blakers *et al.*, 1984).

10 Threats

Most suitable habitat has been cleared and that which remains has been fragmented. Currently, the principal threats are probably invasion by woody weeds and rural residential subdivision. Unlike the Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus intermedius*, the heathwren has recolonised Cox's Scrub Conservation Park, which was entirely burnt in 1983, so wildfire may not be as significant a threat as previously suspected.

11 Information required

- 11.1 Identify sites occupied by the subspecies.
- 11.2 Characterise habitat requirements.
- 11.3 Refine understanding of effects of habitat management on suitability.

12 Recovery objectives

- 12.1 Secure existing sub-populations.
- 12.2 Increase in population size, area, and extent of habitat, reduce fragmentation, and reverse degradation.

13 Actions completed or under way

None.

