

TAXON SUMMARY

Redthroat

1	Family	Pardalotidae
2	Scientific Name	<i>Pyrholaemus brunneus</i> Gould, 1841
3	Common Name	Redthroat
4	Conservation status	Least Concern

5 Reasons for listing

The range and population density of this species have declined, but are probably little changed over more than 50% of the species' historical range (so not Near Threatened).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	3,000,000 km ²	high
trend	decreasing	medium
Area of occupancy	1,500,000 km ²	low
trend	decreasing	medium
No. of breeding birds	3,000,000	low
trend	decreasing	medium
No. of sub-populations	10	low
Largest sub-population	2,800,000	low
Generation time	4 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

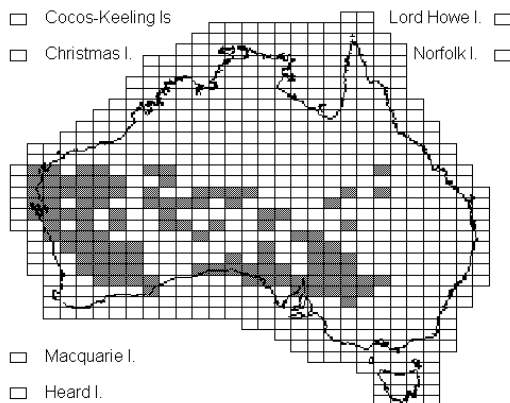
None described.

7 Past range and abundance

Through much of southern arid and semi-arid Australia (Blakers *et al.*, 1984).

8 Present range and abundance

As above, but at a lower density at the fringes of its range, particularly in eastern Australia, Nullarbor Plain and western wheatbelt (Brooker *et al.*, 1979, Emison *et al.*, 1987, Saunders and Curry, 1990, Reid and Fleming, 1992, Saunders and Ingram, 1995, Smith *et al.*, 1995). In Victoria, in particular, it is almost extinct, with only a few fragmented sub-populations remaining (Emison *et al.*, 1987).



9 Ecology

Redthroats are largely confined to semi-arid areas where they live in acacia scrub and habitats that are dominated by chenopods, especially along watercourses. They feed on small insects and occasionally seeds, usually laying 3 eggs in a domed nest in low bushes (Beruldsen, 1980, Blakers *et al.*, 1984).

10 Threats

Habitat clearance has removed the species from much of the south-west and south-east of its historical range (Saunders and Ingram, 1995). Overgrazing has degraded both habitat remnants and uncleared vegetation in pastoral districts (Saunders and Curry, 1990, Reid and Fleming, 1992, Saunders and Ingram, 1995). Redthroats remain widespread, however, in the large part of their former range that is essentially ungrazed, and are in no immediate danger of extinction.

11 Recommended actions

- 11.1 Cease clearance of habitat.
- 11.2 Reduce grazing pressure on chenopod shrublands.
- 11.3 Proscribe continued grazing within fragments that are known to contain Redthroats, particularly at the fringes of the species' range.

12 Bibliography

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Comments received from

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