

## BIRDING NSW'S KEY BIODIVERSITY AREA SURVEY AROUND GRENFELL

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Grenfell is within the South West Slopes Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). We survey in a small area of this KBA. However the Cowra Woodlands Programme contributes important information on birds in this KBA as do members of the Canberra Ornithologists' Group. Canberra is an important breeding area for Superb Parrots. As well as survey activity, tree planting contributes to conserving the area for woodland species.

Twenty nine people took part in the surveys including seven surveyors, who had not been on a Grenfell survey before. Unfortunately only Mikla Lewis was able to join us from Grenfell. I was pleased to see such a good turnout since many of the regular surveyors went to the Central Coast Campout at Nyngan. We had seven survey groups and surveyed on 31 sites; three survey groups took on five survey sites. In particular I would like to thank Dianne Deans, Allan Pidgeon and John Orr, who led survey groups for the first time. Other survey leaders were Allan Richards, Richard Webber, Russell Beardmore and me. Superb Parrots were seen on three sites, including two private properties and were seen incidentally at one other site. Also many of us saw Superb Parrots before our barbecue at Mikla and Wayne's place "Rosemont". We failed to see the other three target species. It was disappointing that no one saw Diamond Firetails on this weekend. Of other threatened species, two Brown Treecreepers, two Turquoise Parrots and a Dusky Woodswallow were seen in Warraderry State Forest, four Speckled Warblers were seen in Weddin State Forest (not on a survey site) and Grey-crowned Babblers were seen in five places including three survey sites. Once again Red-capped Robins were common and recorded on ten sites. Allan Richards saw a Black-eared Cuckoo in Bimbi State Forest while Shining Bronze-Cuckoos were seen at two sites and a Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo at one site. The site with the most species was on "Rosemont" at a site of young trees and shrubs. Sixteen species were recorded including three species of honeyeater, a White-winged Triller, two Red-capped Robins and 20 Grey Fantails. The latter were presumed to be migrating – large numbers remained in the area when we walked in the plantings later in the day.

We all arrived early for the barbecue on Saturday night at "Rosemont" so that we could look for Superb Parrots. Also Mikla had been seeing Ground Cuckoo-shrikes fly over each evening. Alas we waited in vain for them to fly over again. On Sunday morning we met at Company Dam for a walk in fine weather but cool weather around the tracks. I recorded 31 species including Speckled Warblers and two Black-fronted Dotterels.

During this survey weekend we counted 1057 birds and recorded 72 species. The next survey will be held on the weekend of March 23-25, 2018. We hope that our existing volunteers and new volunteers will take part in the next survey. Everyone is encouraged to book accommodation as soon as possible as there are always events in Grenfell. Please contact Allan Richards ([activities@birdingsw.org.au](mailto:activities@birdingsw.org.au)) or me ([emhodson@exemail.com.au](mailto:emhodson@exemail.com.au)) if you are not already on our contact list and would like details of the next survey.

Species	Bird Count	Seen at # Sites	Species	Bird Count	Seen at # Sites
Apostlebird	124	14	Olive-backed Oriole	2	1
Australasian Grebe	2	1	Pacific Black Duck	5	1
Australian Magpie	30	11	Peaceful Dove	1	1
Australian Raven	12	8	Pied Butcherbird	4	3
Australian Wood Duck	23	3	Pied Currawong	19	6
Black-eared Cuckoo	1	1	Rainbow Lorikeet	8	2
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	2	1	Red Wattlebird	7	4
Black-shouldered Kite	1	1	Red-capped Robin	33	10
Blue Bonnet	2	1	Red-rumped Parrot	13	3
Brown Falcon	1	1	Restless Flycatcher	3	3
Brown Thornbill	1	1	Rufous Whistler	11	6
Brown Treecreeper	2	1	Shining Bronze-cuckoo	1	1
Brown-headed Honeyeater	4	2	Southern Whiteface	1	1
Buff-rumped Thornbill	12	3	Speckled Warbler	0	1
Common Bronzewing	6	3	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	8	5
Common Mynah	4	1	Spotted Pardalote	9	3
Common Starling	9	1	Striped Honeyeater	2	1
Crested Pigeon	29	14	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	7	2
Dusky Woodswallow	2	1	Superb fairy-wren	8	3
Eastern Rosella	67	18	Superb Parrot	19	4
Eastern Yellow Robin	1	1	Turquoise Parrot	2	1
Galah	47	13	Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	1
Golden Whistler	1	1	Weebill	3	2
Grey Butcherbird	8	6	Welcome Swallow	8	2
Grey Fantail	35	8	Western Gerygone	9	4
Grey Shrike-thrush	7	5	White-browed Babbler	14	4
Grey-crowned Babbler	24	6	White-eared Honeyeater	1	1
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	2	1	White-plumed Honeyeater	26	7
Jacky Winter	8	4	White-throated Treecreeper	1	1
Laughing Kookaburra	2	2	White-winged Chough	93	12
Little Corella	1	1	White-winged Triller	1	1
Little Raven	3	2	Willie Wagtail	22	8
Magpie-Lark	14	9	Yellow Thornbill	27	8
Nankeen Kestrel	2	2	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	5	3
Noisy Friarbird	23	7	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	12	4
Noisy Miner	140	15			
<b>Total number of birds see</b>	<b>1057</b>		<b>Total number of species see</b>	<b>72</b>	