



RECOVERY TEAM ANNUAL REPORT

THREATENED SPECIES AND/OR COMMUNITIES RECOVERY TEAM

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Recovery Team

South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Team

Reporting Period

Submission date 31 March

DATE FROM: January 2013 DATE TO: December 2013

Current membership

	Member	Representing
Chair	Sarah Comer	Department of Parks and Wildlife South Coast
Exec Officer	Lucy Clausen	Department of Parks and Wildlife South Coast
members	Allan Burbidge	Department of Parks and Wildlife Science
	John Blyth	Birdlife
	Alan Danks	Community
	Brenda Newbey	Birdlife/Community
	Shapelle McNee	Community
	Anne Bondin	Friends of the Western Ground Parrot/Birdlife Albany
	David Edmonds	Community/vet
	Brad Barton	Department of Parks and Wildlife Warren
	Steve Butler	Department of Parks and Wildlife Esperance
	Deon Utber	Department of Parks and Wildlife South Coast
	Abby Berryman	Department of Parks and Wildlife South Coast
	Manda Page	Department of Parks and Wildlife Species and Communities
	Juanita Renwick	Department of Parks and Wildlife Western Shield



<p>Dates meetings were held</p>	<p>18th April & 14th November</p>
<p>Highlights of achievements for the previous 12 months suitable for publication in <i>WATSNU</i> and contribution to DEC annual report. Provide 1-2 paragraphs summarising total number of new populations located, surveys completed, list major management actions etc</p>	<p>Western ground parrot recovery efforts continued, with populations in Cape Arid National Park monitored in autumn and spring. No decline has been detected in this population, and cat baiting trials (IFRP) are continuing with State NRM and Biodiversity fund support in Cape Arid and Fitzgerald River National Parks. Results to date are encouraging with a significant decrease in cat activity recorded in 2013 trails. Extensive surveys have failed to find ground parrots in the Fitzgerald River National Park. Captive Western ground parrots were maintained, and the husbandry manual has been completed.</p> <p>The noisy scrub-bird sub-population on Mt Gardner was surveyed, and has declined again in 2013. The translocation to the Angove was monitored, and a single territorial male detected.</p> <p>Threat abatement, in particular fire management and management of predators has continued, and preliminary non-target assessment for Eradicat baiting in the Two Peoples Bay – Manypeaks area has been completed. This will allow this cell to be included in the cat baiting trials in 2014.</p>
<p>List of recovery actions coordinated by Recovery Team Detail under the headings below the recovery actions undertaken during the reporting period. Provide separate detail for each species/community against each action. For species/community-specific recovery teams, the generic activity types below can be replaced by the specific recovery actions from the recovery plan where appropriate.</p>	
<p>Monitoring and survey of existing and new populations/ occurrences, targeted surveys, critical habitat mapped etc.</p>	<p><u>Western Ground Parrot</u> populations monitored at Cape Arid National Park. Historical sites monitored in Fitzgerald River National Park. Surveys conducted in historical and potential habitat. Update of critical habitat shapefile for fire management staff.</p> <p><u>Noisy Scrub-bird</u> Mt Gardner population monitored and Angove translocation site surveyed.</p>
<p>Threat amelioration eg weed control/mapping, fencing/ repairs, fire management disease management, feral/ introduced animal control, installation of roadside markers</p>	<p>Western Shield fox baiting in all reserves. Experimental feral cat control continued through South Coast Integrated Fauna Recovery Program (external funding). Recovery team advised of proposed burns, and input into prescribed burns in threatened bird habitat.</p>
<p>Conservation and research e.g. fire research, translocation, ex-situ conservation, revegetation/rehabilitation etc</p>	<p>Integrated Fauna Recovery Project – research into efficacy of cat baiting in south coast reserves, and response of native fauna. Target landscapes included all currently known habitat for western ground parrot and significant areas of western bristlebird and mallee whipbird habitat in the Fitzgerald River National Park.</p> <p>Captive management program for western ground parrot continued, with seven birds maintained in the south coast aviary facility.</p>
<p>Liaison, education/provision of advice e.g. promotional material inc newspaper/ magazine articles, liaison with land managers/ owners, input to impact assessment, development of specific management plans, volunteers assisting with surveys/</p>	<p>Liaison with Friends of the Western Ground Parrot, including regular newsletter articles for the Friends newsletter. Significant volunteer participation in project work, with over 2000 volunteer hours contributed in 2013.</p> <p>Continued work on Commonwealth version of South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Plan, and updating of western ground parrot fire</p>



<p>monitoring etc.</p>	<p>management guideline.</p> <p>Publications & presentations:</p> <p>Burbidge, Comer, S., Berryman, A. and Cowen, S. (2013) Measures of genetic variability for Ground Parrot conservation. Australasian Ornithological Conference, Auckland NZ, December 2013.</p> <p>Burbidge, A.H. Managing Threatened Wildlife: Recovery of South Coast Threatened Birds. Lectures to ECU Environmental Management students, Joondalup, 8 April, 2013.</p> <p>Comer, S., Algar, D., and Speldewinde, P. (2013). Managing introduced predators in south coast reserves. Great Southern Great Science Albany, August 2013.</p> <p>Comer, Burbidge, Algar, Berryman and Bondin (2013). Kyloring, cats and conservation: the race to save the western ground parrot. <i>Landscape</i> (Spring): 40-45.</p> <p>Comer, S. Cowen, S., Burbidge, A.H. Berryman, A., Page, M (2013). Threatened bird translocations in an adaptive management framework: a case study from the south coast of Western Australia: the Noisy Scrub-bird. Australasian Wildlife Management Society Conference, Palmerston North NZ, December 2013.</p> <p>Cowen, S. (2013). Translocations and their impact on genetic diversity in the endangered Noisy Scrub-bird (<i>Atrichornis clamosus</i>) Great Southern Great Science Albany, August 2013.</p> <p>Cowen, S, Comer, S and Groth, D. (submitted) Assessment of post-translocation genetic diversity helps inform future management strategies for a conservation-dependent species</p> <p>Cowen, S., Comer, S., Burbidge, A.H., Groth, D. (2013) Genes for conservation: using genetics to better inform management of threatened birds. Poster presentation Australasian Wildlife Management Society Conference, Palmerston North NZ, December 2013.</p>
<p>Conservation status reviews for taxa/TECs e.g. nominations for additions, deletions or change in status to state threatened or priority lists; changes to EPBC list</p>	<p>Western Ground Parrot listed as Critically Endangered under EPBC Act, April 2013.</p>
<p>Recovery plans e.g. recovery plans/ IRPs drafted, approved, reviewed or updated</p>	<p>See above re South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Plan.</p>