



Australian Black Cockatoo Specialists

Report: Nesting survey of 70 artificial hollows Julimar State Forest W.A

Main Roads
Western Australia

17 October 2023





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CONTENTS

- **INTRODUCTION 1**
- **INSPECTION METHOD 1**
- **RESULTS..... 1**
- **RECOMMENDED REPAIRS..... 2**
- **RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS 2**
- **CONTACT INFORMATION..... 2**
- **APPENDIX 1 AND 2; 3 AND 4 ATTACHED SEPERATELY..... 5**

All images source: Rick Dawson

INTRODUCTION

Australian Black Cockatoo Specialists (ABCS) are pleased to submit this report to the Department of Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) regarding the inspection/nesting survey of 70 Artificial hollows (ANH) in Julimar State Forest on Friday 13th and 14th October 2023.

INSPECTION METHOD

The objective of the survey was to establish if there has been Black Cockatoo 'prospecting' and/or nesting activity. The scope of this project included:

- undertaking a close visual inspection of all ANH's via camera pole and or ladder, any activity detected was then photographed. **(This required two staff).**
- Inspect tree, fixings and hollow condition.
- Any Black Cockatoo nestlings older than 21days, will be photographed, leg banded, measured, weighed, aged (this will give us the date egg laid) and DNA taken, under licences from DPAW.
- Details of any use including non-target species was recorded.



All 70 ANH's were inspected in accordance with protocols used by CSIRO and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. The inside and above each artificial hollow was viewed using a pole camera and photographs taken of any chipping detected, nesting activity or obstructions. A photograph was also taken from the ground using a 500m lens of the sacrificial posting detailing any chipping or signs of prospecting. Details of observations were recorded and are attached at Annex 2 and 3.

RESULTS

I am very pleased to advise that the following hollows are in use by Carnaby's in the area:

- **J01:** Female was flushed from hollow, two x Carnaby's eggs in the bottom of the hollow, heavy chipping on post by a female Carnaby's



- **J02:** Female was flushed from hollow, one x three-day old nestling and one Carnaby's eggs in the bottom of the hollow, heavy chipping on post by a female Carnaby's



- **J31:** Female was flushed from hollow, one x five-day and one 2 two day old Carnaby's nestling in the bottom of the hollow, heavy chipping on post by a female Carnaby's



- **J32:** Female was flushed from hollow one x three-day old nestling and one two-day old Carnaby's in the bottom of the hollow, very little chipping on post by a female Carnaby's.



- **J51:** Female was flushed from hollow, one x three-day old nestling and one Carnaby's eggs in the bottom of the hollow, chipping on post by a female Carnaby's.



- **J56:** Female not flushed from hollow, two x Carnaby's eggs in the bottom of the hollow, heavy chipping on post by a female Carnaby's



- **J65:** Female was flushed from hollow, one Carnaby's eggs in the bottom of the hollow, chipping on post by a female Carnaby's.



The oldest nestling in J31 will fledge from the week of the 16 December 2023, when it will be approximately 70days old.

A Brush-tailed possum was observed sheltering in J67 (see Annex 4).

There was chipping by black cockatoos observed in 36 other hollows with most occurring in five separate areas, indicating that there were at least two other females prospecting in the different areas. A score of 0-10 was used to rate the amount of chipping with '0' being none detected. We have trialled a number of wando post in some of the hollows and they seem to be holding up better than Tuart or Jarrah.

Carnaby's' were heard calling/observed in Julimar State forest in the following locations; J62-67, J48-J49, J54, J32-J37. There was also a flock of 30-40 feeding on Marri on the Bindoon Dewars Pool Rd. Forest Red-tails were heard calling near J53-J54.

REPAIRS

The following repairs are recommended prior to the start of next year's breeding; this will be update in the second survey:

- At the time of this survey no hollows require woodchips.
- The sacrificial post in all seven hollows being used by Carnaby's will need to be replaced post breeding.
- All 70 trees are in good condition and there is no need to relocate any hollows at this stage.
- All fixings and the hollows are in very good condition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That the nestlings in J01,02,31,32,51,56 and 65 be processed as detailed above during the December survey

- That next nesting survey should be conducted **prior to the 16th December 2023**, to enable data to be taken from all nestlings to provide valuable information on the health of the birds using the area.

CONCLUSIONS

These results are very encouraging and consistent with other sites that have had ANH's installed in known breeding sites. As there have now been seven nesting attempts and prospecting in another 36 hollows this year, it is very likely that nesting attempts will continue to grow with each year. I wish to thank MRWA and DBCA for their support in allowing me to install ANH in Julimar State Forest

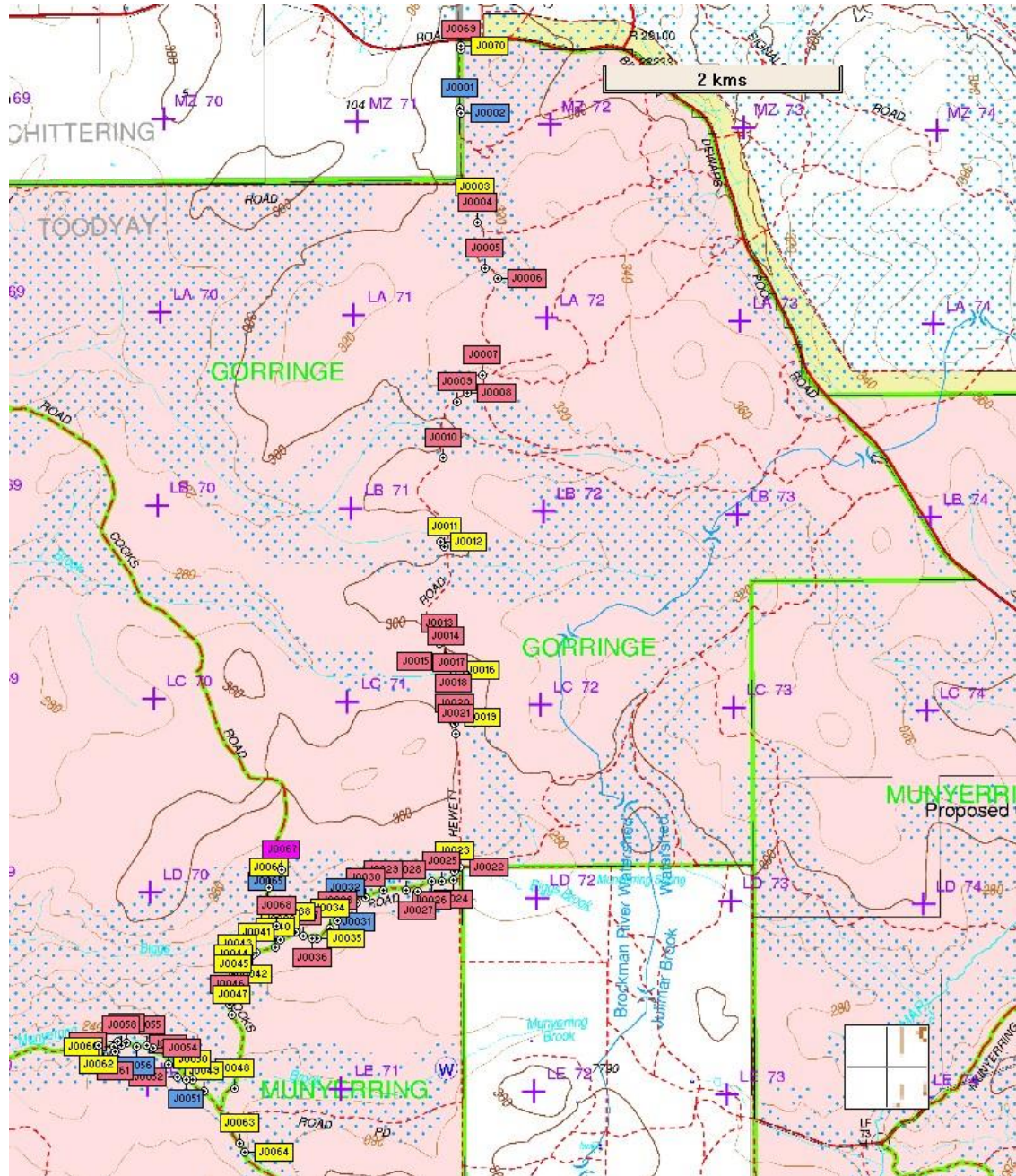
CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Name: Rick Dawson
Position: Principal Consultant
Phone: 0448 170 670
Email: dawsonrick60@gmail.com



Rick Dawson
Director
Australian Black Cockatoo Specialist
17 October 2023

APPENDIX 1 – MAP OF ANH THAT HAVE CHIPPING (MARKED RED), NESTING (MARKED BLUE) BY BLACK COCKATOOS



APPENDIX 2 – DETAILS OF ANH OBSERVATIONS

Hollow No	Comments	Chipping score 0-10	Wood Chips	Tree condition	Fixings and Hollow condition	Recommended repairs
J01	Female flushed, 2 x Carnaby's Eggs	5	5lt	Good	Good	Change post and check substrate post nesting
J02	Female flushed, 1 x 3 day old nestling, and 1 x Carnaby's Eggs	5	5lt	Good	Good	Change post and check substrate post nesting
J03	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J04	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J05	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J06	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J07	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J08	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	3	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J09	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	3	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J10	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	3	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J11	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J12	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil

Hollow No	Comments	Chipping score 0-10	Wood Chips	Tree condition	Fixings and Hollow condition	Recommended repairs
J13	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding. Cobwebs	2	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J14	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J15	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J16	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J17	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	2	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J18	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J19	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J20	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J21	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J22	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J23	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J24	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL

Hollow No	Comments	Chipping score 0-10	Wood Chips	Tree condition	Fixings and Hollow condition	Recommended repairs
J25	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J26	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J27	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J28	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	3	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J29	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	2	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J30	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	2	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J31	Female flushed, 1x 5day and 1x 2day old Carnaby's nestling	5	5lt	Good	Good	Change post and check substrate post nesting
J32	Female flushed, 2 x Carnaby's Eggs	1	5lt	Good	Good	CHECK post and substrate post nesting
J33	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	2	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J34	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J35	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J36	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL

Hollow No	Comments	Chipping score 0-10	Wood Chips	Tree condition	Fixings and Hollow condition	Recommended repairs
J37	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding. SIDE WALL OF HOLLOW CHEWED	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J38	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	0	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J39	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	0	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J40	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J41	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J42	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J43	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J44	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J45	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J46	Minor chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J47	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J48	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil

Hollow No	Comments	Chipping score 0-10	Wood Chips	Tree condition	Fixings and Hollow condition	Recommended repairs
J49	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J50	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J51	Female flushed, 1x 3 Day old nestling, and 1 x Carnaby's Eggs	4	5lt	Good	Good	CHECK post and check substrate post nesting
J52	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J53	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J54	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J55	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J56	Female not flushed, 2 x Carnaby's Eggs	5	5lt	Good	Good	Change post and check substrate post nesting
J57	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J58	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J59	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J60	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL

Hollow No	Comments	Chipping score 0-10	Wood Chips	Tree condition	Fixings and Hollow condition	Recommended repairs
J61	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J62	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	0	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J63	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	0	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J64	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos.	0	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J65	Female flushed, 1 x Carnaby's Eggs	5	5lt	Good	Good	CHECK post and check substrate post nesting
J66	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J67	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos. Brush-tailed possum roosting	2	Nil	Good	Good	NIL
J68	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J69	Chewing on post no signs of Breeding	1	Nil	Good	Good	Nil
J70	No signs of nesting or inspection by Black Cockatoos	0	Nil	Good	Good	NIL

APPENDIX 3 PHOTOGRAPHS AND OBSERVATION DETAILS OF ANH J01 TO J30 – Attached separately.

APPENDIX 4 PHOTOGRAPHS AND OBSERVATION DETAILS OF ANH J31 TO J70– Attached separately.