

REGISTER now on 1800 262 062 or email rtbc@birdsaustralia.com.au

Is training offered?

This year the SeRtBC Recovery Team will also be holding an annual count training session on **Saturday 30th April 2011** in Casterton, Victoria for anyone interested to learn more about how to correctly identify the birds both visually and vocally, and what is required on the day. This will include a field based activity in which participants will get to go out in the stringybark forest to search for birds. If you would like to attend please register your interest with the Project Coordinator.



Baileys Rocks Campout

For volunteers looking to spend a night away from home the SeRtBC Recovery Team will also be hosting the annual informal campout and BBQ tea at Baileys Rocks, near Dergholm State Forest. Please register your interest with the Project Coordinator.

How do I become involved?

Volunteers wanting to participate in the **2011 SeRtBC Annual Count** are required to register their interest with the Project Coordinator as soon as possible, in order to secure a preferred site. Some sites are already allocated to returning volunteers, but in most instances the Project Coordinator can offer you a site in your preferred area.

To **register** please contact: Bronwyn Perryman, SeRtBC Project Coordinator on freecall **1800 262 062** or via email rtbc@birdsaustralia.com.au

‘The success of the count relies heavily on sighting information that we receive in the weeks leading up to the count. If you see Red-tails from now on please report all sightings to the Project Coordinator.’

For further information or to **register** to participate in the 2011 SeRtBC Annual Count please contact::



Bronwyn Perryman
SeRtBC Project Coordinator
Birds Australia
PO Box 392
Port MacDonnell SA 5291



Birds Australia
CONSERVATION THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

Ph: 1800 262 062
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www.redtail.com.au



South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Annual Count



2011 Volunteer Information Sheet

Images courtesy of Bob McPherson, Wayne Bigg & Rob Drummond

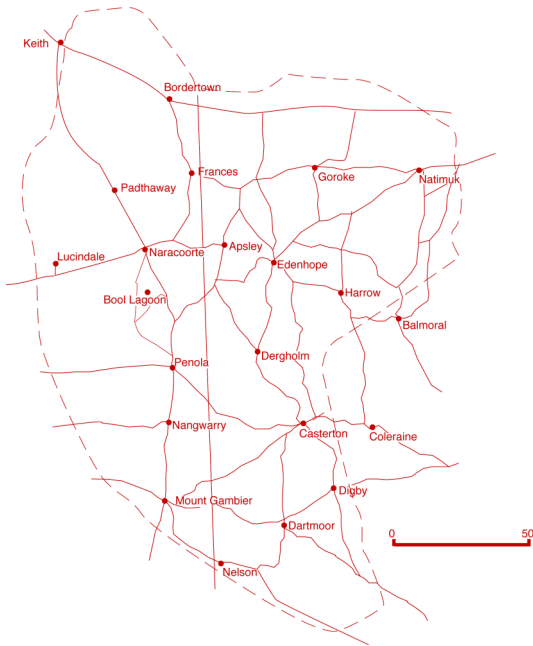
Join in the search for one of the region's most *colourful* locals the 'South-eastern *Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo*'

Species Information

There are five sub-species of Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo in Australia. The South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii graptogyne*) is only found in the south-east of South Australia and south-west Victoria.



With an estimated minimum population of around 1400 birds, this species is in danger of extinction. Currently, the species is listed as 'endangered' under National and State legislation. The species total range covers an area of around 18,000km² from Keith to Lucindale to Mount Gambier in SA and from Portland to Casterton, Toolondo, Natimuk, Dimboola, Nhill and Kaniva in Victoria.



Annual Count Surveys

Why Survey?

Since 1996, the South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Recovery Team has carried out an annual count of the SeRtBC population, across the range, to determine the minimum number of birds known to be alive, and more importantly where the birds are feeding across the range from year to year. This information enables us to determine the location of large flocks so that we can conduct our annual flock counts, which provide us with an indication of breeding success. The count also promotes awareness of the specialised needs of this colourful local and provides an important community engagement activity.

When is the 2011 SeRtBC Annual Count?

The 2011 South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Annual Count will be held on **Saturday 7th May 2011**, across the species range in south-eastern South Australia and south-western Victoria.

What's involved?

Volunteer groups will be allocated one of around sixty sites in stringybark forest across the species range to search for the cockatoos. Landholders are also encouraged to register to survey their own properties on the day. Each group will cover their site via vehicle, stopping every 500m to listen for the cockies' distinctive call. If birds are observed, participants are required to count all birds, and where possible identify the number of males and barred birds (females & juveniles). Where birds are feeding in stringybark, participants may be required to flush the birds into flight to obtain an accurate count. Red-tails blend well into their stringybark habitat and are often very difficult to locate. Often there are far more in the stringybark than previously counted.

Participants are encouraged to organise their own search group (i.e. family, friends etc), however there will be places available for single participants to join in other volunteer search groups.

What time is best to search for the birds?

Volunteer groups are able to search their allocated site at any time of the day, for as long as they want, on **Saturday 7th May 2011**, however it is recommended that participants search either up until mid-day and/or from 3pm until dusk. This is when the birds tend to be more vocal and visible.



Male Tail Feather

Female / Juvenile Tail Feather

What do I need?

Volunteers will need to become familiar with what the cockatoos look and sound like, as they can often be mistaken for the more common Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo. Please refer to our Red-tail identification sheet or visit our website at www.redtail.com.au. Alternatively participants can attend our annual count training day (see overleaf).

Participants will need a set of binoculars, and are encouraged to travel in a 4WD as many of the tracks to be searched are located in sandy soil. All volunteers that register to participate will be provided with an information pack containing a map of their search area, a record sheet, survey instructions and Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) guidelines.