

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo

are a large white tailed

black cockatoo, unique

to the south west region

of WA.

These spectacular

birds once numerous, are

under serious threat.

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Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo

Survival in the Southwest



Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo
RECOVERY PROJECT

As little as 50 years ago, flocks of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo were said to 'blacken the sky as flocks passed over head'.

Numbers of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo have halved in the last fifty years and continue to fall.

Only one chick is raised each year with the majority not surviving to the age of two. Already locally extinct in some areas, threats to nesting and feeding sites, persecution and competition for resources continue to push the species to its limit.

Why are they endangered?

Over the last century the south western landscape has become increasingly fragmented and degraded resulting in fewer nesting and feeding sites. As a direct result fewer chicks are surviving to breeding age and population numbers have declined by over half.

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo can live for up to 50 years. It is believed many of the birds seen today are too old to breed and it is likely the population will plummet further in the future.

Shooting and road kill also continue to affect bird numbers.

Many hollows are no longer usable for the birds as they have been taken over by species such as galahs, corellas and feral bees.

Cocky Facts

- Their strong bill helps them extract seeds from native plants like banksias, grevilleas, hakeas, dryandras, eucalypt species and more recently from various pine tree species and agricultural weeds.
- They nest in large hollows of Eucalypt species such as Salmon Gum and Wandoo from around July each year. These trees must be at least 150 years old for hollows to develop to a suitable size.
- The male supplies all food for the hen and surviving chick.
- In the non breeding season, larger flocks roam coastal areas in search of food.



How you can help?

Retain stag trees and solitary paddock trees as they may house Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo and other hollow nesting birds as well as mammals, bats and many helpful insects.

Protect and conserve nesting and feeding areas by fencing or excluding stock, and seek advice about suitable fire management regimes, dieback hygiene methods and fire wood collection.

Revegetate with appropriate local species in areas where Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo are known to occur.

Repair old and damaged hollows. Assistance for this is available through the Birds Australia Hollow Repair Team.

Control competitor species such as Galahs and feral honeybees (with appropriate approvals).

Keep a diary of the birds' habits around your place, noting the time of year they arrive and how many there are. Try to identify their nesting and feeding sites.

Tell other people the story of the Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo; maybe they can help them too!

Contact us and get involved!

What we are doing?

The Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project works closely with the community and landholders to protect and conserve vegetation critical to the survival of the species.

We are supported by, and work with, diverse organisations to facilitate landholder support and engagement programs, education campaigns, data collection and nest monitoring. These organisations include Birds Australia and WWF-Australia with support from Natural Resource Management groups and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

We support private landholders in preservation and restoration of remnant vegetation where Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo occur and fund nesting boxes and weed and competitor control. We assist in grant applications and facilitate Voluntary Management Agreements and Conservation Covenants, helping to secure habitat for the species into the future.

