

RECOVERY OUTLINE

Green Rosella (King Island)

1	Family	Psittacidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Platycercus caledonicus brownii</i> (Kuhl, 1820)
3	Common name	Green Rosella (King Island)
4	Conservation status	Vulnerable: D1+2

5 Reasons for listing

This subspecies is confined to a single area of about 50 km² (Vulnerable: D2). Its population size is probably stable, but there are probably only 500 mature individuals (D1).

	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	800 km ²	high
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	50 km ²	low
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	500	low
trend	stable	high
No. of sub-populations	1	high
Generation time	5 years	low

6 Intraspecific taxa

P. c. caledonicus (Tasmania and nearby islands) is Least Concern. Taxonomy follow Schodde and Mason (1997).

7 Past range and abundance
King I., Tas. (Schodde and Mason, 1997).

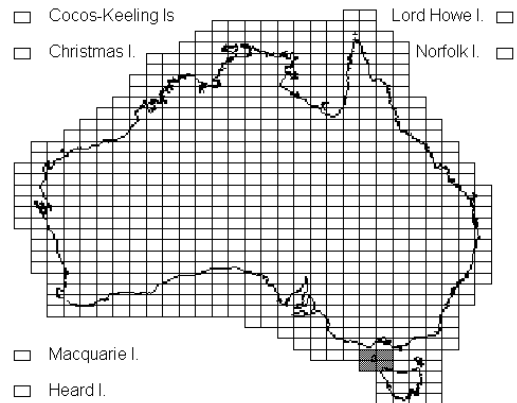
8 Present range and abundance
As above, but now largely confined to the Pegasus forestry area, a decline having occurred after clearance of vegetation (Green and McGarvie, 1971, Schodde and Mason, 1997).

9 Ecology

On King I., Green Rosellas are largely confined to eucalypt forests where they, like the nominate subspecies, probably eat a wide range of seeds, including those of grasses, eucalypts and other trees as well as fruit, blossom and insects. They nest annually in hollows, in which they lay 4-5 eggs (Higgins, 1999).

10 Threats

The abundance of Green Rosellas on King I. has declined dramatically as a result of clearance for agriculture (Green and McGarvie, 1971). Currently, the surviving population may be threatened by competition from Common Starlings *Sturnus vulgaris* for nest hollows, but this needs confirmation (Higgins, 1999).



11 Information required

- 11.1 Measure population size and trends.
- 11.2 Assess management requirements, particularly the extent of competition with Common Starlings and the need to develop counter-measures.

12 Recovery objectives

- 12.1 Ensure the population is stable over an extended period.

13 Actions completed or under way
None.

14 Management actions required

- 14.1 Monitor population size.
- 14.2 If trends negative, protect nest hollows against Common Starlings or erect extra, starling-proof, nest-boxes for rosellas.

15 Organisations responsible for conservation

Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service.

16 Other organisations involved

Local government, Tasmanian Forestry Commission, bird-watching societies.

17 Staff and financial resources required for recovery to be carried out

Staff resources required 2001-2005

0.2

Project Officer¹

Financial resources required 2001-2005

<i>Action</i>	<i>Conservation agencies</i>	<i>Other funding sources</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Determine population size and management requirements¹</i>	\$10,000	\$1,500	\$11,500
<i>Erect nestboxes</i>	\$500	\$10,000	\$10,500
<i>Monitoring¹</i>	\$500	\$1,500	\$2,000
<i>Total</i>	\$11,000	\$13,000	\$24,000

¹ Costs shared among all six threatened King I. taxa: Green Rosella, Orange-bellied Parrot, Scrubtit, Brown Thornbill, Yellow Wattlebird and Black Currawong.

18 Bibliography

Green, R. and McGarvie, A. M. 1971. The birds of King Island. *Rec. Queen Vic. Museum* 40:1- 42.

Higgins, P. J. (ed.) 1999. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds. Vol. 4. Parrots to Dollarbird*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Schodde, R. and Mason, I. J. 1997. Aves (Columbidae to Coraciidae). *Zoological Catalogue of Australia. Vol. 37.2*. W. W. K. Houston and A. Wells (eds). CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.

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