

**REGISTER** now on 1800 262 062 or email [redtail@birdlife.org.au](mailto:redtail@birdlife.org.au)

### **Is training offered?**

This year we will be again running an annual count training session on the morning of the count to help those who haven't participated previously or feel they need a little more hands-on experience in searching for Red-tails. This will be held in Casterton starting 9am local time for a quick discussion followed by a short drive (in your own car) to a spot where Red-tails have been seen recently. We will depart around 9:30am, and be finished by approximately 10:30am. Participants will meet at Rotary Park, which is the park where the main road crosses the Glenelg River.

Depending on numbers and interest we will also consider holding a second annual count training session (on the morning of the count) in Naracoorte. This will be held at Pioneer Park located on Macdonnell St. Bookings to this session are **essential**. Please indicate if you will be attending when you register.

### **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 **2015 SERTBC Annual Count** are required to register their interest with the Project Coordinator as soon as possible, in order to secure a preferred site.

To **register** please contact: Bronwyn Perryman, SERTBC Project Coordinator on freecall **1800 262 062** or via email [redtail@birdlife.org.au](mailto:redtail@birdlife.org.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 2015 SERTBC Annual Count please contact:



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



Ph: 1800 262 062  
Email: [redtail@birdlife.org.au](mailto:redtail@birdlife.org.au)

[www.redtail.com.au](http://www.redtail.com.au)



## **South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Annual Count**



## **2015 Volunteer Information Sheet**

**Saturday 2 May**

Images courtesy of Bob McPherson, Wayne Bigg & Rob Drummond

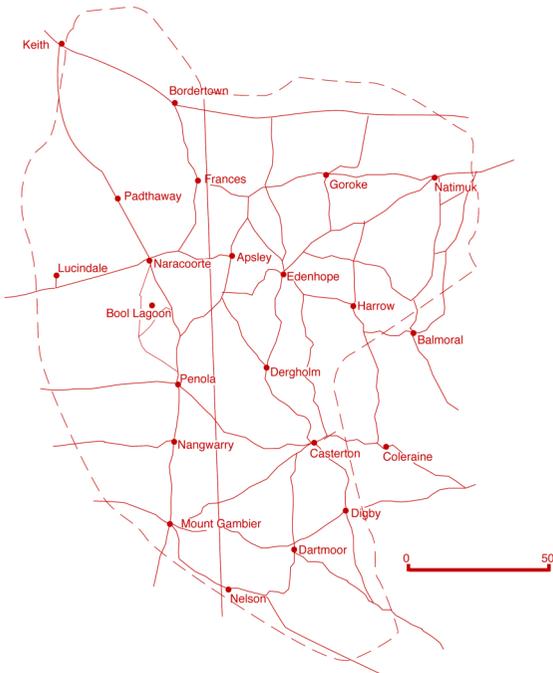
# Join in the search for one of the region's most *endangered* locals the 'South-eastern *Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo*'

## 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 population of around 1500 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 18,000km<sup>2</sup> 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 location of large flocks, the minimum number of birds known to be alive, and patterns of habitat use. This information enables us to complete our annual flock counts, which provides 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 2015 SERTBC Annual Count?

The 2015 South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Annual Count will be held on **Saturday 2 May** 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 survey their own properties on the day. Each group will cover their site via vehicle, (preferably 4WD) using one of two methods; scientific (stopping every 500m to listen for the cockies' distinctive call) or 'Drive in the Park' (driving slowly looking for feeding signs). 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. There are often far more in the stringybark than previously thought.

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 cockatoos?

Volunteer groups are able to search their allocated site at any time of the day, for as long as they want, on **Saturday 2 May**, however it is recommended that participants search either up until midday 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 misidentified 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](http://www.redtail.com.au). Alternatively participants can attend an annual count training session (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 need to complete an activity declaration form (covering OH&S) and will be provided with an information pack containing a map of their search area, a record sheet, and survey instructions in the last few weeks leading up to the count.