



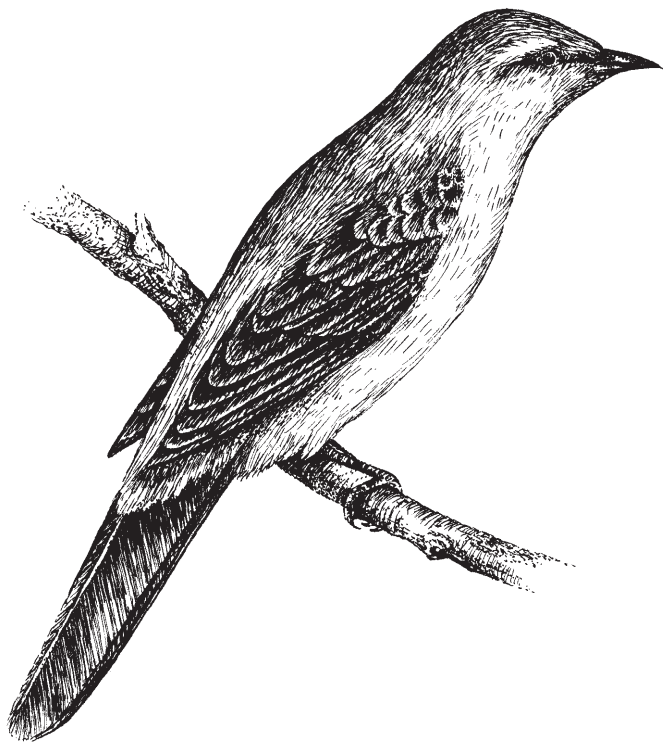
THREATENED SPECIES AND COMMUNITIES OF THE ACT

White-Winged Triller (*Lalage sueurii*)

A vulnerable species

Issued: 4 March 2005

The White-winged Triller is a medium sized songbird, 160 to 185 mm in length. During the breeding season, the males are glossy black on the cap to below the eye, black on the back, shoulders and wings. Plumage is white underneath, with white edges to wing-coverts forming a netted pattern on the wings. Non-breeding males and females are overall brownish in appearance, being pale brown above, with a dark line through the eye and slight pale eyebrow. The underparts are washed brown, with buff edges to wing feathers forming a netted pattern like the males. Immatures are similar to females.



The White-winged Triller eats insects, including winged termites, ants, grasshoppers and caterpillars, and feeds both on the ground and in the air. The nest is a small, well-camouflaged shallow cup of grass, rootlets and spider webs on a fork or horizontal branch of a tree.

Critical habitat features for this species include:

- large living and dead trees which are essential for perching, roosting and nesting sites, and for foraging; and
- foraging areas of grass and fallen timber that support insects and other invertebrates on which the species feeds.

The species is found across Australia. It is resident near water in the north, but nomadic and seasonally migratory through central and southern Australia and vagrant in northern Tasmania. It is also found in Indonesia and New Guinea. In the Canberra region the species is an uncommon, breeding, summer migrant, and numbers vary from year to year.

In the local area the species is found in and around grassy woodland areas including Yellow Box–Red Gum, Apple Box, Candlebark, or less commonly, Snowgum woodlands. Records of the species are widespread, but most records are from Hall, Mulligans Flat, Goorooyarroo, the Pinnacle, Campbell Park and the Gigerline–Tharwa area.

CONSERVATION THREATS

- Removal of fallen timber and litter.
- Predation by feral and/or uncontrolled domestic animals.
- Invasion of key habitats by introduced pasture and weeds.
- Inappropriate fire regimes.
- Uncontrolled grazing by livestock.
- Clearing of both living and dead trees.
- Rural tree dieback.
- Use of chemicals.

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CONSERVATION ACTION

- Identification of key habitats and potential habitats.
- Protection and management of habitat, including:
 - limitation on removal of live and dead timber;
 - prevention of intensive grazing;
 - regeneration of habitat; and
 - minimisation of adverse effects of fire.

- Monitoring long terms trends and status.
- Research into the ecology and conservation requirements of the species.
- Liaison to achieve regional approach to conservation.
- Education and community liaison to raise community awareness.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

The primary source of information for this Information Sheet is the ACT Lowland Woodland Conservation Strategy— Action Plan No. 27 where a full bibliography is available. Action Plans are available from the Environment ACT Website: www.environment.act.gov.au or the Arts, Heritage and Environment Information Centre at 12 Wattle Street, Lyneham ACT.

Acknowledgement

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