

Field report

Drysdale River biodiversity survey



(Red-tailed black Cockatoo)

Date of report: 4-August-2012

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Field period: 23-31 July

Field area: Drysdale River National Park, Barking Owl Camp

Summary: Biodiversity survey with trapping and transect walks



General info and data

Table 1: schedule of activities for the period of 23-31 July 2012

Date	Activity	Remarks
23	Travel to Carson River crossing	
24	Travel to Barking Owl Camp, find suitable trap site and set up traps	
25	Check traps 3 times a day, walk at least 2 transects	
26	Check traps 3 times a day, walk at least 2 transects	We canoed one transect
27	Check traps 3 times a day, walk at least 2 transects	
28	Check traps 3 times a day, walk at least 2 transects	We canoed one transect
29	Check traps 3 times a day, walk at least 2 transects	
30	Remove traps and walk a transect, travel to Carson River crossing	We did one transect by car
31	Check El Questro for toads	No toads found, most creek crossings were dry

Table 2: Participants

Participant/staff	Affiliation/Agency	Role
Jordy	Kimberley Toad Busters	Researcher
Leonie	Kimberley Toad Busters	Researcher

Table 3: Biodiversity survey results

Category	Species (Eng)	Species (Scien)
Birds	Red-backed Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus pyrrhopygia</i>
Birds	Azure Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo azurea ruficollaris</i>
Birds	Blue-winged Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo leachii leachii</i>
Birds	Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>
Birds	Leaden Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra rubecula concinna</i>
Birds	Shining Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra alecto</i>
Birds	Restless Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>
Birds	Willie Wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>
Birds	Rufous Whistler	<i>Pachycephala melanura</i>
Birds	Double-barred Finch	<i>Taeniopygia bichenovii annulosa</i>
Birds	Long-tailed Finch (Red-billed form)	<i>Poephila acuticauda</i>
Birds	Northern Fantail	<i>Rhipidura rufiventris isura</i>
Birds	Wandering Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i>
Birds	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>
Birds	Little Pied Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>
Birds	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Birds	Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>
Birds	Pied Heron	<i>Ardea picata</i>
Birds	Red-kneed Dotterel	<i>Erythronyctes albus</i>
Birds	Australian White Ibis	<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>
Birds	Straw-necked Ibis	<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>

Birds	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>
Birds	Brolga	<i>Grus Rubicunda</i>
Birds	Bush Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>
Birds	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Birds	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>
Birds	Black kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Birds	Whistlig kite	<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>
Birds	Barking Owl	<i>Ninox connivens peninsularis</i>
Birds	Southern Boobook	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae ocellata</i>
Birds	Pied imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula picolor</i>
Birds	White-quilled rock-pigeon	<i>Petrophassa albaipennis albaipennis</i>
Birds	peaceful Dove	<i>Geopelia placida placida</i>
Birds	Bar-shouldered Dove	<i>Geopelia humeralis</i>
Birds	Horsfield's bronze-cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx basalis</i>
Birds	Little Corella	<i>Cacatua sanguinea sanguinea</i>
Birds	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua galerita fitzroyi</i>
Birds	Galah	<i>Cacatua roseicapilla roseicapilla</i>
Birds	Rainbow Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus rubritorquis</i>
Birds	Red-winged Parrot	<i>Aprosmictus rythropterus coccineopterus</i>
Birds	Yellow Throated Miner	<i>Manorina flavigula</i>
Birds	White-gaped Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus unicolor</i>
Birds	White-throated Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus albogularis</i>
Birds	Striated Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus striatus melvillensis</i>
Birds	Mistletoebird	<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>
Birds	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae melanops</i>
Birds	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina papuensis hypoleuca</i>
Birds	Fairy Martin	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
Birds	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Birds	White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorynchus</i>
Birds	Magpie-lark	<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>
Birds	Grey Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus torquatus argenteus</i>
Birds	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen tibicen</i>
Birds	Torresian Crow	<i>Corvus orru cecilea</i>
Birds	Silver-crowned Friarbird	<i>Philemon argenticeps</i>
Birds	Great Bowerbird	<i>Chlamydera nuchalis oweni</i>
Birds	Olive-backed Oriole	<i>Oriolus sagittatus affinis</i>
Birds	White-winged Triller	<i>Lalage tricolor</i>
Other	Red Kangaroo	<i>Macropus rufus</i>
Other	Walaby	<i>Macropodidae</i>
Other	Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>
Other	Cattle	Brahman*Shorthorn
Other	Horse	<i>Equus caballus</i>

Other	Blue-ringed Centipede	
Other	Little marbled scorpion	
Other	Garden wolf Spider	<i>Lycosa godeffroyi</i>
Reptiles	Skink	<i>Ctenotus inornatus</i>
Reptiles	Skink	<i>Carlia gracilis</i>
Reptiles	Skink	<i>Cryptoblepharus carnabyi</i>
Reptiles	Gilbert's Dragon	<i>Amphibolurus gilberti</i>
Reptiles	Bynoe's Gecko	<i>Heteronotia binoei</i>
Reptiles	Freshwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus johnstoni</i>
Reptiles	Merten's Monitor	<i>Varanus mertensi</i>
Reptiles	Yellow-spotted Monitor	<i>Varanus panoptes</i>
Reptiles	Northern Snapping Turtle	<i>Elseya dentata</i>
Frogs	Ornate Frog	<i>Limnodynastes ornatus</i>
Frogs	Rocket Frog	<i>Litoria nasuta</i>
Frogs	Copland's Frock frog	<i>Litoria coplandi</i>
Frogs	Wotjulum Frog	<i>Litoria wotjulumensis</i>
Frogs	Green Tree Frog	<i>Litoria caerulea</i>
Frogs	Desert Tree Frog	<i>Litoria rubella</i>

Accomplishments

We found 84 different species with trapping and transect walking. We have identified 3 skink species and 5 frog species that were in the traps. Some of the found species still need to be identified. We have spotted 61 different bird species and with the help of burrows and tracks we established the presence of dingos, wallabies, mice, rats and goannas.

Comments

This was our first time out for a biodiversity survey, so improvements can be made. We were not sure about the trapping site, so we could use some more guidance in that part. Mammal traps (Elliot traps) should be placed next time at Drysdale River.

Pictures

Pictures of this field trip made by Jordy Groffen/Leonie Jacobs (From top left to bottom right; 4 Australian white ibises, kite by Drysdale River Station, Azure kingfisher by Drysdale River, Merten's water monitor, feral horses, marking of a skink)

