



Nature Stewards Program

Inner East - Autumn 2026

Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo

Glenn Hale

Blackburn Creeklands Advisory Committee (BCAC)



Monthly bird survey (13/05/2026) - inspiration behind presentation



Photos: Glenn Hale



East Section Bird Survey List - Blackburn Creeklands 2026				
Date	Time	Participants #	Noise levels/Noise source	
13.05.2026	Start 8.02 Finish 12.30	4	airpans, chainsaw moderate - not disruptive	
Weather: Temp 24-18 deg C, Wind condition 3 kph, Humidity 100% Rainfall after rain 100mm, Visibility 100%, Change from fresh and dry to rain 100mm, fresh and dry to rain 100mm Water: Gardiner Crk Main St Bridge depth < 150mm, Flow slow/moderate Colour: Clear grey/yellow/black, Laurel Cr North Wetlands water 50% Waratah Wetlands water 100% Please send completed Bird List to: blackburncreeklands@gmail.com				
Comments: record details of any nesting activity, bird on nest on N, Nest with young on N, Y, females on J, feeding food items.				
Species Total = 19				
BIRD SPECIES SEEN				
6	Brown Thornbill	11		
	Chestnut Teal			
	Common Myna			
	Crested Pigeon			
	Crimson Rosella			
5	Eastern Rosella	11		
	Gang-gang Cockatoo			
4	Galah	11		
8	Grey Butcherbird	11		
9	King Parrot	11		1 young male
10	Kookaburra	11		
20	Little Corella	11		
	Little Pied Cormorant	11		
1	Little Raven	11		
19	Magpie	11		
5	Mudlark	11		
5	Musk Lorikeet	11		
38	Noisy Miner	11		
4	Pacific Black Duck	11		
3	Pied Currawong	11		
3	Rainbow Lorikeet	11		very noisy by vehicles
	Red Wattlebird			
	Spotted Dove			
1	Spotted Pardalote	11		
3	Tawny Frogmouth	11		
	White-browed Scrubwren			
	Wood Duck			
5	Yellow-bellied Black Swan	11		feeding over furring
2	Long-necked Curlew	11		all birds
1	Australian White Ibis	11		
Other: record in Other: Landscape Changes from Park Maintenance eg building works, changes to tracks, weeding, planting. Presence of bird food or rubbish, fence, insect, human waste etc.				
Other: People seen, Bikes, Prams				
People seen: 11, Bikes: 1, Prams: 1				
Refer: https://blackburncreeklands.org.au/bird-counts/				
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Image: Bird survey results in May 2026

Introduction

Scientific Classification

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Aves
Order:	Psittaciformes
Family:	Cacatuidae
Genus:	<i>Zanda</i>
Species:	<i>Z. funereus</i>



Distribution

- ▶ SE Australia

- ▶ Subspecies X3

A = *Z. funereus*

B = *Z. whiteae*

C = *Z. xanthanotus*

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Background

Common name: Yellow-tailed black-cockatoo

Scientific name: *Zanda funereus*

Type: Bird

Diet: Seeds (Pines, Banksia, Hakea, Eucalypts)
Grubs and insects

Lifespan: 40~60 yrs

Size: 55~65 cm

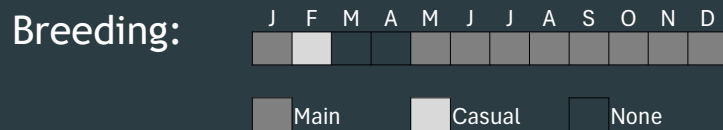
Weight: 750~900 g



Characteristics

Flight: Buoyant, deep/slow wing beat
Long tail, yellow panels

Habitat: Euc. woodlands, pine plantations and urban areas



Pair for life

Nest in hollows in old growth trees (Native temperate forests >200 yrs)

1-2 eggs (white)

Incubation: ~ 4 weeks

Fledglings: ~10 weeks
Care: ~16 weeks } ~ 6 months

Main threat: Habitat destruction, possums, wedge-tailed eagles



Sexing

#	Trait	Male (♂)	Female (♀)	Juv.
1	Bill	Dark	Light	Grey
2	Eye-ring	Pink	Grey	Grey
3	Yellow cheek patch	Smaller	Larger	Small
4	Yellow edging on feathers	Narrow	Wider	-



Male (left) and female (right)

Bird survey



Photos: Local photographer (April 2020)



Sources

- ▶ Field guide to the birds of Australia - Simpson and Day (7th Ed.)
- ▶ Birdlife Australia - [Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo - BirdLife Australia](#)
- ▶ Australian Geographic - [Fact File: Yellow-tailed black cockatoo \(*Calyptorhynchus funereus*\) - Australian Geographic](#)
- ▶ Australian Bird Study Association Inc.* - [Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo - ABSA](#)
- ▶ [Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo | BIRDS in BACKYARDS](#)



Contact details

- ▶ Glenn Hale
- ▶ Blackburn Creeklands Advisory Committee (BCAC)
- ▶ <https://blackburncreeklends.org/>
- ▶ blackburncreeklends@gmail.com
- ▶  
- ▶ Blackburn Creeklands brochure and map

