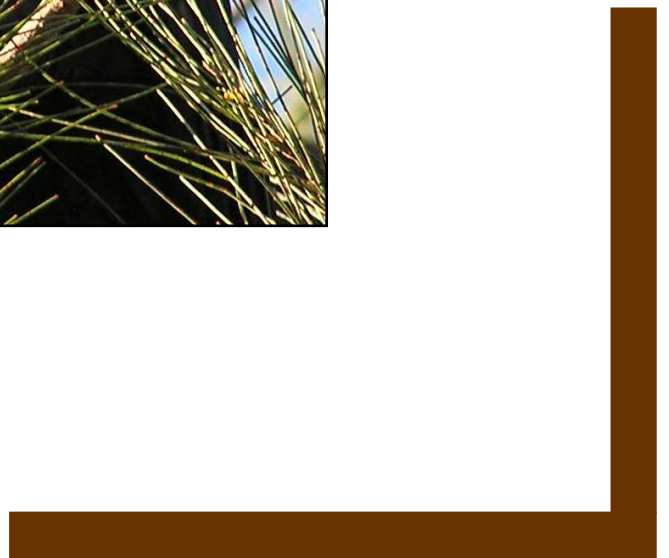
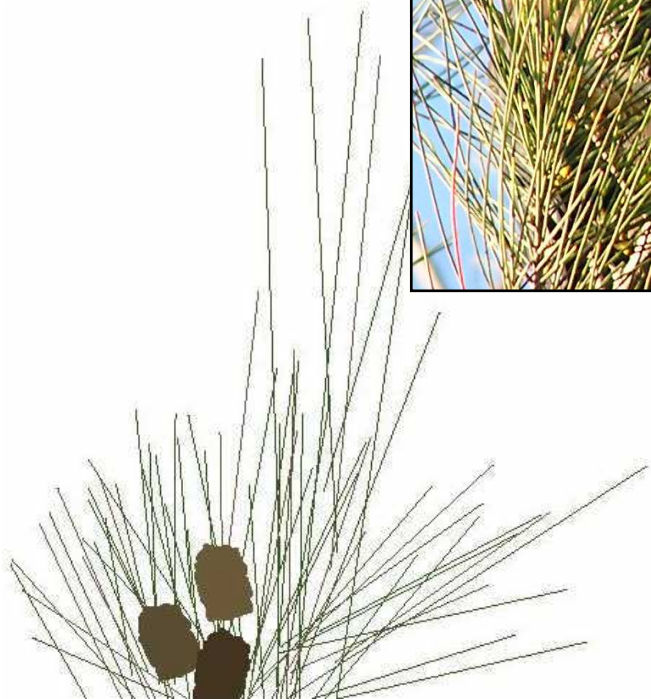




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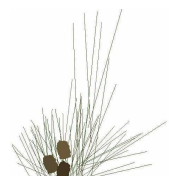


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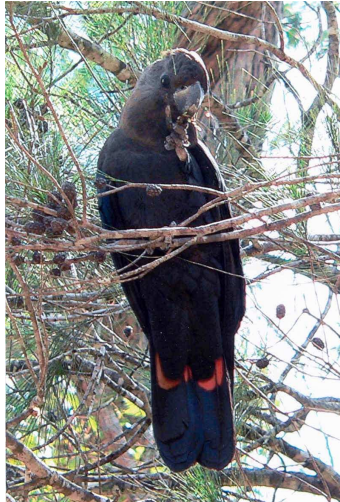
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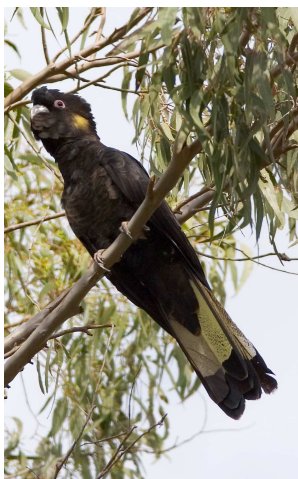
## 1.0 The Glossy Black-Cockatoo



### 1.1 Appearance

At approximately 46-51cm in length the Glossy Black-Cockatoo is Australia's smallest 'black' cockatoo. They are predominantly chocolate brown with coloured panels in the tail. Adult males are easily distinguished from females and juveniles by the uniform chocolate brown head and neck and solid red tail panels. Females and juveniles have patches and speckles of yellow around the head and neck and the tail panels include not only red, but also yellow often with black bars.

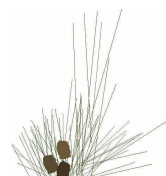
Other cockatoo species similar in appearance are the Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo and the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.



Yellow-tailed  
Black-Cockatoo



Red-tailed Black-  
Cockatoo



## 1.2 **Distribution**

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo is distributed along Eastern Australia and includes an isolated population on Kangaroo Island (SA).



Source: Department of Environment and Heritage, SA

Three sub-species of Glossy Black-Cockatoos are recognised:

- *Calyptorhynchus lathami erebus* - Northern sub-species occurring from east-central Queensland (Eungella NP) south to near Monto;
- *Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami* - East Gippsland north to around Kingaroy and inland to Roma; and
- *Calyptorhynchus lathami halmaturinus* - found only on Kangaroo Island, SA.

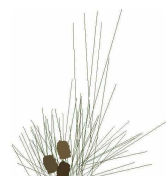
## 1.3 **Status**

All Glossy Black-Cockatoo sub-species except *C.l.erebus* (northern sub-species) are considered to be in decline. The population is estimated to be less than 18,000 birds Australia-wide. Current conservation statuses according to State and Federal legislation across Australia are:

- National - Endangered (Kangaroo Island Population Only);
- Queensland - Vulnerable;
- NSW - Vulnerable;
- Vic - Threatened; and
- SA - Endangered.

## 1.4 **Diet**

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo feeds almost exclusively on the seeds of the cones of Casuarinaceae or she-oaks. Only one or two Casuarinaceae species are used in any given location and the preferred species vary geographically. The Glossy Black-Cockatoo selects from specific selected she-oaks and shows fidelity for those trees over time. Despite the commonness of she-oaks, the Glossy Black-Cockatoo use only a small part of this resource, with their favoured food trees often equating to less than 1% of the available trees. On very rare occasions they are known to extend their diet to include insects and the seeds of eucalypts, angophoras, hakeas and acacias.



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She-oak cone chewing from a  
Glossy Black-Cockatoo

### **1.6 Management Challenges**

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo is a 'niche specialist', i.e. it requires very specific habitat requirements. In particular, it is limited by diet and breeding behaviour and these factors are compounded by pressures such as habitat clearance and predation.

Management of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo is not easy for many reasons including:

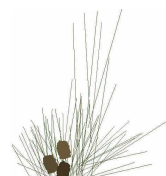
- They are highly mobile and range over large areas to obtain adequate food resources, therefore management recommendations for part of the bird's range may be thwarted by what occurs elsewhere in its range;
- The preferred food tree is a pioneer in disturbed areas and becomes less common as other more permanent, native vegetation is established; and
- Protection of food trees in a given area is inadequate as the resource will naturally dwindle, and most likely all but disappear in such an area.

## **2.0 The Glossy Black-Cockatoo in South East Queensland**

Glossy Black-Cockatoos are becoming increasingly difficult to observe in many parts of Australia. However, south-east Queensland remains one of their strongholds where they can be found with relative ease.

In south-east Queensland they mainly feed on Black She-oaks (*Allocasuarina littoralis*) and Forest She-oaks (*A. torulosa*). Water is considered a limiting factor in the Glossy Black's distribution within south-east Queensland. The dry season coincides with breeding and accessible surface water is often scarce during this time. However, birds extensively use waterholes created by humans that are a by-product of other activities (eg. quarrying and road-works, frog ponds etc) and also purposely built watering points. On the Southern Moreton Bay Islands for example only human water sources are used. Glossy Black's will regularly return to known and trusted sites and these sites become very important for local populations.

Glossy Black-Cockatoos are known to feed and breed in suburban yards where there are she-oaks present. As such, backyards and residential areas can be just as important for the bird as natural bushland areas. Therefore maintenance of resources in urban areas may be crucial to the long term future of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo in the south east Queensland region.



## **3.0 The Glossy Black Conservancy**

### **3.1 Vision**

The vision of the Glossy Black Conservancy is:

*'A coordinated approach between government, community and business to increase the awareness, protection and conservation of Glossy Black-Cockatoos within south east Queensland'.*

### **3.2 History**

The Glossy Black Glossy Conservancy (GBC) was officially formed in 2005 (initiated by Biodiversity Assessment and Management Pty Ltd - BAAM), with initial support from Brisbane City Council, Redland Shire Council and Consolidated Rutile Ltd.

Since 1995 the number of partners has continually grown, with the GBC currently made up of 17 partners:

- BAAM;
- Birds Queensland;
- Brisbane City Council;
- Bird Observers Club of Australia, Brisbane Regional Office (BRISBOCA);
- Burnett North Inland Local Government Cluster;
- Caboolture Shire Council;
- Caloundra City Council;
- Consolidated Rutile Limited (CRL);
- Gold Coast City Council;
- Griffith University;
- Ipswich City Council;
- Logan City Council;
- Maroochy Shire Council;
- Mary Local Government Authority Cluster
- Noosa Shire Council;
- Redland Shire Council; and
- SEQ Catchments.

### **3.3 Aims**

Specific aims of the GBC are to:

- Coordinate the assessment of Glossy Black-Cockatoo resources across local government areas in south east Queensland (SEQ);
- Engage with the community to assist in record collection;
- Continue community awareness and engagement activities within the general community, schools and environmental groups;
- Manage a central database of Glossy Black-Cockatoo records, accessible by government agencies in SEQ;
- Continue research aimed at increasing current knowledge of the species' use of pioneer vegetation, fidelity to individual feed trees, requirement for nesting hollows, diurnal and seasonal range and movement patterns with a priority to map vital resources for the Glossy Black-Cockatoos in SEQ;



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- Monitoring of key threats and refinement of management practices in Glossy Black-Cockatoo habitat (*Allocasuarina* forests eg fire, thinning, clearing); and
- Development of a Regional Management Plan for Glossy Black-Cockatoos in SEQ.

## 4. Achievements of 2006

The following provides a summary of 2006 achievements of the Glossy Black Conservancy.

### 4.1 Increased Community Awareness and Education throughout SEQ

In 2006 the GBC's main focus was to increase community awareness of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo across south east Queensland.

#### **Promotional and Educational Material**

The GBC designed, printed and disseminated a range of promotional and education material in 2006. Material included:

- Posters
- Fact Sheets
- Posters
- Pull up Banners

The content of the above items covered:

- An overview of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and species requirements
- The formation and aim of the GBC
- How community can be involved including submission reports
- The three cockatoos found in SEQ and how to distinguish each

#### **Workshops/Training/Presentations**

The GBC ran training workshops for its partners to further develop current skills and knowledge. The workshops consisted of both a theory and a field component focusing on:

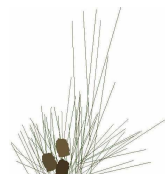
- The ecology of Glossy Black-Cockatoos
- Species identification (glossy black cockatoos and of favoured food trees)
- Identification of other evidence of Glossy Black-Cockatoo presence
- Management implications/recommendations
- Standard survey techniques.

The workshops were well recognised with over 130 people in attendance.

Presentations by partners were carried out by partners particularly during bird week to promote the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and aim of the GBC

#### **Glossy Black Representatives across SEQ for Community Assistance**

A representative was chosen from each partner organisation and listed as a key contact to provide further on the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and the GBC to the community.



### **Public Bird Walks**

During 2006, bird walks were provided by partner organisations to increase awareness community wide. Each bird walk primarily focussed on the identification of feed and nesting trees for the Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

### **Production of the GBC's First Newsletter**

The GBC produced its first newsletter in September 2006. The first newsletter included:

- New siting locations within SEQ
- Glossy Black-Cockatoo tree planting dates
- Events and activities during bird week
- The three factors critical to Glossy Black-Cockatoos

The newsletter was disseminated to all partners of the GBC and further dispersed to the wider community via various media tools (e.g various local government magazines, newsletters etc).

### **4.3 Increase in Partners of the GBC**

Through promotion of the GBC in 2006 a total of 17 organisations including local government; private enterprise, regional bodies, community organisations and university have become partners to date.

### **4.4 New Support Information Network for Partners**

The increase in partners in 2006 has provided an extensive support network for organisations across SEQ for Glossy Black-Cockatoo issues and other environmental associated matters within SEQ.

### **4.5 Records Management**

During 2006, siting records of Glossy Black-Cockatoos were submitted via email or mail. The input of records into the database is an on-going process coordinated by BAAM and Redland Shire Council. The on-going maintenance of the database is coordinated by BAAM and some verification is undertaken by Birds Qld, Brisboca and partner organisation when required.

### **4.6 Identification of new Glossy Black sites across SEQ**

Throughout 2006, siting records sent to the GBC identified many new Glossy Black-Cockatoo feeding and nesting sites within SEQ. This has enhanced current data associated with the species and will provide an improved analysis of distribution across SEQ (intended to be carried out in 2007).



## 5.0 Glossy Black Conservancy Financials

**Table 1 - Initial Financial Contribution from Partners**

No	Partner	Contribution
1	Burnett North Inland Local Government Authority Cluster	\$200
2	Caboolture Shire Council	\$500
3	Logan City Council	\$1000
4	Maroochy Shire Council	\$3417
5	Noosa Shire Council	\$1000
6	Brisbane City Council	\$1000
7	Caloundra City Council	\$500
8	Ipswich City Council	\$500
9	Gold Coast City Council	\$500
		<b>Total \$8617</b>

**Table 2 - GBC Expenditure in 2006**

No	Debit	Description
1	\$2500	Paid to BAAM for 5 workshops (Caloundra, Caboolture, Ipswich, Gold Coast, Maroochy)
2	\$150	Hall hire (Maroochy Hall)
3	\$816.20	Poster print (5000)
		<b>Total \$3466.20 debit</b>
		<b>\$5150.80 Remaining</b>

Please note in 2006 the GBC agreed that Birds Qld would manage the GBC's financials. All remaining finances are with Birds Qld and expenditure is to be approved by the GBC and processed by Birds Qld.

**Table 3 - Additional Financial Assistance by Local Governments**

No	Partner	Financial Contribution	Assistance to...
1	Brisbane City Council	\$781.00 \$743.00 \$1331	Brochure print Brochure print 1x Pull up banner
2	Gold Coast City Council	\$3000	2x Pull up Banners
3	Logan City Council	\$1419	2 <sup>nd</sup> print of Brochures (5000)
		<b>Total \$7274</b>	

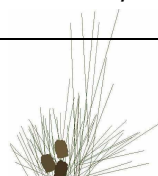
**Total Expenditure (2006) - \$10,740.20**  
**Remaining Funds - \$5,150.80**



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**Table 4 - Summary of GBC Achievements and Support in 2006**

<b>Output</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>	<b>Total Cash Cost</b>	<b>Type of Contribution</b>	<b>Contributors</b>
<b>Records Management</b>				
Maintenance of records database	On-going maintenance of records database.	N/A	In-Kind	BAAM Birds Qld
New records	Input of new records into database undertaken by BAAM, Redland Shire Council and Birds Qld.	N/A	In-Kind	All Partners Community
Verification of data	Verification of some data records received by the GBC.	?	Cash/Inkind	Birds QLD Brisboca
<b>Partner Training</b>				
Workshops	6 training workshops carried out by BAAM across SEQ.	\$2650	Cash	BAAM, Caloundra, Caboolture, Ipswich, Gold Coast, Maroochy
<b>Community Education and Awareness</b>				
Presentations	Presentations to promote the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and GBC.	N/A	In-Kind	All partners
Public Displays	Public displays to promote the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and GBC.	N/A	In-Kind	All partners
Support information network to community	Representatives across SEQ to assist partners and community.	N/A	In-Kind	All partners
Bird walks	Bird walks to identify Glossy Black-Cockatoos including nesting and feeding trees.	N/A	In-Kind	Birds Qld, Brisboca
Glossy Black Conservancy Newsletter	Development and dissemination of the first GBC Newsletter.	N/A	In-Kind	SEQ Catchments (Design and layout) All Partners (Dissemination)
Media articles	Promotion of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and GBC through various media tools.	N/A	In-Kind	All partners
Other educational activities	Colouring competitions.	N/A	In-Kind	Burnett North Inland LG Authority Cluster



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<b>Promotional Material</b>				
Brochures	Design and printing of "Have you seen one or Two" Brochures.	\$2,945	Cash	Brisbane City Council Logan City Council
Fact Sheets	Development and printing of the "Glossy Black Facts" Factsheet.	N/A	In-Kind	Brisbane City Council (Design) All Partners (Printing and Dissemination)
Posters	Design and printing of 5000 A2 Glossy Black-Cockatoo Posters.	\$816.20	Cash	All partners
Pull-up banners	Design and production of 3 pull up Banners.	\$4,331	Cash	Brisbane City Council Gold Coast City Council



## 7. Direction for 2007

The GBC's aims in 2007 are to:

- Continue with community awareness activities and training for partners and the community
- Support research that will assist in better understanding species movement patterns, habitat utilisation and key threats to Glossy Black-Cockatoo resources
- Utilise data received to enhance our understanding
- Expand the GBC to include additional important partners in SEQ.
- Seek further financial support from organisations(i.e. Grant funding).

For more information on GBC actions in 2007, view the Glossy Black GBC's Action Plan 2007.

