



Glossy Black Conservancy News

No. 4 October 2007

The Glossy Black Conservancy is a not for profit consortium that seeks to increase awareness and promote a collaborative conservation management approach for Glossy Black-Cockatoos across SEQ, through a partnership between government, private enterprise, researchers and the wider community.

Threatened Species Day Activities

September 7, 1949 was the day the last Tasmanian Tiger died at Hobart Zoo. This date has been commemorated annually since then as Threatened Species Day and around Australia events are organised to raise awareness of threatened species.

Glossy Black-Cockatoos are a threatened species, and are listed as a vulnerable species under Queensland, New South Wales and Australian government legislation. This year, the plight of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo was highlighted through activities in Logan and Redlands.

A walk through Neville Lawrie Reserve Logan, organised by Logan City Council and BrisBOCA, was a great success with a find of some chewings approx two weeks old indicating that the birds are still visiting the Reserve. This was an excellent teaching tool for our group. We also come across a pair of nesting Little Yellow Thornbills which had the cameras clicking. Rod Bloss, BrisBOCA, gave an introduction to Glossy Black-Cockatoos to participants. We had the Glossy Black banner setup at our BBQ site next to the main track, which attracted other users of the Reserve such as bike riders and walkers, and not one to let an opportunity to go by, we gave a spiel to each group about the bird which gained a lot of interest. Overall the day was a great success with many positive comments and now more people on the lookout for the Glossy Black. [J.Napier]

In Redland Shire, Council's Bushcare Unit supported the planting of 200 she-oaks at Pioneer Park on Lamb Island to further strengthen the Bay Islands as a major food source for Glossy Black-Cockatoos. [L.Bailey]

Year in Review – in sight!

The Conservancy's 2007 Action Plan identified priority actions for the year as:

- Training workshops
- Website creation
- Develop information kits & fact sheets
- Organise community walks & information displays
- Produce a quarterly newsletter
- Undertake an annual review of actions
- Further develop sightings database & link to GIS

On 21 November, Redland Shire Council will be hosting the 'Year in Review' to look at progress and plan for 2008 activities. If you would like to be part of the Conservancy's 2008 Action Plan, please get in touch with a Conservancy partner or email GBC@biodiversity.tv.

Success with Envirofund!

News hot off the press! On 2 October successful applicants to the latest round of Envirofund were announced – including the granting of \$28,291 to the Conservancy for development and distribution of a Glossy Black-Cockatoo education kit and planting of feed trees in a number of school grounds around south-east Queensland. This success reflects extremely well on the strength of the Conservancy (through its partners) and the value of the project - there were 2,159 applications to Envirofund Round 9, collectively seeking over \$47 million dollars, and only \$20 million available. We'll keep you posted on the project's progress.

Website fully-fledged!

The Conservancy's website is now fully-fledged! Visit www.glossyblack.org.au for information on Glossy Blacks, the Conservancy, its activities and a form to report sightings. Thanks to Griffith University's Centre for Innovative Conservation Strategies for their support.



One of 46 Glossy Black-Cockatoos reported from Mt Barney Photo: V.Charlesworth

Sighting Stories

Glossies feeding on Horse-tails!!

A number of recent sightings in Caloundra and Noosa have been of Glossy Black-Cockatoos feeding on *Casuarina equisetifolia* (Horsetail She-oak). Whilst *C. equisetifolia* is a known food source, in south-east Queensland other she-oak species (Forest or Rose She-oak, *Allocasuarina torulosa*, and Black She-oak, *A. littoralis*) are usually preferred.



Feeding on Horse-tail She-oak, *Casuarina equisetifolia*. Photo: A.Rash

Sightings in Brief

- Mt Barney, 6 May, feeding [V.Charlesworth]
- Yandina, most days in June-July, pair flying west, just on dusk, over property [J.Whish-Wilson]
- Noosa National Park firetrail, July, pair feeding [B.Abrahams]
- Kings Beach headland, 27 July, 3 birds (2 adults, 1 juvenile), feeding on *C. equisetifolia* [C. Jenkins]
- Sunrise Beach, 27 July, pair still feeding on *C. equisetifolia*, [B.Carey]
- Kings Beach headland, Caloundra, August, 3 birds (2 adults, 1 juvenile) feeding on *C. equisetifolia* for over a week (also seen by residents a couple of weeks earlier). [S.O'Keefe]
- Caloundra West near Jill Chamberlain Reserve, 15 August, 1 bird flying [S. O'Keefe]
- Golden Beach Esplanade (northern end), 15 August, 2 birds flying over [P. Whitehouse]
- Peregrine Beach, August, 2-10 birds feeding in she-oaks [A. Grossman]
- Pinaroo Park, Noosa Heads, 1 August, 2 pair feeding in *A. littoralis* [B.Carey]
- Peregrine Beach, 2 August, pair feeding in *A. littoralis* in the median reserve [B.Carey]
- Noosa Heads, 6-8 August, pair feeding on marked *A. littoralis* trees in fire station precinct
- Marcus Beach, 11 September, pair feeding on *A. littoralis* [P&H.Meinhofe]
- Pinaroo Park, 19-20 September, 11 birds drinking at the lagoon (up to 6 at a time on the ground), then sunset flight to roost tree [B.Carey]
- Mt Barney, 19 September, 46 birds feeding & drinking before flying to roost [V.Charlesworth]

Ort Report

Finding chewed cones, or orts, under casuarina trees is a pretty good clue that Glossy Black-Cockatoos may have been feeding in the tree. The colour of the chewed flesh indicates how long ago the birds were there; the whiter the cone, the more recently a bird was there.



- Caloundra Golf Club, 17 August [GMU Caloundra City Council]

GBC Partner Activities

Caloundra City Council

- Rehabilitation of part of Upper Tooway Creek includes environmental weed control, planting of appropriate species (including *A. littoralis*) and installation of Glossy Black-Cockatoo interpretive signage.
- Council's Natural Areas Team is also continuing to map known feed trees within Caloundra. [S.O'Keefe]

Logan City Council

A Development Control fact sheet for Glossy Black-Cockatoos will soon be finalised. This provides information to developers on the effects of development on Glossy Black-Cockatoos and strategies to mitigate these. More soon! [M.Anderson]

Redland Shire Council

- Glossy Black-Cockatoo feed trees (*A. littoralis* and *A. torulosa*) are included in all Bushcare community plantings and each year for Threatened Species week we conduct tree plantings on our bay islands where a majority of our Glossy Black-Cockatoos are located.
- Information on Glossy Black-Cockatoos is incorporated into our schools Environmental Education program.
- Council is hosting the Glossy Black Conservancy's 'Year in Review' at the IndigiScapes Centre on 21 November. [L.Bailey]

Report your Sightings!

If you have seen a Glossy Black-Cockatoo or found some orts, please complete a Sightings Report available from Conservancy partners, via GBC@biodiversity.tv or at www.glossyblack.org.au.

The Glossy Black Conservancy acknowledges the support of:

