



# How to participate in the Great Glossy Count

## BEFORE THE COUNT

### Brush up on your Glossy Black-Cockatoo and feed tree identification skills

- Watch the training video: [bit.ly/IDglossies](https://bit.ly/IDglossies)
- Read the field guide: [bit.ly/SEGBCfieldguide](https://bit.ly/SEGBCfieldguide)

### Download and familiarise yourself with the Birdata app

- Go to [birdata.birdlife.org.au](https://birdata.birdlife.org.au) and click “Download app” on your mobile device
- Follow the prompts and create an account (<https://support.birdlife.org.au/sign-up>) if you do not already have one. If you cannot create an account use the following log-in details: username – **email address you used to register for the count**; and password – **ggc2022**
- Make sure you can access the “South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo” program. If you can’t view this program, you may need to update the app
- Read the guide or watch the video on how to use Birdata. The guide is included in your welcome pack and the video is available here: <https://bit.ly/BirdataApp>
- You can use the Birdata app without an internet connection. Data will upload once you are back in range

### Pack items to bring on the day of the Count

#### FOR YOUR SAFETY

- Mobile phone – bring an EPIRB or satellite phone if going to a remote area
- Power bank (battery pack) for your devices
- Water and food
- Sunscreen, and insect repellent with at least 30% DEET
- First aid kit
- Appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor activities

#### FOR DATA COLLECTION

- Binoculars are useful but not essential
- Camera (most mobile phone cameras will be fine if you do not have a camera with zoom)
- Mobile phone or tablet with Birdata app installed
- Data sheets and pens/pencils in case you cannot use your device. If you use data sheets you will need a map or GPS device to mark locations where you collect data

### Leave at home

Do not bring drones, or dogs and other pets. Bringing these will likely disturb the birds and compromise your data collection.

# ON THE DAY

## Safety first

All volunteers must complete the Fieldwork Sign-on Form before participating in the Count. If you haven't already done so, you can do that here: <https://bit.ly/GGC22fieldworksignon>.

- Make sure you have all the items you need for your safety and for data collection
- Let a friend or family member know where you are going and when you will return
- Familiarise yourself with your allocated site:
  - Conduct a site assessment (tracks and trails, terrain, creeks). If your site has been significantly impacted by floods or excess water in the landscape, do not proceed
  - Know your entry and exit points
  - Identify the nearest facilities and landmarks such as restrooms or service stations

## Collecting data at your site

- Record your starting location and time in Birdata or on a printed data collection sheet. In Birdata, submit an "empty" survey to log your location, fellow observers, and start time. **Write "Start"** in the Comments section (under the "Details" tab in Birdata)
- Look for she-oaks (*Allocasuarina* or *Casuarina* trees) and look below them for chewings
- Stay quiet and listen for the sound of Glossies calling or feeding (clicking of bill); these can be heard up to 50 metres away. If it's close to dawn or dusk, check drinking sites
  - If you can hear Glossies, head towards the direction of the sound, keeping an eye out for chewings as you go
  - If you cannot hear Glossies, decide on a route to take to cover as much area of your site as you can
- Cover as much of the grid cell as you can, using tracks and trails where possible

## If you find Glossies or feed trees

- Record your data in the Birdata app (preferred), or on a printed data collection sheet
- Do not purposefully disturb Glossy Black-Cockatoos to get a good photo or identification

## If you don't find anything

The absence of Glossies and their feed trees is important data, so please record this zero data at locations when you find no feed trees and no birds. Every 15 – 30 minutes, record data using the Birdata app (or a data collection sheet), including time and location:

- Feed trees – in the "Details" section, for the question, "Did you observe a feed tree?" **record "no"**
- Glossy Black-Cockatoos – in the "Sightings" section, **leave this blank**
- **Write "nothing seen"** in the Comments section (under the "Details" tab in Birdata)

## When you've finished collecting data at your site

- Well done! Record your end location and time in Birdata or on a data collection sheet. In Birdata, submit an "empty" survey to log your location, fellow observers, and end time. **Write "End"** in the Comments section (under the "Details" tab in Birdata)
- If you recorded data on data collection sheets, make sure to enter data into Birdata later