

BirdLife Australia

Presentation to the Victorian Parliamentary  
Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline

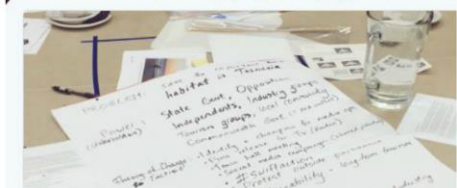
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# Birdlife Australia and our work



Fiona Blandford @BlandfordFiona - May 25  
Great ideas from the floor on campaigning for change! @BirdlifeOz #BirdLife



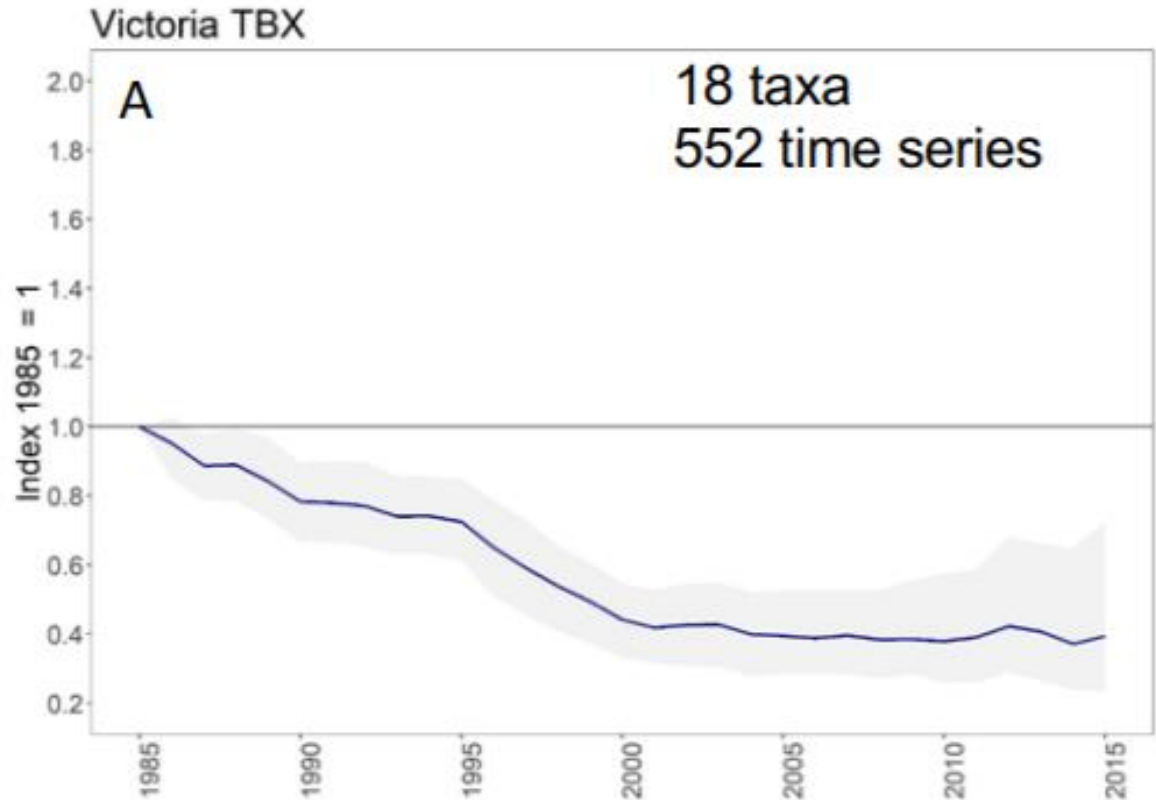
# Australia's extinction crisis - Chirruping Wedgebill

*Photo: John Barkla*

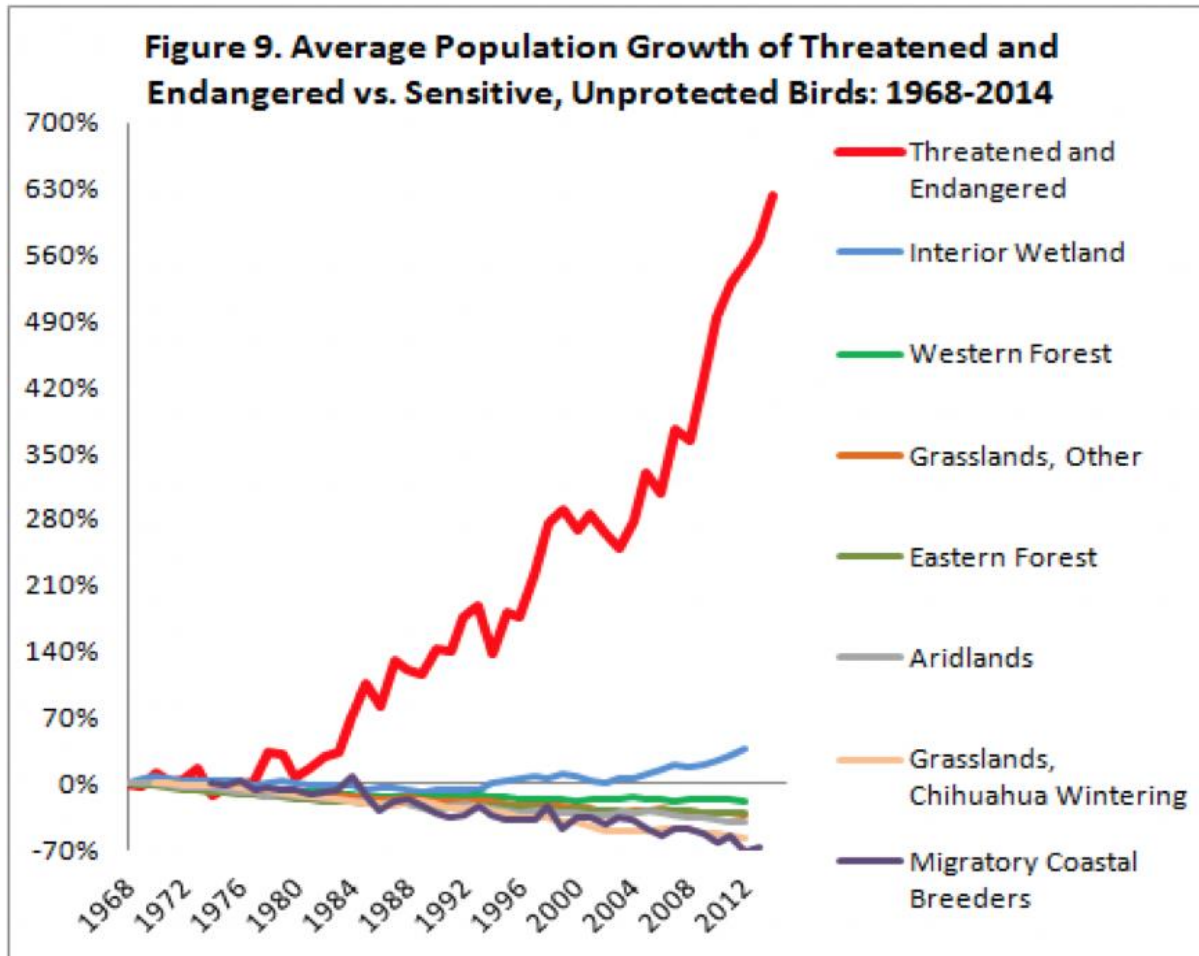


# The state of Victoria's birds

- 128 birds are listed on the *Advisory List of Threatened Vertebrate Fauna in Victoria 2013* (Advisory List).



# stopping habitat destruction is a good start



Graph from "A wild success" demonstrating average population growth of threatened and endangered birds protected by the Endangered Species Act in the USA

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# planned burns and logging

## Nadgee to Mallacoota Inlet KBA

### Birddata Fixed Survey Sites

#### SurveyType

- other
- 20min2ha
- 500mRadius

▨ KBA boundary

### Burn severity class<sup>^</sup>

- 6 - Not Native Vegetation
- 5 - Very High
- 4 - High
- 3 - Medium
- 2 - Low
- 0 - No Data

### Species AOO1km2 within KBA

- Both Trigger and Priority
- Priority but not Trigger
- Trigger but not Priority

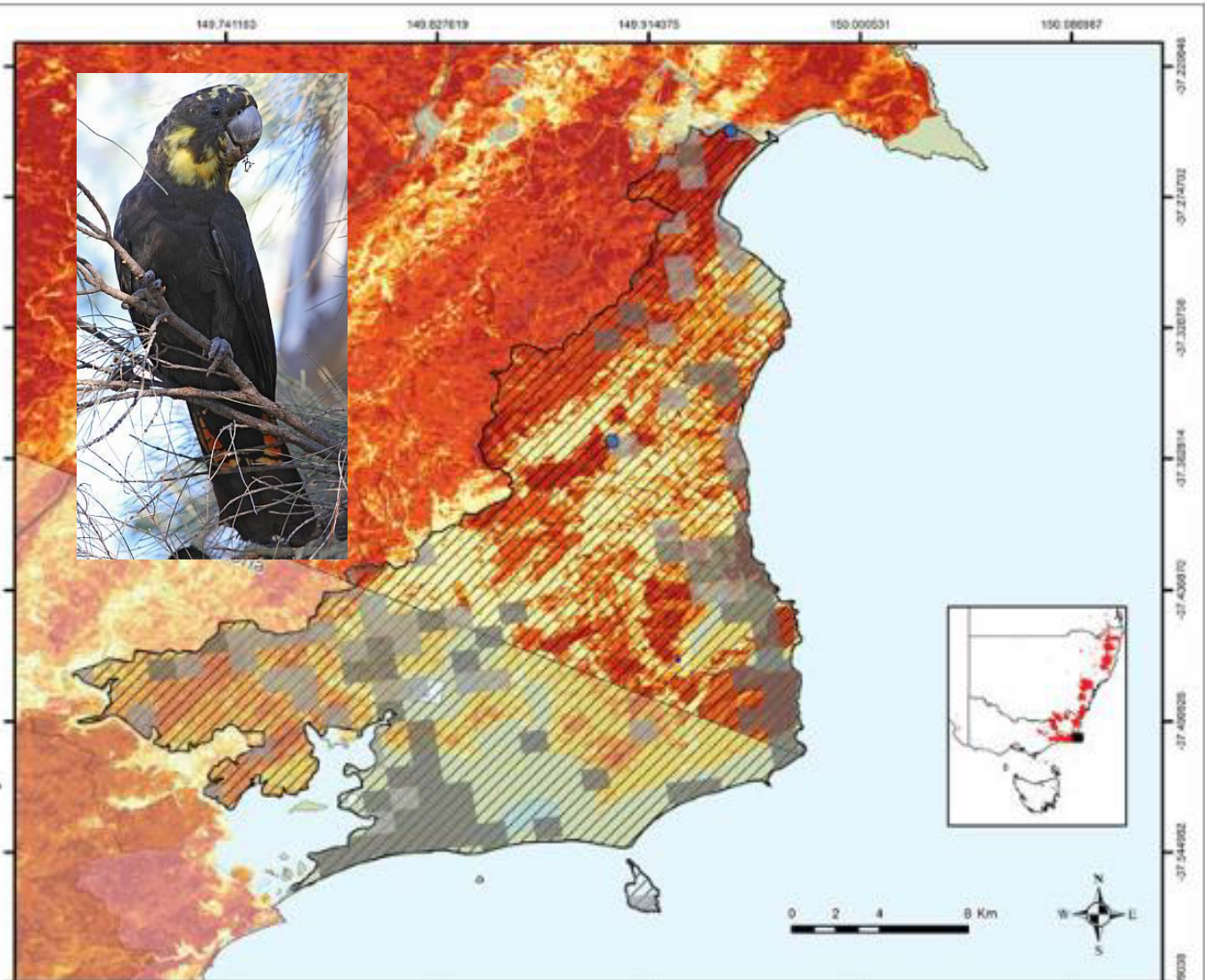
### Species occurring in this KBA

**KBA trigger species:** Eastern Bristlebird\*\*  
Pilotbird\*\*

**Other priority species:** Black-faced Monarch\*\*  
Gang-gang Cockatoo\*\*  
Red-browed Treecreeper\*\*  
Superb Lyrebird\*\*

\* Fire affected species (>10% of distribution burnt)

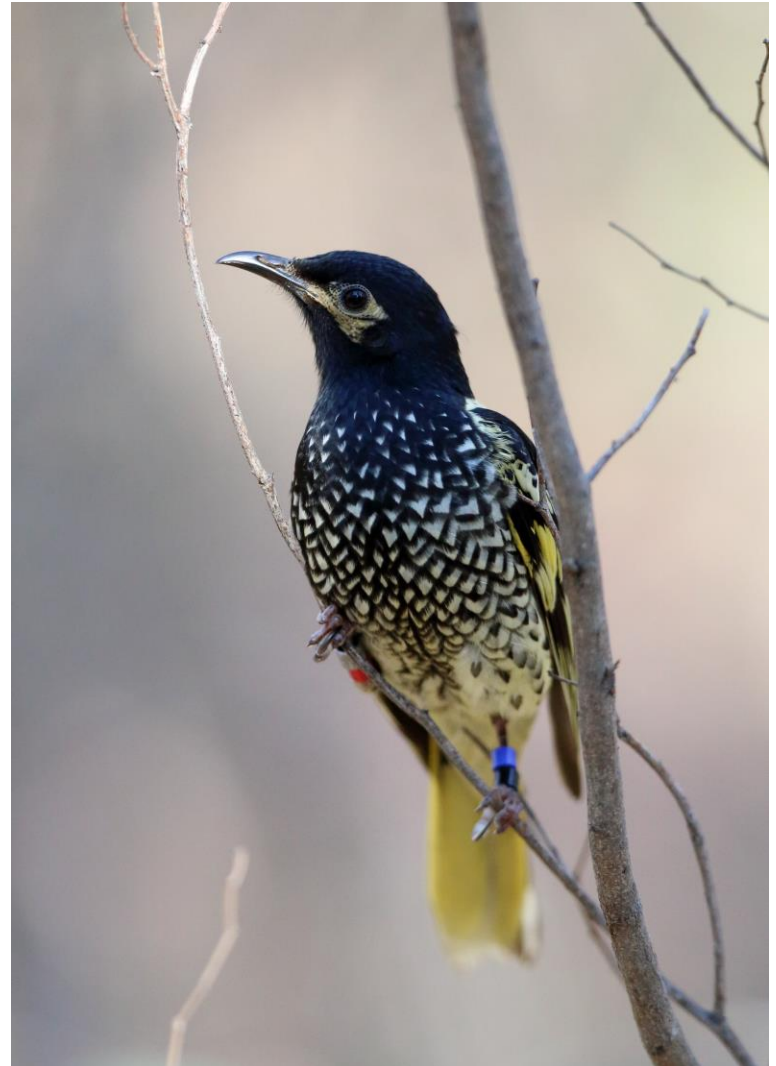
\*\* Priority fire species requiring urgent management intervention



<sup>^</sup>Bold coloured burn severity classes are based on NSW Google Earth Engine Burnt Area Map (GEEBAMv3p1), Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Washed-out (transparent) burn severity colours represent raw Differential Normalised Burn Ratio (dNBR) values, a relative index of burn intensity that was calculated

# Victoria's role in federal nature law reform

- Strong National Environmental Standards key to environmental outcomes
- Species specific conservation must accompany bioregional or landscape protection





Case study:  
integrating  
agriculture and  
biodiversity



# Case Study: Better protecting critical habitat for Hooded Plovers

Listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act (2014), FFG listed (1988), listed as Vulnerable on the Victorian Advisory List (2013).

Species-specific conservation interventions (NGO led) have kept from becoming more threatened

FFG designation of critical habitat needed

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# Summary of our formal recommendations

- Resource and implement the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019* including making critical habitat determinations mandatory and transparent.
- Protect Victoria's birds and other wildlife by reforming the *Wildlife Act 1975*.
- Develop stronger native vegetation laws and regulations that will safeguard, buffer and connect our remaining intact ecosystems, reduce the loss and degradation of natural habitats and restore degraded areas, ensuring connectivity and resilience of habitats and provision of essential ecosystem services through landscape-level conservation
- Address the key drivers of ecosystem decline including native forestry, climate change, invasive species, inappropriate development and unsustainable hunting of native wildlife.
- Increase the use of traditional knowledge in the management for threatened species recovery by developing collaborations and partnerships with First Nations peoples.

Chat time!

