

Progress Report STP 2017-051 (FY 2016-2017)

Ecology and conservation biology of the night parrot

Animal Science

Project Core Team

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Approved and active

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Project Team	granted
Program Leader	granted
Directorate	granted

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The night parrot is an enigmatic species of ground dwelling parrot that is believed to occur across northern Australia but has rarely been seen as it is nocturnal and occupies remote habitat. Recent discovery of birds in Queensland and Western Australia has provided an opportunity to study the ecology and biology of this species at several sites across the Australian arid zone. Little is known about habitat use and ecology of this bird so studies are being undertaken to improve recognition and management of potential habitat.

In Western Australia, work this year has included survey by acoustic recorders, and the recordings from this field work are currently being analysed. Habitat assessments have been made at the only nest found in Western Australia, and at several recently discovered roost sites, as well as in presumed unoccupied habitat. An attempt to track a foraging bird was unsuccessful due to higher than expected mobility.