

# Forty Mile Scrub Bird Checklist

Emu	Red-winged Parrot V	Noisy Friarbird	Rufous Fantail V
Australian Brush-turkey V	Pale-headed Rosella	Little Friarbird	Grey Fantail V
Brown Quail	Pheasant Coucal	Striped Honeyeater C	Australian Raven
Pacific Black Duck W	Eastern Koel V	Grey-crowned Babbler C	Torresian Crow
Australasian Grebe W	Channel-billed Cuckoo V	Varied Sittella C	Leaden Flycatcher C
Common Bronzewing C	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Satin Flycatcher V
Diamond Dove	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo V	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	Black-faced Monarch V
Peaceful Dove	Fan-tailed Cuckoo V	Cicadabird V	Spectacled Monarch V
Bar-shouldered Dove V	Brush Cuckoo V	White-winged Triller	Magpie-lark
Tawny Frogmouth	Oriental Cuckoo V	Varied Triller V	Jacky Winter
White-throated Nightjar C	Southern Boobook	Golden Whistler V	Lemon-bellied Flycatcher C
Australian Owlet-Nightjar	Masked Owl C	Rufous Whistler	Eastern Yellow Robin C
Pied Cormorant W	Laughing Kookaburra	Little Shrike-thrush V	Silvereye V
White-necked Heron W	Blue-winged Kookaburra E	Grey Shrike-thrush C	Mistletoebird V
White-faced Heron W	Forest Kingfisher	Australasian Figbird V	Double-barred Finch C
Straw-necked Ibis W	Sacred Kingfisher	Olive-backed Oriole V	Red-browed Finch V
Black-shouldered Kite E	Rainbow Bee-eater	Masked Woodswallow	Australasian Pipit E
Square-tailed Kite V	Dollarbird	Black-faced Woodswallow	
Whistling Kite E	Great Bowerbird V	Little Woodswallow	<b>111 species</b>
Black Kite E	Red-backed Fairy-wren	Grey Butcherbird C	V - Vine Scrub birds
Brown Goshawk V	White-browed Scrubwren V	Pied Butcherbird E	C - <i>Callitris</i> woodland birds
Spotted Harrier E	Weebill	Australian Magpie	E - <i>Eucalyptus</i> woodland birds
Wedge-tailed Eagle	Fairy Gerygone V	Pied Currawong V	W - Wetland birds
Nankeen Kestrel	White-throated Gerygone C	Spangled Drongo V	
Brown Falcon	Buff-rumped Thornbill C		
Australian Hobby	Spotted Pardalote C		
Sarus Crane E	Striated Pardalote		
Australian Bustard E	Lewin's Honeyeater V		
Painted Button-quail V	White-gaped Honeyeater		
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Noisy Miner		
Galah	Yellow-throated Miner		
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Scarlet Honeyeater V		
Rainbow Lorikeet	Brown Honeyeater C		
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	White-throated Honeyeater		
Little Lorikeet	Blue-faced Honeyeater		

List by Birds Australia. Names and taxonomic order follow *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* by L. Christidis & W E Boles (CSIRO, Melbourne, 2008).

## Birdlife

Of around 100 resident and migratory bird species recorded at the Forty Mile Scrub, 43 have their stronghold in the Vine Scrubs or 'dry rainforest' and neighbouring *Callitris* woodland ('V' and 'C').

Another 55 species ('E') frequent open eucalypt forest and dry woodland, including nine which prefer the edge zones adjoining pastoral land. A few wetland birds ('W') visit pools formed during summer rains.

The toughest of north-east Queensland's rainforest birds flourish here. Fairy Gerygones, Lewin's Honeyeaters and Varied Trillers can easily be seen near the picnic area. Eastern Yellow Robins are found mainly in *Callitris* woodland.

Take care driving at night along the highway running through the Scrub, as Southern Boobooks and frogmouths often hunt grasshoppers on the bitumen surface.

See also:

Bird Checklist No 25 Mt Surprise  
Bird Checklist No 27 Kaumba-Normanton  
Bird Checklist No 30 Georgetown

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# WHO ARE WE?

**BirdLife Northern Queensland** is a branch of the national organisation BirdLife Australia, formed in 2012 by the merger of Birds Australia and BOCA.

BirdLife Northern Queensland organizes both scientific and social activities. These include bird surveys, outings, workshops and presentations with guest speakers. The regular field trips and campouts cater for all levels of expertise from beginner to professional and emphasise fun as well as worthwhile conservation projects.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter **Contact Call** detailing local activities and also enjoy **BirdLife Australia** magazine dealing with national bird issues.

You can join BirdLife Australia and help the conservation of Australian birds at [www.birdlife.org.au](http://www.birdlife.org.au)

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# INFORMATION

The **Forty Mile Scrub** is a Vine Scrub or 'dry rainforest'. Mainly basalt soils, derived from the Undara lava flows, allow rainforest to survive despite only 800 mm annual rainfall. Reflecting the dry conditions, the continuous canopy reaches only 5-7 m, with a few species including Figs, bottle trees and White Cedars standing higher. Many plants are deciduous for all or part of the long Dry season.

The Forty Mile Scrub also has significant areas of *Callitris* woodland and open eucalypt forest plus some drier woodland. A few swamps form after Wet Season rains (Dec-Mar) but quickly evaporate.

Such varied habitats allow the Forty Mile to support over 100 resident or migratory bird species, as well as wallabies, possums, gliders, reptiles and insects. Some plants and spiders are found nowhere else.

6330 ha is reserved as National Park. Field staff and researchers are battling the introduced shrub *Lantana camara*, a serious weed in the Vine Scrub.

## Location and Facilities

18°05'42" S 144°50'54"E (GDA94)

**112 km SW of Ravenshoe**

From Ravenshoe follow the Kennedy Highway west via Innot Hot Springs to Mt Garnet. About 60 km on, the Forty Mile Scrub picnic area has tables, a short walking track, toilets including wheelchair access & a small information sign.

1 km past the Scrub's southern boundary, the highway forks south to The Lynd or south-west to Undara, Mt Surprise, Georgetown and the Gulf.

# FORTY MILE SCRUB

## Bird checklist No 16



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