

# Forty Mile Scrub Bird Species

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

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.

## 111 species

- V - Vine Scrub birds
- C - *Callitris* woodland birds
- E - *Eucalyptus* woodland birds
- W - Wetland birds

Updated January 2008

## ***New or unusual sightings at 40 Mile Scrub?***

***Contact us!*** →→

Names and taxonomic order used for the list follow  
*Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds*  
by L Christidis & W E Boles  
(CSIRO, Melbourne, 2008)

Produced for BANQ by Elinor Scambler  
Research by members & friends of BANQ

# WHO ARE WE?

**Birds Australia North Queensland Group (BANQ)** is a regional group of the national organisation Birds Australia (Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union, RAOU), formed in 1901 - the oldest Australian society concerned with national and international bird study and conservation.

The BANQ area covers Queensland from Ayr north to the Torres Strait Islands and west to the Northern Territory border.

Area representatives are based in Townsville, Mt Isa, Cairns, Atherton Tableland, Mossman/Daintree, and Cape York.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter, Contact Call, and enjoy Australia's best bird magazine *Wingspan*. Regular field trips and campouts cater for all levels of expertise from beginner to professional and emphasise fun as well as worthwhile projects.

## *'Birding with a purpose'*

Have a real impact on the conservation of our wild birds and their habitats. Contact us ...

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For more about North Queensland birds, birding and bird conservation ...

... visit our website [www.birdsaustralianq.org/](http://www.birdsaustralianq.org/)

# 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

Far North Queensland

## Birding Information and Species List No 16

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