

Western Ground Parrot (*Pezoporus flaviventris*)

As a result of significant range contraction over the past few decades, western ground parrots (WGP) are now thought to number no more than 150 individuals, most or all of which are confined to a single area of heathland on the south coast of Western Australia. Bushfires in late 2015 destroyed 90% of the previously occupied habitat, leaving the future of the species highly uncertain. There is a small captive population (n=5) but there has been limited breeding success so far. In March 2016, 39 delegates from 19 organisations gathered in Western Australia to help create a future for this rare Australian bird and for other species that share its habitat.

The WGP does not have an IUCN Red List assessment as it is considered by BirdLife International to be a subspecies of Australian ground parrot. However, based on morphological and molecular evidence and the length of time since separation from other ground parrots, the WGP is afforded species status in Australia and is listed as Critically Endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.



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Priority Goals

During the workshop participants agreed the following priorities. **Click on the text in the table below to learn more about each goal and related actions.**

Recover and protect wild populations of WGP.
Protect habitat critical for the survival of WGP.
Significantly shift fire management planning, to account for new knowledge and changing climate.
Allocate dedicated resources to fire planning and response for South Coast threatened species and ecological communities.
Effectively integrate predator control with enhanced predator control response post- bushfire.
Continue to develop and refine methods for detecting and monitoring WGP, and continue to undertake survey for and monitoring of the species.
Appoint/retain multiple suitably skilled staff to develop the knowledge base on WGP biology/ecology and continue to actively mitigate threats in remaining habitat.
Analyse existing data to expose key information gaps.
Establish additional populations of WGP.
Identify and evaluate potential new sites.
Develop and implement a WGP translocation strategy.
Secure awareness, support and long-term resourcing for conservation efforts of WGP & species that share their habitat.
Develop and implement a communication and engagement strategy, and a robust, diverse funding model.
Increase the community and NGO support base.
Elevate the prospects of the WGP project by housing it within a larger initiative that recognises and promotes this area as a National Biodiversity Hotspot.
Optimise the value of the captive program to WGP recovery and conservation.
Agree on and pursue a future direction for the WGP captive population.
Establish a captive population of Eastern Ground Parrots.

Full workshop report available at: <http://www.cbsg.org/content/western-ground-parrot-workshop-2016>

Hosted by: Western Australian Department of Parks and Wildlife, with the South Coast Threatened Birds Recovery Team

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