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Avifauna of Deliverance Island (Warul Kawa) and Kerr Islet (Awaiyal Kawa), North-Western Torres Strait

Justin J. Watson & Garrick Hitchcock

Abstract

Warul Kawa (Deliverance Island), a small, densely forested sand cay, is the most northwesterly island in Torres Strait, far north Queensland. Awaiyal Kawa (Kerr Islet), a smaller cay, is located 9.5 km to the south of Warul Kawa and supports low dune wood/shrubland and patchy grassland. Two bird surveys in December 2011 and November 2012 recorded 55 and 49 species, respectively. To date, a total of 70 species are collectively known from these islands. All 34 species recorded on Awaiyal Kawa are also reported for Warul Kawa. This paper presents a comprehensive species list and discusses unusual bird records. Potential threats to island fauna and management issues are identified.

Mulga Parrot and Bourke's Parrot in Central-western Queensland

Andrew Ley & Brian Tynan

The known ranges of Mulga Parrots and Bourke's Parrots have expanded in central-western Queensland in recent decades. This may be a result of our growing knowledge of bird distributions in the northern Channel Country of the Lake Eyre basin or because these species have been expanding their ranges, or both.