

Threatened and Endangered Species

Another reason for identifying the bird accurately is its conservation status. Many Australian birds are endangered (or becoming so) either as a local population or across the entire country and as such are subject to special programmes by government departments such as the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC). Some of these programs are very high profile such as those to save the Mallee Fowl or the Regent Honeyeater. Others are less obvious and it is therefore important for any member to stay up to date with conservation activity in their area.

Nationally twenty five birds have been listed as extinct, thirty two as critically endangered and eighty two as endangered. There are also another eighty one species listed as near threatened (Garnett 2000). While these are, for obvious reasons, not birds which commonly come into captivity, WIRES statistics do indicate that we do receive them from time to time. There are management plans for many of these species and in some case captive breeding programs for critically endangered birds. WIRES members who believe they have rescued one of the species listed below should contact their bird coordinator immediately and, where humanely possible, delay any decision on euthanasia until this time.

Many of our most endangered bird species are seabirds found off our coastlines and in the southern ocean. While WIRES members are unlikely to come into contact with these species coastal branches should take great care to get beach washed birds identified correctly and reported to their coordinator.

Table 5 Endangered, Threatened and Vulnerable Species of Seabirds in NSW		
Common Name	Scientific name	Level of threat
Amsterdam Albatross	<i>Diomedea amsterdamensis</i>	Critically endangered
Antipodean Albatross	<i>Diomedea antipodensis</i>	Vulnerable
Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i>	Vulnerable
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophrys</i>	Endangered
Black-winged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma nigripennis</i>	Vulnerable
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Critically endangered
Buller's Albatross	<i>Thalassarche bulleri</i>	Vulnerable
Campbell's Albatross	<i>Thalassarche impavida</i>	Vulnerable
Cape Petrel	<i>Daption capense capense</i>	Vulnerable
Chatham Albatross	<i>Thalassarche eremite</i>	Critically endangered
Flesh-footed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Vulnerable
Gibson's Albatross	<i>Diomedea gibsoni</i>	Vulnerable
Gould's Petrel	<i>Pterodroma leucoptera leucoptera</i>	Vulnerable
Grey-headed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>	Endangered
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche carteri</i>	Vulnerable
Kermadec Petrel (west Pacific subspecies)	<i>Pterodroma neglecta neglecta</i>	Vulnerable
Little Shearwater	<i>Puffinis assimilis assimilis</i>	Vulnerable