

# Fact Sheet:

## Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo and Nature Laws

### About Perth's Carnaby's

#### Federally Endangered

Since 2010, the Federally Endangered Perth-Peel subpopulation of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos has declined by 5-11% each year due to the ongoing clearing of foraging and roosting habitat on the Swan Coastal Plain.

#### With 70% of their native habitat already lost, Perth's Carnaby's have become dependent on pine trees to survive

70% of banksia woodland in the region has been cleared, causing Carnaby's to become increasingly reliant upon pine plantations north of Perth to survive.

In 2017, three quarters of Perth-Peel Carnaby's were recorded roosting within one kilometre of Perth's pine plantations, underscoring the importance of the plantations to sustain this population.

#### Dwindling food source

The Western Australia State Government recently announced a major reduction in clearing of pine plantations north of Perth. This is welcome news, but there is no long-term plan for the Carnaby's after June 2019.

Without a long-term plan, current projections predict there will be food shortages for the species by 2025.

### How current nature laws are failing birds and community

#### Science and data ignored

Despite the known importance of the pine plantations as a critical food source, pine trees have been harvested—without replacement—since 2004. Harvesting these pines without planting additional trees for feeding and roosting has clear consequences for this Endangered species.

BirdLife Australia has repeatedly submitted requests for the Western Australian Government to refer the removal of this critical food source to the Federal Department of Environment for assessment of the impact it is having on Carnaby's. We have also called on both the State and Federal Ministers to stop any further harvesting of pine plantations in the short term, until an alternative food source is available.

So far, the Government of Western Australia has failed to refer this action to the Commonwealth for assessment. And in the meantime, pine clearing continues, with the plantations earmarked to be completely gone by 2020. This will likely lead to the extinction of the Perth-Peel Carnaby's population within our lifetime.

### You can make a difference!

One of the most powerful ways you can defend Perth's iconic Carnaby's is by contacting your local federal Member of Parliament. Right now, in the lead up to the federal election, federal MPs (and candidates) are especially ready to listen to the people who vote for them.

Write a handwritten letter to [your local federal MP](#) today telling them why you want a long-term plan to secure habitat for the Carnaby's, and ask them to support strong national nature laws.