

# Restoring landscape resilience: Safeguarding mallee birds and their habitats from compounding threats

Project information



Resilient  
Landscapes

National Environmental Science Program

Eastern Regent Parrot



This project will collect and analyse data from land management experts and other conservation programs to create a suite of land management decision tools, enabling stakeholders to predict the outcomes of different conservation management actions.

## Project details

Mallee woodlands and shrublands are home to many bird species that live exclusively in mallee vegetation – such as the endangered mallee emu-wren, the vulnerable malleefowl and the endangered black-eared miner. Their survival is dependent on the conservation of mallee ecosystems, but threats from changes in climate, land use and fire regimes are putting them at risk.

Effective conservation of mallee birds requires understanding which factors contribute to the abundance, availability and health of mallee habitat.

In this project, we're collecting information from land management experts and data from previous conservation programs in north-western Victoria, south-eastern South Australia and south-western New South Wales, to understand the dynamics of Mallee Bird Community habitat.

We are using that information to develop a suite of management decision-tools to help land managers predict outcomes of different conservation actions and understand what the data gaps are in order to develop effective and enduring conservation strategies.

## Key research goals

To help conserve mallee bird species, this project is:

- synthesising existing knowledge about mallee bird species and their habitat dynamics
- developing regional state-and-transition models for mallee ecosystems
- adapting regional models for local use
- developing modelling tools to assist conservation decision-making.



Malleefowl chick

## What is the NESP Resilient Landscapes Hub?

The Australian Government's National Environmental Science Program (NESP) funds environment and climate research. NESP currently supports 4 multi-disciplinary research hubs, each hosted by an Australian research institution. The program:

- provides evidence for the design, delivery and on-ground outcomes for environmental programs
- helps decision-makers, including those from Indigenous communities, build resilience
- supports positive environmental, social and economic outcomes.

This project is funded by the NESP Resilient Landscapes Hub, which is hosted by the University of Western Australia. The Resilient Landscapes Hub's research supports the management of Australia's terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and makes them more resilient to extreme events and pervasive pressures.



Red-lored whistler

## Further information

The project is being co-led by Associate Professor Jim Radford (La Trobe University), Emeritus Professor Nick Reid (University of New England), Dr Anna Richards (CSIRO), Dr Wendy Stubbs (Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board), Dr Rebecca Boulton (RLB Ecology), Dr Nicole Hansen (SA Government) and Dr Alex Maisey (La Trobe University).

This document and further information are available at [nesplandscapes.edu.au/projects/nesp-rlh/mallee-birds/](https://nesplandscapes.edu.au/projects/nesp-rlh/mallee-birds/)

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