

Turquoise Parrot Times

Who (else) is at home in Turquoise Country?



Since 2014 the Broken Boosey CMN has maintained a steady focus on raising community awareness and improving habitat and nesting opportunities for the Turquoise Parrot in the Warby Ranges, Chesney Vale Hills, and parts of the North East catchment. However, the Broken Boosey CMN is not the only group to be working in the region for our birdlife. Many organisations, community and land-care groups have undertaken wonderful works including the Regent Honeyeater Project, which has set the standard for long-term species recovery works to increase habitat health and landscape connectivity that is beneficial for all biodiversity. Photo: D Ingwersen



Regent Honeyeater Project planting day



The Regent Honeyeater Project has been working with landholders in the region to link and enhance habitat for over 20 years, and has made a tangible difference to the habitat health, quality and connectivity for not only the 'Regent', but many other species, including the Turquoise Parrot. The past achievements of the Regent Honeyeater Project are numerous, and success is ongoing. A not-for-profit entity, the group has received funding from various sources over the years, so it may carry out its important work.

During 2019 and 2020, with significant funding through the Goulburn Broken CMA's 'Linking Landscapes' project, the Regent Honeyeater Project has achieved some amazing work at and around Winton Wetlands, which is on the doorstep of 'Turquoise Country' adjacent to the Chesney Hills and Warby Ranges. In 2019 alone, the Regent Honeyeater Project carried out around 170 hectares of revegetation, with the assistance of over 500 school and university students, with an extra 800-plus adult volunteers engaged on planting weekends. Over five kilometres of fencing was installed to control stock in remnants, and seven kilometres of connecting vegetation that was started in 2018 was completed. Another six kilometre long corridor that was started in 2018, ranging in width from an impressive 60-300 metres wide, was also completed.

Community engagement from the group is strong, with various pamphlets on niche hand direct seeding and Grey Box Woodlands brochures produced and distributed. The contribution this project has made to the Regent Honeyeater and other woodland bird species on the brink, is immeasurable. These actions provide immediate and long-term benefits to the Turquoise Parrot, and to the Grey Box Grassy Woodland ecosystems it protects and enhances.

Thank you to all, for these vitally important past and continuing works, and for investing in all biodiversity.



National
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This project is supported by the Goulburn Broken CMA through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, the Victorian Government and the Wettenhall Environment Trust.

Hollow Homes



Proof that natural hollows are hot real estate! Instead of making their way into the coonara, this and other hollow homes were salvaged and installed in the Tzaros home garden, in the Warby Ranges. Now is the time that Turquoise Parrot parents are selecting their nesting sites and these hollows are in high demand for a springtime baby boom. Thank you to Chris Tzaros for the wonderful photo of the house-hunting Turqs.

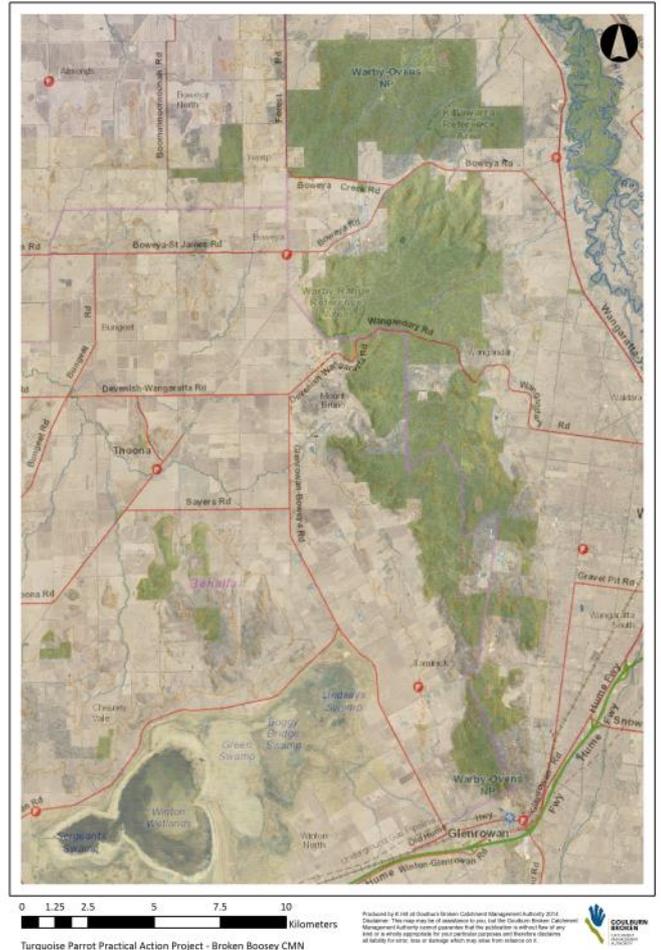
Turquoise in Taminick



Photo: J Booth

Who doesn't enjoy a sunny day out at a winery? This flock of Turquoise Parrots were recently spotted at Black Dog Brewery, at Taminick, which was a welcome sight. Turqs seem to enjoy their winery visits, not for the grapes, as they are seed eaters, but for the short grass growing between the vines that holds precious seed. Native grass seed as well as exotic species such as capeweed and wireweed, are on the menu. The Turquoise Parrot Project has installed nest boxes in the bushland behind the winery, so it is hoped these will be occupied with the next turquoise generation this spring.

Project area



Turquoise Parrot Practical Action Project - Broken Boosey CMN

The Glenrowan, Warby Ranges and Chesney Hills are the focal areas for this project.



Nestlé Community Environment Program



OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER
OF THE BROKEN BOOSEY
CONSERVATION
MANAGEMENT NETWORK



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