

In the Tomingley area, the most valuable and important babbler habitat is the remnant tree corridors which connect our properties.

Tomingley Gold Operations is committed to protecting remnant habitat and monitoring the Grey-crowned Babbler.

What can you do to support this threatened species?



Scientific name: Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis

Conservation status in NSW: Vulnerable

Grey-crowned Babblers



Family is everything...

Grey-crowned Babblers live in family groups consisting of a breeding pair and their offspring forming groups of up to 15 birds. The group stays close together while looking for food and make soft 'chuck' calls to keep in touch.

The family group work together to build and maintain nests as well as to feed the young.

Their nest are conspicuous football shaped nests made from sticks which are usually in the small outermost branches of eucalypts. They will maintain up to ten nests, using most of them for roosting and only a few that are large enough for incubating eggs, like the one in the picture.

Breeding occurs from mid-winter through to the end of summer.



What you can do to help.

- Remember that vegetation corridors are very important. They provide habitat for the wildlife including Grey-crowned Babblers. If they are along fence lines, they won't take up too much productive land.
- In your garden and in your vegetation corridors and wherever else you can, leave the fallen branches on the ground and allow leaf litter and sticks to gather too.
- Encourage regeneration of habitat by fencing remnant stands of trees.
- Increase the size of existing remnants and plant trees to establish buffer zones of pasture around woodland remnants.
- If you are a cat owner, please keep your cat indoors as much as possible.

Who are these babblers?

The Grey-crowned Babblers are one of four babbler species in Australia. They have a scimitar-shaped bill, white eyebrows that blends into a patch of grey on the top of their head. A dark band across their eye gives them a masked look. They have a brownish orange patch on their wings that you can see when they spread their wings and fly.

When they are young, their iris is brown. It fades as they age, to yellow by three years old.

Where you will see them...

Grey-crowned Babblers live in patches of Box-Gum Woodland defending territories usually around 10 hectares, but up to 50 hectares.

They search amongst the leaf litter, amongst grassy tussocks or on the branches and bark of trees for insects and other invertebrates to eat.

These birds will often glide from tree to tree or from a tree to the ground, avoiding flight when they can. For this reason, they are unlikely to cross large open areas.



...Or hear them.

This species has a loud 'ya-hoo' call which is a duet between the male and female (the female says 'ya' and the male answers with 'hoo'). It is used to maintain the bond between the pair and as a territorial call.