

REGENT PARROT

NEWS (11)



July 2014

Regent Parrot Nest Surveys

It has been decided to conduct the "River Reach" survey of nest sites in October. The survey will involve the stretch of river from Cadell upstream to Lock 2. This is a distance of about 20km. The operation will be managed from the Hogwash Bend Conservation Park. Volunteers and some agency staff will organize groups/individuals to search sections of the area and then resources will be concentrated in the nesting areas to locate and record details of all nests in each area. The follow up from this survey will be to use GIS technology to attempt to determine what makes a good Regent Parrot nest site. If this can be determined, efforts can then be focussed on making other similar sites more suitable to regent parrots in the hope that this will lead to arresting the decline in numbers that have occurred over the past 20+ years.

The survey will be conducted over a 2 week period commencing Saturday 11th October. If you are able to assist with the survey, can you please register your name and times when you will be available to assist with Chris Hedger.

Regent Parrot Nest Survey
11th – 24th October 2014
Register with Chris Hedger
Chris.Hedger@sa.gov.au
(08) 8222 9233 mob. 0428 420 639

Tracking Regent Parrots

The two juvenile Regent Parrots fitted with satellite trackers continued to provide information on their movements for some six weeks after they were attached and then one of these stopped transmitting. Perhaps it came off the bird and is upside down somewhere or in the river. The third tracker is still transmitting information.

After the breeding season juvenile regents usually spend a couple of months around the river and horticulture areas before heading out into the mallee. These two "tracked" birds remained near the horticulture areas well into this year and the one still being tracked remains in these locations. This is consistent with the lack of reports of regents in the mallee this year. In late summer/autumn last year flocks of juvenile birds were present at Gluepot north of the river and near Pinnaroo–Lameroo south of the river.

We hope to attach some gps trackers on a few birds during the coming breeding season.

Community sightings

In an attempt to find out where the regents have been over the past two months the 1800Parrot hotline has been reinvigorated with a short 2 week advert. programme on TV beginning 20th July. We are hoping this appeal to the public will provide us with some ideas on where the juvenile crèche flocks have been.

SA Regent Parrot Recovery Team

After a period of months without a lead person from DEWNR on the Regent Parrot team we have received the good news that Chris Hedger has a part of his job description dedicated to working on the Regent Parrot project.

Kevin Smith