# **Supplementary Material**

# Aspatially explicit model framework to predict the spread of the noisy miner (Manorina melanocephala)

Steve Priday<sup>\*</sup>

Independent Consultant

\*Corresponding author. Steve Priday Email: steve.priday@bigpond.com

Table 1. Bird species recorded in the major reserves (each reserve surveyed once) in the study landscape between 2017 and 2020 (combined data set). Asterisks indicate sensitive bird species considered most likely to occupy a home range year-round based on descriptions from a variety of resources (e.g. Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds) and examination of publicly available bird sighting data sets.

Species	Common Name	Sensitive sp. (Y/N)	Total grid cells	Total with NM	% with NM
Alectura lathami	Australian Brush-turkey	Ν	26	9	34.62
Coturnix ypsilophora	Brown Quail	Ν	2	1	50
Anas superciliosa	Pacific Black Duck	Ν	2	1	50
Chenonetta jubata	Australian Wood Duck	Ν	2	1	50
*Geopelia humeralis	Bar-shouldered Dove	Y	14	3	21.43
Ochyphaps lophotes	Crested Pigeon	Ν	8	1	12.5
Spilopelia chinensis	Spotted Dove	Ν	3	0	0
Podargus strigoides	Tawny Frogmouth	Ν	4	3	75
Aegotheles cristatus	Australian Owlet-nightjar	Ν	4	0	0
Butorides striata	Striated Heron	Ν	1	1	100
Ixobrychus flavicollis	Black Bittern	Ν	1	1	100
Ardea intermedia	Intermediate Egret	Ν	2	0	0
Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	Ν	1	0	0
Platalea regia	Royal Spoonbill	Ν	1	0	0
Threskiornis molucca	Australian White Ibis	Ν	2	0	0
Aviceda subcristata	Pacific Baza	Ν	1	1	100
Accipiter novaehollandiae	Brown Goshawk	Ν	1	0	0
Haliastur indus	Brahminy Kite	Ν	1	0	0
Amaurornis moluccana	Pale-vented Bush-hen	Ν	2	2	100
Gallirallus philippensis	Buff-banded Rail	Ν	3	1	33.33
Gallinula tenebrosa	Dusky Moorhen	Ν	3	0	0
Porphyrio porphyrio	Purple Swamphen	Ν	4	0	0
Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged Stilt	Ν	1	0	0
Vanellus miles	Masked Lapwing	Ν	5	2	40
Calyptorhynchus funereus	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	Ν	1	0	0
Eolophus roseicapilla	Galah	Ν	3	0	0

Species	Common Name	Sensitive sp. (Y/N)	Total grid cells	Total with NM	% with NM
Glossopsitta pusilla	Little Lorikeet	Y	1	1	100
Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	Ν	2	1	50
Trichoglossus haematodus	Rainbow Lorikeet	Ν	70	29	41.43
Alisterus scapularis	Australian King-parrot	Ν	2	1	50
Platycercus adscitus	Pale-headed Rosella	Ν	15	7	46.67
Cacomantis variolosus	Brush Cuckoo	Y	7	1	14.29
Cacomantis flabelliformis	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Y	8	0	0
Centropus phasianinus	Pheasant Coucal	Ν	2	0	0
Dacelo novaeguineae	Laughing Kookaburra	Ν	17	4	23.53
Todiramphus sordidus	Torresian Kingfisher	Y	4	1	25
Todiramphus sanctus	Sacred Kingfisher	Y	21	1	4.76
Todiramphus macleayii	Forest Kingfisher	Y	1	0	0
Merops ornatus	Rainbow Bee-eater	Y	57	3	5.26
Eurystomus orientalis	Dollarbird	Ν	3	0	0
*Cormobates leucophaeus	White-throated Treecreeper	Y	2	0	0
*Malurus melanocephalus	Red-backed Fairy-wren	Y	82	6	7.32
*Malurus lamberti	Variegated Fairy-wren	Y	62	3	4.84
*Malurus cyaneus	Superb Fairy-wren	Y	8	0	0
*Sericornis frontalis	White-browed Scrubwren	Y	23	4	17.39
*Gerygone levigaster	Mangrove Gerygone	Y	47	1	2.13
Gerygone olivacea	White-throated Gerygone	Y	2	0	0
Pardalotus punctatus	Spotted Pardalote	Y	23	2	8.70
Pardalotus striatus	Striated Pardalote	Y	255	18	7.06
Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris	Eastern Spinebill	Y	8	0	0
*Meliphaga lewinii	Lewin's Honeyeater	Y	43	4	9.30
Lichenostomus chrysops	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Y	43	1	2.33
*Lichenostomus fasciogularis	Mangrove Honeyeater	Y	1	0	0
Myzomela sanguinolenta	Scarlet Honeyeater	Y	198	6	3.03
Lichmera indistincta	Brown Honeyeater	Y	193	5	2.59

Species	Common Name	Sensitive sp. (Y/N)	Total grid cells	Total with NM	% with NM
*Melithreptus albogularis	White-throated Honeyeater	Y	63	4	6.35
Plectorhyncha lanceolata	Striped Honeyeater	Y	1	0	0
Entomyzon cyanotis	Blue-faced Honeyeater	Ν	8	5	62.5
Philemon citreogularis	Little Friarbird	Y	11	0	0
Philemon corniculatus	Noisy Friarbird	Ν	7	1	14.29
Manorina melanocephala	Noisy Miner		698		
*Psophodes olivaceus	Eastern Whipbird	Y	9	4	44.44
Coracina novaehollandiae	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Y	21	1	4.76
Coracina tenuirostris	Cicadabird	Y	17	0	0
Lalage leucomela	Varied Triller	Y	1	0	0
Lalage suerii	White-winged Triller	Y	1	0	0
Pachycephala pectoralis	Golden Whistler	Y	26	1	3.85
Pachycephala rufiventris	Rufous Whistler	Y	49	1	2.04
*Colluricincla harmonica	Grey Shrike-thrush	Y	63	0	0
*Colluricincla megarhyncha	Little Shrike-thrush	Y	4	0	0
Oriolus sagittatus	Olive-backed Oriole	Y	7	0	0
Sphecotheres vieilloti	Australasian Figbird	Ν	18	7	38.89
Artamus leucorynchus	White-breasted Woodswallow	Y	16	1	6.25
Cracticus torquatus	Grey Butcherbird	Ν	109	67	61.47
Cracticus nigrogularis	Pied Butcherbird	Ν	51	24	47.06
Cracticus tibicen	Australian Magpie	Ν	42	12	28.57
Strepera graculina	Pied Currawong	Ν	7	2	28.57
Corvus orru	Torresian Crow	Ν	37	8	21.62
Rhipidura rufifrons	Rufous Fantail	Y	33	1	3.03
Rhipidura leucophrys	Willie Wagtail	Y	18	0	0
Rhipidura albiscapa	Grey Fantail	Y	173	10	5.78
Myiagra alecto	Shining Flycatcher	Y	1	0	0
Myiagra rubecula	Leaden Flycatcher	Y	14	0	0
Symposiarchus trivirgatus	Spectacled Monarch	Y	1	0	0

Species	Common Name	Sensitive sp. (Y/N)	Total grid cells	Total with NM	% with NM
Dicrurus bracteatus	Spangled Drongo	Y	40	2	5
Grallina cyanoleuca	Magpie Lark	Ν	6	0	0
Petroica rosea	Rose Robin	Y	5	0	0
*Eopsaltria australis	Eastern Yellow Robin	Y	5	1	20
Anthus novaeseelandiae	Australasian Pipit	Ν	5	0	0
Cisticola exilis	Golden-headed Cisticola	Ν	29	0	0
Acrocephalus australis	Australian Reed-warbler	Ν	11	0	0
*Megalurus timoriensis	Tawny Grassbird	Y	104	0	0
Zosterops lateralis	Silvereye	Y	131	5	3.82
Hirundo neoxena	Welcome Swallow	Ν	2	1	50
Dicaeum hirundinaceum	Mistletoebird	Y	36	5	13.89
Taeniopygia bichenovii	Double-barred Finch	Y	18	0	0
Neochmia temporalis	Red-browed Finch	Y	10	0	0
Lonchura castaneothorax	Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	Y	27	0	0

*Map ref.	Reserve	Date surveyed	Number of grid cells surveyed
1	Boondall Wetlands Reserve	March 2018	1,836
2	Tinchi Tamba Wetlands Reserve	January 2018	1,034
3	Brighton Wetlands Reserve	April 2020	199
4	Deagon Wetlands Reserve	May 2020	251
5	Fitzgibbon Bushland Reserve	May 2019	224
6	Telegraph Road Reserve	April 2020	83
7	Musgrave Avenue Reserve	March 2017	70
8	Cabbage Tree Creek Corridor	May 2018	244
9	Chermside Hills Reserve	May 2018	342
10	Raven Street Reserve	May 2019	159
11	Milne Hill Reserve	March 2020	89
12	Albany Creek Road Reserve	May 2018	64
13	Woodcroft Street Park	May 2019	36
14	Mensforth Bushland Reserve	June 2019	35
15	Aspley Reservoir	May 2019	46
16	7 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Park	May 2018	29

Table 2. Survey dates and number of grid cells surveyed for areas in the selected landscape within which bird surveys were conducted.

\*Correspond to numbers in Figure 1 (following page).

Figure 1. Estimated distribution of broad habitat types within the study landscape (excluding the 1 km buffer). Numbers correspond to the first column of Table 2. Thin grey lines represent main roads and major creeks.



Habitat	Total grid cells	Area (ha)	Number of sensitive bird-occupied grid cells*	Number of Noisy Miner- occupied grid cells
Woodland/open forest on alluvial soils	2295	573.75	789	1506
Riparian forest	965	241.25	160	805
Woodland/open forest on hills	1416	354	463	953
Open wetland	284	71	109	0
Timbered wetland	1653	413.25	1031	622
Casuarina glauca-dominated woodland/open forest	915	228.75	481	434
Mangroves	3060	765	3060	0
Saltmarsh/saline clay pan	1246	311.5	0	1246
Parkland – trees rare	2189	547.25	0	2189
Parkland – trees scattered to moderately dense	9855	2463.75	198	9657
Grazed/unmown grasslands	2331	582.75	0	2331
Urban areas with scattered tall trees	27235	6808.75	0	27235
Urban areas with trees mostly absent	730	182.5	0	730
Urban areas - highly modified (roads/shopping centres/industrial areas)	4332	1083	0	4332
Water	6717	1679.25	0	0
Total	65,223	16,305.75	6,291 (9.6%)	52,040 (79.8%)

Table 3. Breakdown of grid cells into broad habitat types and sensitive bird species and Noisy Miner-occupied within the selected landscape, including the 1 km buffer.

\*i.e. grid cells forming part of an area occupied by assemblages (five or more species) of sensitive bird species

Figure 2. Distributions of grid cells in which sensitive bird species and/or Noisy Miners were recorded in (a) Fitzgibbon Bushland Reserve (surveyed May 2019); (b) Brighton Wetlands Reserve (April 2020); (c) Tinchi Tamba Wetlands Reserve (January 2018); (d) Chermside Hills Reserve (May 2018); (e) Raven Street Reserve (June 2019), and (f) Boondal Wetlands Reserve (March 2018). The boundaries indicated between the two grid cell states is the outcome of the extrapolation process used. Attribution to the Noisy Miner-occupied state of grid cells near Noisy Miner-occupied spaces in which neither Noisy Miners or sensitive bird species were recorded was favoured to create model input representing a 'worst-case' scenario at time *t*. Cells on the boundary of sensitive bird and Noisy Miner-occupied spaces in which both Noisy Miners and sensitive bird species were recorded were attributed as Noisy Miner-occupied if the number of Noisy Miners exceeded the number of sensitive birds observed.









(b)



9

# **Simulation of Noisy Miner spread**

The model framework was used to simulate the spread of Noisy Miners under a hypothetical scenario. The simulation was applied using a subset of grid cells in the southwestern portion of the landscape used for the case study presented in the paper. The subset included the grid cells representing sensitive bird-occupied spaces in Chermside Hills and Raven Street Reserves and the Cabbage Tree Creek Corridor. Under the hypothetical scenario, Noisy Miners were displaced when a linear corridor of remnant eucalypt woodland (Woodland/open forest on hills) was cleared. It was assumed that there was no mortality. For each grid cell in the sensitive bird species-occupied spaces the variable representing the number of Noisy Miners displaced (NM<sub>D</sub>) was calculated by multiplying the number of 'cleared' grid cells within a 2 km radius of the cell by the estimated mean density of Noisy Miners in the Woodland/open forest on hills broad vegetation type. The social cohesion coefficient, 'b', was set at 1.1, which was considered a conservative value for this parameter (if it is assumed that social cohesion of Noisy Miners is maintained following the destruction of habitat comprising group territories).

The sequence of the simulation was as follows: The probabilities of transitions from SB to NM generated under the 'static ecosystem' assumption used to run the model across the entire study landscape (a) were recalculated to generate the revised probabilities across the subset of the landscape (b). A state transition threshold probability was set at 0.85. Grid cells with this or a greater transition probability were reclassed as Noisy Miner-occupied (c). Under this hypothetical scenario, the number of sensitive bird species-occupied grid cells decreased from 236 to 163. The number of grid cells with a 'background' vulnerability to displacement or replacement by Noisy Miners >0.7 increased from three to 22.

