

The Herberton Environment

Herberton is situated on the headwaters of the Wild River in the heart of Australia's Great Dividing Range.

The town is surrounded by dry sclerophyll open forests dominated by eucalypt species. But Herberton is also close to the savanna to the west and the wet sclerophyll and tropical upland rainforests to the east.

Herberton is also some 1000 metres (3000 feet) above sea level — something that ameliorates the heat of the tropics — and is in an area of heavy mineralisation.

With this diversity, it is little wonder that the Herberton area boasts a unique flora assemblage. This in turn creates a home for a startling range of bird species, some resident, some transitory, but all worth some time spotting.



Laughing Kookaburra

Birds of the Herberton Area

This bird list, of approximately 110 species, was compiled over a five year period 1996-2001. It is based on regular observations, predominantly around 'Battunga B&B', a 2 ha property on the Wild River, Wondecla, 4km from Herberton.

Other good locations for birdwatching are the Lions Park in Herberton, and Wondecla Oval.



Red-browed firetails

The Story of Herberton

Herberton was settled as a result of the discovery of payable quantities of tin metal ore.

This discovery, made on April 19, 1880 by a party led by a miner named John Newell, came at a time when gold production which drove the early influx of people into the North, was declining severely.

Herberton town had been surveyed by September of that year and had a population of over 300 men, with many more in the surrounding hills. However, only 27 women were present to celebrate the first Christmas, 1880.

Over the years, Herberton, like many mining towns, has suffered from the ups and downs of metal prices — sometimes affluent, sometimes dirt poor. But this has left a legacy of built heritage that complements the natural environment.

The whole of the precinct of Herberton is listed on the Register of the National Estate.

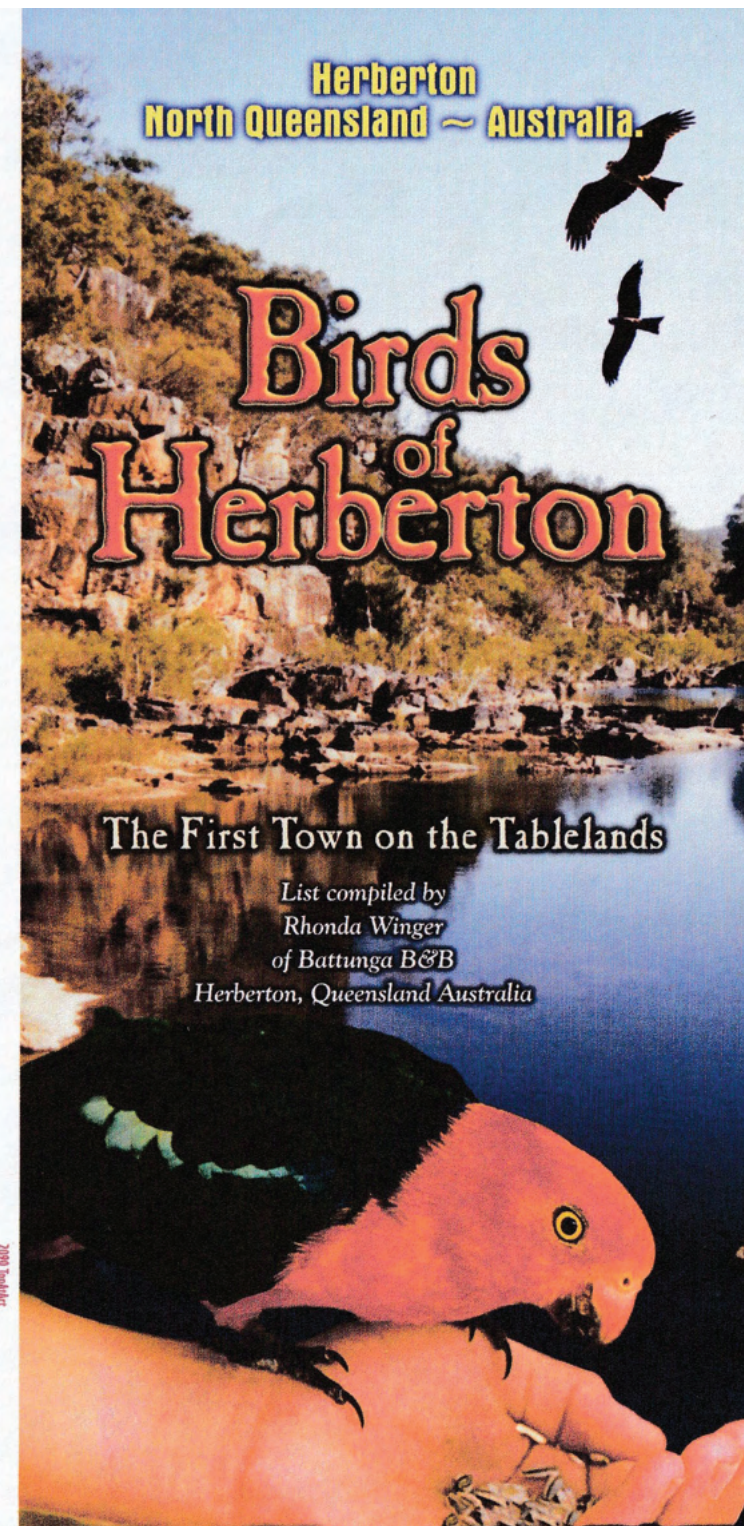
We invite you to stay a while longer and explore other facets of Herberton.

Informative brochures are available at the Visitor Centre and other outlets in town.

Rhonda Winger is a member of Birds Australia, and is a contributor to the Birds Australia Atlas.



Herberton Visitor Centre
1 Jacks Road
Herberton
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WADERS

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*
 Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*
 Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*
 Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*
 Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*
 Great Egret *Ardea alba*
 Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*
 Maned (Wood) Duck *Chenonetta jubata*
 Pacific (White-necked) Heron *Ardea pacifica*
 Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*
 Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*
 Rufous Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*
 Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*
 White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*

GROUND DWELLERS

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora*
 Bush Curlew *Burhinus grallarius*
 Masked Lapwing (Plover) *Vanellus miles*

BIRDS OF PREY

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*
 Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*
 Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrhocephalus*
 Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*
 Pacific Baza (crested hawk) *Aviceda subcristata*
 Square-tailed Kite *Lophoictinia isura*
 Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*
 Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

NIGHT BIRDS

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*
 Barn Owl *Tyto alba*
 Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*
 Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*
 Tawny Frogmouth *Podargus strigoides*

CUCKOOS

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*
 Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*
 Fantailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*
 Horsefield Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites basalus*
 Koel *Eudynamis scolopacea*
 Little Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites minutillus*
 Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*
 Shining Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus*

DOVES & PIGEONS

Brown Cuckoo-dove *Macropygia amboimensis*
 Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*
 Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*
 Peaceful Dove *Goepelia placida*

HONEYEATERS

Banded Honeyeater *Certhionyx pectoralis*
 Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*
 Bridled Honeyeater *Lichenostomus frenatus*
 Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*
 Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*
 Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*
 Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*
 Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus*
 Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala*
 Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta*
 White-cheeked Honeyeater *Phylidonyris nigra*
 White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*
 White-throated Honeyeater *Melithreptus albigularis*
 Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops*

KINGFISHERS and related

Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea*
 Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii*
 Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*
 Dollarbird *Eurysomus orientalis*
 Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*
 Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

PARROTS

Australian King Parrot *Alisterus scapularis*
 Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*
 Pale-headed Rosella *Platycercus eximius*
 Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*
 Red-tailed Black Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus banksii*
 Scaly-breasted Lorikeet *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*
 Sulphur Crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

SWALLOWS and similar

Dusty Wood Swallow *Artamus cyanopterus*
 Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena*
 White-rumped Swiftlet *Aerodramus spodiopygius*

CUCKOO-SHRIKES

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*
 Cicadabird *Corcina tenuirostris*
 White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*

OTHER INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanops*
 Bower's Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla boweri*
 Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*
 Grey fantail *Phipidura fuliginosa*
 Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*
 Jacky Winter *Microeca fascinans*
 Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*
 Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*
 Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*
 Spectacled Monarch *Monarcha trivirgatus*
 Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

TREE CREEPERS

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*
 Varied Sittella *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*

OTHER SMALL BIRDS

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*
 Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*
 Fairy Gerygone *Gerygone palpebrosa*
 House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
 Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*
 Red-backed Fairy-wren *Malurus melanocephalus*
 Red-browed Firetail *Neochmia temporalis*
 Silveryeye *Zosterops lateralis*
 Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*
 Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*
 Weebill *Smicromis brevirostris*
 White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*
 White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone olivacea*
 Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana*

BLACK & WHITE BIRDS

Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*
 Australian Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*
 Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus*
 Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis*
 Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*
 Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus*
 Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*
 Willy Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

MISCELLANEOUS

Common Mynah *Acridotheres tristis*
 Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*
 Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*