Listening for Lyrebird Citizen Science ProjectAlbert's Lyrebird survey methods



The following surveys methods are recommended:

- The best survey months are May, June and July. This is when the birds are breeding and calling the most. They do call at anytime of the year just not so reliably;
- Ideally you should commence the survey about 10 minutes after sunrise and try and complete the listening surveys within one or two hours of sunrise. Most birds will call during the first half-hour after sunrise;
- Record the call locations during a <u>15-minute listening period</u> at each survey point. Do not go
 for too long as the birds will move about and display at different locations. Fifteen minutes is
 usually enough time to detect all calling males in the immediate area without double counting
 birds;
- The best survey locations are in well-developed and mature rainforest or in wet sclerophyll
 forest with a rainforest understorey. Forests linked to other large patches of rainforest or
 extensive native forest are the best;
- For a more complete coverage try and repeat the survey on a number of days possibly once a week during may, June and early July;
- For each calling bird record the call direction (compass bearing) and estimated the distance (metres) to the calling bird;
- Record a GPS location of each survey site used. You can do more than one site each morning. Again, this is most effective if completed within two hours of sunrise;
- There is no need to attempt to account for individual birds moving call location within the 15minute sampling period, or for individual birds audible from two different survey points;
- Try and have a minimum distance of 1km between each survey site. However, sites can be
 closer where the survey could be conducted without duplication i.e. on either side of a very
 steep ridge or from opposite sides of a property;
- Try and use a high point, ridge top or other vantage point as your survey location. This should mean that you will detect all calls in the vicinity. Survey sites on one side of a steep ridge or in a gully will limit the number of calls heard.
- Days with persistent rain or strong wind should be avoided;
- Record the data in a systematic manner and preferably on the *Albert's Lyrebird data sheet*. This will ensure you record all of the essential data and make your records more useful;
- Enter your sighting/records into iNaturalist.

David Charley

20 May 2021