

Radio-tracking Grey Grasswrens *Amytornis barbatus barbatus* in north-western New South Wales: a pilot study

John Farrell¹, Jeff Hardy², Rudy Jacobs³, Rebecca Jacobs³, Genevieve Kyi⁴,
Darryl McKay⁵ and Sabrina J. Muns⁶

173 Ellison Road, Springwood, NSW 2777. E-mail: jfarrell@pnc.com.au
223 Lindsay Avenue, Ermington, NSW 2115. E-mail: jw.hardy@knightgraphics.com.au
333–93 Spinifex Avenue, Tea Gardens, NSW 2324. E-mail: reru1801@gmail.com
4E-mail: Genevieve.kyi@gmail.com
579 Fenwick Street, Bankstown, NSW 2200. E-mail: sternalbifrons@hotmail.com
6PO Box 592, Gympie, NSW 2227. E-mail: sj.muns@gmail.com

A pilot study to radio-track the movements of Grey Grasswrens *Amytornis barbatus barbatus* in north-western New South Wales was conducted during September, 2017. Four birds were tracked for 5–7 days using small radio-transmitters attached to the interscapular area. Minimum foraging areas varied from approximately 18 to 53 ha and encompassed a variety of plant associations dominated by Lignum *Muehlenbeckia florulenta*. The longest daily movement recorded was approximately 1.6 km. We also established that these birds returned to roost at night in a central area of thick Lignum. This study showed that it is possible to track Grey Grasswrens through dense thickets of Lignum and to identify their minimum foraging areas.