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Photographic identifi cation of bands confi rms age of breeding Carnaby's Black Cockatoos *Calyptorhynchus latirostris*

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In September 2009, three banded female Carnaby's Black Cockatoos *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* were identified at their nest sites by reading their leg bands. They had been banded as part of a 40-year study of the biology of a black cockatoo population at Coomallo Creek in the northern wheatbelt of Western Australia. Two techniques were employed to read the bands; a spotting telescope mounted on a tripod and a hand held, digital single lens reflex camera with a telephoto zoom lens. The telescope enabled only one number on one band to be recorded, while the digital camera allowed all numbers on the bands of all three females to be recorded. The resultant photographs showed that there was no damage to the tarsi caused by the bands. One female was at least 25 years old, one was at least 19 and the third was 19.