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## IMPORTANCE OF YELLOW BOX-BLAKELY'S RED GUM WOODLAND REMNANTS IN MAINTAINING BIRD SPECIES DIVERSITY: INFERENCES FROM SEASONAL DATA

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Bird species richness and abundance were recorded along 28 fixed-width strip transects located within 10 study sites dominated by Yellow Box *Eucalyptus melliodora* and Blakely's Red Gum *E. blakelyi*. This was conducted across four seasons in 1994. This paper reports the seasonal variation in bird species composition and abundance observed in these study sites. The results suggest that Yellow Box–Blakely's Red Gum woodland remnants serve as (1) important bird refuges within the landscape matrix in the lowland of the Australian Capital Territory; (2) wintering sites critical to partial migrants and some resident species; (3) breeding sites for both residents and summer migrants; and (4) refuges for nomadic species during periods of extreme drought. In addition, they demonstrated that birds respond differently to their habitats at different times of the year and the importance of basing management decisions upon information from more than one season.