

TERRITORIAL AND BREEDING BEHAVIOUR OF THE RUFOUS TREECREEPER (*Climacteris rufa*) IN THE STIRLING RANGES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ALLAN M. ROSE

C/- Department of Conservation and Land Management, Locked Bag 104, Bentley Delivery Centre, Bentley, Western Australia 6983

Received 27 November, 1994

A population of colour-banded Rufous Treecreepers *Climacteris rufa* was studied in wandoo woodland in the Stirling Range National Park, 89 kilometres north of Albany, Western Australia, from June 1990 to January 1994. Five territories were studied and consisted of at least one adult female, one, two or three adult males and one to two juvenile birds. Breeding commenced in August and finished in February. Females layed up to two eggs per clutch and were capable of three broods per breeding season. Juveniles assisted in feeding young of the next brood. Only two of the juveniles banded in 93/94 stayed in the study area. Tree hollows only were used for nesting, while hollows in logs and trees were important sheltering areas for fledglings.