

**ASPECTS OF POPULATION BIOLOGY OF THE EASTERN  
SPINEBILL *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*  
(*Meliphagidae*) IN NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL PARK,  
NSW**

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Nearly 3 000 Eastern Spinebills have been banded in New England National Park since 1977. The number of birds caught each year was greatest in winter (April-September) when two *Banksia* species were in flower. Each year there was a number of peaks in birds captured, possibly due to successive invasions of either different spinebill populations or different parts of the same population. A total of 134 (5.2%) birds were recaptured in a subsequent year, often in the same month that they were banded. The oldest bird was at least 8 years old, and survival was estimated to be 60% per year. During the year the sex ratio of the population changed, with males outnumbering females in most months but particularly so in March, July and August.