

# Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus* aggression and a discontinued predation event by a Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris*

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A series of attacks on two raptor species by Grey Butcherbirds, *Cracticus torquatus* at Warnbro Sound and Halls Head, Western Australia is documented. In a further observation in the same area, a Grey Butcherbird was dropped, still alive and functioning, after being captured by a Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus axillaris*, an event interpreted as discontinued predation. The aggression by Grey Butcherbirds stimulated the raptors to move away and is assumed to be territorial defence; it may have predisposed the predatory Black-shouldered Kite to discard the Grey Butcherbird as potential prey.

**Keywords:** Grey Butcherbird; Black-shouldered Kite; discontinued predation; aggression; territorial defence