

Site fidelity of Rufous Whistlers *Pachycephala rufiventris rufiventris* on the Cumberland Plain, NSW

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Abstract. Banding and sighting data accumulated from 1965–2020 at seven sites across the north-west and south-east sectors of the Cumberland Plain were utilised to show that Rufous Whistlers *Pachycephala rufiventris* frequented these sites from September to April and, except for a few isolated records in June, were absent from May to August. Many individuals returned for a number of seasons after initial banding with an average percentage return across all sites of 20.3% (range 16.7–33.0%). The average seasonal return of individual birds was 1.3 seasons (range 1.0–1.9). The longest duration recorded from initial banding to last recapture (14 seasons) was an individual that frequented the Humewood/Beulah Forest site. No individuals were recaptured away from their initial banding site on the Cumberland Plain or away from the Cumberland Plain. There was little difference between the sexes in the proportion that returned to their banding site.

Keywords: Rufous Whistler, site fidelity, Cumberland Plain NSW