



Have you seen the black-throated finch?

The black-throated finch is a small, native, seed-eating bird that was once common in grassy woodlands from Cape York Peninsula and the Gulf country to north-eastern New South Wales. Unfortunately, the species has declined greatly, though the reasons for this are not known. It has disappeared from NSW and southern Queensland, so that the distinctive southern form is now known from only a very few locations. The Townsville region is one area where a small number of southern black-throated finches still exist.

The **Black-throated Finch Recovery Team** has recently been formed to develop and implement a recovery plan for this bird. To help in this task, the group is gathering detailed information on the size and location of the remaining populations of the finch.

If you see the black-throated finch, record the **precise location** and, if possible, the **number of birds**. Please report your sightings and direct enquiries to:

Bernie Davis, Co-ordinator
Black-throated Finch Recovery Team
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Black-throated finches are 9-11cm long, with a grey head, pink-brown back, distinct black bib and short black tail. They can be seen in pairs or small flocks in open, grassy woodlands, either feeding on the ground or perched in trees. They often drink at farm dams.