

## FURTHER SIGHTINGS OF THE SOUTHERN EMU-WREN FROM EYRE PENINSULA

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All previous records of the Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus* from Eyre Peninsula have been from the extreme south-east between Wanilla and Sleaford Bay inclusive: Tulka, Mikkira, Lincoln National Park and McLaren Point (Eckert 1977, Schodde and Weatherly 1981).

To the west of those localities, at 20 km NNE of Wangary, I have observed individuals and small parties of the birds many times between 1978 and 1981 inclusive. The habitat in which I have seen the birds consists of clumps of regenerating mallee (*Eucalyptus diversifolia* and *E. foecunda*) to three metres in height with prominent shrubs under and between the clumps, including broombush *Melaleuca* sp., yacca *Xanthorrhoea* sp. and wattles *Acacia* spp., and grasses and smaller shrubs such as *Astroloma* sp. making up an incomplete ground cover. This area was burnt several years ago.

On 6 October 1980 I observed a pair of Southern Emu-wrens in roadside vegetation on the Wangary-Edillilie road, 14 km from Wan-

gary. The habitat there consisted of Ridge-fruited Mallee *E. incrassata* to five metres in height with clumps of desert banksia *Banksia ornata* and teatree *Leptospermum* sp. to three metres in height amongst the mallee. Prominent species in the understorey there also included dwarf oak *Casuarina* sp., native cherry *Exocarpos cupressiformis* and wattles, while there was a heavy ground cover of grasses including porcupine grass *Triodia* sp. and small shrubs.

My most recent sighting of a Southern Emu-wren was of an adult male in swamp teatree *Melaleuca halmaturorum* near a cutting grass swamp in Kellidie Bay Conservation Park on 13 November 1981.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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### REFERENCES

- Eckert, J. 1977. The distribution of the Emu-wrens *Stipiturus malachurus* and *S. ruficeps* mallee in South Australia. *S. Aust. Orn.* 27: 186-187.  
 Schodde, R. and R. Weatherly. 1981. A new subspecies of the Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus* from South Australia, with notes on its affinities. *S. Aust. Orn.* 28: 169-170.