

Fauna fact sheet

Black-breasted button-quail

Scientific Name: *Turnix melanogaster*

Common Name: Black-breasted button-quail

Status: EPBC Act (1999): Vulnerable (NC(W)R 1994): Vulnerable

Distribution: Coastal from Gladstone to Northern NSW.

Habitat: Dry rainforest and vine scrub, woodlands and hoop pine plantations.

Description: A large button-quail with a white eye. Females have a black head and breast with white spots and bars while the male has a whitish head and breast with black and chestnut barring.

Habits: Very secretive ground-dwelling species. Forages for insects and other invertebrates by day in pairs or groups of up to 10 individuals. Breeds on the ground in summer.

Comments: Feeding evidence is left behind on the forest floor in the form of round, craters in the leaf litter.



Photo courtesy of Luke Hogan, EPA