The Bathurst Pest Bird Management Plan:

The pest bird management plan, of which this project is a part, aims to

- Provide information on the most effective and efficient ways to deal with pest birds
- To enable both Council and the community to take steps through a coordinated approach to reduce the impacts of pest birds
- To monitor bird populations in the Bathurst region
- To encourage native birds whilst controlling pest birds

Where can I learn more?

- Read the Bathurst Region '**Backyards for Wildlife**' booklet for tips on creating habitats for native species
- Read the Central West '**Rural Living Handbook**' for tips on responsible farm management
- Download a **pest bird fact sheet** from the Bathurst Regional Council website

For more information on pest birds, visit **www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/pest-birds**

To learn more about Council's environment programs or how you can get involved, visit **www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/environment**

Combating the Starling and Myna in the Bathurst Region is a Central West CMA co-funded project and aims to help achieve objectives of the Bathurst Pest Bird Management Plan

This project has been funded by the Central West Catchment Management Authority and Bathurst Regional Council. The support of Petries Mitre 10 in the construction of nest boxes for wildlife is gratefully acknowledged.

Proudly supported by

Catchment Management Authority Central West
NSW GOVERNMENT

BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL | PROUDLY SPONSORED BY PETRIES MITRE 10 MIGHTY HELPFUL

Department of Environmental Planning & Building Services
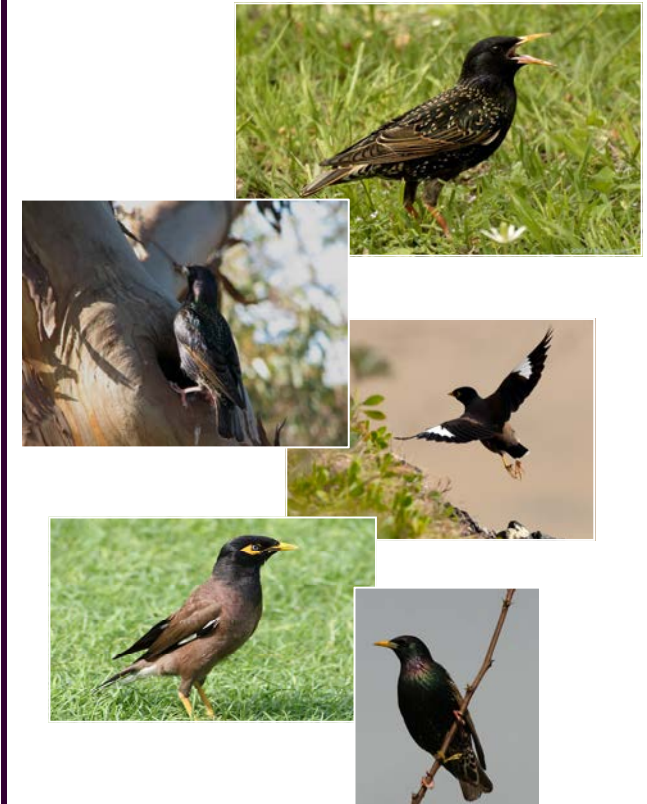
Environment Section
158 Russell Street
BATHURST NSW 2795
www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au/environment
Phone: 02 6333 6276
Fax: 02 6331 7211

Managing

Pest Birds
in the Bathurst Region

wildlife   water   land   habitat   community

Starlings & Mynas
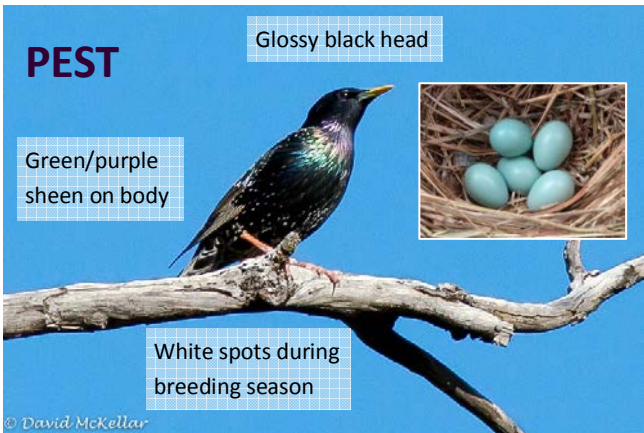
Starlings and Mynas

There are several pest birds identified in the Bathurst Region.

Two species that are known to directly compete with native birds are the Common Starling and Indian Myna.

Common Starlings (below) were introduced into Australia in the late 1850s and have since become established across east and south-eastern Australia. They can gather in huge numbers at roost sites.

Known impacts of Starlings:

- Compete with native birds and mammals for food and nesting hollows
- Can cause damage to orchards and crops
- Spread parasites and diseases via nest sites in buildings and hollows

Indian Mynas (right) were introduced between 1862 and 1872 as an attempt to control pests in market gardens. However, they quickly spread and became a pest themselves.

Mynas only arrived in the Bathurst Region during the last 20 years, with populations now becoming established on the outskirts of the city.

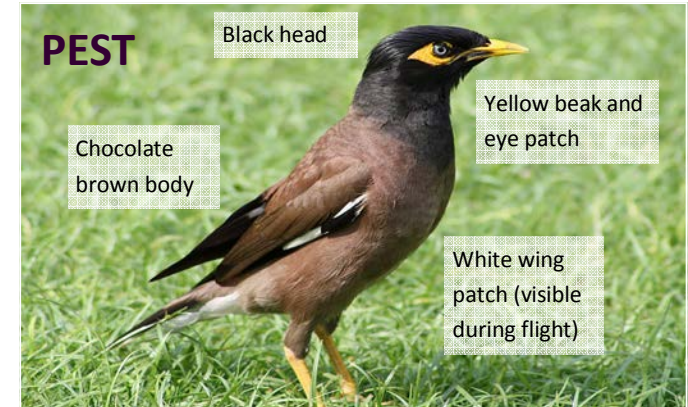They are very aggressive and can drive native birds away from suitable habitat.

Known Impacts of Mynas:

- Drive away native birds
- Compete with native birds and mammals for food and nesting hollows
- Can cause damage to orchards and crops
- Eat pet food and bird seed

Care must be taken to not confuse the introduced Indian Myna with the native and similar looking, Noisy Miner (below).

PEST

Black head

Yellow beak and eye patch

Chocolate brown body

White wing patch (visible during flight)

Indian Myna: one of the worst invasive species in the world.

How can I help manage them?

- Remove pest bird nests from roofs, nest boxes and hollows
- Install nest boxes designed for native species
- Ensure leftover pet food is removed
- Plant native trees and shrubs to provide more habitat for native species
- Participate in community bird surveys
- Participate in cooperative trapping programs
- Report sightings to www.climatewatch.org.au and www.feralscan.org.au

What is Council doing?

Council has enlisted the help of local high schools to construct 200 nest boxes for native birds and mammals, which are being installed across Bathurst. Recently, Council planted over 24,000 native seed-lings across the urban landscape to create habitat for native animals.

Council will also look at ways to remove Starlings and Mynas from key areas through a trapping program.

PEST

Glossy black head

Green/purple sheen on body

White spots during breeding season

© David McKellar

A **Common Starling**. The nest with eggs is also shown.

NATIVE

www.mdavid.com.au

Yellow beak and eye patch

Pale grey breast

Orange tinge near wing edge

White belly

The **Noisy Miner** is a native bird.