

# THE BOWER BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA

## Family Ptilonorhynchidae

Continued from the October edition

### #6 FAWN-BREASTED BOWERBIRD



Photo: "Stavenn"

The Fawn-breasted Bowerbird, *Chlamydera cerviniventris* is a medium-sized bird with a length of about 32cm. It has greyish-brown spotted white plumage, a black bill, dark brown iris, yellow mouth and has orange-buff underparts. The sexes are similar. However, the female is marginally smaller than the male.

Its range covers both northern Australia and New Guinea, where it inhabits tropical forests, mangroves, savannah woodlands and forest edges. The diet mainly consists of figs, fruits and insects. Only the female constructs the loose cup-shaped nest of small sticks which is usually situated in a tree. The male builds an "avenue-type" bower of two walls of sticks, which he usually decorates with green-coloured berries, and sometimes small bones.

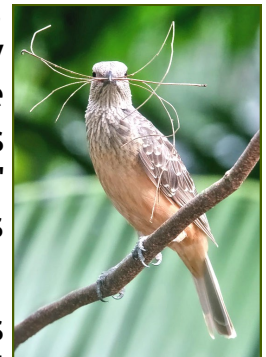


Photo: Doug Janson

The Fawn-breasted Bowerbird is a common species in its range, and is evaluated as "Least Concern" on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

R.V.C. with help from Wikipedia

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