

## Flame robin

*Petroica phoenicea*

vulnerable



Image: Michael Todd

The Flame Robin is a small Australian robin that reaches 14 cm in length.

The male has a dark grey head and upperparts, a small white forehead patch, and white wing stripes and white tail-edges. The male has a bright orange-red throat, breast and upper-belly. The lower belly is white.

The female is brown, darker above, and has a whitish throat and lower belly. The whitish mark on the female's forehead is inconspicuous. Female Flame Robins also have white and buffish marked wings and tail. Immature males resemble females.

The main call of the Flame Robin is a thin, pretty, piping descending song.

The flame robin breeds in upland tall moist eucalypt forests and woodlands with native grasses and shrubs.

In winter, birds migrate to drier more open habitats; dry forests, open woodlands and pastures and native grasslands in the lowlands

Birds forage from low perches, including fence posts and fallen timber from which they sally or pounce onto small invertebrates which they take from the ground or off tree trunks, logs and other coarse woody debris.

They can occur singly, in pairs, or in flocks of up to 40 birds or more; in the non-breeding season they will join up with other insectivorous birds in mixed feeding flocks.

Find out more about the flame robin and other threatened species at

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspecies>