

From: Birds Queensland Rarities Appraisal Committee (BQ RAC)

Memorandum to Terry Reis

c.c. Birds Queensland president

Birds Queensland sightings officer

Date: 1st June 2023

Submission No 224 Singing Starling *Aplonis cantoroides* submitted by Terry Reis

This case involves flocks of up to 10 Singing Starlings observed in the Boigu Township between the 13th and 16th November 2022 on Boigu Island (09° 13' 54"S 142 142° 13' 05"), Torres Strait. This submission was supported by a description and photographs of some of these birds observed.

The Singing starlings were identified by their glossy black plumage with a metallic sheen similar to that of the Metallic Starlings, *A. metallica*, but were separated from that species by the noticeably shorter tail. The author also compared this species to other potential all dark plumaged species that could occur on Boigu Island, including Spangled Drongo, *Dicrurus bracteatus*, and Trumpet Manocode, *Phonygammus keraudrenii*.

Record accepted

This is the first record of Singing Starling to be assessed by the BQ RAC, previously this species was assessed by BARC.

References

Menkhorst, P., Rogers, D., Clarke, R., Davies, J., Marsack, P. and Franklin, K. 2017. *The Australian Bird Guide*. CSIRO Publishing, Clayton South.

David Stewart
Birds Queensland
Rarities Appraisal Committee