



**BBC**  
**STUDIOS**



We are hoping to film the nesting and hunting behaviour of **Tawny frogmouths**, in and around **Melbourne** in November 2021 for the upcoming wildlife documentary series *Planet Earth III* from the BBC Natural History Unit in the UK.

To help us plan the best areas to film in, we would like to build a **map of previous frogmouth nests, and areas where frogmouths hunt insects around streetlights or garden lights.**

If you have **previously** sighted frogmouth nesting or hunting behaviour we would be very grateful if you could email us at [niall.stopford@bbc.co.uk](mailto:niall.stopford@bbc.co.uk) (and CC: [miraca.walker02@bbc.co.uk](mailto:miraca.walker02@bbc.co.uk)) with the subject title: FROGMOUTH.

Reports of nests observed in past months (that are no longer present) are still of great interest to us as frogmouths usually nest in the same location each year.

For each sighting the key details that we are looking for are:

1. Was your sighting of **A)** a frogmouth pair **B)** frogmouth on a nest **C)** a frogmouth hunting around a light source?
2. Where did the sighting occur? *E.g. back or front yard/ street name/ park*
3. When was the sighting? *E.g. last week – last year*  
(If you're unsure, you might find your sighting on <https://ecocentre.com/tawnyfrogmouth>).
4. Do you have photos of the location / a general description of the nest height and location?

**Important notice:**

Please note we are **only** asking for information on known, past observations at this stage. We are not asking or encouraging anybody to journey outside the home to search for new nests whilst there are any lock down measures in place to prevent the spread of Covid-19

For the safety of nesting birds the BBC would never release nest locations to the general public, and would keep all GPS records/ photos/ maps etc private

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes

**Niall Stopford & Miraca Walker**

**Researchers, BBC NHU**



Some contact details and some further project information regarding the BBC NHU filming project on the Tawny Frogmouth's nesting and hunting in Melbourne's urban environment.

RESEARCHERS – PLANET EARTH III Natural History Unit, BBC Studios

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BBC NHU filming location criteria - Miraca Walker [email advice 24March 2021]

*“To help further, I’ve listed*

*the main criteria we need for the **nest sites**;*

- *A pair that’s been breeding in the same location for a number of years. The nest site doesn’t have to be currently active with TF but when the breeding season begins we can then confirm if they’ve returned.*
- *Preferably located on a private property such as a back garden, front lawn, recreation grounds. With that said, if there’s a nest near something like a playpark that would be great to know of as we want to capture them in any obvious human environment/landscape.*
- *If the nest is up really high in the tree it can be difficult to film so a nest at a lower level is preferred. If the nest is high but there is a way to view it at eye level, say from second-story window that can also work.*
- *Please do continue to note any cat activity*

***For hunting;***

- *Identifying regular hunting grounds around street lamps, porch lights, anything man-made. Perhaps using flood lights on an Aussie-rules pitch.*

- *Ideally in a location where there's a bit of human activity like trains, cars and trams passing by.*
- *No special need for it to be on private property, we will be interested in any source of light they are using to their advantage. ”*