

BIRD field guide

Eastern Spinebill Acanthorynchus tenuirostris

When to look:

Aug-Jan (breeding), Mar-Oct (migratory in lowland areas)

Grey-black on top of head, extending either side of breast.

Rufous patch in centre of throat. White breast and throat.

Dark metallic grey wings and lower back.

Buff-coloured upper back and underneath.

Female is duller in colour.

Voice: long, tinkling, staccato piping

Very long, fine beak that curves downward

Similar species:

Cresent, Tawny-crowned Honeyeaters are slightly larger and adults lack rufous patch in centre of throat.

Image courtesy of David Cook Wildlife Photography



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