Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo

A pair perched in a Jarrah. The male is glossy black with a bright orange-red band on its tail. The female has orange-yellow spots and bars over its body and tail.

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Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo

Can you find the subspecies name of 'naso' in the title? The name naso means it has a large bill.

Birds are brownish black in colour.
Female has greyish-white bill and orange-yellow spots over its body.
Male has a dark grey bill and a beautiful bright orange-red tail band.

Feeds on Marri, Jarrah, Blackbutt, Karri, Sheoak and Snottygobble.
Feeds also on some garden eucalypts and berries of introduced Cape Lilac (White Cedar).

Now scarce or uncommon.
Flocks are reducing due to destruction of forests, fires in the spring breeding season, feral European honeybees and other animals taking over their nest hollows and being hit by trucks/cars.

Lives for 25–50 years.
Nests in hollows of very old Marri, Jarrah, Wandoon, Karri and Bullich trees.
One egg laid, takes 29–31 days to hatch.
Takes 18 months for the young birds to learn to properly feed themselves. Only the female incubates (sits on) the egg.

There are five subspecies of Red-tailed Black Cockatoos in Australia – this one is only found in south-west Western Australia from near Perth south to just east of Albany.