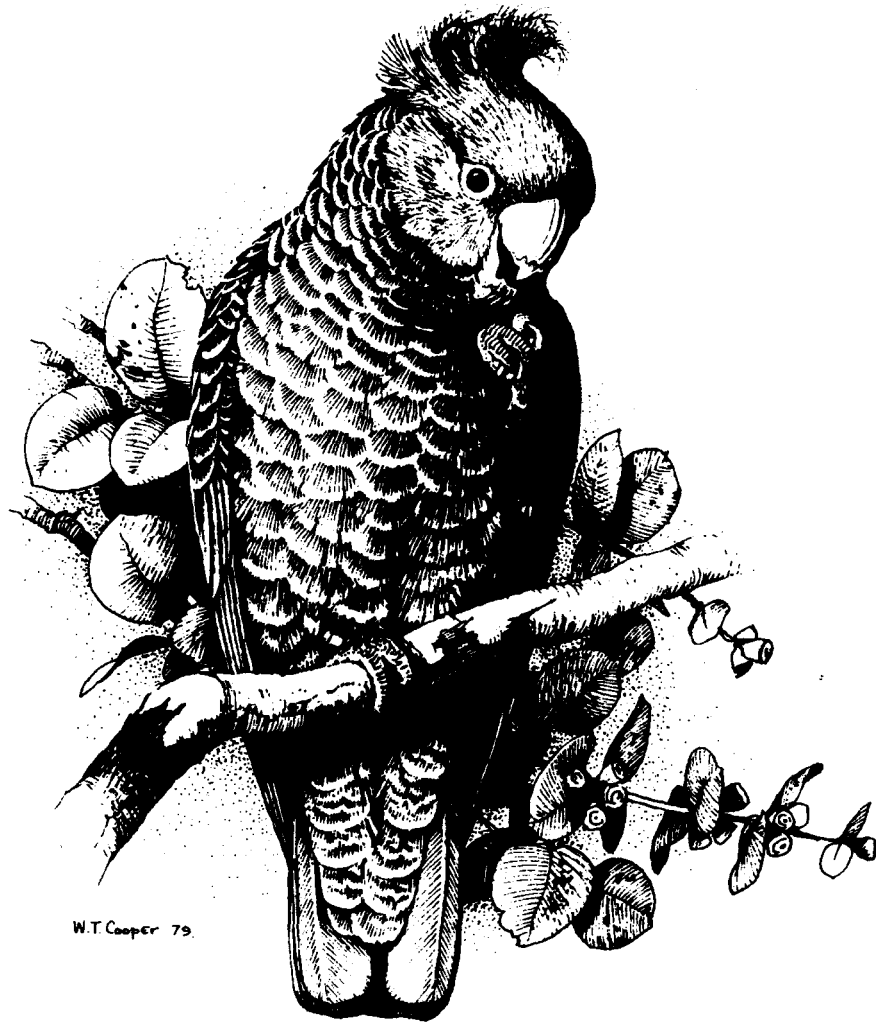


# canberra bird notes

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**ANNUAL BIRD REPORT: 1 JULY 2003 TO 30 JUNE 2004**

*Canberra Ornithologists Group (COG)  
PO Box 301, Civic Square, ACT 2608*

**INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

**The ABR**

The Annual Bird Report (ABR) is a summary of all of COG's database records of birds recorded in the Canberra region during the year in question. Its purpose is to make this information readily available to all COG members and the general public, and to draw attention to any significant changes or trends in the distribution or abundance of species in the region.

COG's area of interest ('the Canberra region') is defined as the area bound by parallels of latitude 34° 45' and 36° 00' S and meridians of longitude 148° 40' and 149° 45' E (see Map 1, p. 60). This encompasses an area of 13,675 sq km, of which the ACT, at 2,357 sq km, is only 17.2%. For COG's purposes of record collection, the area is divided into a grid of 780 cells, each of 2.5 minutes of latitude and longitude. Each cell is identified by an alpha-numeric code: A-Z across the region from west to east and 1-30 from north to south (see Map 2, p. 61). Elevations in the ACT range from 450 m above sea level to 1,911 m at the top of Mt Bimberi, and the ACT proper is about 130 km from the sea.

The records maintained by COG are categorised according to the type of survey used to collect the data, for which the methodology used may vary. The majority of records derive from general bird watching, surveying and atlassing done by COG members and are designated ABA (Australian Bird Atlas) records. Sightings made incidentally, e.g. while driving, or on

watching, can be submitted and are designated INC. Specialised COG surveys such as the Garden Bird Survey (GBS), Woodland Survey (WOO), and Waterbird Survey (WBS) are well established; and more recently the Honeyeater Migration Survey (HMS) and Threatened Bird Survey (THR) have been initiated. COG's assistance with Greening Australia's 'Birdwatch' project provides further records designated GA. This year, the results of a survey of the Lower Sullivans Creek catchment (LSC) are included in the ABR. Additionally, records from COG's area of interest that are submitted to Birds Australia (BA) are provided to COG under an agreement between the two organisations. These records are designated BA.

A full breakdown of the contribution of each survey type (except for the GBS) to the total records collected is provided in Table 1 (pp. 47-51). However, for the purposes of the species texts in the Systematic List, records from all these surveys are considered collectively and summarised under the heading 'General'. The GBS is, as usual, dealt with separately. The significant difference in the way in which the records are collected (on a weekly basis rather than daily), and the more systematic and statistically amenable nature of the GBS data, warrants this approach.

COG asks that any sightings of birds considered to be 'unusual' in the Canberra region are fully described, preferably on an Unusual Bird Report Form, and submitted for assessment by the COG Rarities Panel. Only reports accepted by the panel become endorsed COG records. All records of

'unusual' birds in this ABR have been so endorsed unless indicated otherwise.

The year in context

The ABR summarises all the records held in the COG databases but can not be considered a comprehensive or necessarily accurate reflection of the real situation. Many factors influence the level and consistency of reporting of the many and varied bird species in the region. Several of the major variable influencing factors on this year's ABR are mentioned briefly here. The effects of these influences need to be taken into account when attempting any interpretation of the data in the ABR.

Geographical variables such as temperature, rainfall, and water levels in the main lakes of the region can have a very significant effect on bird demographics. The 2003-04 year, particularly the latter half, was characterised by very dry and warmer than average conditions (see Appendix, p. 64). Lakes George and Bathurst were dry for much of the year, impacting particularly on waterbird species.

The impact of the January 2003 bushfires continues with many of the once-resident wet forest species of the Brindabella and associated ranges still absent.

The number of contributors, while maintaining the level of last year, remains relatively low. More worryingly, the disproportionately large number of records submitted by the few most prolific submitters has a significant effect on the spatial distribution of those records and the species involved.

below. This total excludes unendorsed records, as well as those species which are regarded as semi-captive at places such as Tidbinbilla NR and the National Zoo and Aquarium. However, it does include aviary escapees and some feral domestics.

Year	spp	grid	cells	sheets	contrib
95-96	217	108	853	95	
96-97	217	91	591	88	
97-98	210	92	583	88	
98-99	213	239	1076	115	
99-00	206	288	1731	203 *	
00-01	215	435	2489	203 *	
01-02	217	327	1985	157	
02-03	227	191	1566	117	
03-04	222	177	1827	116	

\* combined total for 1999-2001

Total number of contributors was also similar to last year, but is well below the peak levels of involvement during the Birds Australia Atlas project years. There were 116 contributors from COG or persons whose data were provided to COG via Birds Australia.

One very worrying aspect of the observer effort is that a very large proportion of the total records are provided by a very small number of dedicated observers who are prepared to actually submit their records to COG. It is only these records that make it to COG's databases and provide the data which are used increasingly by government and non-government agencies for important environmental issues.

Records were lodged for 177 of the 780 grid cells (22.7%) (see Map 2, p. 61), the most frequently surveyed cells being L14 (includes Kellys Swamp and Fyshwick sewage ponds), K 13 (ANBG and ANU) and L11 (including Mulligans Flat). Over recent years there has been a trend for fewer and fewer record sheets to come from rural areas. This

inevitably impacts on the species recorded and their recording rates.

The top ten species this year from 'general' records, in ranked order, were Australian Magpie, Crimson Rosella, Superb Fairywren, Australian Raven, Grey Fantail, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Striated Pardalote, Red Wattlebird and Pied Currawong. The top ten GBS species were Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Common Myna, Common Starling, Silvereye, Pied Currawong, Crimson Rosella, Australian Magpie, House Sparrow and Red Wattlebird, giving an overlap of six species.

Some of the more interesting records from the year are listed below.

Freckled Ducks were again recorded this year. Up to seven birds at Kellys Swamp over a long period (Jul-Dec), and also recorded from several sites around Bungendore. Great Crested Grebes were also recorded at several locations. Crakes and rails were not so much in evidence this year, though there were a few records of Buff-banded Rail, Australian Spotted and Spotless Crakes at Jerrabomberra Wetlands.

Two Caspian Terns visited the area around Jerrabomberra Wetlands from late September until mid-October. Whiskered Tern were also present around the same time.

White-headed Pigeon was again reported this year as was Channel-billed Cuckoo, both species that seem to be increasing their range generally down the Australian east coast and hinterland.

In November, a Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater was recorded from Ginninderra Creek in MacGregor, the first sighting of this species in the region for a decade.

flocks. They were particularly prominent in the GBS with 46 of the 60 sites recording the species. The abundance value was almost twice that of the previous year and a whopping 1709% above the long-term average for the 22-year period of the survey.

A number of species of wet forest birds have this year returned only small numbers of records. Eastern Whipbirds, Bassian Thrush, Olive Whistler, Superb Lyrebird and Red-browed Treecreeper all have only few records relative to past years. Furthermore there were no records of Pilotbird.

These low occurrences are no doubt related to the loss of habitat following the January 2003 bushfires. Though the area is recovering and species such as Satin Flycatchers are returning to some degree, it will presumably still be a long time before many wet forest species can return to these areas.

Of the 174 species of bird reliably recorded as having bred in the COG region, 102 (58.6%) did so in 2003-04, an increase on last year's 89, but slightly fewer than the 104 in 2000-01. Highlights included reported breeding by the Little Pied and Great Cormorants, Black-fronted and Red-kneed Dotterel, White-throated and Brown Treecreeper, and Flame Robin. A surprising number of honeyeater species were not recorded as breeding: Yellow-faced, White-eared, Brown-headed, White-naped and Crescent Honeyeaters. There was no breeding reported either for the Golden Whistler, Mistletoebird, Common Bronzewing or Eastern Yellow Robin. The cuckoos have done poorly for the past two years, with only the Fan-tailed Cuckoo recorded as breeding. However, based on university research, it is known that additional species are breeding in the COG region that do not show up in COG's records.

### Garden Bird Survey Overview

2003-04 was the 23<sup>rd</sup> year of the Garden Bird Survey (GBS). This year 60 sites were monitored, an increase of 2 on the previous year, but still well down on the number of sites operating in the mid-1980s. Of the sites active in the previous year 6 did not participate this year but 8 new sites commenced. Eleven sites first reported in years 1 or 2 of the Survey (although not all of them have reported for all years). As has been noted several times in articles in *Gang-gang* the new suburbs in Tuggeranong and Gungahlin are under-represented in the GBS.

Two of the new sites made significant impacts to the abundance values for some species. A site based on a Fyshwick office building raised the abundance value (A) for several grassland species (especially Skylark and Richard's Pipit) and, reflecting the proximity of the site boundary to the Molonglo River, waterbirds (especially Darter, Great Cormorant and Australian Pelican). Another site in Higgins particularly raised abundance values for Red-rumped Parrot and Dusky Woodswallow, probably reflecting the birds' interaction with the open paddocks close to the site.

A total of 148 species was recorded this year from 2532 observer weeks of recording effort. Breeding was recorded for 48 species from 49 sites, both increases on recent years.

One addition to the GBS list was a Crimson x Eastern Rosella hybrid. Such hybrids have been observed in various locations around Canberra over many years but there has not been any formal recording of them. It may be timely to rectify this situation.

the two years. Common Myna (3<sup>rd</sup>) and Common Starling (4<sup>th</sup>) are both now above Silvereeye. Australian Magpie dropped from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> while Yellow-faced Honeyeater has taken a major dive from 9th place to 15th: surely a function of the January 2003 bushfires.

### Woodland Survey overview

In 1998, COG began systematic monitoring of bird species and abundance in a number of high conservation value Grassy Woodland locations in the ACT. There are now monitoring sites in thirteen locations in key woodland corridors around the ACT. Six locations were initially selected Mulligans Flat NR, Mt Majura, Red Hill, Gooroo (northern area), Symonston and Castle Hill. The following sites have since been added: Majura Firing Range (1998-99); Hall/Gold Creek, Newline and Tuggeranong Hill (all 2000), Lambrigg (2001), Campbell Park (June 2003), Gorooyaroo NR south (2004), and a site in the Naas Valley (2004). Surveys of the Majura Firing Range did not occur from 2001 to winter 2004 due to access problems, but resumed in spring 2004. The Lambrigg site was discontinued after the March survey when the owner withdrew his consent.

In 2003-04, the winter survey of the Mt Majura site (MAJ) was delayed and not done until 1 July, so records from that survey are not included in this ABR.

The species recorded most frequently during 2003-04 were Australian Magpie, Crimson Rosella, Weebill, Striated Pardalote, Galah and Grey Fantail. The Woodland surveys contributed between 29-38% of all records in the case of the first five species, and as much as 46.7% in the case of the Weebill.

The following table lists the number of times birds of interest were recorded during the year and the proportion of those records that were made during the Woodland surveys.

Species	Total	WOO	%WOO
Br Treecreeper	57	15	26.3
Jacky Winter'	29	3	10.3
Scarlet Robin	179	40	22.3
Flame Robin	58	1	1.7
Hooded Robin	23	2	8.7
Varied Sittella	63	3	4.8
Crested Shrike-tit	34	4	11.8
Wh-wing Triller	79	14	17.7
Dusky W'swallow	<b>110</b>	7	6.4
Diamond Firetail	26	2	7.7

Of the special birds listed above, only the Diamond Firetail was not recorded breeding somewhere in COG's area of concern in 2003-04.

In April 2004, Alison Rowell, consultant to the Project, produced a Progress Report of the Woodland Bird Survey, which was also published in *Canberra Bird Notes* in June 2004. A comprehensive analysis of the Woodland Survey data has been commissioned and should be finalised in the first half of 2005; this includes 10 years of data at Mulligans Flat sites.

With this in mind, this ABR has combined the WOO records with general records.

### Waterbird Survey overview

Lake George and Lake Bathurst were again dry for much of the year. Surveys were conducted in July, September, October, November, December, and May. Not all locations were surveyed on each occasion, however. The eastern part of Lake Bathurst and The Morass were

non-waterbirds recorded in the course of the surveys included Singing Bushlarks (the only ones recorded this year) and White-fronted Chats.

For the purposes of this ABR, Waterbird survey records have been incorporated in General accounts.

### Greening Australia project

Surveys of birds in revegetation continue to be carried out as part of the Greening Australia/COG 'Birdwatch' project. Twelve of the original 132 sites are still being monitored to document changes in the bird community as the young trees and shrubs mature.

### Honeyeater Migration Survey

The Honeyeater Migration Survey was not conducted this year.

### Lower Sullivans Creek Survey

The Lower Sullivans Creek Catchment survey was not a COG survey, but one initiated by Professor Henry Nix, then of the Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies (CRES) at the ANU. Sites encompassed the ANU and surrounding areas. Many COG members participated in the surveys and the data collected were passed on to COG and are included in this ABR. They contributed 591 records, or 3.1% of all records for the year.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR JULY 2003 TO JUNE

## 2004 CASUARIIDAE: emu

**Emu** *Dromaius novaehollandiae* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
The complete lack of records this year is undoubtedly related to the January 2003 bushfires which incinerated the area around Tidbinbilla NR where most records tended to come from. Normally there are about 2 records per year.

## PHASIANIDAE: quail etc

**Stubble Quail** *Coturnix pectoralis* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 11 records this year is close to the average (average of 13.5 records, range 2-43, over the previous 10 years) after a low of 2 records in the previous year. Recorded from 7 grid cells, most were from various grassland sites in the foothills to the west of Canberra, between Hall in the north and Tidbinbilla Tracking Station in the south; however, there were 4 WBS records from Lake Bathurst and The Morass; and two records from Jerrabomberra Wetlands. All records were of 1-4 individuals.

**Brown Quail** *Coturnix ypsilophora* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Just 3 records this year, down on the average of 6.7 records, range 2-14, for the previous 10 years. Two from the Readymix quarry and wetlands just north of Bungendore: 3/2 Jul and 2/14 Oct (DeD2); and one from Jerrabomberra Wetlands 1/3 Feb (HoS1).

## ANSERANATIDAE: Magpie Goose

**Magpie Goose** *Anseranas semipalmata*  
**General:** The Magpie Geese at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve are best regarded as a semi- captive population and records from there are not normally included in the ABR (there were 3 records submitted from there this year). It is noteworthy, however, that there was a single Magpie Goose present at Brindabella Station (GrB16) from 25 Oct to 28 Nov (Brian Barlin). It seems likely that this was a stray from the Tidbinbilla population, 16 km to the ESE.

## ANATIDAE: ducks, swan

**Blue-billed Duck** *Oxyura australis* Rare, Breeding Visitor  
**General:** 35 records, all from Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14. 10-14 birds commonly recorded during the winter and autumn months. No breeding reported.

- **Musk Duck** *Biziura lobata* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 5 records: 1/8 Oct Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (SmA1); 3/1 Nov Yerrabi Pond Amaroo GrL11 (PeH2); x/7 Dec Brindabella Homestead GrF13 (SmA1); 3/8 Feb Queanbeyan sewage ponds GrN15 (PeH2); and 3/1 May Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (Anil).



Readymix quarry 4 km N Bungendore GrS12, 5 at Bungendore sewage works GrS13, and 5 at Canturf 4 km SW Bungendore GrR13, all 2 Jul; and 3/22 Oct Canturf 4 km SW Bungendore Gr R13 (all DeD2). Largest count was 7/19 Oct GrL14 (SmA1).

**Black Swan** *Cygnus atratus*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 116 records from 13 cells. An increase in the number of records but from a similar number of cells to last year. No observations from LGeo but 3 records from LBath 22/28 Jul, 6/6 Sep, 3/28 Nov (WBS). 20 breeding records from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14, Black Mt peninsula GrK14/K13 and LGin GrJ12 between Jul and Jan.

**GBS:** A single record: 1/1wk Feb Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Australian Shelduck** *Tadorna tadornoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 32 records from 9 cells, observations throughout the year with a maximum of 113/15 Jan Canturf 4 km SW of Bungendore GrR13 (DeD2). 4 records from LBath 2+5/28 Jul, 5/28 Nov, 1/28 Dec (WBS). A single breeding record dy/22 Oct Bungendore sewage ponds GrS13 (DeD2).

**Australian Wood Duck** *Chenonetta jubata*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 249 records from 57 cells including 37 from WOO sites and 30 from LSC sites, the most widely distributed waterfowl species. The number of records continued the decline of the previous two years but, as occurred last year, the number of breeding records has not decreased (21 records from 14 cells). Largest concentration 600/16 June King Edward Terrace, Parkes GrL14 (HoJ1).

**GBS:** Records from 20 sites with breeding reported from 5.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 8 records from 5 cells, all of likely feral domestics. A single breeding record dy/7 Feb LTug GrJ 16 (PeH2).

**GBS:** 4 records, from Jul, Sep Oct, Dec, of 3-4 birds from a site Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1).

**Domestic ducks and geese**

**General:** Reporting of feral domestic-derived ducks and geese is problematic, many records being included under Mallard above. This year there were also records of a mallard-derived domestic duck 1/7 Mar Uriarra Crossing GrG12 (PeH2), a muscovy-derived duck 1/20 Jul Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (FyM1), and domestic geese 5/8 Feb Queanbeyan sewage ponds GrN15 (PeH2).

**Pacific Black Duck** *Anas superciliosa*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 231 records from 46 cells including 11 WOO and 13 LSC records, similar to the past two years. Nine breeding records, 7 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14, 1 from Aspen Island LBG GrL14, and 1 from 'Bibaringa' GrH14. Largest concentration 210/23 Feb Grevillea Park LBG GrL14 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Records from 13 sites with breeding reported from 4.

**Australasian Shoveler** *Anas rhynchos*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 87 records from 12 cells although 69 of the records are from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14. No breeding records with the largest concentration

of 52/1 Apr Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (HoS1). Abundance and distribution similar to the previous two years.

**Grey Teal** *Anas gracilis*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 124 records from 21 cells but 82 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14. Five breeding records all from Feb-Mar from Jerrabomberra Wetlands. Largest concentration 1050/28 Jul LBathE GrY08 (WBS) (LeM1), all others less than 125.

**GBS:** 22 records from 2 sites: 18 records of up to 3 birds throughout the year in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and 4 records of 1-2 birds in Jul-Aug in Ngunnawal GrK11 (ZwM1).

**Chestnut Teal** *Anas castanea*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 57 records from 5 cells, but 50 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14, similar to last year. Five dy breeding records from Jan-Mar from GrL14. Largest concentration 15/20 Jul Jerrabomberra Wetlands (McI 1).

**GBS:** 9 records of 2-4 birds from 4wk Oct to 3wk Dec from a site at CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems GrK12 (OrP1).

**Pink-eared Duck** *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

Common, Visitor

**General:** 55 records from 6 cells, but 47 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14, similar to last year. Largest concentration 70/20 Jul, 3 Aug Jerrabomberra Wetlands (FyM1, HoS1).

**Hardhead** *Aythya australis*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 78 records from 15 cells, but 48 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14, similar to last year. Largest count 80/6 Jul Jerrabomberra Wetlands (GoP2). **GBS:** A single record: 2/2wk Oct CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems GrK12 (OrP1).

**PODICIPEDIDAE: grebes**

**Australasian Grebe** *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 103 records from 22 grid cells (incl 9 WOO). The number of records, but particularly the number of cells, has fallen since 2000-01 when there were 124 records from 55 cells distributed throughout the region. As was the case last year the majority of records have come from cells in or near Canberra with 52 coming from either Jerrabomberra Wetlands or Fyshwick sewage ponds. As in previous years records were reported in all seasons: spring (28), summer (20), autumn (23), winter (32). Largest numbers reported: 53/16 Jul, 46/18 Sep Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (GoP2, BuM1), 50/8 Mar Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (HoS1). There were 3 breeding records: on/6 Jan, on/15 Jan 'Bibaringa' GrH14 (BuM1), dy/6 Jan Wellmans Corner GrI1 1 (HaK1).

**GBS:** A single record: 1/4wk Mar CSIRO Crace GrK12 (OrP1).

**Hoary-headed Grebe** *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 75 records from 12 grid cells (incl 2 WOO) continues the increase in the number of records of this species during recent years (2000-01, 25 records; 2001-02, 40; 2002-03, 58). As in previous years most of the records (54) came from Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Fyshwick sewage ponds. They were reported in all seasons: spring (29), summer (12), autumn (11), winter (23). Largest numbers reported: 132/8 Mar, 117/16 Aug, 100/26 Oct, 99/18 Oct, all Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (PeH2, LaS1, McI1). No breeding recorded.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 7 records: 1/28 Dec, 1/11 Jan, 1/20 Jan, 1/26 Jan Acacia Inlet LBG GrK13 (LaS1, BuM1, PeH2, Hon), 1/26 Jan LGin GrJ12 (McI1), 11/28 Jan, 3/15 Feb Uriarra Homestead dam GrF13 (BuM1, McD1). This species usually frequents deep open bodies of water and the report of 11 on the dam at Uriarra is the largest number recorded in our region other than at LBath and LGeo. The previous largest were 6 at Jerrabomberra Wetlands in 2003.

**ANHINGIDAE: darter****Darter** *Anhinga melanogaster*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 65 records from 7 grid cells. This is the largest number of records ever reported for general records. The previous largest number was 37 reported in 2001-02. All records came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra, the majority (58) from LBG and its environs (including Jerrabomberra Wetlands), and were reported in all seasons: spring (12), summer (14), autumn (25) winter (14). Largest numbers reported: 35/9 May East Basin-Molonglo River GrL14 (HoJ1), 20/20 Jan Black Mt Peninsula LBG GrK13 (BuM1). Breeding was reported 12 times. Four of these breeding records were from Black Mt Peninsula LBG GrK13: on/20 Jan, ny/18 Feb, on/1 Apr, ny/25 Apr (BuM1, Hon). The number of birds involved in these 4 records were 20, 6, 10 and 2 respectively. These are the first records in an Annual Bird Report of Darters breeding in this location. It should be noted, however, that in Feb 2002 David Rosalky saw a recently fledged young east of the National Museum and on 1 Apr 2002 Richard Allen saw a nest with a begging young near Black Mt Peninsula (Allan 2003). There were another 8 breeding records from sites along the Molonglo River (GrL14-M14) where Darters have bred in previous years. All were made on 9 May and involved 2on, 11 ny and 42dy. Little Pied Cormorants and Little Black Cormorants were also breeding with the Darters at the Black Mt Peninsula site and Little Black Cormorants and Great Cormorants with the Darters at the Molonglo River site.

**GBS:** 14 records from 2 sites: 13 records of from 1 to 4 birds throughout the year from a site in Fyshwick GrM14 (VeP1), and 1/1wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**PHALACROCORACIDAE: cormorants****Little Pied Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 86 records from 19 grid cells. The number of grid cells has declined during the past 4 years (40 in 2001-01, 37 in 2001-02, 22 in 2002-03). The records also continue to be less widely distributed than in previous years with 69 (80%) coming from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra. They were reported in all seasons: spring (28), summer (24), autumn (17) winter (17). Three breeding records from two sites: on/19 Nov LGin GrJ12 (BuM1), this record was of 10 birds and the first report of Little Pied Cormorants breeding on LGin; and on/20 Jan, ny/18 Feb Black Mt Peninsula LBG GrK13 (BuM1), these were both of 10 birds associated with the breeding of Darters and Little Black Cormorants and were the first records of this species breeding in this location.

**GBS:** 18 records from 3 sites: 6 records of single birds in Nov, Dec and Jan from a site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 11 records of single birds in Jul to Oct from a site in Ngunnawal GrK11 (ZwM1), and 2/4 Nov Holt GrI12 (HoJ3).

**Pied Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax varius* - Rare, Visitor  
 Since February 2001 this species has been sighted in increasing numbers and frequency from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra.

**General:** 8 records: 1/20 Jul JWNP GrL14 (FyM1), 1/19 Oct LGin peninsula GrJ12 (PeH2), 15/12 Feb, 7/18 Feb, 9/23 Feb, 1/1 Apr, 3/13 May, 1/17 Jun all Aspen Island, or vicinity, LBG GrL14 (BuM1, LeM I, PeH2). The sighting of 15 near Aspen Island is the largest number ever recorded - the previous was 9 reported from LTug in Nov 2001 (COG 2002).

**GBS:** A single record: 6/3wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). This is just the second ever GBS record, the other was of 2 birds from a site in Weetangera in Jun 2002.

**Little Black Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 45 records from 10 grid cells. Although the number of grid cells remain low, the number of records have increased from 26 last year. Again most records (39) came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra with the majority (28) coming from LBG and Jerrabomberra Wetlands. As in previous years there were fewer records in winter (5) than in spring (14), summer (13) or autumn (13). Since Jul 2000, only 13 (7.6%) of the 171 records reported in this category have been in winter. Largest number reported: 30/27 Nov John Knight Memorial Park and surrounds LGin GrJ12 (HaK1). Breeding was reported 5 times from 2 locations. From Black Mt Peninsula LBG: on/20 Jan, on/1 Apr (BuM1), these were of 4 and 20 birds respectively and associated with Darters and Little Pied Cormorants breeding at the same site. They were the first records of this species breeding in this location. On 9 May breeding (8dy, 20dy, 10dy) was also reported from 3 sites along the Molonglo River (GrL14) in association with Darters and Great Cormorants which were also breeding there. These are the first breeding records for Little Black Cormorants reported in the Canberra region since 1 Nov 1996 (COG 1999).

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 45 records from 13 grid cells. The number of cells are similar to last year's low number but the number of records has returned to the level of 2001-02. Again most records (25) came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra with the majority (18) coming from LBG and Jerrabomberra Wetlands. As in previous years most were reported in spring (16) and summer (13), with fewer in autumn (9) and winter (7). Largest numbers reported: 11/9 Jun LGin GrJ12 (BuM1), 7/23 Feb Aspen Island LBG GrL14 (PeH2), all others were 6 or less. There were 2 breeding records: ny/9 May Molonglo Reach GrL14, ny/9 May E Basin Molonglo Reach GrL 14 (HoJ 1). These involved a total of 9 birds and were the first breeding records in our region (incl LBath and LGeo) since Feb 1984 when they were reported nesting in LBG east by Doug Ross (Taylor and Davey 1985).

**GBS:** 4 records from 3 sites: 1/1wk Nov, 1/1wk Feb both from Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 1/5wk Oct Yarralumla GrK14 (HAJ1), 2/2wk Jul Fyshwick (VeP1).

#### **PELECANIDAE: pelican**

**Australian Pelican** *Pelecanus conspicillatus* Common, Visitor

**General:** 79 records from 11 grid cells which continues last year's high recording rate. As was the case last year the majority of records (71) came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra of which 62 (78% of the total records) were from LBG and its environs (incl Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Fyshwick sewage ponds). As in previous years there were fewer records in winter (10) and autumn (18), than in spring (24) and summer (27). There

were large aggregations in Jerrabomberra Wetlands in late spring and summer with numbers up to 38 being recorded in the COG database (but see Dabb 2004 who reported seeing a flock of about 60 on 1 Jan in Kellys Swamp). Numbers fell in autumn with 4 being the largest aggregation reported. Between Jan and Mar, 11 dead pelicans were reported from Canberra's wetland areas: 7 at Kellys Swamp, 1 at each end of LBG, and 2 at Gordon in the Tuggeranong Valley (Dabb 2004). The cause of these deaths is unknown.

GBS: 7 records from 4 sites: 1/3wk Jul, 18/2wk Jan, 1/2wk Feb all Fyshwick GrM14 (VeP1), 1/2wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1), 2/1wk Apr Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3), 4/3wk Dec, 1/4wk Jun both Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

#### **ARDEIDAE: herons, egrets, bitterns**

**White-faced Heron** *Egretta novaehollandiae* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 109 records (incl 8 WOO: 1 HAL, 1 MAJ, 5 MUL, 1 SYM) from 34 grid cells continues the drop in numbers which has occurred over the past two years. The records also continue to be less widely distributed than in previous years and 82 (75%) came from Canberra and its environs. They were reported in all seasons with most in summer (41), followed by autumn (23), spring (23) and few in winter (11). Largest numbers reported: 6/20 Apr, 5/5 Feb Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (HoS1, PeH2), the remainder were 4 birds or less. There was one breeding record: ny/21 Jan Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (BuM1).

GBS: 34 records from 10 sites which is less than the reporting level of recent years. All were single birds and came from sites scattered throughout Canberra. They were reported in all seasons with more in spring (16) than in summer (4), autumn (6) and winter (8).

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta* Rare, Visitor  
 No records in 2003-04. Last recorded 26 Jun 1999.

**White-necked Heron** *Ardea pacifica* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor  
**General:** 7 records (incl 1 WOO: HAL) in winter, spring and summer which continues last year's low number of reports. The reports came from 7 different grid cells in and around Canberra. All were of single birds with the exception of one record of 2 birds. There have been no breeding records since Nov 1996 (COG 1999).

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* Uncommon, Visitor  
**General:** 17 records which is similar to the reporting rate of the past 5 years. 12 of the records were from Jerrabomberra Wetlands from 9 Nov through to 9 Mar (4 of 1 bird, 5 of 2, and 3 of x birds). The remaining 5 records were: 1/2 Nov Mulligans Flat GrL11 (BuM1), 1/7 Nov LBath GrY08 (LeM1), 1/18 Nov Sullivans Ck ANU GrK13 (PeH2), 1/7 Feb LTug GrJ16 (PeH2), 1/8 Feb Queanbeyan sewage ponds GrN15 (PeH2).  
**GBS:** A single record: 1/3wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia* Rare, Visitor  
**General:** 7 sightings of a single bird at Kellys Swamp JWNP from 22 Dec through to 4 Jan. These are the first records of this species since 1 Oct 2001.

**Cattle Egret** *Ardea ibis* Uncommon, Visitor  
**General:** 6 records which is similar to the reporting rate of the last 2 years: 5/2 Nov LGeo W shore GrR08 (PeH2), 1/22 Dec, 3/19 Mar, 2/20 Apr Kellys Swamp GrL14 (PeH2, HoS1), 2/19

Mar Dunlop Ponds GrI1 1 (BuM1), 2/21 Apr Bungendore sewage ponds GrS13 (DeD2). Numbers have been generally low since 1991-92 (46 records of up to 17 birds) and 1992-93 (21 records of up to 19 birds) (COG 1996, 1997).

**Nankeen Night Heron** *Nycticorax caledonicus* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor  
**General:** 10 records: x/31 Dec, 1/14 Feb both Uriarra Crossing GrG12 (SmA1, PeH2), 1/15 Feb Ginninderra Ck GrK11 (DaC1), x/6 Jan, 2/18 Jan, 1/3 Feb, 1/9 Feb, 1/10 Feb, 2/11 Mar all Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (SmA1, ScB2, PeH2, HoS1), 1/21 Feb Tidbinbilla NR GrF 18 (McJ2).

**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus* Rare, Visitor  
**General:** 1/20 Jan Acacia Inlet LBG GrK13 (PeH2). This rare visitor has now been recorded on three successive years. All sightings have been either at Jerrabomberra Wetlands or LBG.

**Australasian Bittern** *Botaurus poiciloptilus* Rare, Visitor  
 No records. Last recorded 27 Jun 2001.

#### THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* Rare, Visitor  
 No records. Last recorded 30 Jan 2003.

**Australian White Ibis** *Threskiornis molucca* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 71 records (incl 6 WOO: MUL, NLQ, SYM) from 18 grid cells. Although the number of records is the largest reported since the ACT Bird Atlas (1986-89) they continue to come from relatively few grid cells with 53 from suburban lakes, wetlands and their environs in Canberra, 50 of which (70% of all records) came from Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Fyshwick sewage ponds. As in previous years the majority were reported in spring (22) and summer (24), with fewer in autumn (17) and winter (8). Largest numbers reported: 156/22 Dec Fyshwick turf farm GrM14 (PeH2), 125/2 Aug, 80/1 Nov Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (McJ2), 63/21 Feb, 57/12 Feb both JWNP GrL14 (PeH2, BuM1), all others 50 or less. One breeding record: on/13 Oct farm dam 1 km E Gundaroo to Bungendore rd GrQ11 (FyM1) (the number of birds shown as 50).

**GBS:** 34 records from 11 sites. Although the number of records is down from last year's 48, the number of sites is up slightly from the 8 of last year. Abundance ( $A=0.2141$ ) has continued to drop from the high in 2001-02 when it reached  $A=0.6638$ , this reflects the lower group sizes which are generally being reported (last year's abundance was 0.2909). Largest: 110/3wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 65/2wk Sep Holt GrI12 (HoJ3), remainder were 50 or less. As with the General records the majority were reported in spring (12) and summer (13), with fewer in autumn (2) and winter (7).

**Straw-necked Ibis** *Threskiornis spinicollis* Common, Visitor  
**General:** 55 records (incl 1 WOO: NLQ) from 14 grid cells. As last year, the number of records remains high but the number of grid cells from which they were reported remains low with most records (46) coming from suburban Canberra. Compare this with 2001-02 when only 6 of the 34 records came from suburban Canberra. The largest numbers reported were: 300/31 Aug Mountain Creek Rd GrF12 (BoJ1), 135/12 Feb, 82/25 Feb, 56/20 Jul Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (BuM1, FyM1), 52/13 Apr Forestry Oval Yarralumla GrK14

(HoJ 1), the remainder were 26 or less. The majority were reported in winter (22) followed by summer (13), autumn (13) and spring (7).

GBS: 97 records from 24 sites is the largest number reported since 1997-98 when there were 130 records from 22 sites. The majority were reported in autumn (37) and winter (30), with fewer in summer (20) and spring (10). The records came from sites distributed over most of Canberra. Largest: 58/4wk Jul Macquarie GrJ13 (LaS1), 50/4wk Nov, 40/1wk Dec, 37/3wk Nov all from a site in Fyshwick GrM14 (VeP1), 47/5wk Jul Higgins GrI12 (MiP1), all others 35 or less.

**Royal Spoonbill** *Platalea regia*

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 20 records, all from Jerrabomberra Wetlands from 15 Nov through to 9 Mar when 17 records of from 1-5 birds and 3 records of x birds were reported.

**Yellow-billed Spoonbill** *Platalea flavipes*

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 4 records: 1/15 Jan Readymix Quarries, 4 km N Bungendore GrS12 (DeD2), 1/15 Mar, 1/16 Mar, 1/16 Mar all Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (BuM1, PeH2, HoS1).

ACCIPITRIDAE: **kites, harriers, goshawks, eagles**

**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus axillaris*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 38 records, 31 of which were in the autumn or winter, which probably coincided with the availability of mice. Mostly single birds, though 5 records of 2 and 2 records of 4: 18 Mar and 18 May, Tuggeranong Parkway GrJ14 (PeH2). Records from only 6 grid cells, mostly those covering the grassy urban fringes to the west of the city. No breeding reported since 1997.

GBS: 8 records throughout the year of a single bird from one site in Curtin (GrJ14) which regularly records them (AJR1). A considerable drop in record numbers from the average of 31 over the last three years.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

Rare, Visitor

Continues the pattern of very occasional records of this species in our region.

**General:** 1/30 Jan, Pialligo Ave GrM14 (HoS1).

**Whistling Kite** *Haliastur sphenurus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 23 records, all of 1-2 birds except 3/16 Jul (GoP2). Recorded in all months except Dec, but only from Jerrabomberra Wetlands, Fyshwick sewage works or nearby areas (GrL14, GrN14). No breeding reported. A drop in records from last year's 36, but within historical parameters.

**GBS:** 5 records of single birds from 2 sites in Aranda and Fyshwick.

**White-bellied Sea-Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 11 records, all of single birds except 3/18 Jul Wee Jasper GrA09 (SmA1). Records from most local lakes and rivers, but a majority from Jerrabomberra Wetlands. Continues the regular low reporting rate for this species.

**GBS:** One record of a single bird from a lakeside suburb, Yarralumla, 1wk Jun (HAJ1).

**Spotted Harrier** *Circus assimilis* - Rare, Visitor

**General:** 4 records of single birds, all from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands and Fyshwick sewage works area GrL14, in Jul (SmA1), Mar (VeP1), and Jun (BuM1, MoM3). Continues the low level of reporting of this rare visitor.

**Swamp Harrier** *Circus approximans* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 3 records, of single birds, all from Jerrabomberra Wetlands: 17 Oct (BuM 1); 26 Jan (GiM3); and 21 Feb (PeH2). No records from the species' usual haunt, Rose Lagoon, which was dry for much of the year. Continues the low level of reporting of this species in recent years.

**Brown Goshawk** *Accipiter fasciatus* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 31 records, including 5 from WOO sites (CAS, CMP, SYM), from all months except Jul and Aug. Mainly single birds, except 2/1 Oct CMP (LeM1) and 2/25 Mar, 'Bibaringa' GrH15 (McD1); from 18 widely dispersed grid cells. Two breeding records: on/8 Nov Newline Quarry and on/8 Nov Oaks Estate (both DaG2), as in previous years.

**GBS:** 19 records, all of single birds, from 10 sites. Six records from one site in Watson (WaK1). Over half the records from the autumn months.

**Grey Goshawk** *Accipiter novaehollandiae* Rare, Visitor

**General:** Two records not presented for endorsement. The most recent endorsed record was Mar 2003 in Hackett.

**Collared Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter cirrhocephalus* Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 19 records, including 4 WOO and 1 WBS, of 1-2 birds, from 9 grid cells. A majority of records came in the autumn, though the species was recorded in most months. Breeding: on/28 Sep, SYM (DaG2). Comparable numbers reported in recent years.

**GBS:** The most widely recorded raptor in Canberra gardens. 104 records, of 1-4 birds, from 23 widespread sites. Breeding: dy/3wk, 5wk Jan, 1-2wk Feb from a site in Crace (GrK12) (OrP1); and dy/1wk Sep Higgins (MiP1).

**Wedge-tailed Eagle** *Aquila audax* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 58 records, including 4 WOO (GOS, MUL, SYM, TUG) and 3 WBS, of 1-3 birds, from 32 widespread mainly rural sites. Recorded in all months, but more regularly in winter. Breeding: nb/28 May GOS (HoS1). Anecdotal reports of known nests in other locations. Lower numbers of records than the high of 103 in 2000-01, but within 'normal' range.

**GBS:** 46 records of 1-3 birds, all months, from 13 sites. A steady increase in abundance in recent years.

**Little Eagle** *Hieraaetus morphnoides* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 20 records, including 2 WOO (SYM, TUG), of 1-2 birds from most months of the year, and from both urban and rural locations. Breeding: on/21 Sep Lake Rd LGeo GrR11 (LaS1); on/9 Nov East O'Malley (DaG2). Disappointingly, there were no reports of the fate of the latter nest.

**GBS:** 13 records of 1-2 birds, throughout the year, mainly from the northern and eastern fringes of the city.



**FALCONIDAE: falcons, hobby, kestrel**

**Brown Falcon** *Falco berigora* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 44 records, including 3 WOO (CAS, HAL, NLQ) and 4 WBS, from 18 widespread rural and urban fringe grid cells, and from most months of the year, although only 5 summer records. Consistent with recent recording levels. No breeding reported.  
**GBS:** Only one record, 1/4wk Aug (AJRI) from a site in Curtin which regularly records them.

**Australian Hobby** *Falco longipennis* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 23 records, from most months, fairly widespread. Reporting rate on a par with previous years. Breeding: ny/20 Jan and dy/2 Feb ANU campus GrK13 (RoD2), plus other anecdotal records.  
**GBS:** 69 records of 1-2 birds, from 19 widely dispersed sites. 23 records in Jan-Mar strongly suggestive of juveniles dispersing. Breeding: dy/1wk Feb Ainslie (LeM1).

**Grey Falcon** *Falco hypoleucos* Rare, Visitor  
 Last recorded 1969.

**Black Falcon** *Falco subniger* Rare, Visitor  
**GBS:** 1 record not presented for endorsement.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 11 records, widespread, all of single birds except 2/17 Apr, Angle Crossing Rd GrK20 (TaN1). No records Sep-Dec. Consistent with numbers reported in recent years. No breeding records.  
**GBS:** 18 records, from 6 widespread sites, all of single birds except 2/2wk, 4wk Mar in Page (A1B 1). Mainly summer and autumn. Recording rate within historical parameters.

**Nankeen Kestrel** *Falco cenchroides* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 60 records, of 1-3 birds, including 6 WOO (GOO, GOS, MUL, SYM, TUG), widespread, from all months. Breeding: on/18 Dec SYM GrL15 (DaG2). Numbers down from a high of 195 in 2000-01 but up on last year's 49.  
**GBS:** 16 records from 5 sites; no records Nov-Dec.

**RALLIDAE: rails, crakes, swamphen, moorhen, coot**

**Buff-banded Rail** *Gallirallus philippensis* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 2 records this year (average 2.1, range 0-9, over previous 10 years): 1/23 Jan and 1/11 Feb both Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (HoS1, MoM3). There have been records for 7 of the last 10 years.

**Lewin's Rail** *Rallus pectoralis* Rare, Breeding Visitor  
**General:** No records. Last recorded 11 Aug 2002.

**Baillon's Crake** *Porzana pusilla*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** No records this year, after a relatively high reporting level (5 records) for each of the previous 2 years. This species has been recorded in 6 of the past 10 years, giving an average of 1.9 records per year, range 0-5.

**Australian Spotted Crake** *Porzana fluminea*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** A single record: 1/19 Jan Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (BuM1). This is well down on last year's 9 records, but closer to the average of 3.6, range 0-9, with records from 6 of the past 10 years.

**Spotless Crake** *Porzana tabuensis*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 5 records this year from Kellys Swamp and Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14: 2/17 Jul, 3/21 Jan, 1/23 Jan, 1/3 Mar, 1/8 Mar (GiM3, HoS1, MoM3). Also 1 other unendorsed record. This compares with an average of 1.5 records, range 0-6, with records from 6 of the past 10 years.

**Purple Swamphen** *Porphyrio porphyrio*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 137 records from throughout the year, of generally less than 20 individuals. One exceptional count of 52 birds in July covered both Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Fyshwick sewage works. These two localities account for 92 (67%) of all records, with a further 23 from elsewhere around LBG. Only 13 records came from LGin, 4 from LTug, and just 5 (3.6%) from locations away from the main urban lakes. These latter include 2 from Rose Lagoon (GrU04), 1 from Mountain Creek Road (GrF10), 1 from Googong Dam, and 1 from a farm dam at Ginninderra experimental station (GrJ 11). There were 11 reports of breeding: co in Sep, and dy from 13 Oct to 25 Jan.

**GBS:** 12 records of 1-5 birds from a single site in Ngunnawal between 1 wk Jul and 4 wk Nov.

**Dusky Moorhen** *Gallinula tenebrosa*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 137 records from throughout the year, of generally less than 20 individuals. 94 of these (69%) came from Jerrabomberra Wetlands / Fyshwick sewage ponds, with a further 20 from elsewhere around LBG. With 13 from LGin and 2 from LTug, the urban lakes account for 94% of all records. The remaining 8 records were from Bungendore sewage works (GrS13), Tidbinbilla NR (GrF18), Mountain Creek Road (GrF10), Munday Lane (Gr108) and Queanbeyan sewage ponds (GrN 15). There were 6 reports of breeding: co in early Sep, and dy between 27 Nov and 22 Dec.

**GBS:** 14 records of 1-5 birds from a single site in Ngunnawal between 3 wk Jul and 2 wk Nov.

**Black-tailed Native-hen** *Gallinula ventralis*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** No records. A bird which was present at Kellys Swamp during the previous two summers did not show up this year.

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 173 records from throughout the year. 20% of these had counts of more than 50 birds, the largest being 280 and 224 at Fyshwick sewage ponds, and 192 in and around Acacia Inlet on LBG. Most records (84%) came from Canberra's urban lake systems, the remaining 28 from various larger farm dams and wetlands around the region. For such a common bird the very low reporting rate of breeding is surprising — no records this year.

**GBS:** 4 records of a single bird from a site in Curtin between 3 wk Jul and 2 wk Aug.

**TURNICIDAE: button-quail**

**Painted Button-quail** *Turnix varia* Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 3 records this year (cf average of 4.5, range 0-9 for past 10 years); two from Mt Majura: 1/13 Oct GrM12 (HoS1), 2/26 Nov GrM14 (TaN1), and one from the SE of Namadgi NP: 1/24 Apr GrJ26 (LaS1).

**SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies**

Continuing dry conditions, particularly at Lakes George and Bathurst, again resulted in few waterbird records. Not recorded this year: **Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica* (last recorded Oct 1996), **Little Curlew** *Numenius minutus* (last recorded Oct 1997), **Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* (last recorded Nov 2002), **Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* (last recorded Dec 1996), **Red Knot** *Calidris canutus* (last recorded Nov 1999), **Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta* (last recorded Dec 2002), **Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos* (last recorded Jan 2003), **Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* (last recorded Jan 2002), and **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* (last recorded Sep 1997).

**Latham's Snipe** *Gallinago hardwickii* Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 24 records from 6 cells, but 17 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14. Other sites: LBath GrY08, Gundaroo Road GrL11, 'Brindabella' GrF13, Mulligans Flat GrL10, Acacia Inlet GrK13. Recorded between 18 Sep and 21 Feb.

**GBS:** A single record: 1/1wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* Rare, Migrant

**General:** A single record, the first since Sep 2000: 2/28 Nov LBathE GrY08 (WBS, LeM1).

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* Rare, Migrant

**General:** First sightings since Feb 2001. 7 records of a single bird at Uriarra Crossing GrG 12 between 29 Dec and 28 Jan.

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis* Rare, Migrant

**General:** 4 records: 2 from LBath GrY08 4/28 Jul, 3/28 Nov (LeM1) and 2 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 1/21 Jan, 1/23 Jan (HoS1).

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata* Common, Migrant

**General:** 19 records from 2 grid cells: LBath GrY08, 32/6 Sep, 2/28 Nov (WBS, LeM1); Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14, 17 records, max 16/8 Oct (SmA1). Number of records similar to last year. Observations between 6 Sep and 23 Jan.

**RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet**

No records this year for **Banded Stilt** *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*, last recorded Feb 1998.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 11 records from 4 cells, 8 from Kellys Swamp GrL14, 1 from Scrivener Dam LBG Gr J14, 1 from Readymix quarry GrS12, and 1 from Canturf GrR13. Observations between 27 Sep and 15 Jan. Max 6/6 Jan Kelly's Swamp, (SmA1), a slight increase in records and numbers from last year.

**Red-necked Avocet** *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae* Uncommon, Visitor  
**General:** First record since 29 Apr 2002: 6/28 Jul LBathE GrY08 (WBS, LeM1).

**CHARADRIIDAE: plovers, dotterels, lapwings**

No records this year for **Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*, last recorded 1 Oct 2001.

**Red-capped Plover** *Charadrius ruficapillus* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 4 records: 225/28 Jul, 132/6 Sep, 27/28 Nov (all LBathE, WBS, LeM1) and 1/21 Apr Canturf 4 km SW of Bungendore GrR13 (DeD2). Records similar to last year.

**Double-banded Plover** *Charadrius bicinctus* Uncommon, Visitor  
**General:** 2 records: 212/28 Jul, 6/6 Sep (both LBathE, WBS, LeM1). Previous last record 29 Apr 2002.

**Black-fronted Dotterel** *Elsayornis melanops* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 55 records from 16 grid cells. 2 records of dy, 9 Jan Tharwa Sandwash GrJ 19 and 21 Feb Kellys Swamp GrL14 (PeH2). Max 25/20 Apr Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (HoS1). Similar number of records to last year but from a larger number of grid cells.

**Red-kneed Dotterel** *Erythrogonys cinctus* Uncommon, Visitor  
**General:** 34 records from 7 grid cells, 25 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14. A single breeding record dy/15 Jan Canturf 4km SW of Bungendore GrR13 (DeD2). Records and numbers similar to last year.

**Banded Lapwing** *Vanellus tricolor* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor  
**General:** 3 records, all from LBathE GrY08: 2/28 Jul, 2/6 Nov, 2/9 Oct, possibly the same two birds (WBS, LeM 1). Previous record 29 Apr 2002.

**Masked Lapwing** *Vanellus miles* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 140 records from 30 grid cells, a similar number of records and cells to last year. As usual breeding was very poorly reported with just two records, dy/19 Aug University of Canberra GrJ12 (HaK1), on/21 Sep Kellys Swamp (HoS1). Largest count 28/16 Mar Kellys Swamp GrL14 (HoS1).

**GBS:** Records from 25 sites with a single breeding record ne/2 wk Oct CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems GrK12 (OrP1).

**LARIDAE: gulls and terns**

**Silver Gull** *Larus novaehollandiae* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 78 records from 12 grid cells, 40 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage works GrL14. Number of records and cells similar to last year. Breeding recorded between 31 Aug and 21 Sep from Yarralumla Bay LBG GrK14 (HoJ1). Largest number 275/23 Feb Grevillea Park LBG GrL14 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Occasional records from 4 sites in Ainslie (HoS1), Aranda (Hail), Yarralumla (Hail) and Fyshwick (VeP1), but more regular records, particularly Aug-Dec, from Curtin (AJR1)

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 5 records, all of 2 birds, in the vicinity of Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Fyshwick turf farm GrL14-M14: 27 Sep (GiM3, SmA 1, PeH2), 8 Oct (SmA1), 14 Oct (PeH2). Almost certainly the same birds.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 14 records from 4 grid cells. 12 of the records came from around Jerrabomberra Wetlands and the Fyshwick turf farm GrL14-M14 between 21 Sep and 6 Oct, with up to 22 birds counted. Also 1/6 Sep LBathE GrY08 (WBS, LeM1) and 1/17 Nov Orana Bay LBG GrK14 (HoJ1).

**COLUMBIDAE: pigeons and doves****Rock Dove** *Columba livia*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 43 records, again all from the environs of Canberra. No reported evidence of breeding.

**GBS:** Abundance (A) was slightly up on last year. However, there were records from only 26 of the 60 sites, down by 10% on last year. Both measures remain well below the long-term averages. Records covered all weeks and included counts of up to 40 birds at sites in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), Hackett GrL13 (LeB1) and Deakin GrK14 (RoD2). Although possibly of no significance, the great proportion (70%) of the larger counts (20 birds and more), occurred in the months Feb to Jun.

**White-headed Pigeon** *Columba leucomela*

Rare, Visitor

Several reports again this year, all of single birds. Endorsed records from three suburbs. **General:** 3 records of a bird in Bruce: 1/16 Jul (PeH2), 1/19 Jul (McD1, SmA1).

**GBS:** 3 records: 1/4wk Jul Bruce GrK12 (MeE3), 1/1wk Nov Hughes GrK14 (BoM1), 1/1wk Dec Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1).

**Spotted Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

As last year there were reports from eight Canberra suburbs, some different to last year. However, there was none from Queanbeyan where this bird has been regarded as well established. Also an interesting report from outside the urban areas.

**General:** 9 records of 1-2 birds from Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1, HoS1), Watson GrL12 (McJ4), Holder GrI (LeB1) and 115 (CuB1), Kambah GrJ16 (McD1) and Yarralumla GrK14 (HoJ1), and 1/15 Jul Cotter Pumping Station GrG14 (ScB2). No report of breeding activity. **GBS:** Records from 10 sites, up from 7 last year, but the measure of abundance (A) fell slightly when compared with last year. Both abundance and distribution values remain significantly above the long-term averages. There was a total of 39 records of 1-2 birds, from Kambah GrI16-J16 (WiB I, VeP I, McD1 and PeH2), Watson GrLI2 (WaK1, MuT1), Duffy GrI15 (WiM1), Fadden GrK16 (RoP1), Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and Richardson GrK17 (VeP1).

**Common Bronzewing** *Phaps chalcoptera*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 85 records, including 16 from 6 of the WOO sites. Widely spread across the region and covering all months. Generally 1-5 birds but also 11/1 Apr Dunrossil Dr GrK14 (HoJ1) and 10/30 Apr Boboyan Pines GrH25 (DeD2). No breeding.

GBS: Records from 13 sites and both abundance (A) and distribution (F) were well up on last year. Most of the records (102 of 123) came from four sites in Bruce GrK12 (MeE3, 29 weeks, max 5 birds, and BuM1, 28 weeks, max 4), Cook GrJ13 (TaN1, 18 weeks, max 3) and Holder GrJ 15 (AsM1, 27 weeks, max 4). Records from throughout the year, but more commonly in the warmer months.

**Brush Bronzewing** *Phaps elegans*

Rare, Breeding Resident

There were no records this year. In the light of the January 2003 fires, which so badly affected the Brindabella Range, the absence of records from this, the most regular source, is not surprising. However, we might expect to find the bird in other parts of the region, for example, Namadgi NP, the source of the last record in Jan 1999, and Tallaganda NP.

**Crested Pigeon** *Ocyphaps lophotes*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 207 records, including 27 WOO: GOO (1), TUG (1), NLQ (11), CAS (2), CMP (5), MUL (5) and MAJ (2). The only records from south of the ACT were at Burra Ck GrM21 (AnI1), Naas Valley GrJ23 (Born, Guises Flat GrL20 (TaN1), Glendale GrI23 (BeDI) and Krawarree GrX27 (Maurice Cowan). Two reports of breeding: on/21 Sep Lake Rd GrR11 (LaS1), ny/9 Apr Kambah GrJ16 (PeH2).

**GBS:** This year abundance (A) rose by 7%, but with records from 56 of the 60 sites, the measure of distribution (F) was slightly down from last year's 98%. Records for all weeks from five sites in Aranda, Hackett and Kambah. Indications of possible breeding from 19 sites. Of these 9 involved nests, 6 progressed to record eggs and/or incubation, but only 3 reported completion of the cycle with dependent young.

**Diamond Dove** *Geopelia cuneata*

Vagrant/Escapee

The Rarities Panel indicated that birds at Tidbinbilla and 'Bibaringa' "May be wild birds".

**General:** 10 records: 2/20 Jan and 2/21 Jan Tidbinbilla NR GrG18 (GrT1, LeM1); and 8 records from 'Bibaringa' GrH14/15: 3/14 Mar (FrI1), 2/17 Mar (LaD1), 2/25 Mar (McD1), 2/26 Mar (LaD1), 2/29 Mar (McJ4), 2/1 Apr (PeH2), 2/7 Apr (HoS1) and 2/14 Apr (BuM1).

**Peaceful Dove** *Geopelia striata*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 13 records. 1/22 Nov 'Caloola' Naas Valley GrJ23 (BoJ1), 1/10 Jan TSR57, Mountain Creek Rd GrE8 (BoJ1), and the remaining 11 records of 1-6 birds from 'Bibaringa' GrH14/15: 24 Dec (GiM3), 6, 15 Jan (BuM1), 15, 19 and 25 Mar (McDI), 28 Mar (McJ4), 1 Apr (PeH2), 7 Apr (HoS1), 14 Apr, 16 Jun (BuM1).

**Wonga Pigeon** *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Only 2 records: 1/30 Nov Mulloon Fire Trail GrW16 (FyM1) and 1/14 Feb Mt Ginini environs GrC19 (BoJ1). This is well down on the 10 and 6 records from the previous 2 years and no doubt relates to the loss of habitat since the Jan 2003 fires.

CACATUIDAE: **cockatoos**

**Glossy Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptrorhynchus lathami*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 23 non-breeding records throughout the year of up to 13 birds. Most from Mt Majura GrM12 (11) or Burra Creek GrM21 (11), but also 1/14 May 'Mulloon Creek' GrV13 (ScA1). Comparable with last year's 25 records; a considerable rise in reporting rate from the

occasional one or two birds seen in the 1990s and, if the trend continues, will demand a revision of the status of this species in the ACT.

**GBS:** Single records from 2 sites: 1/4wk Jan Holder GrJ12 (AsM1); 2/5wk Jan Page GrJ12 (A1B 1).

**Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus funereus* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 105 records, continuing the high level of reporting of this species throughout the year. Largest flock size 105 in Jul at Mulligans Flat (BoJ1). Widespread, with many records from suburban Canberra, including 2 breeding records: dy/29 Feb Yarralumla GrK14 (HoJ1); dy/2 Apr GrP11 (HaK1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 46 sites (77%). Abundance (A=2.2998) very much higher than 2002-03 (A=1.3211) and an increase of 1709% over the long-term average. Breeding (all dy) recorded from 4 sites: Deakin in Jul (RoD2), Hughes in Oct (BeR3), Fadden in Jan (RoP1), and Curtin from Feb-Apr (AJR1).

**Gang-gang Cockatoo** *Callocephalon Fimbriatum* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 66 records (88 in 2002-03), from all months of the year, widespread. Largest flock size 13/27 Jul Turner GrK13 (PaB1). Breeding: dy/31 Aug north of 'Kirawin' GrEO8 (BoJ1); dy/1 Feb Mt Ainslie Rd GrL13 (McDI).

**GBS:** Recorded from 47 sites (78%). Abundance (A=1.1505) higher than last year (A=1.0248) and back to historical levels (e.g. 1997-98 A=1.0325). Breeding recorded from 2 sites: dy/2wk Aug ANU (PeH2); ih/2wk-3wk Sep Aranda (HaL1).

**Galah** *Cacatua roseicapilla* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 504 records, widespread, throughout the year. Largest flock size 100/28 Jul The Morass GrZ08 (WBS, LeM1). 15 breeding records (9ih, 1di, 1nb, 1co, and 2dy) between late Jun and Dec.

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites. Reverts to the position of most abundant species recorded in the GBS, after losing first place to the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo in 2002-03. Abundance A= 9.0458 down slightly from 2002-2003 (A=9.3051). Breeding (mainly dy but also ih, on, nb) recorded from 14 sites.

**Long-billed Corella** *Cacatua tenuirostris* Vagrant/Escapee  
**General:** 6 endorsed non-breeding records of 1-2 birds from Aranda Bushland (GrJ13), Pearce (GrJ 15) and Telopea Pk (GrL 14).

**GBS:** A single bird recorded 1 wk-2wk Jan in Pearce (OgM1, KrS1). Also one other unendorsed record.

**Little Corella** *Cacatua sanguinea* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 11 records, including 5 WOO (MUL, SYM), throughout much of the year. Largest flock sizes reported, 40/4 Apr Acacia Inlet GrK13 and 40/26 Apr Lennox Gardens GrK14 (both HoJ1). Breeding: on/18 Dec SYM GrL15 (DaG2). Grossly under-reported given the anecdotal records of sightings of this species.

**GBS:** Recorded from 21 sites (35%). Abundance (A=0.1536) down from 2002-2003 (A=0.3165). One breeding record: dy/5 wk Jan Deakin GrK14 (RoD2).

**Major Mitchell's Cockatoo** *Cacatua leadbeateri* Escapée

All the following records are presumed to be of the one, likely escaped, bird which has frequented the southern suburbs for a number of years now.

**General:** 10 records, mainly from around Mt Taylor and Chapman.

**GBS:** One record: 1/4 wk Feb Hughes GrK15 (BeR3).

**Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** *Cacatua galerita* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 495 records, all months, widespread. Largest flock size 500/20 Jun, Canberra Avenue GrL14 (HoJ 1). Breeding: on/21 Sep Lake Rd GrR11 (LaS1); and 4 ih records from spring and early summer.

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites. Abundance (A=8.6051) down from 2002-03 (A=8.8119). Second most abundant species recorded in GBS. Indications of breeding (nearly all dy but a few ih) recorded from 10 sites.

**Cockatiel** *Nymphicus hollandicus* Vagrant/Escapée

**General:** 4 records, 3 of single (and probably escaped) birds, but one record of 7/14 Nov corner Keveney's & Dog Trap Roads GrH08 (TaN1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 4 sites. Isolated occurrences in Cook, Aranda and Hackett, but also a bird recorded from 1wk Dec to 1wk Feb in Curtin (AJR1).

## PSITTACIDAE: lorikeets, parrots

**Rainbow Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus haematodus* Rare, Breeding Resident

Continuing low levels of reporting of this species which has by now clearly established itself in the north-west of the city. No breeding records this year.

**General:** 3 records, the same as last year, and all from the Hawker area.

**GBS:** Recorded 34 times from 9 sites, mainly in the Belconnen suburbs but also from Ainslie, Kambah and Fadden.

**Musk Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta concinna* Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 24 Nov 2002.

**Little Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta pusilla* Rare, Visitor

**GBS:** 1 record: 1/4 wk May Macquarie GrJ 13 (LaS1).

**Australian King-Parrot** *Alisterus scapularis* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 71 records, widespread, throughout the year. Largest flock size, 65/31 Jul Maxwell St Yarralumla, where they gathered to feed regularly in the mornings (HoJ 1). Two breeding records: ih/18 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1); and dy/21 Dec O'Connor GrK13 (GrT1). **GBS:** Recorded from 55 sites (92%). Abundance (A=2.4352) slightly down on 2002-03 (A=2.5261). Breeding recorded from 9 sites: 1 record of nb 5wk Jul in Hughes (BoM1), and 19 records of dy between 4wk Jan and 2 wk Mar.

**Superb Parrot** *Polytelis swainsonii* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 19 records, all from the north, or northern fringes, of Canberra. Earliest record 11 Oct nr Gundaroo GrO8 (BoS2); latest, 14 Jan Macgregor Primary School GrI12 (BrM4). Two



breeding records: dy/30 Nov Gundaroo Oval GrO7 (BoJ1); and dy/15 Dec Mt Rogers GrJ11 (B1R1).

CBS: Recorded from 1 site: 4/1 wk Jan Spence GrJ11 (HaJ5).

**Crimson Rosella** *Platycercus elegans* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 814 records, from all months, widespread. Up on the 695 of last year but down on the 1042 of the previous year. Breeding recorded 13 times, first ih/6 Sep, last on/17 Dec.

GBS: Recorded from all sites. Seventh most abundant species recorded in GBS. Abundance (A=3.4822) down slightly from previous 2 years. Breeding recorded from 13 sites.

**Eastern Rosella** *Platycercus eximius* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 380 records (very similar to the 390 of last year), including 9 breeding records: 7 ih and dy/23 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (HoSI) and dy/24 Jan The Pinnacle (A1B1).  
**GBS:** Recorded from 55 sites (92%). Abundance (A=1.5521) up from 2002-2003 (A=1.5499). Breeding recorded from 9 sites.

### **Rosella hybrid**

**GBS:** A Crimson Rosella x Eastern Rosella hybrid was recorded 2wk Oct from a site in Isaacs GrK 15 (HoA1 1). Though these hybrids are occasionally encountered around Canberra, records have not previously been published or kept in COG databases.

**Swift Parrot** *Lathamus discolor* Rare, Migrant  
**GBS:** One record: 4/2 wk May Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1)

**Red-rumped Parrot** *Psephotus haematonotus* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 137 records (cf 132 records in 2002-03), widespread, throughout the year, including 3 indications of breeding: ih/11 Oct NLQ (LaSI); ih/14 Dec Coppins Crossing Rd (PeH2); ih/14 Dec NLQ (BoJ 1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 25 sites (42%) similar to the 38% in 2002-03. Abundance (A=0.5036) significantly up from 2002-2003 (A=0.2185). This increase in abundance due to a new site in Higgins (MiP3) which recorded large numbers of birds throughout the year.

**Budgerigar** *Melopsittacus undulatus* Vagrant/Escapee  
**General:** 1 record: 1/20 Nov 'Huntly' GrHI4 (TaN1).

**Turquoise Parrot** *Neophema pulchella* Vagrant  
 No records. Last recorded Oct 2002.

**Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri* Escapee  
**GBS:** Recorded from 1 site: 1/4 wk Feb-1 wk Mar Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

### CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel

**Pallid Cuckoo** *Cuculus pallidus* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 52 records (cf 84 last year and 134 in 2001-02). Of those WOO accounted for 14. First, 1/20 Aug 'Stony Broak' Gundaroo Rd GrR12 (HaKI), last 1/14 Feb Burra Creek GrM21 (An I 1). No breeding.

GBS: 11 records of single birds from 6 sites. A further decline, bringing the measure of abundance (A) and distribution (F) to 87% and 67% respectively below the long-term averages. First, 1/4wk Aug Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1), last 1/3wk Dec Curtin GrK14 (AJR1).

**Brush Cuckoo** *Cacomantis variolosus* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 7 records, none from WOO. 1/24 Oct 'Stony Broak' Gundaroo Rd GrR12 (HaK1), 2/22 Nov 'Caloola' Naas Valley GrJ23 (BoJl), 1/25 Nov Mundoonen NR GrJ03 (DaC1), 1/26 Nov 'Tara Bush' Mountain Vale Rd GrK06 (DaC1), 1/30 Nov Mulligans Flat GrL11 (HaK1), x/5 Dec Big Hole campsite GrX24 (BeS3), and 1/28 Dec Tarago Road GrU11 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 1/1wk-2wk Nov Hackett GrL13 (BoS2).

**Fan-tailed Cuckoo** *Cacomantis flabelliformis* Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 52 records, an increase compared with last year's 31, but down on the 96 recorded in 2001-02. Includes 9 from 5 WOO sites. First, 1/27 Jul ANBG GrK13 (FyM1), last 2 records each of one bird 23 May Orroral Valley GrG22 and 1-122 (LaS1). One Breeding record: dy/27 Jan Bungendore Rd GrR12 (DeD2).

**GBS:** 11 records from 6 sites. An increase from the 5 records from 3 sites last year, but measures of abundance (A) and distribution (F) remain significantly below the long-term averages. First, 2/2wk Sep Watson (WaK1), last 1/3wk Mar Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

**Black-eared Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx osculans* Rare, Visitor

No records this year. Last endorsed record Feb 1989.

**Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx basalis* Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Only 8 records of single birds reported this year (cf 32 last year, 65 in 2001-02 and 84 in 2000-01). Included 2 from WOO. First, 1/4 Jul NLQ GrM14 (Boil), last 1/21 Dec Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1). No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** 4 records of single birds from 3 sites. First, 1/4wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AJR1), and last 1/1wk Dec Hackett GrL13 (LeB1). Again this year measures of abundance (A) and distribution (F) both fell.

**Shining Bronze-Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx lucidus* Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Unlike most of the other cuckoos, records of this species showed an increase to 28 from 8 last year (cf 36 in 2001-02, 61 in 2000-01, and 42 in 1999-2000). 4 WOO from MUL (3) and MAJ (1). First, 1/2 Aug Brooks Hill Res GrR14 (McJ4), last 1/31 Dec Burra Creek GrM21 (AnI 1). No breeding.

**GBS:** 5 records of single birds from 4 sites, between 3wk Sep Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1) and 4wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Common Koel** *Eudynamis scolopacea* Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 6 records, all within suburban Canberra. First, 1/9 Nov Macquarie GrJ13, last 1/24 Dec Weston GrJ 15 (both LeB 1).

**GBS:** 20 records (34 last year) from 11 sites in 10 suburbs. First, 1/5wk Oct Hughes GrK15 (BeR3), last 1/1wk Jan Weston GrJ15 (BoJl).

**Channel-billed Cuckoo** *Scythrops novaehollandiae* Vagrant

**General:** 1/7 Nov LBathE GrY8 (LeM1), plus 2 records not presented for endorsement. **GBS:** 2 records: 1/22 Sep Curtin GrK14 (A1R1), 1/24 Oct Kaleen GrK12 (C1M1).

**STRIGIDAE: hawk owls**

**Powerful Owl** *Ninox strenua* Rare, Breeding Resident  
No records. Last recorded May 2002, Tallaganda SF.

**Barking Owl** *Ninox connivens* Vagrant  
No records. Last endorsed record Apr 1998, Shepherds Lookout.

**Southern Boobook** *Ninox novaeseelandiae* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 12 records, from 10 widespread urban and rural grid cells, all of single birds except 2/12 Jan O'Connor (GrT1). No records later than 8 Feb. Breeding: dy/22 Jan Aranda (HaL1). **GBS:** 81 records of 1-3 birds, from 25 sites. All but 10 records between Aug-Jan. Breeding: dy/4wk Dec Holt (DwB1); dy/2wk-3wk Jan Aranda (HaL1).

**TYTONIDAE: masked owls**

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba* Rare, Visitor  
**GBS:** One unusual suburban record: 1/1wk Mar, Macquarie (LaS1).

**PODARGIDAE: frogmouths**

**Tawny Frogmouth** *Podargus strigoides* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 6 records, of 1-3 birds, from both urban and rural locations. Breeding: ny/18 Nov ANBG (Grit).  
**GBS:** 23 records of 1-2 birds from 8 sites, mainly Jul-Aug and Dec-Mar. Reasonably regular at only one site in Cook (BrM2) but no breeding reported this year.

**CAPRIMULGIDAE: nightjars**

**White-throated Nightjar** *Eurostopodus mystacalis* Rare, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 1 record: x/5 Dec Big Hole camp-ground GrX24 (BeS3).

**AEGOTHELIDAE: owlet-nightjar**

**Australian Owlet-nightjar** *Aegotheles cristatus* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 16 records, including 1 WOO (GOO), all of single birds, and mainly in summer and autumn. Most records from Campbell Park and Burra Creek. No breeding reported. Reporting rate consistent with previous years.

**GBS:** 7 records, 6 from May-Aug, from a site along the Sutton Rd GrO12 which regularly records them (ScG1); and 1/1wk May Ainslie (HoS1).

**APODIDAE: swifts**

**White-throated Needletail** *Hirundapus caudacutus* Common, Migrant  
This year the species was reported less frequently than in previous years.  
**General:** Only 5 records for the year (compared with 17 last year). All records were in autumn, the first being 13/31 Jan Little Bombay GrZ16 (TaN1), and the last 8/22 Feb Cotter Rd GrI14 (FyM1). Group sizes ranged from 8 to 70.

GBS: Only 12 records from 8 sites compared with an average of 35 records from 18 sites over the last 4 years. Nine of the records were in Feb and Mar with only 1 each in Dec, Jan and Apr. Average group size was 12 (range 1 to 33).

**Fork-tailed Swift** *Apus pacificus*

Rare, Migrant

**General:** A single record: 2/5 Dec Mulligans Flat GrM1 (CoD2).

**GBS:** One record: 30/1wk Feb Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

**ALCEDINIDAE: kingfishers**

**Azure Kingfisher** *Alcedo azurea*

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last endorsed record was Jun 2001.

**HALCYONIDAE: kookaburra, kingfishers**

**Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*

Common, Breeding Resident

Although this species is commonly recorded, very little breeding has been noted. Is this because most records are aural not visual or is it because the birds are very secretive when breeding (as suggested in Goldie and Walter (2004)).

**General:** Recorded throughout the year. Of the 301 records of this species, 54 (18%) were WOO records. Again very little breeding was recorded for such a conspicuous bird, in fact only three times: co/26 Jul, Burra Ck, GrM21 (AnI1), on/25 Sep, Campbell Park, GrM13 (HoS1), and cf/20 Oct Munday Lane, GrI08 (HaK1).

**GBS:** The recording pattern is similar to that of previous years with records from 43 (72%) sites, with only 4 sites recording regular sightings through the year. The Abundance level of 0.3116 is similar to the level of last year and 1999-2000 but above the around 0.22 of most other years. Breeding recorded from just 1 site in Watson GrL12 (WaK1), starting with ih/1wk Sep, on/4wk Oct, ny/3wk Nov and ending dy/2wk Jan.

**Red-backed Kingfisher** *Todiramphus pyrropygia*

Rare, Visitor

No records. Previous endorsed record was Oct 2002.

**Sacred Kingfisher** *Todiramphus sanctus*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

This year the majority of records were in spring with few in autumn.

**General:** Recorded 59 times (incl 8 WOO) between 23 Sep Mulligans Flat GrM11 (BuM1) and 24 Apr Ginninderra Falls GrG11 (McI1). Again few records from the end of the season - 5 in Feb, 1 in Mar and the late final record in Apr. Only two breeding records, both ih: 21 Dec CMP GrM13 (LeM1) and 1 Feb Naas Valley GrJ23 (BoJ1).

**GBS:** 22 records from 13 sites, all of single birds. Unlike last year the majority of the records were in spring (17 from 3wk Sep to 4wk Oct) with another 2 in Nov/Dec, and only 3 records in Feb-Mar.

**MEROPIDAE: bee-eater**

**Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 17 times - no breeding. First record 4/22 Sep Cook GrJ 13 (TaN 1) and last record 6/25 Feb Campbell Park GrM13 (BuM1). Largest count 15/15 Feb Campbell Park GrM13 (LeM1).

GBS: 13 records from 7 sites. 9 records were in the 4-week period 2wk to 5wk Oct whilst the remaining 4 were recorded at one rural site in Jan.

#### **CORACIIDAE: dollarbird**

**Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** A total of 40 records in the period from 21 Sep Lake Rd LGeo GrR11 (LaS1) to 28 Jan Mulligans Flat GrL 10 (TaN1) and Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1). Five were breeding records, the earliest being ny/10 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1) and the last dy/17 Jan Campbell GrL13 (BuM 1). WOO contributed 8 (incl 2 breeding) of the 40 records.

**GBS:** A total of 79 sightings from 16 sites this year. The first sighting for the year was 2/2wk Oct Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and the last was 1/4wk Feb at both Watson and Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1). Breeding records from 3 sites: on/3wk-4wk Nov, ny/1 wk-2wk Dec and dy/ 1wk-2wk Jan at Watson GrL13 (WaK1); dy/4wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (BrM2); and dy/1wk Feb Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1).

#### **MENURIDAE: lyrebird**

**Superb Lyrebird** *Menura novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Only 11 records this year, of 1-4 birds, compared with about 20 to 30 records in previous years. Most records were from the SW sections of Namadgi NP, with 3 from Tidbinbilla NR and 2 from the eastern parts of the region. No breeding.

#### **CLIMACTERIDAE: treecreepers**

**White-throated Treecreeper** *Cormobates leucophaeus*

Common, breeding resident

**General:** 359 records from throughout the year. 100 records (28%) were from WOO, largely from MUL (59, and as for last year no WOO reports from NLQ. Most reports were of 1-5 birds although several reports of 10-35 birds were made in Nov from surveys along 4-km transects in GrL07; GrO05, GrK06 and GrJ03 (DaC1). A single breeding record: dy 24 Jan The Pinnacle GrI13 (AIB1).

**GBS:** Records from 9 sites of which 7 were north of LBG. Observations were made in 49 weeks but more sites reported from Jan-May. Most observations were of single birds with a handful of 2 and 4 birds.

**Red-b rowed Treecreeper** *Climacteris erythroptera*

Uncommon, Breeding resident

**General:** 2 records: 1/26 Jul Nursery Swamp track Gr G22 (GiM3) and x/12 Oct Fitzpatrick Track Head GrA10 (WaJ2). No breeding reported.

**Brown Treecreeper** *Climacteris picumnus*

Uncommon, Breeding resident

**General:** Similar level of recording to last year, with 57 records, from all months, of up to 10 birds. Records were received from 15 grid cells. 15 records (26%) came from WOO surveys with NLQ (10) leading the way. 1 breeding record: dy/21 Dec CAS GrJ18 (McD1).

**MALURIDAE: fairy-wren**

**Superb Fairy-wren** *Malurus cyaneus* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 548 records from throughout the year, including 77 WOO with 19 from NLQ. The species is widespread across the region and many reports covered 10-25 individual birds with the largest numbers reported from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL 14 - 60/20 Jul (FyM 1) and 50/16 Jul (GoP2). Only 7 reports of breeding activity (on, nb, di, dy) between 10 Oct and 14 Dec.

**GBS:** Reported from 44 sites (73%) with numbers ranging from 1 to 10. The measure of abundance ( $A=1.0205$ ) was 42% above the 22-year average. Breeding records from 4 sites: nb/1 wk Nov Bruce (BuM1); dy/2wk Nov Ainslie (HoS1); dy/3wk Jan Aranda (RoS1) and dy/2wk Mar Fyshwick (VeP1).

**PARDALOTIDAE: pardalotes, scrubwrens, gerygones, thornbills and allies**

**Spotted Pardalote** *Pardalotus punctatus* Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 250 records, slightly down on last year. Included were 83 WOO records covering all sites. The distribution of records followed the customary pattern with just 31 for the three summer months, and fairly even distribution throughout the remainder of the year. Two breeding records: nb/11 Sep O'Connor Ridge GrK13 (GrT1), ih/16 Jun 'Bibaringa' GrH15 (BuM 1).

**GBS:** The measure of abundance ( $A=0.4024$ ) represents a fall of 40% when compared with last year. There were records from 46 of the 60 sites ( $F=77$ ) down 9% on last year. Both values are now below the long-term averages for the entire period of the survey. The number of records declined in the summer months. Breeding activity reported from just 2 sites: nb/2wk Aug, 3wk Dec Curtin (MoM3), and ih/5wk Jul Ainslie (HoS1).

**Striated Pardalote** *Pardalotus striatus* Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 438 records, almost the same as last year, but well down from the 642 of 2001-02. Includes 166 WOO records (38%), from all sites. 10 reports of breeding activity, from nb/25 Sep Campbell Pk GrM13 (HoS1) to on/29 Jan Cotter Hut GrD22 (161).

**GBS:** The falls in the values of abundance (A) and distribution (F) were greater than for the Spotted Pardalote, and for this species also both values are now below the long-averages. Breeding reported from just 1 site: ih/3wk Aug, 3wk-4wk Sep, on/4wk Sep, ny/1wk Nov, dy/3wk-4wk Nov and ny/1wk-2wk Jan, all Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

**Pilotbird** *Pycnoptilus floccosus* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

No records this year. While habitat in the Brindabella Range was severely affected by the fires of January 2003, this is another species which can be found in other parts of the region, for example Tallaganda NP, where it was last recorded in May 2003, and Badja SF.

**White-browed Scrubwren** *Sericornis frontalis* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 138 records (cf 164, 219 and 364 for the past three years), spread fairly evenly over all months. Includes just 2 WOO records, each of 2 birds at CAS GrJ18. A single breeding record: on/17 Dec ANBG GrK13 (HoS1).

**GBS:** Abundance (A) was slightly lower this year, whilst distribution (F) fell by 10.2%. Both values remain well above the long-term averages for the total period of the survey. There was no significant variation in the pattern of records over the year. No report of breeding this year.

**Large-billed Scrubwren** *Sericornis magnirostris* Vagrant  
Two unendorsed records.

**Chestnut-rumped Heathwren** *Hylacola pyrrhopygia* Uncommon, Resident  
One record not presented for endorsement.

**Speckled Warbler** *Chthonicola sagittata* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 98 records this year, including 27 from 9 of the WOO sites. Counts of 1-7 birds. Two reports indicating breeding activity: nb/23 Aug Mt Ainslie NR GrL13 (HoS1), nb/1 Oct CMP GrM13 (LeM1).  
**GBS:** 7 records of 1-2 birds from 2 sites in Bruce GrK12 (MeE3) and GrK13 (BuM1).

**Weebill** *Smicromis brevirostris* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 405 records, from all parts of the region and from all months of the year. Included were 189 WOO, from all survey sites. Reports of breeding activity, all from Campbell Park GrM13: nb/25 Sep (HoS1), nb/21 Dec (LeM1), on/2 Feb (CoE1) and on/27 Jun (RoA1).

**GBS:** Another species for which there has been a significant drop in values. The measure of abundance (A) fell by 25% and distribution (F) by 15%, and as a result both values are below the long-term averages. Indications of breeding reported from 2 sites: nb/2wk-3wk Sep, on/4wk Sep Watson GrL 12 (WaK 1), dy/4wk Oct Curtin GrJ 14 (AJR 1).

**Western Gerygone** *Gerygone fusca* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 65 records, 34 of them (52%) from 5 of the WOO sites. Highest count 10/28 Sep Hall Common GrI1 (BeD 1). First 1/7 Sep Gunning Quarry GrN3 (Bon), last 1/21 Jun Gooroo GrM 11 (TaN 1). No breeding reported.  
**GBS:** 9 records of 1 or 2 birds from 4 sites. First 1/3wk Oct Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and Higgins GrI12 (MiP1), last 1/4wk Mar Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

**White-throated Gerygone** *Gerygone olivacea* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 141 records, another slight fall from last year's 156 records and 169 in 2001-02. 46 were from 8 of the WOO sites. First, 1/20 Sep CAS GrJ18 (McD1), last 1/24 Apr Ginninderra Falls GrG11 (McI1). Breeding reports, all from Campbell Pk GrM13: on, ne/8 Nov and on/15 Nov (all CoE1), nb/25 Nov (HoS1).  
**GBS:** 7 records from 5 sites. First 1/3wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AJR1), last 1/3wk Mar Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1). The measures of abundance (A=0.0028) and distribution (F=8.3) this year are 87% and 57% respectively below the long-term averages.

**Brown Thornbill** *Acanthiza pusilla* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 231 records. Since 1998-1999 the number of records has fluctuated: 176, 291, 554, 376 and last year 276. 16 records from WOO. Only one report of breeding activity: dy/8 Feb Brooks Hill NR GrR14 (McJ4).  
**GBS:** Measures of both abundance (A) and distribution (F) were down on last year, abundance by 23%. However, both remain well above the average figures for all years of the survey. One report of breeding activity: dy/4wk Sep Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

**Buff-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza reguloides* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 267 records, 73 of them from WOO. Reports of breeding: nb/10 Aug and cf/21 Sep both Campbell Pk GrM13 (HoS1), nb/10 Oct 'Melrose Grove' GrL17 (BoS2), cf/30 Nov

MUL GrL 1 0 (Horn, nb/14 Dec HAL GrJ11 (NeG1), dy/21 Dec TUG GrK17 (McJ4), dy/8 Feb Mulligans Flat NR GrL I 1 (HaL1).

GBS: Reported from 13 sites. Regularly reported from one site in Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), with numbers of 4-6 most weeks from 3wk Mar to end Jun. The measures of both abundance (A) and distribution (F) fell by 32% and 21% respectively when compared to last year. No breeding activity reported.

**Yellow-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 316 records. Since 1998-1999 the number of records has been 258, 318, 617, 418 and last year 312. Covering all months with no particular seasonal pattern apparent. A total of 54 WOO records covering 8 sites, similar to last year. 8 reports of breeding activity from nb/6 Jul Mulligans Flat GrM10 (HoJ1) to dy/10 Feb 'Rosevue' GrL19 (TaN1).

**GBS:** Records from 51 of the 60 sites. Last year the measure of abundance (A) fell by 23%, this year there was a further fall of 20%. Other values were also down and as a consequence all fell below average figures for all years of the survey. Evidence of breeding activity reported from 6 sites: nb/3wk Jul, progressing to ny/2wk Sep and dy/4wk Sep Watson GrLI2 (WaK1), also nb/1wk Aug to on/2wk Oct and ny/4wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AJR1), and the last record dy/3wk Dec Kambah GrJ16 (WiS1).

**Yellow Thornbill** *Acanthiza nana* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 31 records of up to 6 birds, covering all months. Just 1 WOO record: 1/6 Jul MUL GrL10 (HaK1). No indications of breeding.

**GBS:** 29 records from 3 sites. The measure of abundance (A) rose by 56% as a result of records of up to 4 birds for all weeks Feb to Jun at a site in Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

**Striated Thornbill** *Acanthiza lineata* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 218 records covering all months, including 50 from the WOO survey. 3 reports of breeding activity: dy/21 Sep Scott NR GrX13 (HaL1), nb/21 Sep GOO GrM11 (TaN1), dy/27 Oct 'Carrington' GrK09 (TaN 1).

**GBS:** Records from 19 sites throughout the year. In 1997-98 the measures of both abundance (A=0.5661) and distribution (F=61.5) reached their highest level since the commencement of the survey. During the following 4 years both fell back to equate more closely with long-term average figures, but rose markedly again last year (A=0.4093, F=46.6). This year they have fallen and the figure for abundance is now 15% above the long-term average, while distribution is 13% below. No report of breeding activity.

**Southern Whiteface** *Aphelocephala leucopsis* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 32 records, 8 from Campbell Pk GrM13, the remainder from outside the city. Including 10/5 Jul Yankee Hat track GrH25 (GoJ3). 2 WOO records in Oct from NLQ. Two breeding records: ny/25 Nov Campbell Pk GrM13 (HoS1), dy/22 Jan Yankee Hat car park GrH25 (DeD2).

#### MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters and chats

**Red Wattlebird** *Anthochaera carunculata* Common, Breeding Resident

The most commonly reported honeyeater with records throughout the year across the region. **General:** 436 records including 6 breeding records, which at 1.4% is less than the



(McJ4). Largest numbers were recorded during autumn migration, 202/17 Apr Angle Crossing GrK20 (TaN 1), 70/14 May Burra Ck GrM21 (AnI1).

**GBS:** Recorded at all 60 sites in all weeks with breeding at 31 sites. The abundance value ( $A=2.9443$ ) was slightly lower than the record high of 1999-2000 (3.0631) but above last year's and the long-term average. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> most abundant species in the GBS and the most abundant honeyeater. First breeding nb/1wk Aug (earlier than last year), last dy/3wk Mar.

**Little Wattlebird** *Anthochaera chrysoptera* Vagrant  
Very rare vagrant from coastal districts. No records this year. Last record at ANBG in Aug- Sep 2003.

**Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater** *Acanthagenys rufogularis* Vagrant  
Very rare vagrant from inland districts. Last records in Jun-Jul 1994 (COG 1998).  
**General:** 2 endorsed records, presumably of the same bird, 21 & 23 Nov Ginninderra Ck MacGregor GrI12 (BrM4).

**Noisy Friarbird** *Philemon corniculatus* Common, Breeding Migrant  
Common summer migrant mostly to the lowland woodland regions.  
**General:** 169 records. Two records of over-wintering birds or very early arrivals, 2/6 Jul MUL GrL11 (LiJ1), 3/27 Jul ANU GrK13 (HeK1). Not recorded again for 2 months until 1/21 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1), then several records on 27-28 Sep during WOO surveys at RED, MAJ, MUL. The majority of records finish by 15 Apr, with a late observation 1/1 May Weston Park GrK14 (TaN1). Largest numbers 16/4 Apr NLQ GrM15 (BoJ1) and 20/8 Apr Goorooyaroo GrM11 (HoS1). Nine breeding records, first cf/25 Oct O'Connor Ridge GrK13 (Ball), last dy/8 Feb Queanbeyan GrN 15 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Recorded at 51 of 60 sites. First arrivals late, recorded at 2 sites 2wk Sep. Last records 1wk May. Abundance ( $A=0.4242$ ) was lower than last year (0.5398) and less than half the long-term average. Breeding at 17 sites, twice as many sites as last year. First records again relatively late, nb/5wk Oct, last dy/3wk Feb.

**Little Friarbird** *Philemon citreogularis* Uncommon, Migrant  
Rarely recorded summer migrant, seen mostly to the north-west of the ACT.  
**General:** 1 record 1/8 Feb Mulligans Flat GrL1 I (HaL1).  
**GBS:** 1 unendorsed record.

**Regent Honeyeater** *Xanthomyza phrygia* Rare, Breeding Visitor  
Last recorded in the region in Feb 2001 near Braidwood. Not recorded in Canberra since 1998-1999 when there were 15 records.  
**General:** 9 records of 1 bird from the one location Mt Ainslie Rd GrL13 during 15-28 Jan (HaL1, LeM1, BuMI, HoS1).

**Bell Miner** *Manorina melanophrys* Vagrant  
Rare species for the region, more common in coastal forests. Unendorsed records in 2000-2001, the last endorsed record was in Apr 2000 from Queanbeyan River GrQ21.  
**General:** 4 records: 3 endorsed records from ANBG GrK13 of one bird 19 and 26 Feb (HaL1) and 1/4 Mar (HoS 1), 1 other unendorsed record.

Noisy **Miner** *Manorina melanocephala* Common, Breeding Resident  
Common sedentary species of woodlands.

**General:** 252 records throughout the year, only 2 breeding records, the first nb/30 Jul at ANU GrK13 (PeH1), last ny/27 Nov Kambah GrJ16 (McJ4).

**GBS:** Recorded at 15 sites, but consistently throughout the year from only 1 site in Cook GrJ13. Breeding also recorded only at this site, first on/4wk Jan, last dy/1wk Apr. Abundance (A=0.2070) was lower than last year (0.2935) but similar to the previous year (A=0.2038) and well above the long term average.

**Lewin's Honeyeater** *Meliphaga lewinii* Vagrant  
Usually found in Tallaganda forests in the east of the region, rare further west. No records this year.

**Yellow-faced Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus chrysops* Common, Breeding Migrant  
Migratory species with spectacular autumn departure in large flocks, returning in spring to breed mainly in the mountains.

**General:** 293 records from across the region but more from forested mountain areas. Most records from late Aug to early May. Over-wintering records, 3 in Jul and 3 in Aug, and several records from WOO surveys 20-24 Jun from GOO, GOS and NLQ. Nearly all other records from WOO surveys were in Sep. Highest number recorded during the spring return migration, 1000/11 Sep Burra Creek GrM21 (An11 ). Highest number recorded during the autumn outward migration, 12164/17 Apr Angle Crossing GrK20 (TaN 1). No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded at 51 of 60 sites in all but 2 weeks. Very few records during Jul and Aug with sudden increase from 1wk Sep until 1wk Nov, then very few records through Nov-Mar. Main migration started 3 weeks later than last year, in 1wk Apr. Largest number of birds 200/3wk Apr from a site in Pearce (GrK15). Few records from 4wk May to end of Jun. Abundance (A=1.8286) was well below last year's (A=3.3506) and below the long-term average. Last year this bird was the 9<sup>th</sup> most abundant species in the GBS but this year it is the 15<sup>th</sup>. No breeding records.

**White-eared Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus leucotis* Common, Breeding Resident  
Altitudinal migrant, generally irregular in the suburbs.

**General:** 158 records mostly from forested mountain areas, throughout the year. Most records from WOO surveys were in winter. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded at 22 of 60 sites, but the only regular records all year were from a rural property on Sutton Rd GrO12. At all other sites there were almost no records from 1wk Nov to 4wk Apr. Abundance (A=0.0525) was well below last year (A=0.0875) and the long-term average. No breeding records.

**Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus melanops* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor  
Uncommon in the region, usually found along drier mountain valleys, typically in Apple Box woodland.

**General:** Only one record this year, 1/9 Jun Newline Quarry GrM14 (BuM1). The lack of records this year perhaps reflecting a lack of surveys in the usual strongholds along the Queanbeyan River.

**GBS:** No records.

**Fuscous Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus fuscus* Common, Breeding Resident  
 Altitudinal migrant, breeding in the mountains over summer.

**General:** 35 records, those in Jul—Aug and May-Jun from lowland areas. All records from Oct-Apr were from mountain areas to the south-east and south-west of Canberra. Four breeding records, nb/12 Oct Kelly Rd GrL22 (HoJ 1), dy/18 Jan Orroral Valley GrG22 (LiJ1), dy/22 Jan Hospital Hut GrH25 (DeD2), on/3 Feb Kellys Rd GrL21 (KrS1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 13 of 60 sites, and with very few records from any one site. No records from 1 wk Jan to 5wk Apr. Mostly only single birds reported but one record of 24/4wk Jun from a site in Higgins GrI12. Abundance levels over the years have fluctuated greatly. This year's Abundance ( $A=0.0304$ ) was less than half of last year's ( $A=0.0699$ ) and almost one-fifth of the long-term average. No breeding records.

**White-plumed Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus penicillatus* Common, Breeding Resident  
 Non-migratory honeyeater of woodlands in lowland areas.

**General:** 165 records from throughout the year in urban and rural areas, commonly recorded in WOO surveys. Five breeding records, nb/10 Aug Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1), nb/12 Oct Kelly Rd GrL22 (HoJ 1), dy/20 Oct Munday s Lane GrI08 (HaK1), dy/25 Jan LGin GrJ12 (A1B1), dy/2 Feb Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** Records from 10 of 60 sites, less than half the number of last year. Consistently only from one site, CSIRO in Gungahlin (GrK 12). Abundance has fluctuated over the years but this year ( $A=0.0648$ ) was above last year ( $A=0.0450$ ) but still well below the long-term average.

**Brown-headed Honeyeater** *Melithreptus brevirostris* Common, Breeding Resident  
 Uncommon species of drier forests at all attitudes.

**General:** 93 records throughout the year. 35 of these from WOO surveys. Highest number 12/3 Apr Goorooyaroo NR GrM12 (BoJ1). No breeding records.

**GBS:** Irregular records from 4 urban sites in Kambah (GrJ16), Cook (GrJ13), Fadden (GrK16) and Watson (GrL12). Abundance ( $A=0.0150$ ) was similar to the last two years but almost half the long-term average. No breeding records.

**White-naped Honeyeater** *Melithreptus lunatus* Common, Breeding Migrant  
 Migratory, departing in autumn and returning in spring to breed in the mountain forests.

**General:** 90 records from all months but mostly from late Aug to early May. Nine over-wintering records in Jul in ANBG GrK13 and Campbell Park GrM13, and 3 records in Jun from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL 14 and New line GrM 14. Highest number during spring return migration 1000/4 Sep Smiths Rd GrL22 (HoS1). Highest number recorded during Autumn migration 1352/17 Apr Angle Crossing GrK20 (TaN1). No breeding records.

**GBS:** Records from 34 of 60 sites, 64% more than last year. Most records were during the return migration from 4wk Aug to 1wk Nov. Then almost no records until 1wk Apr. Autumn migration was 3 weeks later than last year and with fewer records. Almost no records from 3wk May to end of Jun. Abundance ( $A=0.3460$ ) was well above the last two years but still only about half the long-term average. No breeding records.

**Painted Honeyeater** *Grantiella picta* Vagrant  
 Very rare vagrant with a major influx to the region last year.

**General:** 2 endorsed records from Campbell Park GrM13, 1/6 Nov (BeR3), 1/29 Nov (HoS 1), 1 other unendorsed record.

**Crescent Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
 Altitudinal migrant, reported mostly during the winter months.

**General:** 14 records, all from Jul to Oct, 9 records from ANBG GrK13, 4 from grevillea plantings at Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14, and 1 from Wee Jasper GrA09.

**GBS:** Records from 5 sites but for more than a week from only 2 sites, both in Aranda GrJ 13 and only from 1wk Jul to 1wk Sep. Single sightings from 2 sites in Bruce (GrK13), and 1 in Yarralumla (GrK14). Long-term annual Abundance is highly variable. This year ( $A=0.0075$ ) was 3 times that of last year but well below the long-term average. No breeding records.

**New Holland Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
 Uncommon altitudinal migrant, reported regularly from a few locations where grevilleas or banksias are abundant.

**General:** 56 records throughout the year, 30 from grevillea plantings at Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14, 16 records from ANBG GrK13, 5 from CSIRO-ANU GrK13. Other single records from Wee Jasper GrA09, LTug GrJ16, Shoalhaven River GrZ16, Uriarra Crossing GrG12 and Micalong Creek Reserve GrA11. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded at 6 sites in Holt (GrI12), Page (GrJ12), Reid (GrL13), Weston (GrJ15), Kambah (GrJ16), and ANU (GrK13). All sites recorded the species in only 1 or 2 weeks. Abundance for this species fluctuates and this year ( $A=0.0039$ ) was well below last year ( $A=0.0156$ ) and only one-tenth of the long-term average. No breeding records.

**Eastern Spinebill** *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* Common, Breeding Resident  
 Altitudinal migrant, common in gardens during autumn and winter.

**General:** 133 records, throughout the year from mountain and lowland areas, but no breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 54 of 60 sites, in all weeks but less commonly from 3wk Nov to 1wk Mar. Abundance ( $A=0.5869$ ) was slightly lower than last year (0.6696) but close to the longterm average. Breeding record at 2 sites, dy/3wk Dec in Yarralumla (GrK14) and dy/3wk Jan in Aranda (GrK13).

**Scarlet Honeyeater** *Myzomela sanguinolenta* Rare, Migrant  
 Rare summer vagrant. No records this year. Last records in Feb 2003, Feb-Mar 2002, Sep 1999 and Oct 1995.

**Crimson Chat** *Epthianura tricolor* Vagrant  
 Very rare vagrant to the region from inland districts. First definite record for the ACT, although it has been recorded close by to the north (Wilson 1999)

**General:** 2 endorsed records from Yerrabi Pond GrL11 both on 1 Nov. LBath and LTug. All records were of 1-4 birds.

**White-fronted Chat** *Epthianura albifrons* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
 Uncommon resident, now rarely reported except at Lakes George and Bathurst.

**General:** 10 records. 7 of them were WBS records from LBath GrY08 (LeM 1) from Jul to Dec, including 1 breeding record cf/28 Dec LBath GrY8 (LeM1). 3 other records, 7/2 Jul Readymix sandmine GrS12 (DeD2), 6/15 Feb Dicks Creek Rd GrL07 (DaC1), 2/21 Apr Canturf Bungendore GrR13 (DeD2).

PETROICIDAE: **robins**

**Jacky Winter** *Microeca fascinans* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 29 records of which 3 were WOO. Three breeding records, all at Campbell Park GrM13: nb/14 Sep (LeM1), dy/3 Nov (BuM1) and dy/28 Jan (HoS1). As usual very few records were made in winter with no records in May and Jun.

**GBS:** A single record: 1/2wk Jul Aranda GrJ13 (HaK1).

**Scarlet Robin** *Petroica multicolor* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Recorded 179 times. Of these records 40 (22%) were WOO with another 19 made in the vicinity of the WOO sites. Only 1 breeding record: dy/4 Nov The Pinnacle GrI13 (A1B1).

**GBS:** Similar recording pattern to the last 5 years being recorded from 9 (15%) sites with an abundance of  $A=0.0138$ .

**Red-capped Robin** *Petroica goodenovii* Rare, Breeding Visitor  
**General:** Four records: 1/3 Nov Yarralumla GrK14 (HoJ1); 1/25 Nov Mundoonen NR GrJ03 (DaC1); 2/21 Dec Bulls Head GrDI6 (LaD1), and 2/21 Jan Tidbinbilla NR GrG17 (LeM1), the latter with dy.

**Flame Robin** *Petroica phoenicea* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Recorded 58 times through the year including 1 WOO and 1 WBS. Largest group size 16/28 Jul LBath (WBS, LeM1). One breeding record in a burnt pine area: cf/2 Nov Warks Rd GrE15 (Boil).

**GBS:** 1 to 4 birds recorded from Curtin (AJR1) 5 times in the period 2wk May to 4/wk Jun.

**Rose Robin** *Petroica rosea* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant  
 It appears that birds are now over-wintering in urban areas and on the Ainslie-Majura Range. **General:** 17 records of 1-2 birds. Most were from the Ainslie-Majura Range, particularly from 20 Jul to 5 Oct, but also from 18 Apr; and 2 records from ANBG in Aug and May, 1 from Yarralumla on 31 Aug. and the only record outside Canberra 2/4 Sep, Smiths Road GrL22 (HoS1). There were no records in the months of Nov to Mar inclusive. No breeding. **GBS:** Very similar recording pattern to the last two years with 52 records from 13 sites and an abundance (A) also at a similar level (about 0.02). Once again there were no records in the warmer months from 2wk Oct to 2wk Mar inclusive.

**Pink Robin** *Petroica rodinogaster* Rare, Breeding Migrant  
 No records. Last recorded 13 Aug 2001.

**Hooded Robin** *Melanodryas cucullata* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Recorded 23 times during the year compared with a range of 33 to 50 over the last 4 years. WOO results also show a drop from 6, 7, and 9 in the last 3 years to 3 this year. Two breeding records: cf/29 Nov Gooroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1), and dy/3 Feb Kelly Rd GrL21 (KrS1).

**GBS:** One record from a rural site: 2/3wk May near Queanbeyan GrO 12 (ScG1).

**Eastern Yellow Robin** *Eopsaltria australis* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** A total of 57 records, of 1-4 birds, in all months, compared with 70 to 130 records in the previous 4 years. A decrease in autumn and early winter with only 7 records at 3 locations in the four months Mar to Jun inclusive. No breeding recorded.

CINCLOSOMATIDAE: **whipbird, quail-thrush**

**Eastern Whipbird** *Psophodes olivaceus* Uncommon, Breeding resident  
**General:** 3 records from eastern parts of the region: 1/30 Nov 10 km E Captains Flat GrU21 (FyM1), 2/30 Nov Mulloon Ck GrV17 (FyM1), 1/31 Jan Little Bombay GrZ16 (TaN1). This is a lower recording rate than in some recent years and is likely due to the effect of the Jan 2003 bushfires. No breeding recorded.

**Spotted Quail-thrush** *Cinlosoma punctatum* Uncommon, Breeding resident  
**General:** 3 records: 1/26 Jul Orroral campground GrH22 (GiM3), 1/1 Aug Smokers Trail GrG19 (TaN1), 1/25 Nov, Muntoonen NR GrJ03 (DaC1). No breeding recorded.

NEOSITTIDAE: **sittella**

**Varied Sittella** *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* Uncommon, Breeding resident  
**General:** A slight increase on last year, with 63 records, of up to 6 birds, from all months. No breeding records.

**GBS** 11 records from 6 sites, as for last year in Cook (2 very close sites), Fadden, and Watson, with the addition this year of 2 very close sites on Gossan Hill, Bruce. Most flocks were of 1-5 birds: largest was 8 /2wk May Cook (BrM2). No breeding records.

PACHYCEPHALIDAE: **whistlers and allies**

**Crested Shrike-tit** *Falcunculus frontatus* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Recorded 34 times throughout the year including 4 WOO. This includes 6 breeding records: 5 from Campbell Park GrM13, nb/10, 16 Dec, on/17, 28 Jan and dy/2 Feb (HoS1, CoE1); also dy/4 Feb Newline Quarry GrM14 (MoM3).

**Olive Whistler** *Pachycephala olivacea* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Just one record: 2/30 Nov 10 km E of Captains Flat GrU21 (FyM1).

**Golden Whistler** *Pachycephala pectoralis* Common, Breeding Resident  
 COG observations of this bird show it is not recorded much in our area in summer, nor has it been observed breeding for over 5 years. Is this because it retreats to the ranges where there is not much observational activity or is it more of a winter migrant to our area?

**General:** 166 records of which 25 (15%) were WOO records. Of all those records there were only 3 in Dec, 2 in Jan and none in Feb. No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** Recorded from 44 sites (73%) which is the average over the last five years (range 7078%). The abundance (A) of 0.2188 however has gradually been increasing from around 0.12 in the 1980s to around 0.16 in the 1990s and to around 0.20 in the 2000s. As usual very few records in the summer months, only single birds recorded at 3 sites Dec to 2 wk Mar inclusive. No breeding.

**Rufous Whistler** *Pachycephala rufiventris*

Common, Breeding Migrant

Another common bird whose breeding is not well recorded.

**General:** A total of 277 records in all months with 29% from WOO. However in the colder months (Jul, Aug, May, Jun) there were only 5 sightings — i.e. 33% of the year contributed only 2% of sightings. Breeding was reported 5 times: on/16 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1); cf/10 Jan Mountain Ck Rd GrE08 (BoJ1); dy/29 Jan Orroral Valley GrG22 (IrJ1); plus two records at Kellys Swamp GrL14, dy/10 Feb (PeH2) and dy/16 Mar (HoS1).

**GBS:** After the collapse in the abundance (A) of this species to 0.0199 in 2001/2002, this year (A=0.0399) continues the slow climb back towards the much higher levels of previous years. Recorded at 27 (45%) sites which is an increase on the last three years (38%, 29%, 34%) but still not as high as the 60% of 1999-2001. Only 1 winter record from 5wk Jul. No breeding.

**Grey Shrike-thrush** *Colluricincla harmonica*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 232 times in all months of the year; including 34 WOO records (15%). Four breeding records: nb/21 Sep and on/20 Oct both at Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1); cf/2 Nov 'Tallerack' GrI10 (AIB1); and dy/30 Jan Mt Majura GrM13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Abundance (A) has risen to 0.0821 this year from around the 0.04 level of the last 5 years. Recorded from 22 sites (37%), which is similar to the 35% average of the last 5 years.

**DICRURIDAE: monarchs, flycatchers, fantails****Black-faced Monarch** *Monarcha melanopsis*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 6 records. The first for the year was 1/19 Oct at Lowden Forest Park GrW19 (HaL1). The remaining records were all at the ANBG GrK13, the first of a single bird on 26 Oct and then four records (probably of the same bird) on 23 Feb, 27 Feb, 1 Mar and 2 Mar.

**Leaden Flycatcher** *Myiagra rubecula*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 80 times, including 2 breeding records and 11 WOO records. The first record for the year was x/27 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (SmA1), and the last 2/10 Mar Tidbinbilla Tracking Station GrH16 (LaD1). The two breeding records were: co/30 Oct Bungendore Rd GrR12 (DeD2); and on/10 Jan Mt Ainslie Rd GrL13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** Recorded 81 times from 17 sites (28%) compared with 35% of sites last year. The abundance (A) of 0.0438 is similar to last year, which was an increase on the 0.02-0.03 level of the previous few years. The first record for the year was 2wk Oct at one site followed the next week by records at 8 sites. Last record was 2wk Mar. Breeding recorded from 2 sites: on/2wk until dy/2wk Jan Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1); and dy/2 wk Feb Watson GrLI2 (WaK1).

**Satin Flycatcher** *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 14 times with one breeding record: ny/28 Jan Lees Creek GrE15 (BuM1). First record for the year was x/18 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (SmA1) and last 2/28 Feb Glendale GrI23 (LiJ1).

**GBS:** 6 records: single birds recorded 5 times from 4 sites in 2wk, 3wk and 4wk Oct plus a single record 4wk Feb.

**Restless Flycatcher** *Myiagra inquieta*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded only 20 times this year compared with between 36 and 60 times over the last 4 years. A single breeding record: nb/17 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1). No WOO records.

**Magpie-lark** *Grallina cyanoleuca* Common, Breeding Resident

This is a common breeding bird with a conspicuous nest, and it can have several broods a year, yet there are relatively few breeding records.

**General:** Recorded 359 times during the year with only 8 breeding events compared with 329 records and 19 breeding events last year. WOO contributed 47 (13%) of the records. First breeding was on/16 Oct Vass GrF03 (HaK1) and last, dy/7 Feb LTug GrJ 16 (PeH2).

GBS: Recorded at every site but two, one of which is a rural site. The abundance (A) was similar last year at around the 2.30 level compared with the average of 2.50 over the previous six years. Also breeding was similar to last year, being recorded from 22 sites (37%) (last year 36%). First breeding: nb/1wk Sep at 2 sites, and the last, dy/3wk Feb. Four examples of probable double broods.

**Rufous Fantail** *Rhipidura rufifrons* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 8 times — no breeding. First for the year was 2/26 Oct at both ANBG GrKI3 (FyM1) and Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (McI1). The last was 6/28 Jan Lees Creek GrE15 (BuM1).

GBS: Seven records of single birds from 6 sites across Canberra. First for the year was 1/4 wk Oct Ainslie (HoS1) and last 1/5 wk Apr Page (AIB1).

**Grey Fantail** *Rhipidura fuliginosa* Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

Over the last few years COG records suggest this bird is more migratory than resident. **General:** 516 records of which 149 (29%) were WOO. A total of 8 breeding records, the first being on/10 Oct 'Melrose Grove' GrL17 (BoS2) and the last dy/28 Mar CAS GrJ18 (McD1). Again this species virtually disappears from our area in winter. In fact 94% of all sightings were from the 9 months Aug-Apr incl. This ratio has been fairly constant over the last five years.

GBS: This year there was quite a decrease in abundance (A) to 0.2923 from last year's 0.4442. This compares with levels of A around 0.34-0.36 in most recent years. Recorded from 52 sites (87) a similar number to previous years but this year more winter sightings with 43% of sites recording birds in the winter months. Breeding records from 2 sites: co/1wk Nov Curtin (AJR1), and nb/1wk-2wk Dec, ny/1wk Jan Watson (GoJ3).

**Willie Wagtail** *Rhipidura leucophrys* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 265 records, of which 26 (10%) were WOO. Recorded in all months but less often in winter. 8 breeding records, the first being nb/4 Nov Orroral Valley GrG22 (LiJ1) and the last on/17 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

GBS: The abundance (A) at 0.1406 is similar to last year (0.1398) but still below the levels of around 0.25 of the years before 2000. Recorded at 33 sites (55%) which continues a constant decline since the 80% of 1999-2000. Breeding records from a site in Watson GrL12 (WaK1): ny/3wk Nov until dy/3wk Jan and a second breeding event on/1wk Dec until ny/5wk Jan (Goldie and Walter, 2004).

**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus* Rare, Migrant

No records. Last endorsed record was 20 Apr 2002.



**CAMPEPHAGIDAE: cuckoo-shrikes, cicadabird, triller**

**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae* Common, Breeding Res/Migrant

**General:** 229 records (similar to the 218 from the previous year). The number of records built up rapidly from early Sep and declined rapidly from mid- April. WOO observations were similar to last year with 43 (19%) with MUL leading the way with 14 records (probably reflecting the larger number of sites at this location). Most records were of 1-4 birds, the count being of 14 birds on 9 Mar at Jerrabomberra Wetlands (PeH2) which included a large proportion of immature birds. Seven breeding records, the earliest nb 6 Sep Watson GrL12 (WaK1) the latest dy 21 Feb Kellys Swamp GrL14 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Records from 52 sites (87%). Reported in 51 weeks with a build up from 1wk Sep and the autumnal decrease from 1 wk Mar. The measure of abundance (A) further decreased to 0.2461 and is now 55% below the average for all 22 years of the GBS. Breeding was reported from 4 sites, all dy: 2wk Jan and 3wk Feb Watson (WaK1), 4wk Jan Curtin (AJR1), 1wk Feb Ainslie (HoS 1), and 3wk Feb Aranda (HaL1).

**White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina papuensis*

Rare, Visitor

This year continues the pattern of recent times of low numbers of records of this species.

**General:** 2 records: 1/3 Apr Gooroo NR GrM11 (HoS1), 1/21 July ANBG GrK13 (GiM3). **GBS:** Records from 3 sites: 1 pale morph/4 Sep Bruce (MeE3); 1 dark morph/2 & 12 Oct Curtin (AJR1), and 1/29 May & 6 Jun Hackett (LaT1).

**Cicadabird** *Coracina papuensis*

Uncommon, Migrant

Again continues the pattern of recent times of low numbers of records of this species.

**General:** 5 records; 1/13 Oct Mt Majura GrM12 (PeH2); 1/7 Dec Mt Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1); and 3 records of 1/21 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (LeM I, GiM3).

**White-winged Triller** *Lalage sueurii*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 79 records — twice that of last year and the most records for the last 12 years. A high proportion of the records were from the suburban area although reports of this species were also received from lower areas in the NW and NE of the COG area of interest. The number of birds per observation was commonly 1-6 birds with a maximum of 12/30 Oct Goorooyaroo NR GrM12 (BoJ 1). The first record was 27 Sep Kellys Swamp GrL14 (SmA1) and the last 23 Feb Campbell Park GrM13 (PeH2). 15 records came from Campbell Park GrM13. 14 records were sourced through WOO perhaps reflecting the expansion of the Survey into CMP. 8 records of breeding activity, first on/25 Nov MacGregor GrI12 (BrM4), last dy/18 Feb Campbell Park GrL13 (GrT1).

**GBS:** 18 records from 5 sites with most records (12) from a site in Curtin (AJR1) including records of up to 4 birds for the 10 consecutive weeks 2wk Oct to 2wk Dec. The value of  $A=0.0138$  is almost equal to the long-term average. 3 records of breeding activity, all from the site in Curtin (AJR1): nb/2wk Nov, on/3wk Nov, cf/27 Nov.

**ORIOLIDAE: oriole**

**Olive-backed Oriole** *Oriolus sagittatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

The probability that some birds have over-wintered has been noted for the past two years. The last record for 2002-03 was a GBS record of a single bird from Kambah (WiB1 ) in the first week of June 2003 and the first report this year was 2/18 Jul Campbell Park GrM13 (SmA1).

However in 2004 the last records were 1/10 March Jerrabomberra Wetlands (PeH2) and a GBS report 1/3wk Apr Macquarie (LaS1) suggesting that all left when winter threatened. **General:** 73 records this year, the same as last year but down on the 106 of the previous year. All records were of 1-3 birds. 18 records (25%) from WOO. 2 breeding records, both ny at Campbell Park on 16 Dec and 17 Jan (HoS1, CoE1).

GBS: The value for abundance (A) rose to 0.0711 almost identical to last year's value of 0.0712 and 28% above the 22-year average. Reported from 26 sites (43%) with the great majority of reports of a single bird. The first GBS record for this year was 1/2wk Aug Watson (WaK1), last 1/3wk Apr Macquarie (LaS1). 2 charts show breeding records: nb/2wk Nov, on/4wk Nov-2wk Dec, dy/4wk Dec all from Curtin (AJR1), and dy/4wk Jan Ainslie (HoS1).

#### **ARTAMIDAE: woodswallows, butcherbirds, magpie, currawongs**

**Masked Woodswallow** *Artamus personatus* Rare, Visitor  
Fewer records than last year but still well above the usual 0, 1 or 2 records of previous years. **General:** 8 records. First 30/22 Sep MacGregor GrI12 (BrM4), last 25/16 Jan Yarralumla GrK14 (HoJ1). Other records were of 20, 6, 2, 1 and x individuals. No breeding recorded. GBS: No records this year.

**White-browed Woodswallow** *Artamus superciliosus* Uncommon Breeding Migrant

**General:** 5 records this year, a dramatic drop from the 55 records of last year's irruption to more usual levels. First 130/22 Sep Cook (TaN1), last 25/16 Jan Yarralumla GrK14 (HoJ1). The other 2 records which cited abundance were 10/9 Oct LBathE GrY08 (WBS, LeM1) and 20/6 Jan 'Bibaringa' GrH14 (BuM1). No breeding records.

**GBS:** A single record: 10/2wk Sep Curtin (AJR1). Again, this is well down on last year's 12 records from 6 sites.

**Dusky Woodswallow** *Artamus cyanopterus* Common, Breeding Migrant

Recorded in all months except July and May, supporting the possibility that some birds might be over-wintering. As with the two preceding species there was a further significant decline on recent years (except for the value of A from GBS observations — see below).

**General:** 110 records. First 5/3 Aug Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (HoS1) with number of reports increasing in Sep then dropping off after Mar. Last 6/13 Jun Acton GrK 14 (HoJ 1). Most records are of groups of 1-10 birds with the largest flock 40/3 Feb Kelly Rd GrL21 (KrS1). 16 breeding records, earliest nb/25 Oct Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (PeH2), last dy/18 Feb Acacia Inlet Park (BuM1).

**GBS:** 49 records from 11 sites (15 sites last year). Abundance of A= 0.1248 is more than double the long-term average and is attributable to records of 82/1wk Apr and 24/2wk Apr both Higgins (MiP1) and 28/1wk Apr Curtin (AJR1). No breeding records.

**Grey Butcherbird** *Cracticus torquatus* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 121 records, mostly of 1 or 2 birds, covering all months. 29 of these records are from a location in Burra Creek GrM21 (AnI1) and a further 25 from WOO particularly MUL and NLQ. 4 records of breeding activity, all dy: 14 Dec NLQ GrM14 (BoJ1); 10 Jan TSR 60 Mountain Creek Rd GrF10 (BoJ1); 15 Jan Springfield GrL11 (DeD2); 8 Feb Mulligans Flat GrL11 (HaL1).

**GBS:** 37 records from 14 sites is more than double the long-term average measure for F and abundance A=0.0146 is nearly 3 times the long-term average. Compared to last year the

abundance is reduced, but the frequency of reporting is higher. All records were of single birds and were more frequent in Mar and Apr than other months. No records of breeding.

**Pied Butcherbird** *Cracticus nigrogularis*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 2 records: 1/29 Jul Nanima Rd GrJ09 (HoS1); 2/31 Jul Tharwa GrJ19 (WiS1).

**Australian Magpie** *Gymnorhina tibicen*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 874 records, a slight increase on last year but still well below the 1635 records received for 2000-02. 279 records (32%) from WOO. While most reports were of up to 10 birds, 13 records counted 20 or more birds. The largest counts were 85/28 Jul The Morass GrZ08, 80/28 Jul LBathE GrY08, 80/29 May The Morass GrZ08 (all WBS, LeM 1) and 62/22 Dec Fyshwick Turf Farm GrM14 (PeH2). 34 breeding records from on/27 Jul ANU GrK13 (HeK1) to dy/30 Jan Mt Majura GrM13 (PeH2). A decrease in the number of breeding records from last year and no late reports of dy suggesting few second broods.

**GBS:** Reported from all sites and in all weeks. with an average rate of 45 sites per week. Abundance  $A=3.4739$  was 6% below last year but 27% above the long-term average. Breeding activity reported from 34 sites (57%) with 65% of breeding codes dy and 17% on. First breeding record nb/1wk Jul and there were relatively fey. reports (all dy) after 2wk Jan.

**Pied Currawong** *Strepera graculina*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 407 records including 74 WOO records. Only 8 records were of 10 or more birds with the highest number being 16/10 Aug East O'Malley GrK15 (SmA 1 ) and 16/6 Sep LGin GrJ 12 (HaK 1). 15 breeding records, a slight increase on last year. Earliest nb/6 Sep LGin GrJ12 (HaK1), last dy/14 Feb Burra Creek GrM21 (Anil). 5 of the breeding records (all dy) were after 1 Jan and possibly indicate second broods.

**GBS:** Reported from all sites and in all weeks. The measure of abundance  $A=3.6473$  is now 9% below the long-term average. Evidence of breeding activity was reported from 27 (45%) sites, with 61% of the occurrences being dy and 33% being on, ne or ny. First, nb/4wk Aug from a site in Cook (BrM2); last, dy/4 wk Feb Aranda (RoS1).

**Grey Currawong** *Strepera versicolor*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 87 records, of up to 3 birds, from all months, including 10 WOO records. 4 records of breeding activity: on/21 Sep Scott NR GrX13 (HaL1), on/6 Oct Mt Majura GrM12 (HoB1), ny/11 Nov, O'Connor Ridge GrK13 (GrT1). dy '19 Nov LGin GrJ12 (BuM I).

**GBS:** Reported from 26 sites (43%) and from all but one week of the year. The 4 sites with observations in more than 20 weeks are all located on the edge of suburbs with exposure to paddocks and/or woodland. There is a pronounced drop in observations of the species from 2wk Oct to 4wk Jan. The measure of abundance  $A=0.0806$  represents a drop of 24% from last year to close to the long-term average. One breeding record: dy/5wk Jan Watson (WaK1 ).

**CORVIDAE: ravens**

**Australian Raven** *Corvus coronoides*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 546 records, including 146 WOO of which 42 came from MUL. 6 breeding records: on/27 Jul ANU GrK13 (HeK1), on/28 Sep SYM. GrL15 (DaG2), ny/1 Oct CMP GrM13 (LeM1), on/15 Nov Beverley Hill Rd GrQ20 (LaS1), dy/12 Dec ANU GrK13 (PeH2), dy/15 Jan LGin GrJ12 (LaS1).

**GBS:** Reported from every site and in every week. The measure of abundance  $A=1.5257$  is 5% higher than last year and 60% above the long-term average. While most counts were of less than 10 birds, reports of 40/4wk Mar Yarralumla (CCR1) and 31/3wk Feb Aranda (HaL1) are typical of the large flocks being reported in most recent years. The average flock size (G) this year is 20% above the long-term average. 7 sites recorded evidence of breeding activity: earliest nb/3wk Aug Aranda (HaL1) and latest dy/4wk Dec from sites in Reid (CaJ2) and Curtin (AJR1).

**Little Raven** *Corvus mellori* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 43 records, compared to 29 last year and 68 in 2001-02. 30 of the records (70%) come from the first six months of the period and are widely dispersed across the area of interest. 5 flocks of more than 100 birds were reported: 150/30 Nov Mt Ainslie GrM13 (LeM1), 120/1 Apr Newline Quarry GrM14 (BuM1), and 160/12 Apr Mt Ainslie GrM13 (LeM1), 120/17 Apr Angle Crossing Gr K20 (TaN1), 150/18 Apr Gooroo NR GrM11 (HoS1). One surprising breeding record: nb/27 Jul ANBG GrK13 (WiD2).

**GBS:** 26 records from 9 sites, mainly 2wk Jan to 3wk Mar. A flock varying between 10 and 75 birds was present at a site on the edge of Fyshwick for most of this time (VeP1). The largest flock was 85/1wk Apr Curtin (AJR1). No evidence of breeding.

CORCORACIDAE: though

**White-winged Chough** *Corcorax melanorhamphos* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 179 records covering all months and including 40 WOO records primarily from MUL (16). 21% of records had counts of 10 or more birds, the largest being 50/14 Jun Yarralumla GrK14 (HoJ1). 13 breeding records: first on and nb/27 Jul ANU Campus GrK13 (HuJ1, HeK1), last on/28 Mar 'Bibaringa' GrH15 (McJ4).

**GBS:** Records from 23 sites and covering all weeks. The average flock size was close to 9 birds (16% above the average value of G for all previous years) with the largest being 28/1wk Apr Curtin (AJR1). The measure of abundance  $A=0.5103$  is approximately 60% above both the value for last year and the long-term average. No GBS reports of breeding activity.

PTILONORHYNCHIDAE: **bowerbird**

**Satin Bowerbird** *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus* Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 27 records, similar to the 23 records last year suggesting that the species has not yet recovered from the bushfires, although there may be a general low reporting effort in the fire affected areas where the birds used to be found. Half of the records came from the period Oct- Dec. All records of 1-4 birds. One record from WOO: 1/20 Dec RED (PeH2). 3 breeding records: nb/30 Nov Mulloon Ck GrV17 (FyM1) and ny/13 Dec ANBG Callitris area GrK13 (HoJ1), dy/25 Jan Kambah GrJ16 (McD1).

**GBS:** 164 records from 16 sites all South of LBG. 4 of the sites were in Kambah, but the most regular reports (47 weeks) now come from a site in Yarralumla (CCR1) followed at 26 weeks by a site in Duffy (WiM1). Across all sites the species was reported in every week. Most reports are of 1-2 birds although a few larger counts were made, max 20/4wk Jun Kambah (VeP1). The value of  $A=0.1268$  is 27% above the long-term average. Breeding reported from 3 sites: on/4wk Nov-4wk Dec Yarralumla (CCR1), dy/5wk Jan Kambah (MDN1), nb/1wk Apr Hughes (Anil).

**ALAUDIDAE: larks**

**Singing Bushlark** *Mirafra javanica* Rare, Visitor  
**General:** 6 records from LBath GrY08-Z08 between 9 Oct and 28 Dec (WBS, LeM ).

**Skylark** *Alda arvensis* Common, Breeding Resident  
 Again this bird apparently disappears in late summer and autumn. Does it migrate or does it become more cryptic in behaviour?  
**General:** Recorded 24 times but no records between 28 Dec and 6 May. No breeding.  
**GBS:** 22 records from 2 sites. At a site in Curtin 2 birds were seen 4wk Apr and 3wk May. At a site in Fyshwick 1-2 birds were seen every week from 1wk Aug to 3wk Dec inclusive.

**MOTACILLIDAE: pipit**

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae* Common, Breeding Resident  
 Like the Skylark this species either migrates from our area in late summer and autumn or becomes very cryptic.  
**General:** Recorded 62 times including one breeding record: cf/9 Oct The Morass GrZ08 (WBS, LeM 1). Again few autumn-early winter records, 2 in Apr 4 in May and 1 in Jun.  
**GBS:** 23 records from 2 sites. Few records after 2wk Dec, only 4/1wk, 6/2wk and 4/3wk Apr at a site in Fyshwick.

**PASSERIDAE: sparrow, grass-finches**

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 76 records, widespread, throughout the year. A slight increase on last year's 66 but well below the 184 of 2001-02. One breeding record: dy/31 Oct Kellys Swamp GrL14 (BuM 1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 46 sites (77%). Abundance (A=3.2686) slightly down from 2002-03 (A=3.2968). Ninth most abundant bird in the GBS, up from tenth last year but down from sixth in 2001-2002 -continues the decline from 1999-2000 (A=6.0488) Breeding recorded from 6 sites between 5wk Jul and 5wk Jan.

**Zebra Finch** *Taeniopygia guttata* Rare, Breeding Visitor/Escapee  
**GBS:** One record: 1/1wk May Hackett GrL13 (LeBl).

**Double-barred Finch** *Taeniopygia bichenovii* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 55 records, from all months, and from 18 widely dispersed grid cells. A very slight rise in records over recent years. Largest count 30/3 Aug Jerrabomberra Wetlands (HoS1). A single breeding record: on/9 Nov East O'Malley (DaG2).

**GBS:** Recorded from 13 sites (22%). Abundance (A=0.1236) significantly up from 2002-2003 (A=0.0539) but still below historical levels e.g. 1999-2000 (A=0.1971). One breeding record: nb/2 wk Oct Aranda GrK 13 (HaL1).

**Red-browed Finch** *Neochmia temporalis* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 65 records, of 1-30 birds, including 3 breeding records: nb/1 Oct CMP GrM13 (LeM1); nb/19 Oct LGin GrJ12 (McI1), nb/28 Jan Lees Ck GrE15 (BuM1). A considerable fall in records from a high of 228 in 2000-01.

GBS: Recorded from 16 sites (27%). Abundance ( $A=0.4799$ ) up from 2002-03 ( $A=0.3339$ ), almost back to historical levels e.g. 1999-2000 ( $A=0.4909$ ). No breeding.

**Diamond Firetail** *Stagonopleura guttata* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 26 records, including 2 WOO (CAS, NLQ) and 1 WBS, from 18 widely dispersed sites. No records before 25 Oct. No breeding reported.

#### FRINGILLIDAE: finches

**European Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris* Rare, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 11 non-breeding records, the same number as last year. Mainly from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14, but also single records from LGin GrJ12 and Yarralumla Reach LBG GrJ14. Largest flock size 20/20 Jul Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (FyM1).

**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 90 records, similar numbers to previous years, from throughout the year, widespread. Largest count 117/20 Jul Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (FyM1). One breeding record: dy/21 Feb Kellys Swamp GrL14 (BoJ1).  
**GBS:** Recorded from 9 sites (15%). Abundance ( $A=0.1189$ ) up from 2002-2003 ( $A=0.0695$ ) but still below earlier levels eg 2001-2002 ( $A=0.1746$ ).

#### DICAEIDAE: mistletoebird

**Mistletoebird** *Dicaeum hirundinaceum* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 97 non-breeding records (cf 111 in 2002-03), mainly of 1-2 birds, but with 3 records of 3 birds on 31 Oct Newline Quarry (BuM1), 1 Dec Brooks Hill (McJ4), and 20 Dec GOO (TaN 1). Widespread, and recorded throughout the year.  
**GBS:** Recorded from 10 sites (17%), mainly through the warmer months but with several winter records. Abundance ( $A=0.0229$ ) down from 2002-2003 ( $A=0.0387$ ) continuing a longterm decline eg 1999-2000 ( $A=0.0537$ ).

#### HIRUNDINIDAE: swallow, martins

**Welcome Swallow** *Hirundo neoxena* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** Recorded 204 times in all months but with no breeding recorded. The usual decrease in records in colder months with only 4 records in Jun.  
**GBS:** Similar to the last few years, being recorded from 24 sites (40%) with an abundance  $A=0.2066$  compared with abundances of about 0.23 over the previous 4 years. Usual decrease in numbers over winter months, only being recorded at 3 sites in Jul and Jun. Breeding records from 2 sites: dy/1wk-2wk Nov in Curtin (AJR1) and on/4wk Nov Kambah (WiB1).

**Tree Martin** *Hirundo nigricans* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** Recorded 62 times of which 14 (23%) were WOO. There was a definite mid-year decrease in recording with single records in Jul, Feb, Mar, Apr and May and none in Jun. That is to say 92% of records were from 50% of the year. Four breeding records, all in: 20 Sep CAS GrJ18 (McD1), 25 Oct Tharwa GrJ19 (PeH2), 29 Nov Mt Taylor (McD1) and 14 Dec NLQ GrN14 (BoJ1).  
**GBS:** 13 records from 8 sites with the first record 3wk Aug and the last 3wk Apr.

**Fairy Martin** *Hirundo ariel* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** Recorded 16 times, no breeding. The first record was 4/18 Sep at Kellys Swamp GrL14 (BuM 1) and the last was a late sighting of 6/21 Apr Bungendore GrR13 (DeD2).  
**GBS:** A single record: 1/1wk Feb Aranda GrK13 (HaL1).

SYLVIIDAE: **old-world warblers**

**Clamorous Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus stentoreus* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 80 records. First, 2/16 August Fyshwick sewage works GrL14 (LaS1), last, 10 Apr Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (AnII). 58% of records come from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage works area. 2 breeding records: on/10 Dec Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (HoS1); nb/15 Jan Readymix quarry GrS12 (DeD2).  
**GBS:** 10 records of 1-2 birds most weeks from 1wk Sep-4wk Nov from a site in Ngunnawal (ZwM1).

**Little Grassbird** *Megalurus gramineus* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 32 records of which 25 came from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds complex GrL14. The species was reported all months except Apr and May. All records of 1-3 birds. No evidence of breeding activity reported.

**Rufous Songlark** *Cincloramphus mathewsi* Common, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 45 records, up on the 16 and 31 records of the previous two years. Largest number reported was 16/8 Dec N of Tidbinbilla Tracking Station GrH 16 (LaD 1), all other records of 1-4 birds. All records between 1 Oct and 10 Mar.  
**GBS:** 15 records from 3 sites in Curtin (AJR1), Kambah (PeH2) and Crace (OrPl), covering all weeks from 5wk Oct to 3wk Dec.

**Brown Songlark** *Cincloramphus cruralis* Rare, Breeding Migrant  
**General:** 11 records, which is the highest number since 1994-95. Five of the records were WBS from LBath in Nov (1-3 birds), the other 6 records were all of a single bird, probably the same individual, from Coppins Crossing Rd GrJ13 and GrI13 between 9 Dec (PeH2) and 21 Dec (GiM3).

**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 39 records throughout the year with most (27) in the first 6 months of the period. 34 of the records were from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands/Fyshwick sewage ponds complex GrL14, others from LBathW, LTug.

ZOSTEROPIDAE: silvereye

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis* Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant  
**General:** 148 records, the same as last year but down on the 287 of 2001-02. Largest count 75/28 Feb, Googong Foreshore GrO17 (AnI 1). Two breeding records: ny/28 Jan Lees Ck GrE15 (BuMI); ny/10 Feb Rani Rd GrK13 (HaL1).  
**GBS:** Reported from 56 sites (93%). Fifth most abundant bird in the GBS. Abundance (A=4.1671) down on past years (2002-03 A=5.1735, 2001-02 A=6.3723). Breeding recorded from 8 sites, mainly between 4wk Nov and 3wk Feb, but also an early dy/2wk Oct in Page (AIB I).

**MUSCICAPIDAE: thrushes**

**Bassian Thrush** *Zoothera lunulata* Uncommon, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 4 records, all of single birds, from the ANBG in Aug and May. Continues the low level of reporting of this species from suitable damp habitat.

**Common Blackbird** *Turdus merula* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 122 records, compared with 114 (2002-03) and 233 (2001-02). One breeding record: cf/6 Jan Munday Lane GrIO8 (HaK1).  
**GBS:** Recorded from 59 of the 60 sites (98%). Abundance (A=1.5115) down a little on previous years (2002-03 A=1.5945, 2001-02 A=1.8165) but is just 12% below the long-term average. Breeding recorded from 8 sites between 1wk Sep and 1wk Feb.

**STURNIDAE: starling, myna**

**Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 312 records (cf 306 in 2002-03) including 18 breeding records. Largest flock size 900/29 May LBathW (WBS, LeM1).  
**GBS:** Recorded from 47 sites (78%). Fourth most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Abundance (A=4.7164) up from 2002-2003 (A=4.2497) but still well below historical levels e.g. 1995-96 (A=9.8804). Breeding recorded from 6 sites.

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis* Common, Breeding Resident  
**General:** 137 records (compared with 120 in 2002-03 and 236 in 2001-02), including 4 breeding records: ih/6, 7 Sep Watson GrLI2 (WaK1), ih/21 Dec TUG GrK17 (McJ4), and dy/29 Nov The Pinnacle GrI13 (A1B1). Largest count a surprisingly low 21, on 7 Feb at Lake Tuggeranong (PeH2) - perhaps COG members are so repelled by these pests that they are no longer reporting them?

**GBS:** Recorded from 57 sites (95%), with counts of up to 70 birds from some. Third most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Abundance (A=4.7500) up from 2002-2003 (A=4.2749). Breeding recorded from 12 sites.



**Table 1. Number of records per survey for each species**

ABA: Australian Bird Atlas, BA: Birds Australia, INC: Incidental, WOA: Woodland Survey associated Atlas records, WOO: Woodland Survey, WBS: Waterbird Survey, LSC: Lower Sullivans Creek survey, GA: Greening Australia, THR: Threatened Bird Survey.

Species	Total	ABA	BA	INC	WOA	WOO	WBS	LSC	GA	THR	%WOO
1 Australian Magpie	<b>874</b>	406	82	10	17	279	4	46	30	-	31.9
2 Crimson Rosella	<b>814</b>	391	58	4	25	264	3	45	23	1	32.4
3 Superb Fairy-wren	<b>548</b>	339	61	-	13	77	1	28	28	1	14.1
4 Australian Raven	<b>546</b>	293	68	1	19	141	-	17	6	1	25.8
5 Grey Fantail	<b>516</b>	281	41	3	15	149	-	5	22	-	28.9
6 Galah	<b>504</b>	237	61	1	14	159	1	21	9	1	31.5
7 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<b>495</b>	250	49	5	16	146	2	18	8	1	29.5
8 Striated Pardalote	<b>438</b>	203	21	2	19	166	-	8	19	-	37.9
9 Red Wattlebird	<b>436</b>	263	41	1	11	86	-	28	6	-	19.7
10 Pied Currawong	<b>407</b>	232	56	5	9	74	-	27	4	-	18.2
11 Weebill	<b>405</b>	147	35	2	21	189	-	7	4	-	46.7
12 Eastern Rosella	<b>380</b>	182	33	3	15	121	3	11	12	-	31.8
13 Wh-throated Treecreeper	<b>359</b>	218	16	-	14	100	-	10	1	-	27.9
14 Magpie-lark	<b>359</b>	218	53	3	6	47	-	27	5	-	13.1
15 Yellow-rumped Thornbill	<b>316</b>	190	33	2	15	54	1	2	19	-	17.1
16 Common Starling	<b>312</b>	162	43	3	7	64	3	13	17	-	20.5
17 Laughing Kookaburra	<b>301</b>	193	36	-	7	54	1	5	4	1	17.9
18 Yellow-faced Honeyeater	<b>293</b>	195	20	2	12	50	-	-	13	1	17.1
19 Rufous Whistler	<b>277</b>	146	21	1	10	80	3		16	-	28.9
20 Buff-rumped Thornbill	<b>267</b>	147	19	-	21	73	-	1	6	-	27.3
21 Willie Wagtail	<b>265</b>	178	30	8	5	26	3	1	13	1	9.8
22 Noisy Miner	<b>252</b>	107	28	2	8	92	-	12	2	1	36.5
23 Spotted Pardalote	<b>250</b>	125	10	1	18	83	-	11	2	-	33.2
24 Australian Wood Duck	<b>249</b>	151	27	4	3	34	-	30		-	14.0
25 Grey Shrike-thrush	<b>232</b>	160	18	2	8	34	4	2	4	-	14.7
26 Pacific Black Duck	<b>231</b>	159	44	4	4	7	-	13		-	3.0
27 Brown Thornbill	<b>231</b>	172	11	1	11	16	1	8	11	-	6.9
28 Blk-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<b>229</b>	143	19	4	11	43	1	-	8	-	18.8
29 Striated Thornbill	<b>218</b>	136	10	-	9	50	-	10	3	-	22.9
30 Crested Pigeon	<b>207</b>	125	32	10	6	27	-	3	4	-	13.0
31 Welcome Swallow	<b>204</b>	140	40	6	1	6	2	2	7	-	2.9
32 Scarlet Robin	<b>179</b>	106	6	6	19	40	1	-	1	-	22.3
33 White-winged Chough	<b>179</b>	95	21	1	11	40	<b>1</b>	5	4	1	22.3
34 Eurasian Coot	<b>173</b>	123	37	3	-	-	-	10	-	-	-
35 Noisy Friarbird	<b>169</b>	93	10	5	9	46	-	1	4	1	27.2
36 Golden Whistler	<b>166</b>	98	21	7	11	25	1	2	1	-	15.1
37 White-plumed Honeyeater	<b>165</b>	89	13	1	4	43	-	6	8	1	26.1
38 White-eared Honeyeater	<b>158</b>	116	8	-	4	22	-	5	2	1	13.9
39 Silvereye	<b>148</b>	96	21	<b>1</b>	5	16	-	6	3	-	10.8
40 White-throated Gerygone	<b>141</b>	69	8	4	8	46	-	-	6	-	32.6
41 Masked Lapwing	<b>140</b>	99	26	6	2	1	2	4	-	-	0.7

Species	Total	ABA	BA	INC	WOA	WOO	WBS	LSC	GA	THR	%WOO
42 White-browed Scrubwren	<b>138</b>	97	14	2	1	2	-	20	2	-	1.4
43 Dusky Moorhen	<b>137</b>	94	33	1	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
44 Purple Swampphen	<b>137</b>	93	33	2	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
45 Red-rumped Parrot	<b>137</b>	73	12	9	3	33	1	-	6	-	24.1
46 Common Myna	<b>137</b>	69	20	3	1	42	-	1	1	-	30.7
47 Eastern Spinebill	<b>133</b>	84	19	1	3	11	-	14	1	-	8.3
48 Grey Teal	<b>124</b>	91	22	4	1	4	2	-	-	-	3.2
49 Common Blackbird	<b>122</b>	85	22	1	-	5	-	9	-	-	4.1
50 Grey Butcherbird	<b>121</b>	72	6	9	6	25	2	-	1	-	20.7
51 Black Swan	<b>116</b>	84	24	1	1	-	3	3	-	-	0.0
52 Dusky Woodswallow	<b>110</b>	81	6	9	2	7	<b>1</b>	-	4	-	6.4
53 White-faced Heron	<b>109</b>	85	12	4	3	5	-	-	-	-	4.6
54 Yel-tailed Blk-Cockatoo	<b>105</b>	45	12	15	5	20	1	7	-	-	19.0
55 Australasian Grebe	<b>103</b>	75	17	1	5	4	-	1	-	-	3.9
56 Speckled Warbler	<b>98</b>	40	15	2	13	27	-	-	1	-	27.6
57 Mistletoebird	<b>97</b>	51	3	1	6	33	-	-	3	-	34.0
58 Brown-head Honeyeater	<b>93</b>	47	10	-	11	24	-	-	1	-	25.8
59 European Goldfinch	<b>90</b>	64	9	1	-	3	6	-	7	-	3.3
60 White-naped Honeyeater	<b>90</b>	63	9	1	2	5	2	6	2	-	5.6
61 Australasian Shoveler	<b>87</b>	59	26	-	-	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	<b>1.1</b>
62 Grey Currawong	<b>87</b>	59	5	4	5	10	-	3	1	-	11.5
63 Little Pied Cormorant	<b>86</b>	65	16	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
64 Common Bronzewing	<b>85</b>	47	12	7	1	16	1	1	-	-	18.8
65 Clamorous Reed-Warbler	<b>80</b>	61	15	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
66 Leaden Flycatcher	<b>80</b>	57	5	2	2	11	-	-	2	<b>1</b>	13.8
67 Australian Pelican	<b>79</b>	61	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
68 White-winged Triller	<b>79</b>	41	12	3	3	14	1	-	5	-	17.7
69 Hardhead	<b>78</b>	55	19	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
70 Silver Gull	<b>78</b>	58	10	4	-	-	2	4	-	-	-
71 House Sparrow	<b>76</b>	52	12	1	-	8	-	1	2	-	10.5
72 Hoary-headed Grebe	<b>75</b>	48	24	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	2.7
73 Olive-backed Oriole	<b>73</b>	37	13	2	3	18	-	-	-	-	24.7
74 Australian White Ibis	<b>71</b>	44	17	4	4	2	-	-	-	-	2.8
75 Australian King-Parrot	<b>71</b>	30	11	2	2	17	-	9	-	-	23.9
76 Gang-gang Cockatoo	<b>66</b>	40	5	2	3	10	-	5	1	-	15.2
77 Darter	<b>65</b>	45	8	10	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
78 Red-browed Finch	<b>65</b>	48	9	1	2	2	<b>1</b>	1	1	-	3.1
79 Western Gerygone	<b>65</b>	14	3	1	9	34	-	-	4	-	52.3
80 Varied Sittella	<b>63</b>	38	11	3	7	3	-	-	1	-	4.8
81 Richard's Pipit	<b>62</b>	42	4	3	-	2	7	-	4	-	3.2
82 Tree Martin	<b>62</b>	30	9	0	2	14	1	-	6	-	22.6
83 Nankeen Kestrel	<b>60</b>	29	5	17	2	6	1	-	-	-	10.0
84 Sacred Kingfisher	<b>59</b>	38	8	-	2	8	-	-	3	-	13.6
85 Flame Robin	<b>58</b>	49	2	4	1	1	1	-	-	-	1.7
86 Wedge-tailed Eagle	<b>58</b>	40	4	4	3	4	3	-	-	-	6.9
87 Chestnut Teal	<b>57</b>	39	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1.8

Species	Total	ABA	BA	INC	WOA	WOO	WBS	LSC	GA	THR	%WOO
88 Eastern Yellow Robin	57	46	4	2	-	-	-	4	-	1	-
89 Brown Treecreeper	57	32	-	7	2	15	-	-	1	-	26.3
90 New Holland Honeyeater	56	34	10	1	-	-	-	11	-	-	-
91 Pink-eared Duck	55	37	17	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
92 Black-fronted Dotterel	55	46	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
93 Straw-necked Ibis	55	35	12	7	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
94 Double-barred Finch	55	31	10	5	<b>1</b>	6	-	-	2	-	10.9
95 Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<b>52</b>	26	6	5	4	9	-	2	-	-	17.3
96 Pallid Cuckoo	52	27	5	1	2	14	1	-	2	-	26.9
97 Rufous Songlark	<b>45</b>	18	3	5	-	6	2	-	11	-	13.3
98 Little Black Cormorant	<b>45</b>	38	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
99 Great Cormorant	<b>45</b>	33	8	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
100 Brown Falcon	<b>44</b>	19	6	12	-	3	4	-	-	-	6.8
101 Rock Dove	<b>43</b>	27	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
102 Little Raven	<b>43</b>	20	11	4	-	3	2	3	-	-	7.0
103 Dollarbird	<b>40</b>	17	7	6	-	8	-	-	2	-	20.0
104 Golden-headed Cisticola	<b>39</b>	27	8	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
105 Black-shouldered Kite	<b>38</b>	6	2	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
106 Blue-billed Duck	35	23	11	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
107 Fuscous Honeyeater	35	32	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	5.7
108 Red-kneed Dotterel	<b>34</b>	26	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
109 Crested Shrike-tit	<b>34</b>	18	6	5	1	4	-	-	-	-	11.8
110 Little Grassbird	<b>32</b>	19	10	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
111 Australian Shelduck	<b>32</b>	21	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
112 Southern Whiteface	<b>32</b>	22	1	3	2	2	2	-	-	-	6.3
113 Brown Goshawk	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>	1	2	2	5	-	-	-	-	16.1
114 Yellow Thornbill	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	1	3	1	3	-	4	-	3.2
115 Jacky Winter	<b>29</b>	17	8	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	10.3
116 Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	<b>28</b>	18	3	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	14.3
117 Freckled Duck	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>118</b> Satin Bowerbird	<b>27</b>	16	4	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	3.7
119 Diamond Firetail	<b>26</b>	16	-	7	-	2	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	7.7
120 Latham's Snipe	<b>24</b>	14	4	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
121 Skylark	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	1	6	-	-	3	-	<b>1</b>	-	-
122 Whistling Kite	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
123 Glossy Black-Cockatoo	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
124 Hooded Robin	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	-	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	8.7
125 Australian Hobby	<b>23</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
126 Royal Spoonbill	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
127 Restless Flycatcher	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
128 Little Eagle	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	-	<b>2</b>	-	-	<b>1</b>	-	10.0
129 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-	<b>2</b>	-	-	-	-
130 Collared Sparrowhawk	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	21.1
131 Superb Parrot	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	-	<b>8</b>	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
132 Great Egret	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	-
133 Rainbow Bee eater	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>	-	-

Species	Total	ABA	BA	INC	WOA	WOO	WBS	LSC	GA	THR	%WOO
134 Rose Robin	17	7									-
135 Fairy Martin	16	7									-
136 Australian Owlet-nightjar	16	12	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.3
137 Satin Flycatcher	14	12	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
138 Crescent Honeyeater	14	8	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
139 Whiskered Tern	14	4	6	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
140 Peaceful Dove	13	10	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
141 Southern Boobook	12	2	1	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
142 Superb Lyrebird	<b>11</b>	10	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
143 European Greenfinch	11	8	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
144 Black-winged Stilt	<b>11</b>	6	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
145 White-bellied Sea-Eagle	<b>11</b>	6									-
146 Peregrine Falcon	<b>11</b>	5	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
147 Stubble Quail	<b>11</b>	4	-	1	-	-	4	-	2	-	-
148 Brown Songlark	<b>11</b>	2	1	3	-	-	5	-	-	-	-
149 Little Corella	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	1	4	1	4	-	-	-	-	36.4
150 Nankeen Night Heron	<b>10</b>	5									-
151 White-fronted Chat	<b>10</b>	2									-
152 Diamond Dove	<b>10</b>	3									-
153 Maj Mitchell's Cockatoo	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>									-
154 Mallard (domestic duck)	9	5									-
155 Regent Honeyeater	9	2									-
156 Spotted Turtle-Dove	9	1									-
157 Pied Cormorant	8	4									-
158 Rufous Fantail	8	4									-
159 Horsfield's Brz-Cuckoo	8	2	-	1	2	2	-	-	1	-	25.0
160 Masked Woodswallow	8	1	1	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	12.5
161 Common Sandpiper	7	5									-
162 Brush Cuckoo	7	4	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
163 Great Crested Grebe	7	4									-
164 Intermediate Egret	7	3									-
165 White-necked Heron	7	2	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	14.3
166 Tawny Frogmouth	6	5									-
167 Cattle Egret	6	3									-
168 Spotless Crake	6	3									-
169 Long-billed Corella	6	-									-
170 Common Koel	6	-									-
171 Black-faced Monarch	6	-		6							-
172 Singing Bushlark	6	-									-
173 Musk Duck	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>							-
174 Wh-brow Woodswallow	5	1	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
175 White-throated Needletail	5	1									-
176 Cicadabird	5	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	20.0
177 Caspian Tern	5	-									-
178 Yellow billed Spoonbill	<b>4</b>	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
179 Bassian Thrush	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Species	Total	ABA	BA	INC	WOA	WOO	WBS	LSC	GA	THR	%WOO
180 Red-necked Stint	4	2									-
181 Cockatiel	4	2									-
182 Spotted Harrier	4	1									-
183 Red-capped Robin	4	1									-
184 Red-capped Plover	4	1									-
185 Bell Miner	4	-									-
186 Eastern Whipbird	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
187 Brown Quail	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
188 Swamp Harrier	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
189 Painted Button-quail	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
190 Rainbow Lorikeet	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
191 Spotted Quail-thrush	3		-	1			-	-	-	-	-
192 Channel-billed Cuckoo	3	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
193 White-headed Pigeon	3	-									-
194 Painted Honeyeater	3	-	-	3	-		-	-	-	-	-
195 Banded Lapwing	3	-									-
196 Buff-banded Rail	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
197 Wonga Pigeon	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
198 Pied Butcherbird	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
199 Red-browed Treecreeper	2	-	1	1							-
200 Spiny-cheek Honeyeater	2	-									-
201 Crimson Chat	2	-	-	2							-
202 Wh-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	2	-									-
203 Double-banded Plover	2	-									-
204 Little Bittern	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
205 Little Friarbird	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
206 Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
207 Olive Whistler	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
208 White-throated Nightjar	1	-	1								-
209 Australian Spotted Crake	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
210 Magpie Goose	1	-	-	1							-
211 Black Kite	1	-									-
212 Fork-tailed Swift	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
213 Common Greenshank	1	-									-
214 Red-necked Avocet	1	-									-
215 Budgerigar	1	-								-	-
216 Domestic Goose	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
217 Muscovy Duck	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
totals	19252	11078	2163	627	588	3610	152	590	429	15	
% of total records	100	57.5	11.2	3.3	3.1	18.8	0.8	3.1	2.2	0.08	18.7

This table is based on database records only for these survey types. GBS records are not included.

TABLE 2. GARDEN BIRD SURVEY STATISTICS - 2003-2004

Values for A, F, W, R and G for 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (Year23), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (Years 1-22).

Species	A	dA%	F	dF%	W	dW%	R	dR%	G	dG%
1 Galah	9.0458	37	100.0	0.7	52	0	82.5	5.7	11.0	30
2 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	8.6051	76	100.0	3	52	0	82.2	24.5	10.5	41
+ 3 Common Myna	4.7500	90	95.0	51	52	0	72.1	70.2	6.6	12
- 4 Common Starling	4.7164	-56	78.3	-19	52	0	44.8	-36.9	10.5	-31
5 Silvereye	4.1671	-30	93.3	-4	52	0	57.0	-17.1	7.3	-16
6 Pied Currawong	3.6473	-9	100.0	1	52	0	83.4	5.5	4.4	-14
7 Crimson Rosella	3.4822	21	100.0	1	52	0	86.5	12.0	4.0	8
8 Australian Magpie	3.4739	27	100.0	0.5	52	0	91.6	7.8	3.8	18
- 9 House Sparrow	3.2686	-54	76.7	-20	52	0	46.6	-36.4	7.0	-27
10 Red Wattlebird	2.9443	47	100.0	3	52	0	86.6	16.0	3.4	27
+ 11 Australian King-Parrot	2.4352	76	91.7	26	52	1	62.1	77.3	3.9	-1
+ 12 Crested Pigeon	2.4013	297	93.3	151	52	51	69.6	235.3	3.5	19
+ 13 Yel-tailed <b>Blk-Cockatoo</b>	2.2998	1709	76.7	651	52	427	16.0	1478.5	14.3	15
14 Magpie-lark	2.2729	14	96.7	-2	52	0	80.6	10.0	2.8	3
15 Yellow-faced Honeyeater	1.8286	-33	85.0	-3	50	-2	24.8	-8.5	7.4	-27
16 Eastern Rosella	1.5521	5	91.7	-5	52	0	54.9	-4.3	2.8	9
+ 17 Australian Raven	1.5257	60	100.0	8	52	0	63.1	33.6	2.4	20
18 Common Blackbird	1.5115	-12	98.3	7	52	0	70.5	-1.9	2.1	-10
+ 19 Gang-gang Cockatoo	1.1505	72	78.3	11	52	0	35.1	58.4	3.3	9
+ 20 Superb Fairy-wren	1.0205	42	73.3	7	52	0	31.8	36.9	3.2	4
21 Rock Dove	0.9238	-20	43.3	-16	52	0	17.8	2.9	5.2	-22
- 22 Yellow-rumped Thornbill	0.8523	-43	85.0	-3	52	0	23.8	-34.9	3.6	-13
+ 23 Australian Wood Duck	0.6639	407	33.3	57	51	39	8.6	199.3	7.7	69
24 Eastern Spinebill	0.5869	6	90.0	3	52	1	41.0	21.7	1.4	-13
+ 25 White-winged Chough	0.5103	63	38.3	45	52	20	5.8	40.1	8.9	16
26 Red-rumped Parrot	0.5036	23	41.7	3	52	3	7.7	-13.6	6.5	42
+ 27 Red-browed Finch	0.4799	43	25.0	-2	52	21	7.6	65.1	6.3	-13
- 28 Noisy Friarbird	0.4242	-56	85.0	-10	35	-20	24.4	-37.2	1.7	-29
+ 29 Pacific Black Duck	0.4210	480	21.7	157	52	93	6.7	319.6	6.3	38
30 Spotted Pardalote	0.4024	-36	76.7	-0.7	52	0	25.7	-10.4	1.6	-28
31 Weebill	0.3961	-10	46.7	-2	52	0	16.6	-4.2	2.4	-6
32 Straw-necked Ibis	0.3949	2	40.0	98	40	73	3.8	86.3	10.3	-45
+ 33 Brown Thornbill	0.3602	56	68.3	61	52	3	20.4	66.6	1.8	-7
34 White-naped Honeyeater	0.3460	-50	56.7	6	26	-18	6.2	-16.1	5.5	-40
35 Laughing Kookaburra	0.3116	-17	71.7	-4	52	0	15.8	-24.3	2.0	10
36 Grey Fantail	0.2923	-18	86.7	6	52	0	20.1	-12.4	1.5	-6
+ 37 White-browed Scrubwren	0.2697	139	43.3	96	52	13	15.7	145.0	1.7	-3
- 38 Striated <b>Pardalote</b>	0.2646	-58	68.3	-9	52	0	17.0	-39.8	1.6	-30
39 Striated Thornbill	0.2559	16	31.7	-13	48	5	5.4	-9.3	4.7	27

	Species	A	dA%	F	dF%	W	dW%	R	dR%	G	dG%
+	40 Little Raven	0.2559	271	15.0	82	20	126	1.0	146.2	24.9	51
-	41 Blk-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.2461	-55	86.7	-7	51	-2	18.2	-47.5	1.4	-14
+	42 Golden Whistler	0.2188	49	73.3	25	52	20	19.2	55.8	1.1	-4
+	43 Australian White Ibis	0.2141	43	18.3	85	28	79	1.3	58.6	15.9	-10
	44 Noisy Miner	0.2070	28	25.0	26	52	4	5.7	20.9	3.7	6
	45 Welcome Swallow	0.2066	-9	40.0	4	50	1	6.9	-1.4	3.0	-8
+	46 Masked Lapwing	0.2054	123	41.7	13	52	11	7.0	37.3	2.9	62
+	47 Little Corella	0.1536	228	35.0	341	35	91	2.8	153.2	5.5	29
-	48 Willie Wagtail	0.1406	-51	55.0	-33	52	0	10.2	-53.9	1.4	6
+	49 Satin Bowerbird	0.1268	27	26.7	115	52	72	6.5	95.4	2.0	-35
+	50 Dusky Woodswallow	0.1248	136	18.3	39	28	96	1.9	137.6	6.5	-1
	51 Double-barred Finch	0.1236	-5	21.7	2	49	32	3.8	20.6	3.2	-21
-	52 European Goldfinch	0.1189	-61	15.0	-68	49	0	3.5	-61.6	3.4	2
	53 Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.1015	-8	21.7	36	47	24	4.0	37.0	2.6	-33
	54 Grey Shrike-thrush	0.0821	9	35.0	-12	52	11	8.1	19.6	1.0	-9
	55 Grey Currawong	0.0806	-2	43.3	25	51	4	7.3	5.6	1.1	-7
+	56 Common Bronzewing	0_0770	150	21.7	144	43	48	4.9	213.5	1.6	-20
+	57 Olive-backed Oriole	0.0711	28	43.3	7	35	3	6.4	26.7	1.1	1
-	58 White-plumed Honeyeater	0.0648	-59	16.7	-63	41	-11	3.0	-60.2	2.2	3
-	59 White-throated Needle-tail	0_0624	-3	13.3	-46	8	-32	0.5	-59.8	13.2	-32
	60 Silver Gull	0_053	-92	8.3	-13	23	24	1.2	17.8	5.0	-93
	61 Wh-throated Treecreeper	0_0545	0	15.0	-17	49	6	4.8	-0.5	1.1	0
	62 Dollarbird	0.0529	-13	26.7	-24	21	-7	3.1	-16.4	1.7	4
-	63 White-eared Honeyeater	0.0525	-49	36.7	-32	39	-3	4.5	-42.5	1.2	-11
+	64 Collared Sparrowhawk	0.0502	180	38.3	83	47	67	4.1	142.5	1.2	15
+	65 Leaden Flycatcher	0.0438	39	28.3	32	22	-6	3.2	38.6	1.4	0
-	66 Rufous Whistler	0.0399	-63	43.3	-25	31	-32	3.5	-60.6	1.1	-6
	67 Southern Boobook	0.0359	-9	41.7	28	33	-13	3.2	-13.3	1.1	5
-	68 Fuscous Honeyeater	0.0304	-80	21.7	-41	21	-22	1.3	-74.0	2.3	-22
	69 Australian Hobby	0.0292	-20	31.7	-9	37	0	2.7	-11.8	1.1	-9
+	70 Wedge-tailed Eagle	0.0276	224	21.7	81	28	127	1.8	203.4	1.5	7
+	71 Chestnut Teal	0.0253	1062	1.7	473	15	817	0.6	815.3	4.3	27
	72 Yellow Thornbill	0.0237	36	5.0	-36	25	26	1.2	24.7	2.1	9
	73 Mistletoebird	0.0229	-4	16.7	21	31	16	2.3	8.5	1.0	-12
+	74 Rainbow Lorikeet	0.0225	70	15.0	129	26	80	1.3	96.5	1.7	-14
+	75 Rose Robin	0.0221	69	21.7	62	25	44	2.1	70.7	1.1	-1
+	76 Rainbow Bee-eater	0.0197	45	11.7	60	8	68	0.5	108.4	3.9	-30
+	77 Spotted Turtle-Dove	0.0174	265	16.7	553	32	376	1.5	317.9	1.1	-13
	78 Tree Martin	0.0174	-40	13.3	75	11	-9	0.5	-12.1	3.4	-32
	79 Richards Pipit	0.0170	2	3.3	-14	19	13	0.9	11.0	1.9	-8

A (abundance) = mean number of birds/site/week  
 F (distribution) = % of sites with record(s)

R (recording rate) = % of observer weeks with record(s)  
 G (group size) = mean number of individuals/observation

Species	A	dA%	F	dF%	W	dW%	R	dR%	G	dG%
+ 80 Grey Teal	0.0158	541	3.3	316	21	645	0.9	679.5	1.8	-18
81 Skylark	0.0158	-47	3.3	70	22	29	0.9	11.4	1.8	-52
- 82 Brown-head Honeyeater	0.0150	-47	6.7	-9	8	-42	0.3	-54.4	4.8	17
+ 83 Grey Butcherbird	0.0146	289	23.3	260	24	313	1.5	302.4	1.0	-3
84 Scarlet Robin	0.0138	-72	15.0	-53	18	-33	1.1	-67.8	1.3	-12
85 White-winged Triller	0.0138	1	8.3	-2	14	26	0.7	-13.5	1.9	16
86 White-faced Heron	0.0134	-52	16.7	13	25	-15	1.3	-23.4	1.0	-38
- 87 Varied Sittella	0.0134	-72	10.0	-6	9	-47	0.4	-49.3	3.1	-44
88 Tawny Frogmouth	0.0126	-8	13.3	205	20	30	0.9	25.1	1.4	-26
89 Fork-tailed Swift	0.0118	245	1.7	27	1	38	0.0	4.6	30.0	230
+ 90 Dusky Moorhen	0.0115	2023	1.7	357	14	1712	0.6	1709.0	2.1	17
- 91 Australian Pelican	0.0111	-37	6.7	-35	7	-34	0.3	-44.3	4.0	13
+ 92 Purple Swamphen	0.0095	198	1.7	282	12	333	0.5	332.1	2.0	-31
+ 93 Darter	0.0091	10005	3.3	813	14	6060	0.6	6050.6	1.6	64
94 Sacred Kingfisher	0.0087	-21	21.7	9	11	-27	0.9	-15.8	1.0	-6
+ 95 Rufous Songlark	0.0087	92	5.0	115	8	60	0.6	96.1	1.5	-2
+ 96 Peregrine Falcon	0.0079	60	10.0	11	15	45	0.7	57.5	1.1	2
+ 97 Common Koel	0.0079	134	18.3	206	10	147	0.8	149.6	1.0	-6
+ 98 Little Pied Cormorant	0.0075	385	5.0	145	17	434	0.7	441.6	1.1	-10
- 99 Brown Goshawk	0.0075	-41	16.7	-25	17	-22	0.8	-37.1	1.0	-7
- 100 Crescent Honeyeater	0.0075	-73	8.3	-35	13	40	0.7	-65.7	1.1	-20
- 101 Nankeen Kestrel	0.0063	-75	8.3	-62	14	-54	0.6	-71.3	1.0	-13
+ 102 Mallard	0.0059	1398	1.7	227	4	418	0.2	416.9	3.8	190
103 Little Eagle	0.0059	13	13.3	54	13	16	0.5	6.2	1.2	6
+ 104 Clamor Reed-Warbler	0.0055	167	1.7	-8	10	224	0.4	178.1	1.4	4
+ 105 Cockatiel	0.0051	240	6.7	124	13	327	0.5	313.9	1.0	-18
- 106 Fan-tailed Cuckoo	0.0047	-60	10.0	-35	9	-49	0.4	-61.3	1.1	4
107 Western Gerygone	0.0047	-10	6.7	2	7	-30	0.4	-27.1	1.3	23
- 108 Pallid Cuckoo	0.0043	-87	10.0	-67	9	-56	0.4	-85.8	1.0	-9
- 109 Flame Robin	0.0043	-68	1.7	-79	5	-59	0.2	-68.3	2.2	1
- 110 New Holland Honeyeater	0.0039	-91	10.0	-15	8	-72	0.4	-80.0	1.1	-55
- 111 Wh-brow Woodswallow	0.0039	-86	1.7	-15	1	-35	0.0	-47.7	10.0	-74
- 112 Speckled Warbler	0.0036	-71	3.3	-39	7	-53	0.3	-57.5	1.3	-31
- 113 Black-shouldered Kite	0.0032	-82	1.7	-86	8	-69	0.3	-77.9	1.0	-19
114 Australian Owlet-nightjar	0.0028	16	3.3	99	7	31	0.3	29.2	1.0	-11
- 115 White-throated Gerygone	0.0028	-87	8.3	-57	6	-71	0.3	-85.3	1.0	-8
116 Rufous Fantail	0.0028	-20	10.0	12	7	13	0.3	-15.5	1.0	-5
+ 117 Pied Cormorant	0.0024	6490	1.7	2192	1	2100	0.0	2096.6	6.0	200
- 118 Satin Flycatcher	0.0024	-40	8.3	21	4	-36	0.2	-27.2	1.0	-17
- 119 Great Cormorant	0.0020	-52	5.0	27	4	-23	0.2	-27.4	1.3	-34
+ 120 Whistling Kite	0.0020	266	3.3	154	5	307	0.2	306.8	1.0	-10
- 121 Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0020	-76	6.7	41	4	-70	0.2	-75.3	1.0	-1
+ 122 Wh-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	0.0020	292	5.0	282	5	307	0.2	292.3	1.0	0



Species	A	dA%	F	dF%	W	dW%	R	dR%	G	dG%
123 Eurasian Coot	0.0016	-90	1.7	187	4	80	0.2	79.3	1.0	-94
+ 124 Long-billed Corella *	0.0016	131	3.3	472	3	175	0.1	174.6	1.3	-16
125 Superb Parrot	0.0016	-14	1.7	-0.4	1	-45	0.0	-46.4	4.0	61
+ 126 Swift Parrot **	0.0016	1155	1.7	664	1	450	0.0	449.2	4.0	129
- 127 Horsfield's Brze-Cuckoo	0.0016	-83	5.0	-58	4	-70	0.2	-81.8	1.0	-4
- 128 Brown Falcon	0.0012	-84	1.7	-83	3	-79	0.1	-81.8	1.0	-13
+ 129 White-headed Pigeon	0.0012	230	5.0	1611	3	340	0.1	339.3	1.0	-25
+ 130 Glossy Black-Cockatoo	0.0012	371	3.3	1428	2	1367	0.1	1364.4	1.5	-68
+ 131 Channel-billed Cuckoo *	0.0012	1218	5.0	1265	3	1220	0.1	1218.0	1.0	0
+ 132 Hardhead	0.0008	779	1.7	1046	1	450	0.0	449.2	2.0	60
+ 133 Rose-ringed Parakeet	0.0008	193	1.7	282	2	193	0.1	192.9	1.0	0
134 Brush Cuckoo	0.0008	16	1.7	-0.4	2	19	0.1	18.7	1.0	-3
- 135 Hooded Robin	0.0008	-68	1.7	43	1	-71	0.0	-72.2	2.0	14
136 Black Swan	0.0004	-82	1.7	64	1	-24	0.0	-24.3	1.0	-76
137 Australasian Grebe	0.0004	-52	1.7	282	1	16	0.0	-0.2	1.0	-52
138 Great Egret	0.0004	29	1.7	108	1	57	0.0	56.9	1.0	-18
+ 139 White-bellied Sea-Eagle	0.0004	214	1.7	282	1	214	0.0	213.8	1.0	0
+ 140 Black Falcon **	0.0004	69	1.7	129	1	83	0.0	69.0	1.0	0
+ 141 Latham's Snipe	0.0004	2097	1.7	2192	1	2100	0.0	2096.6	1.0	0
+ 142 Maj Mitchell's Cockatoo	0.0004	175	1.7	282	1	214	0.0	174.6	1.0	0
143 Little Lorikeet	0.0004	-60	1.7	9	1	16	0.0	-0.2	1.0	-60
144 Barn Owl	0.0004	16	1.7	64	1	29	0.0	22.0	1.0	-5
+ 145 Little Friarbird **	0.0004	37	1.7	91	1	47	0.0	46.4	1.0	-6
- 146 Jacky Winter	0.0004	-70	1.7	15	1	-61	0.0	-64.0	1.0	-15
- 147 Zebra Finch	0.0004	-82	1.7	-0.4	1	-69	0.0	-69.1	1.0	-42
- 148 Fairy Martin	0.0004	-89	1.7	27	1	-35	0.0	-37.2	1.0	-83
Cr/Ea Rosella hybrid	0.0004		1.7		1		0.0		1.0	

A (abundance) = mean number of birds/site/week

R (recording rate) = % of observer weeks with record(s)

F (distribution) = % of sites with record(s)

G (group size) = mean number of individual's/observation

W (weeks) = number of weeks with record(s)

### Legend for Table 2

An indication of the status of a species for the GBS year, relative to the average for all previous GBS years, is provided by a + or - prefix when dA% and dR% are both greater than  $\pm 25\%$ . This may be indicative of a general increase or decline over the period of the GBS, or may simply reflect a particularly good or poor reporting year for that species. In cases where A and R values are small, this indicator may be misleading or erroneous.

\* indicates a species for which both endorsed and unendorsed records contribute to the statistics. \*\* indicates a species for which there were only unendorsed record(s).

**DATA, METHODOLOGIES, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES****Sources of data***Garden Bird Survey (GBS)*

GBS data are derived from standard charts on which participants record observations on a weekly basis. Observers record the maximum number of each species seen at any one time during a week within a radius of 100 metres of their home or workplace.

Values for measures of abundance (A), distribution (F), weekly presence (W), recording rate (R), and group size (G), are shown on pp. 52-55. The methods used to calculate these values are described below. The table also shows the percentage changes in these values when compared with the average of the previous 22 years. In previous years the long-term average has been calculated as the average of the values from the previous years. For this year the average has been calculated directly from the observed data. For most species the changes introduced are not significant but care should be taken when comparing the percentage changes from this and previous editions.

**A Measure of abundance.**

The average number of individuals of a species recorded at a site for each week over the full year. It is obtained by adding all weekly observations of the species and dividing the sum by the total number of weeks in which observations were made. For example, if the total number of weeks during which observations were made was 2156 and the total number of Eastern Spinebills recorded was 1106, the average number of that species seen each week, at each site, over the full year (A) would be **0.5130**.

**F Measure of distribution.**

**The number of sites at which** a species was recorded at least once during the year as a percentage of the total number of sites. If there were 50 sites and the White-throated

Needletail was recorded at least once at 9 of them, the value of F for the year is 18%.

**W Measure of weekly presence**

The number of weeks in the year for which a species was recorded at any site. In the case of a resident species such as the Crested Pigeon, which is present throughout the year, W=52; whereas a migrant such as the Dollarbird, was present only for 19 weeks, for example, W=19.

**R Measure of the recording rate**

The number of observer-weeks during which a species was recorded, expressed as a percentage of the total number of observer-weeks for the year. For example, if the Noisy Miner was recorded during 1 1 1 of the observer-weeks and the total number of observer-weeks for the year was 2156, for the Noisy Miner R=5.15%.

**G Measure of group size**

Average number of individuals of a species recorded in each observation.

*Woodland Survey (WOO)*

Data are collected systematically following protocols which have a sound statistical basis. Nine sub-sites (plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high are set up at each site, and surveys are conducted seasonally (four times a year in September, December, March and June). Each sub-site is surveyed for 10 minutes with all birds seen or heard recorded, and other birds outside the plot in the same habitat within a 100-m radius also being recorded.

*Waterbird Survey (WBS)*

Data on the number of waterbirds present are normally collected during monthly surveys of Lake Bathurst (including The Morass) and Lake George. The survey involves visits to three locations at Lake Bathurst and to two

locations at Lake George. In 2003-04, however, the lakes were very dry and were only surveyed when water levels made it worthwhile.

**Explanatory notes on the text**

The names and sequence of birds in the Systematic List conform to Christidis & Boles (1994). The status shown for each bird takes account of results of the 1986-89 'Atlas' survey of the ACT (Taylor & COG 1992), Wilson (1999), database records, survey results and other data currently available. These designations relate specifically to the status of the birds in the Canberra region. All status designations are currently under review.

As applicable, information for each species in the Systematic List is in the sequence: '**General**' (all surveys except GBS), and '**GBS**' (Garden Bird Survey). For some species, there may also be a brief general commentary preceding the data summary.

As a general rule details of specific records are set out in the following format:  
 number of individuals/date, place. grid cell (observer). For example, '4/15 Jun ANBG GrK13 (WiJ1)', indicates four birds on 15 June at Australian National Botanic Gardens grid cell K13 and the observer was Jacqui Winter. (A full list of observers and their observer codes is provided on pp. 58-59. When sufficient data are available. breeding records giving the first and last nest and/or dependent young records are often included. In these cases the breeding code. e.g. 'ne' (nest with eggs) or 'dy' (dependent young), or other abbreviation as appropriate, takes the place of the number of individuals. It should be noted that definitions of breeding are fairly loose, and include observations such as display (di) and copulation (co), and dependent young (dy) may well include young which may not have been produced in the COG area. For breeding records of cuckoos, the host species, if recorded, is shown in brackets immediately following the

breeding indicator, e.g. dy (White-plumed Honeyeater)/18 Dec.

The words 'record(s)' are not used to indicate the number of birds involved. Where available and appropriate the number of individuals is included. Numbers and distribution of birds are sometimes compared with the previous year. Unless indicated otherwise, a statement in this report such as 'overall numbers lower' should be taken to mean lower than in the immediately preceding year.

Because the Garden Bird Survey works on a weekly basis, GBS data have no specific dates, but are of the form '2wk May', '2wk' referring to the second week of the month.

**Abbreviations**

*General*

- ANBG** Australian National Botanic Gardens
- ANU** Australian National University
- CAS** Castle Hill
- CBN** Canberra Bird Notes
- CMP** Campbell Park
- CNP** Canberra Nature Park
- GA** Greening Australia
- GBS** Garden Bird Survey
- GOO** Gooroo
- GunL** Gungahlin Lakes
- HAL** Hall/Gold Creek
- LAM** Lambrigg
- LBath** Lake Bathurst
- LBG** Lake Burley Griffin
- LGeo** Lake George
- LGin** Lake Ginninderra
- LSC** Lower Sullivans Creek Survey
- LTug** Lake Tuggeranong
- MAJ** Mt Majura
- MJF** Majura Firing Range
- MUL** Mulligans Flat
- NLQ** Newline Quarry
- RED** Red Hill
- SYM** Symonston
- TSR** Travelling Stock Reserve
- WBS** Waterbird Survey
- WOO** Woodland Survey

*Breeding codes*

cf	carrying food
co	copulation
di	display
dy	dependent young
ih	inspecting hollow
nb	nest building
ne	nest with eggs
ny	nest with young
on	bird on or observed leaving nest

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BlR1	Rosemary Blemings
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 WaK1 Kathy Walter  
 WiB1 Brendan Wilson  
 WiD2 David Wilson  
 WiM1 Margaret Windle  
 WiP1 Pauline Wicksteed  
 WiS1 Steve Wilson  
 WoD1 D Wood  
 ZwM1 Marnix Zwankhuizen

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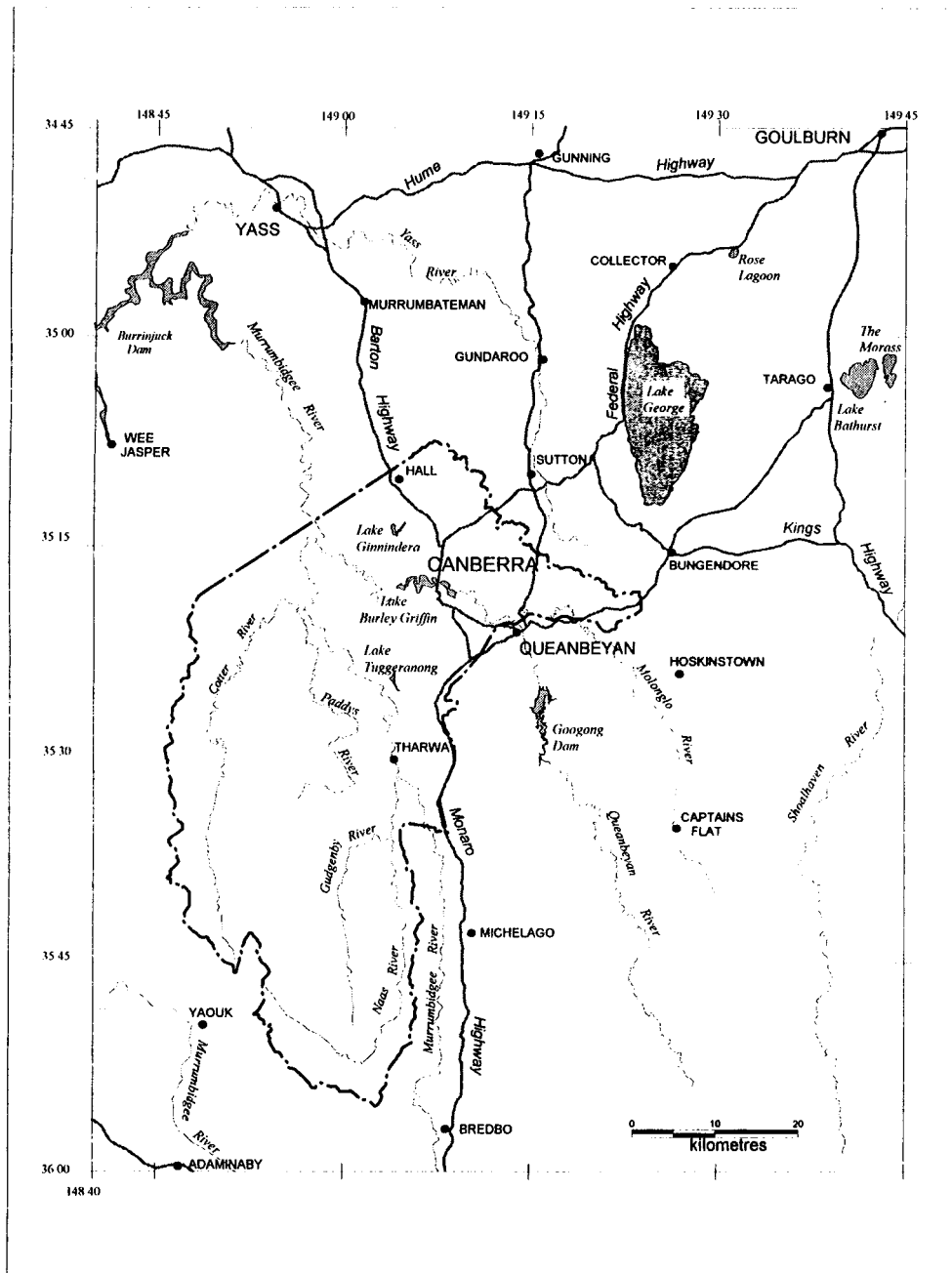
for any errors of commission or omission rests however with the editors, Harvey Perkins and Barbara Allan. The maps were produced by Nicki Taws.

The Woodland Survey support from Environment ACT is particularly appreciated, as is the work of all survey organisers and participants.

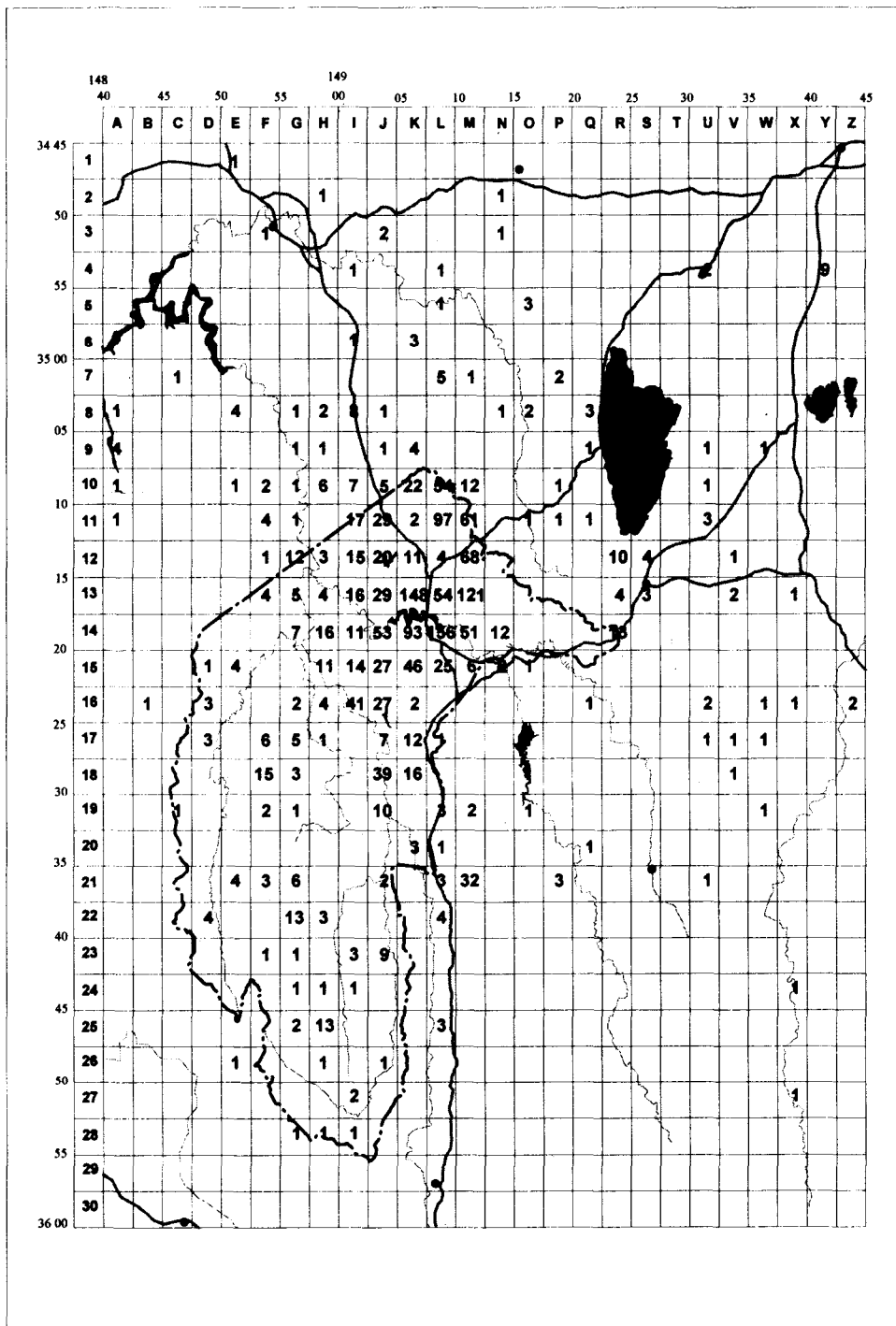
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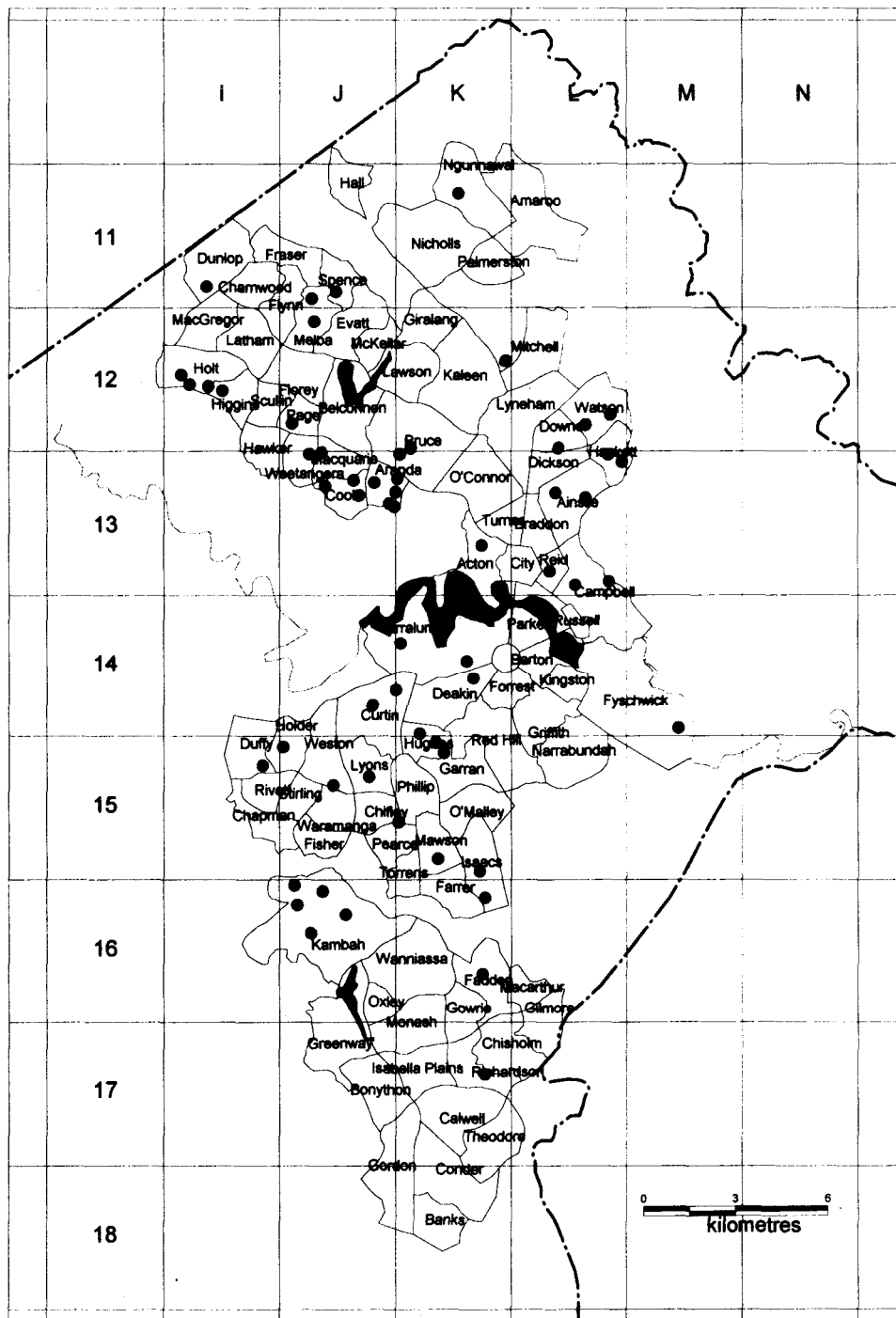
MAP 1: THE CANBERRA REGION (COG'S AREA OF INTEREST)



MAP 2: NUMBER OF RECORD SHEETS PER GRID CELL FOR 2003-04

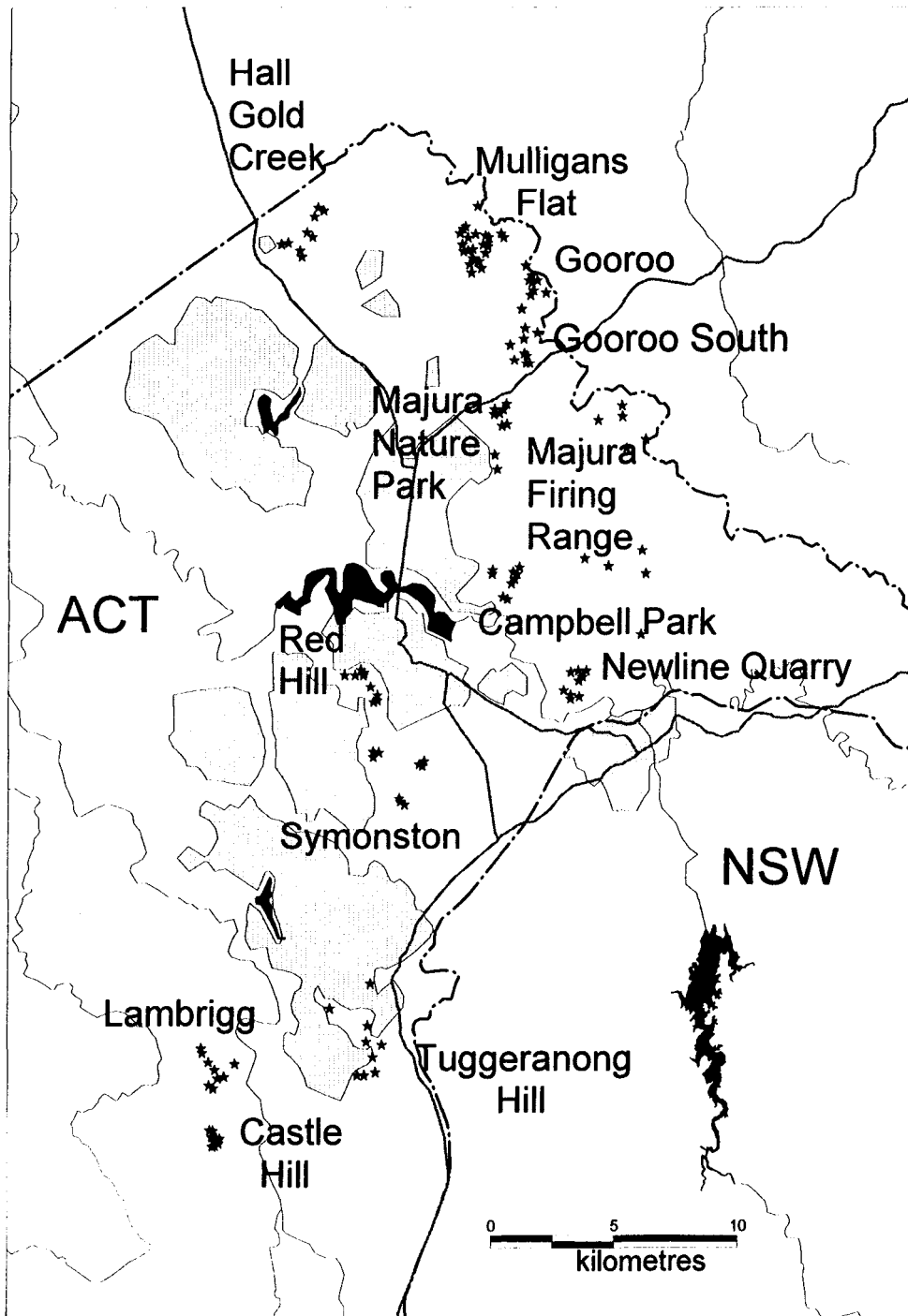


MAP 3: LOCATION OF GARDEN BIRD SURVEY SITES 2003-04





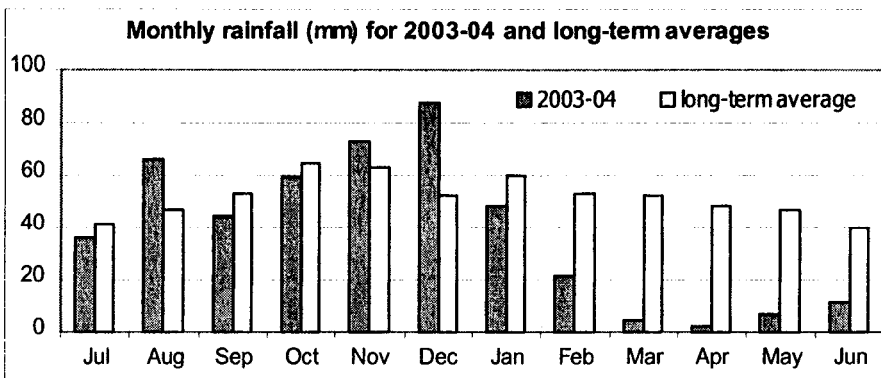
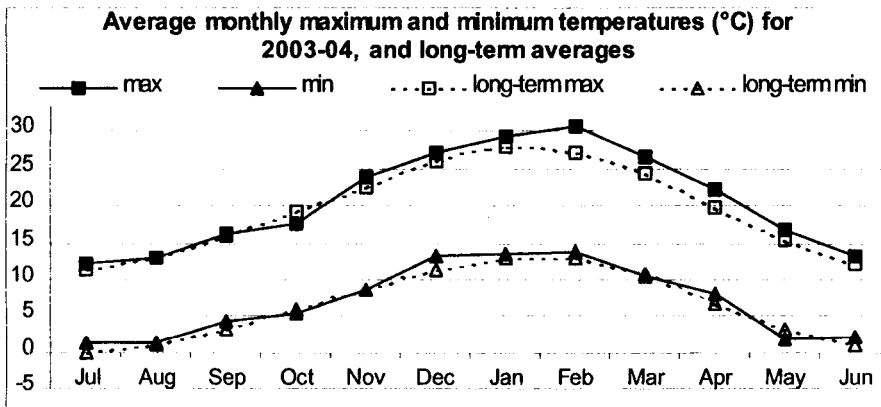
MAP 4: LOCATION OF WOODLAND SURVEY SITES 2003-04



**APPENDIX. 2003-04 WEATHER SUMMARY**

Rainfall and temperature data for Canberra Airport were sourced from the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology web site <http://www.bom.gov.au/announcements/mediareleases/act>. Overall, the first half of the period (Jul-Dec 2003) was close to normal for both temperatures and rainfall, but the second half was significantly warmer and drier than average. Summaries sourced from the above website indicate the main weather characteristics for each month:

- July rains near normal, but temperatures higher in ACT
- August rainfall was above average in the ACT
- September marked by strong winds, thunderstorms in ACT
- ACT experiences a cool October with average rainfall
- November was wet and warm in the ACT
- Year ends with a wet and warm December in the ACT
- Thunderstorms rock the ACT during a warm, dry January
- ACT sweltered in February as temperature records tumbled
- Bone dry March for ACT as new sunshine record set
- March-April rains the lowest on record in ACT
- Rains fail again in May in the ACT
- Record winds and low rainfall in ACT in June



The COG office is located at Room 5, Griffin Centre, Bunda Street, Civic. Opening hours are Tuesdays from approximately 10:00 - 12:30; at other times by arrangement with the secretary. Please call the office on 6247 4996 to confirm that it is open or to leave a message.

*Canberra Bird Notes* is published by the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc and is edited by Harvey Perkins and Barbara Allan. Major articles of up to 5000 words are welcome on matters of the distribution, identification or behaviour of birds occurring in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding area. Contributions on these topics should be sent to Harvey Perkins, 42 Summerland Circuit, Kambah ACT 2902, or via email to [cbn@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto:cbn@canberrabirds.org.au). Short notes, book reviews and other contributions should be sent to Barbara Allan, 47 Hannaford Street, Page ACT 2614 or to the above email address. If you would like to discuss your proposed article in advance, please feel free to contact Harvey on 6231 8209 or Barbara on 6254 6520.

Please note that the views expressed in the articles published in *Canberra Bird Notes* are those of the authors; they do not necessarily represent the views of the Canberra Ornithologists Group. Responses to the views expressed in *CBN* articles are always welcomed and will be considered for publication as letters to the editors.

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Annual Bird Report: 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004

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