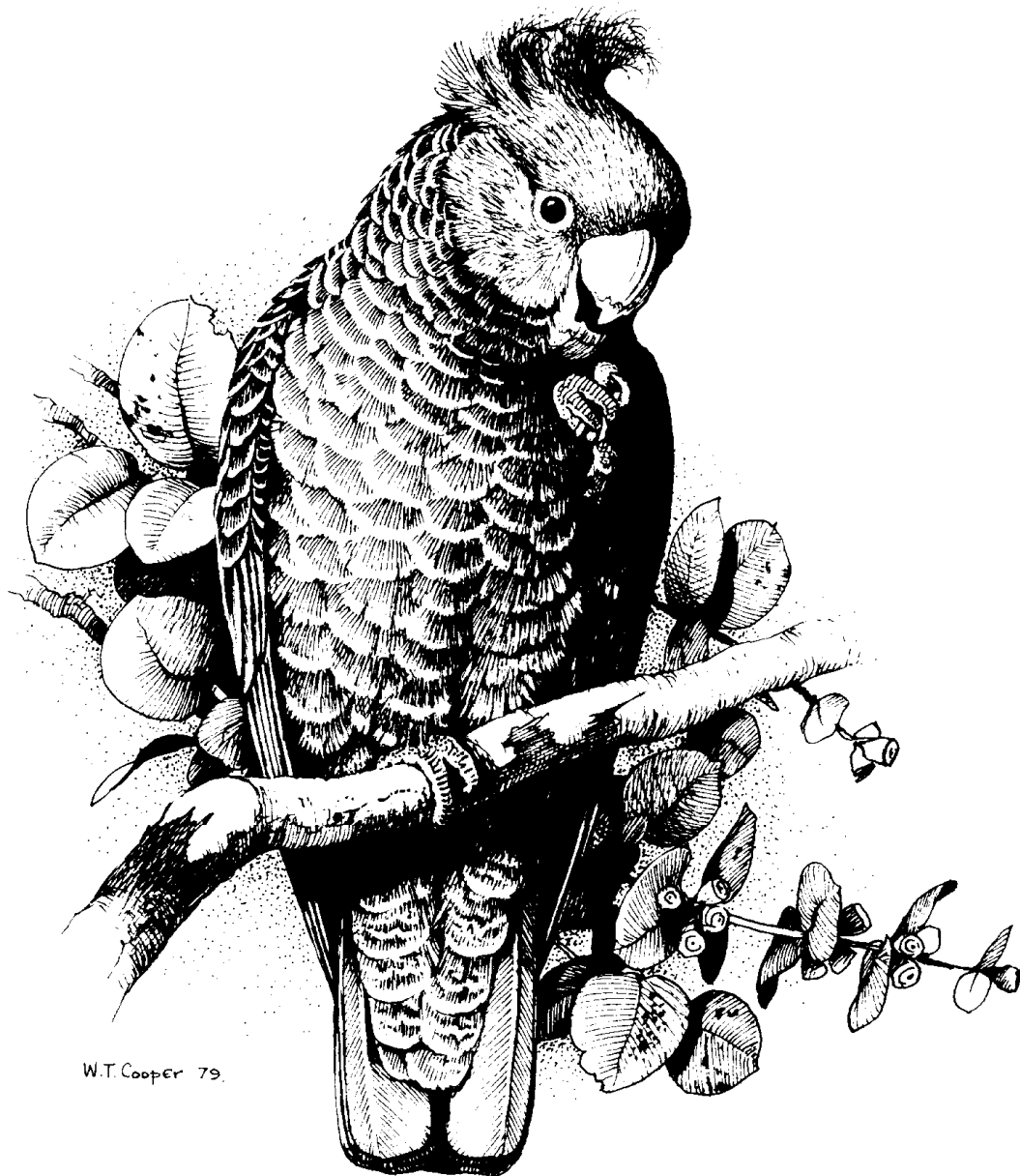


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CANBERRA ORNITHOLOGISTS GROUP

PO Box 301 Civic Square ACT 2608

2008-09 Committee

| | | |
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| Member | Sue Lashko | (02) 6251 4485 |
| Member | Tony Lawson | (02) 6161 9430 |

Contacts

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Web address | www.canberrabirds.org.au |
| Correspondence | cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au |
| Canberra Bird Notes | CBN@canberrabirds.org.au |
| Gang-gang Newsletter | gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au |
| Conservation | conservation.officers@canberrabirds.org.au |
| Membership | membership@canberrabirds.org.au |
| Rarities | rarities@canberrabirds.org.au |
| Webmaster | webmaster@canberrabirds.org.au |
| COG Web Discussion List | canberrabirds-owner@canberrabirds.org.au |

Other COG contacts

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Databases | Paul Fennell | (02) 6254 1804 (h) |
| Garden Bird Survey | Martin Butterfield | (02) 6238 2637 (h) |
| Membership | Sandra Henderson | (02) 6231 0303 (h) |
| Sales | Beth Mantle | (02) 6287 7860 |
| Waterbird Survey | Michael Lenz | (02) 6249 1109 |

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ANNUAL BIRD REPORT: 1 JULY 2007 TO 30 JUNE 2008

*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 COG's entire database records of birds recorded in the Canberra region during the year in question. The report makes this information readily available to all COG members and the general public, and draws attention to significant changes or trends in the distribution or abundance of species.

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. 75). 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 (3.5 x 4.5 km). 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. 76). 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.

Records maintained by COG are categorised according to survey type used to collect the data, for which the methodology used may vary. The majority of records are from general bird watching, surveying and atlassing done by COG members and are designated ABA (Australian Bird Atlas) records. Incidental observations (INC) made while driving, or when not specifically bird watching, can also be submitted. Specialised COG surveys such as the Garden Bird Survey (GBS), Woodland Survey (WOO), and

Waterbird Survey (WBS) are well established; and other small-scale targeted surveys such as the Gungahlin Drive Extension Survey (GDE) have been established. COG's assistance with Greening Australia's 'Birdwatch' project provides further records designated GA. 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. 61-65). 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'. In the Systematic List, WOO has been used to indicate combined records from WOO proper (see Woodland Survey protocol on p. 69) and extralimital records collected by standard ABA protocols in the course of conducting the Woodland Surveys. The Garden Bird Survey (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 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 (see Appendix 2, p. 80) 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 list of unusual birds is reviewed from time to time and is published at <http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/>. The names and sequence of birds, in this list and in the Systematic List in this report conform to *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (Christidis & Boles 2008). **Please note that this new systematic list has radically changed the order in which the species are presented in this report as compared to last year.**

The year in context

The ABR summarises all the records held in the COG databases but cannot 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 2007-08 year was similar in many ways to the previous year: being considerably warmer and drier than the long term average. November, January and February were the only months with significant rainfall (see Appendix 1, p. 79).

In the six years since the January 2003 bushfires, there has been further habitat renewal in the wet forests in the ranges to the west and south of Canberra, with some evidence that most species are gradually returning to their previous haunts.

There were 113 contributors of records from all surveys from COG or persons whose data were provided to COG via Birds Australia (see list pp. 73-74). This is a disappointing decrease from 137 last year. More than ever, there continues to be a disproportionately large number of records submitted by a few dedicated submitters, despite the numerous

reports of sightings on the COG internet chat line canberrabirds@canberrabirds.org.au.

As in previous years, 50% of "general" records were provided by the top ten contributors.

COG is increasingly approached for its data by government and non-government agencies to assist them in addressing important environmental issues. Hence, we need to encourage more members to get involved and submit more records to enhance the value and accuracy of this resource.

Summary and highlights

In 2007-08, 232 bird species were recorded in our area. (This total excludes un-endorsed records, as well as those species which are regarded as semi-captive at places such as Tidbinbilla NR; it includes, however, aviary escapees and some feral domestics.)

| Year | species | gr cells | sheets | observers |
|-------|---------|----------|--------|-----------|
| 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 |
| 04-05 | 216 | 176 | 1957 | 107 |
| 05-06 | 233 | 204 | 2229 | 129 |
| 06-07 | 233 | 194 | 2421 | 137 |
| 07-08 | 232 | 263 | 2400 | 113 |

* combined total for 1999-2001

Totals were again boosted in part by COG's third "bird blitz" held on 25-26 October 2008, a repeat of the 2005 exercise to encourage members to undertake surveys (see Allan 2008).

The fewer numbers of observers this year must be congratulated for the high number of sheets submitted (2400) and the considerable increase in the area covered, with reports from 263 of the 780 grid cells (34 %), which is 36% more than last year, and not far below

the 1999-2000 record of 288 at the height of the Birds Australia Atlas activity. The most frequently surveyed cell was K13 (288 data-sheets) Acton, boosted by 151 sheets from the ANU environmental survey of Lower Sullivans Creek. This was followed by L14 (129 sheets) Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR, Molonglo Reach and Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (FSP). Then came M11 (95 sheets) Gooroyarroo NR, followed by I15 (91) including Cooleman Ridge, which included 69 incidental (INC) reports mostly by one regular observer. Then came L11 (83), including part of Mulligans Flat NR, I13 (82), including part of the Pinnacle NR and M12 (74) Mt Majura.

Table 1, pp. 61-65, shows the number of “general” records per species. The five most frequently recorded species were, in order, the Australian Magpie, Crimson Rosella, Australian Raven, Galah and Striated Pardalote – all easily identifiable species. Twenty species were recorded only once. These include “rare” species such as the Grey Goshawk, Channel-billed Cuckoo and the Turquoise Parrot, as well as refugees from dry areas such as the Black Honeyeater.

Highlights

A highlight of 2006-07, the Powerful Owl in the ANBG, was often observed there until 20 Sep 2007. Similarly the inland honeyeater species: Black-chinned and White-fronted Honey-eater were in the ACT region into 2008-09. Winter 2008 was a big year for overwintering of the migratory honeyeaters (Yellow-faced, White-naped and Fuscous). A particular highlight was the observation of the very rare Australian Painted Snipe at JWNR as well as the first sighting there of a Bar-tailed Godwit since 2005, and before then, 1996. Breeding activity of Red-necked Avocet was recorded, with previous sightings being in 2007 and 2003.

The number of records and the distribution of the Little Pied Cormorant continues to increase. The number of Little Black Cormorants breeding between the E end of Black Mt Peninsula and the mouth of Sullivans Ck has increased dramatically since

they were first reported breeding there in 2003-04. First record of the Little Egret since 26 Jun 1999.

First endorsed records since 1989 of the Black-eared Cuckoo, and the highest number of White-winged Triller reported since then.

Encouraging evidence of the recovery from the January 2003 bushfires including the first record there of a Brush Bronzewing since 2003, and improving recording rates for many wet forest species such as the Superb Lyrebird (51 records from 31 grid cells compared with 39 records from 23 grid cells last year and 33 from 20 the year before) and Pilotbird (12 records from 5 grid cells, 33% greater than last year).

A flock of up to 20 Swift Parrots was observed on Mt Majura in April and May. The numbers of Common Myna are down again, from the 3rd most abundant GBS species two years ago, to 12th most abundant species this year. It would be hard to deny the influence of CIMAG activities on this species.

Lowlights

As for 2006-07, dry conditions on Lakes George and Bathurst means that there was a continuing reduction in the number of wader species observed. Species which were not recorded in 2007-08 included: Common Sandpiper (last recorded Mar 2006); Common Greenshank (Jan 2006); Marsh Sandpiper (Sep 2005); Ruddy Turnstone (Dec 1996); Red Knot (Nov 1999); Long-toed Stint (Dec 2002); Pectoral Sandpiper Aug 2006); Buff-breasted Sandpiper (Sep 1997); Curlew Sandpiper (August 2006).

There has been a significant decline in Double-barred, Red-browed and Diamond Fire-tailed finch records from last year.

Breeding

There were 1428 breeding activity records, up from 967 (44% increase) last year. Of the now 188 species of bird with recorded breeding activity in the COG region,

129 (68%) did so in 2007-08. That total of breeding records is based solely on formal breeding records and does not include the many species for which juveniles, almost certainly bred in COG's area of interest, were recorded. It does include, however, all potential breeding records, including "inspecting hollows" and "display" as described in the COG breeding codes (see p 71). Records also include the BA code (br) which excludes "circumstantial" evidence such as "inspecting hollow" or "display". The list that follows shows (for each breeding behaviour) the number of species exhibiting that behaviour, and the percentage of that behaviour of the total number (1428) of observations for 2007-08:

- dependent young – 86 species - 34%
- on nest – 65 species – 22%
- nest building – 53 species – 9%
- nest with young – 42 species – 10%
- breeding (BA) – 40 species – 7%
- carrying food – 36 species – 5%
- inspecting hollow – 18 species – 10%
- copulating – 17 species – 1%
- display – 13 species – 1%
- nest with eggs – 10 species – 1%
- faecal sac – 3 species – 0.5%

Garden Bird Survey (GBS) overview

The Garden Bird Survey (GBS) completed 27 years of collection in 2007-08. A total of 72 sites provided charts as in 2006-07. The latter total includes 2 Charts received after compilation of data for the Annual Bird Report for 2006-07.

This reflects 13 "additions" (represented by 10 new sites and 3 resumed sites) being balanced by 13 ceased sites from 2006-07. The new and ornithologically interesting areas of Gungahlin, together with the most Southern areas of Tuggeranong remained under-represented by GBS observers (although some additional sites in these areas have commenced).

As is generally the case, a range of types of site are evident. No work sites reported and two new sites from the hinterland have commenced. There are a wide variety of

types of suburban Canberra garden sites which can also produce "atypical" data including sites which include a large component of horse paddocks or Canberra Nature Park, and sites beside Lakes, in Tuggeranong and Jerrabomberra, and in a large suburban block containing a large pool (all of which contributed to high numbers of ducks and other water birds).

The number of weeks observed per observer in 2006-07 averaged 43.0, ranging from 4 to 52 weeks (25 sites reported for 50 or more weeks. This is similar to 2006-07. Overall, observers devoted 3,099 observer-weeks to their reporting in 2007-08 compared with 2985 in 2006-07 (nearly 4% increase).

A total of 164 species were observed in 2007-08 which was 9% higher than in 2006-07. This is the highest number of species recorded in any year, with the previous highest being 150 species recorded in years 22 and 24. Four taxa were recorded for the first time in year 27 comprising records for Little Grassbird and White-fronted Honeyeater as well as entries for Hybrid Eastern Rosella x Crimson Rosella and Corella species.

Sixty-two species were recorded breeding (a 37% increase over 2006-07), with breeding activity from 57 sites (the same number as in 2006-07).

The abundances of the observed birds, measured by the 'A' statistic, retain a broadly similar pattern to 2006-07 for most of the commonly recorded species. Of the ten most abundant birds, eight species were the same in both years. The changes were the re-inclusion of the Red Wattlebird at number 9 (after dropping out of the top 10 last year) and Yellow-faced Honeyeater coming back at 10. The Common Myna continued to decline in abundance dropping to position 12, while House Sparrow continued to reflect a world-wide trend dropping to 11. Details of these and other changes are in the species accounts.

Only five species were observed at least once by every observer in the past two years

(Galah, Crimson Rosella, Pied Currawong, Australian Magpie, Red Wattlebird,). Forty-one species (the same as 2006-07) were observed by at least one observer in every week of the year. Included amongst the last group were the Satin Bowerbird, Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo and Little Corella, all of which were seen in many more weeks than in the past, and all of which displayed increases in abundance compared to previous years.

Amongst the 43 most abundant species (arbitrarily defined as $A \geq 0.2$), 8 species showed increases of at least 100% over the average of all previous years: five of these were water birds (reflecting reports from sites with large areas of water) and Little Corella, Noisy Miner, and Crested Pigeon. Of the same population, the only species displaying reductions of at least 50% compared to the average of all previous years were Noisy Friarbird, House Sparrow and Common Starling.

Species recorded in the GBS and no other survey include: Black Kite (not endorsed); Painted Button-quail; Little Lorikeet; Crimson-Eastern Rosella hybrid; and Eastern Barn Owl.

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. Six locations were initially selected; Mulligans Flat, Mt Majura, Red Hill, Gooroo (north), Symonston and Castle Hill. The following sites have since been added: Majura Firing Range (1998-99, and from 2004); Hall/Gold Creek, Newline and Tuggeranong Hill (all 2000); Lambrigg (2001-March 2004); Campbell Park (2003); Goorooyarroo (south) (2004); Naas (2004); Kama in the Molonglo Valley (October

2005); and Jerrabomberra (Dec 2006). Part of the reason for the Woodland Survey is to monitor declining and threatened birds in Yellow Box / Red Gum grassy woodlands. The Project currently has 142 monitoring points at 15 locations. A number of sub-sites (generally nine plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high complexity are monitored at each site. 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. Surveys are done each season in September, December, March and June.

An analysis from the Woodland Survey, of data collected from December 1998 to December 2005, was last reported in Canberra Bird Notes in June 2007 (Vol 32/Number 2). A summary from a special analysis of data to 2007 was reported in Olsen, *State of Australia's Birds 2008*. In 2009, with 10 years of surveys at most sites, a major analysis of data is proposed.

Species which figure more prominently in Woodland Survey sightings than in other COG surveys include: White-throated Gerygone (51% of sightings in WOO); Mistletoebird (45%); Weebill (43%); Western Gerygone (43%); Noisy Miner (42%); and Striated Pardalote (39%).

Waterbird Survey overview

There were no surveys at Lake George (dry for much of the time). There were small amounts of water in Lake Bathurst (July to October) and the Morass held some water for the entire year. For the purposes of this ABR, Waterbird Survey records have been incorporated in General accounts. Highlights included: Red-necked Avocet, Pacific Golden Plover and relatively large numbers of Hardhead and Black-winged Stilt.

RED-BROWED FIRE-TAILED FINCHES APPEAR TO BE ON THE DECLINE

Photo by Julian Robinson



AS ARE DIAMOND FIRE-TAILED FINCH

Photo by Julian Robinson



AND DOUBLE-BARRED FINCHES

Photo by Julian Robinson



SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 1 JULY 2007 TO 30 JUNE 2008**CASUARIIDAE: emu****Emu** *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: A single record again this year (cf mean of 1.5 over previous 10 years): 6/28 Oct Woods Reserve area GrG18 (LaD1). This record is most likely of birds escaped from Tidbinbilla NR or their offspring. There were also two records from near Gibraltar Rocks within Tidbinbilla NR but these are considered captive birds.

PHASIANIDAE: quail etc**Stubble Quail** *Coturnix pectoralis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Reporting dropped again this year with just 7 records, after 15, 42 and 31 for previous three years (the mean for the previous ten years is 17.9 records, with a range of 2-43). Six of the records were from summer (3 Jan - 20 Feb) with a single spring record from LBath on 23 Sep (WBS). Records were from scattered locations including JWNR, Tidbinbilla, Tharwa Sandwash, Burra and Oranmeir. All records were of 1-5 birds.

GBS: 14 records of up to 5 birds, from 3rd week Nov to 2nd week Apr, from a rural site in Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 15 records, from throughout the year, is a big drop from the 32 last year but is still higher than the average reporting rate (mean of 8.8 records over the previous ten years, range 2-32). 9 of these records, however, were from regular surveys of the NW end of Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1). Other records were from JWNR, LGin and Castle Hill. The largest number reported was just 4 birds. No breeding was recorded.

GBS: 9 records (up to 3 birds through Jul and into Aug, and single birds 3rd week Mar and 2nd and 4th week May) from a rural site in Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

ANATIDAE: ducks, swan**Musk Duck** *Biziura lobata*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 21 records from 9 grid cells, no records over the summer months. An increase from last year in the number of records and cells. Numbers ranging from 1 to 10, with max 10/14 May GrL11 Yerrabi Pond (CuR1). Six breeding records, all dy: from GrL11 Yerrabi Pond between 26 Sep; and 14 May suggests more than one breeding event.

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*

Uncommon, Visitor

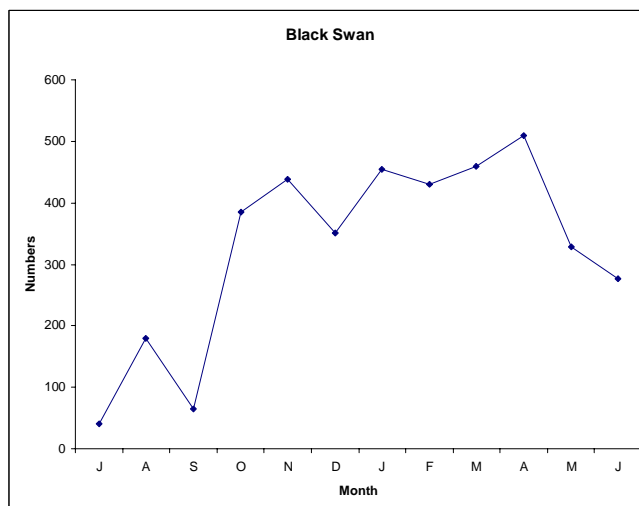
General: 10 records from 2 locations: FSP Gr L14 (8 records) and Bungendore Sewage Works GrS13 (2 records), similar to previous years. All records except one (15 Jun) between Oct and Feb. Maximum 14/9 Nov GrS13 Bungendore Sewage Works (BuM1).

Black Swan *Cygnus atra*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 147 records from 24 grid cells (9%), throughout the year. Recording rate similar to previous years. Largest concentration 510/25 Apr GrZ08 LBath S Morass (LeM1). Data from monthly Waterbird surveys indicate an apparent influx to LBath in Oct. 59 breeding records from 12 grid cells, a return to the normal reporting rate after last year's decrease, records from all months except Feb.

GBS: Recorded from 3 sites GrJ14 Curtin (ArJ1), GrJ16 Greenway (HaA2) and GrM16 Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

**Australian Shelduck** *Tadorna tadornoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 44 records from 11 grid cells, an increase over the past five years. Observed throughout the year with the max 50/15 Nov GrR13 Canturf Dam (DeD2) and 51/10 Mar GrZ08 LBath S Morass (LeJ2). A single breeding record from the same location as last year; GrK3 Iron Mines Road, Gunning (SpB1).

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 426 records from 110 grid cells (41%), as usual the most widely distributed waterfowl. Observed throughout the year, with most records (43%) during the spring months. The average number recorded was 12 whilst the largest concentrations were 245/31 Jan GrZ8 LBath S Morass (LeM1) and 300/6 May GrS17 Foxlow Station (KaJ1), much less than the largest group (500) reported last year. 46 (11%) records were WOO. 37 (6 ih, 28 dy and 3 br) breeding records from 20 grid cells, a slight increase from last year. Breeding recorded from 1 Jul to 24 Feb with 20 records during Oct.

GBS: Records from 33 sites with breeding observed from 7 sites, similar to previous years.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

Common, Visitor

General: 24 records from 2 grid cells, GrL14 JWNR, GrZ08 LBath S Morass Recorded throughout the year but most records (78%) from the spring/summer months. The least number of records since 2000-01. Generally 2-3 individuals only but the largest concentration was 67/28 Oct GrZ08 LBath S Morass (CrI1). No breeding records.

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchotis*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

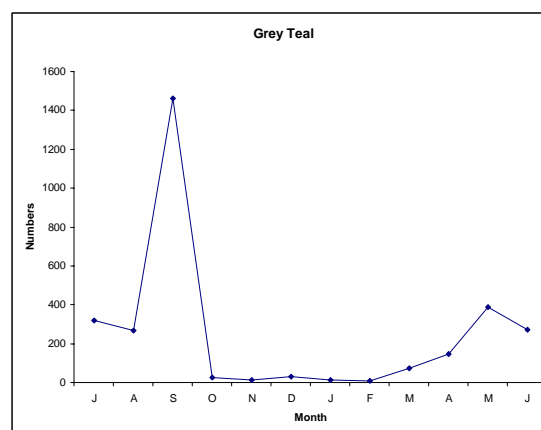
General: 94 records from 12 grid cells, 65% of records from GrL14 JWNR. Recorded throughout the year, largest concentrations 120/26 Aug GrY08 LBath E (LeJ2) and 151/6 Jan GrL14 JWNR (SmA1). No breeding records.

GBS: An unusual record: 2/2wk Aug at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 164 records from 47 grid cells, the lowest number of records since 2004-05 but more widely distributed than since at least 2000-01. Observed throughout the year with 42% of records from the spring months and the remaining 58% spread throughout the rest of the year. Data from the Waterbird surveys at LBath indicate a large increase in numbers in Sep declining to very low numbers the following month and remaining low until March when there was a gradual increase – see graph. Highest numbers were at LBath, 880/23Sep GrY08 (LeM1). Apart from LBath the greatest concentrations were 60/15 Nov GrR13 Canturf Dam



DeD2) and 93/8 Jan GrL14 JWNR (HoS1). 9 breeding records (1 on, 8 dy) from 8 grid cells, between 23 Sep and 13 Mar, an increase from the previous year with 2 breeding events reported.

GBS: Observations from 4 rural sites GrS17 Hoskinstown (KaJ1), GrQ16 Carwoola (BuM1), GrI8 Murrumbateman (BIJ1), GrM21 Burra (AnI1) and 1 urban site GrM16 Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 44 records from 6 grid cells, a similar number of cells to previous years but the lowest number of records since 2002-03. Regular observation at LBath but with 34 (77%) observations from GrL14 JWNR or GrM13 Campbell Park. Largest concentration 46/28 Nov GrZ08 LBath S Morass (CrI1). 11 breeding records, all dy or br from JWNR (10 records) or Campbell Park (1 record), between 6 Oct and 1 Mar. Recorded throughout the year but generally in lower numbers than the previous year.

GBS: Recorded from GrI08 Murrumbateman (BIJ1) of up to 2 birds between week 40 (start 2 Oct) and week 6 (start 5 Feb).

Northern Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 5 records from 3 grid cells, all most likely to be the domestic form. No breeding records. A much reduced number from the previous year but similar to other years.

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 348 records from 85 grid cells (32%), the second most widely distributed waterfowl after the Australian Wood Duck. Observed throughout the year with 47% of records from the spring months and remaining records spread throughout the rest of the year. Largest concentration 100/8 Jan GrL14 JWNR (HoS1) and 94/20 Oct GrK13 Sullivans Ck. 20 breeding records, all dy, from 4 grid cells, GrL14 JWNR (12 records), GrK13 Sullivans Ck/ANU (6 records), GrK10 Amaroo (1) and GrK12 Giralang Pond (1) between 3 Oct and 14 Jun.

GBS: Records from 17 sites with breeding observations from 4 sites, an increase from the previous year.

Hardhead *Aythya australis*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 51 records from 20 grid cells, the lowest number of records since 2004-05. However, reported from a large number of cells than last year. Reported throughout the year with 75% of records during the winter and spring months. The largest concentration was 325/23 Sep GrZ08 LBath S Morass (LeJ2) then 134 at the same location on 28 Oct (CrI1). Similar to last year a single breeding record but from a different location dy/27 Oct GrI16 Murrumbateman Country Club (RoM4).

GBS: Recorded from GrM16 Jerrabomberra (HaL2) throughout the year with a maximum of 133 during 4wk Aug.

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 18 records from 2 locations JWNR GrL14 and Iron Mines Rd GrK03, half the number of records as last year. The 4 records from GrK03 are unusual, and between 1 Oct and 31 Jan the 1-2 birds were seen on various dams within the district (SpB1 pers comm.). The 14 records from JWNR were virtually all from the Fyshwick Sewage Ponds where the birds appeared to be resident with a maximum of 14/15 Jun (SmA1). No breeding records but the increase in numbers suggest this was possible.

Domestic goose

General: 7 records from 4 cells, all from urban lakes except for x/28 Dec GrF3 Yass River (PoD1).

Muscovy duck

General: 5 records all from Yerrabi Ponds, maximum 7/14 May (CuR1).

PODICIPEDIDAE grebes**Australasian Grebe** *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 152 records (8 WOO) is similar to last year but still short of the 237 records in 1988-89 during the atlas project. The number of cells (41) from which they were reported remains relatively low. Of the total records 105 (69%) came from grid cells in or near Canberra, 55 of these from the JWNR and FSP. Records were reported in all seasons: spring (58), summer (34), autumn (33), winter (27). Largest numbers reported: 27/26 Apr, 20/14 May Yerrabi Pond GrL11, 13/8 Jan, 10/5 Feb, 10/28 Mar FSP (CuR1, HoS1). The large numbers



Australasian Grebe
Photo by Julian Robinson

reported in autumn last year from the FSP were not recorded this year. There were 18 breeding records, which continue the large number of the past three years: the earliest nb/28 Sep JWNR GrL14 (FrM1); and the last dy/28 Mar FSP (HoS1).

GBS: 60 records of 1 to 6 birds throughout the year from rural and urban sites close to bodies of water at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). There were 3 breeding records, all from Jerrabomberra GrM16: dy/1wk Nov; dy/2wk Nov; and nb/1wk Dec (HaL2).

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 28 records from 9 grid cells (4 WBS). The lowest number reported since 2000-01 when 23 records were reported from 9 grid cells. Although few records were reported they were more widely distributed, in suitable bodies of deep water, than in recent years when the majority came from the FSP. They were reported in all seasons with the usual pattern of fewer records in winter (2), than in spring (12), summer (6) and autumn (8). Other than 240/26 Aug S Morass LBath GrZ08 (LeJ2) reported during the WBS the numbers were the lowest for many years: 15/15 Nov Canturf dam GrR13 (DeD2); 8/8 Jan FSP GrL14 (HoS1); and 6/28 Oct Queanbeyan sewage ponds GrN15 (WhB2).

GBS: 15 records of 1 or 2 birds from a site close to Lake Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 3 records: 3/3 Sep LGin GrJ12 (PeH2), 4/22 Sep Googong dam wall GrO17 (AnI1), x/1 Jan LBG Warrina Inlet GrJ14 (AIR1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 115 records from 13 grid cells (100 records from 15 last year). Highest numbers: 171/2 Sep, 120/4 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (AnF1, HoS1) and 100/20 Feb, 23 Apr JWNr GrL14 (BuM1, HoS1). Breeding: ny/13 Oct Hawker Shops GrJ12 (AlB1).

GBS: Recorded from 40 sites, compared to 33 last year, across all weeks. Highest number: 50/wk3 Nov, 50/wk4 Apr Page GrJ12 (AlB1). Abundance ($A=1.85$) is 56% higher than the long-term average. This continues an increase in GBS records, it was the 14th most frequently recorded GBS species, up from 16th last year. 5 breeding records in Jul (co, nb) Dec (ny, dy) and Jun (ny) from a site in Turner (BoC4).

White-headed Pigeon *Columba leucomela*

Rare, Visitor

General: One record: x/7 Sep Cook GrJ13 (FyM1).

GBS: Two records of a single bird, 3&4wk Jun O'Connor GrK13 (BaI1).

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The increase of last year was not repeated with fewer general records and the reporting rate for the GBS stable.

General: 5 records of single birds from 4 grid cells, down from 14 records in 7 grid cells last year.

GBS: 1-8 birds recorded from 15 sites (16 last year). Abundance ($A=0.0662$) almost identical to last year ($A=0.0663$). Highest count: 8/1wk Mar Kambah GrJ16 (PeH2). This site had the most records, for 34 weeks, mostly in the 2nd half of the year, with all 6 breeding records (all di) also from this site.



Spotted Doves are on the increase in Canberra and region

Photo by Julian Robinson

Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 159 records (31 WOO) from 54 grid cells (179 from 46 last year). Observed throughout the year. Highest counts came from areas south and east of the ACT: 15/29 Jul Foxlow Station GrS18 (KaJ1); 15/5 Apr Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (AnI1); and 14/15 Jun Strike a Light Creek TSR GrN29 (BoC4). 2 breeding records: on/17 Nov Black Mountain GrK13 (BoC4); and nb/31 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1).

GBS: Up to 5 birds recorded from 15 sites, in all months. Abundance ($A=0.0758$) is 117% higher than the long-term average, probably due to regular records from rural sites in Hoskinstown (KaJ1) and Burra (AnI1). Also regular records from a site in Holder (AsM1).

Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans*

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 3 records from the ranges, the first since the 2003 fires (cf one record from Mt Majura last year): 2/14 Jan, 1/15 Jan Tidbinbilla NR GrG17, F17 (SmA1, HoS1).

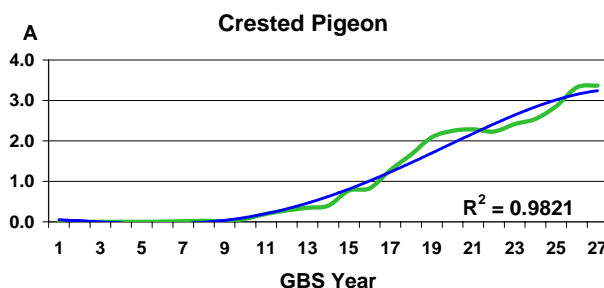
Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*

Common, Breeding Resident

No noticeable increase in records this year, perhaps numbers are stabilising?

General: 462 records (51 WOO) from 91 grid cells (486 from 69 last year). The majority of records are of 10 birds or fewer; max 37/8 Jul Plains Road East GrS16 (BuM1). 14 breeding records (20 last year) from August to October: first on/22 Aug Corroboree Park, Ainslie GrL13 (BuM1); last on/9 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1).

GBS: The 7th most reported bird in the GBS, up from 8th position last year. Records from 71 sites: max 41/5wk Jan Wanniasa (HeS1) and 40/4wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Abundance ($A=3.3556$) is 238% higher than the long-term average, but similar to last year ($A=3.3433$). Breeding (including di) recorded from 18 sites and in most months.

**Diamond Dove** *Geopelia cuneata*

Vagrant/Escapée

General: 3 records (2 last year): x/1 Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AIR1), 1/1 May "Weeroona" Yass District GrI4 (TaN1); and 1/2 May Gungahlin GrL11 (ZwM1). No records from Bibaringa GrH14 where the species has been present for the last few years, although there were 4 reports from that location in 2007-08.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata*

Rare, Breeding Resident

After increasing for several years, fewer records in 2007/08.

General: 17 records (2 WOO) from 7 grid cells, down from 28 records from 15 grid cells last year. Numbers: 1-3 birds, with highest 3/9 Jun Newline Quarry GrN14 (SmA1). 10 of the 17 records were from Newline Quarry. No breeding recorded.

GBS: 3 records of single birds from a site in Murrumbateman GrI8 (BIJ1).

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: The low number of records since the 2003 fires continues with just one record (2 last year): 1/9 Dec Warks/Blundells Creek/Old Mill Rds GrD15 (SmA1). Last year's records were from the same area.

PODARGIDAE: frogmouths**Tawny Frogmouth** *Podargus strigoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A cryptic species, faithful to the same nest site. Anecdotal evidence suggests the species is more abundant than is recorded here. Frogmouths have been recorded breeding in 8 of the past 10 years.

General: 12 records this year, considerably fewer than in the previous 2 years. Recorded from 9 dispersed grid cells but not in Aug, Sep or Nov. The number of individuals ranged from 1-4. Five breeding records, all in Oct: on/22 Oct Mt Rogers GrJ11 (BIR1); dy/27 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3); dy/27 Oct Ainslie GrL13 (CuR1); ny/27 Oct Mt Majura GrM13 (CuR1); and on/nr Laurel Camp Rd GrG15 (MoM3).

GBS: 51 records, mainly of 2 birds (range 1-5), from 12 sites from all months but May. One breeding event, from on/4wk Aug to dy/1wk Dec Watson GrL12 (WaK1) where the species has bred before. Abundance $A=0.0319$ is up 112% against the long-term average.

CAPRIMULGIDAE: nightjars**White-throated Nightjar** *Eurostopodus mystacalis*

Rare, Breeding Migrant

No records. Last recorded Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 in Mar 2007.

AEGOTHELIDAE: owlet-nightjar**Australian Owlet-nightjar** *Aegotheles cristatus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Continues the pattern of regular low level reporting of this species. No breeding recorded.

General: 4 records (1 WOO), all of single birds or presence, from Carwoola GrP15, Iron Mines Road GrK03, Mulligans Flat NR GrM10 and Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 in Oct, Jan (2) and Apr.

GBS: 14 weekly records, from 4 sites, 2 urban (Ainslie and Griffith) and 2 rural (Carwoola and Burra). Three records from Aug, the remainder from 1wk Jan to 1wk May. All single birds save 2/4wk Feb Griffith GrL11 (BaS2).

APODIDAE: swifts**White-throated Needletail** *Hirundapus caudacutus*

Uncommon, Migrant

General: Only 7 records this year, two in Dec and the other 5 in the period 12 Feb to 14 Mar. Very small flocks, the largest being 12 birds Kambah GrJ16 (FrM1).

GBS: Recorded 6 times from 5 sites in the period 3wk Jan to 2wk Apr - a very large decrease of abundance from last year ($A=0.157$ to 0.015). One group of 30/3wk Jan, Ainslie (HoS1), other records are of 3-4 birds only.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

Rare, Migrant

General: One record of 20/11 Mar Holt GrJ12 (LaJ5).

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

Common, Breeding Resident/Visitor

General: 76 records from 11 grid cells. Down from 97 records from 11 grid cells last year. As is usual the majority (64) came from LBG and its environs (incl JWNP). The remainder were from LGIN (5) and other Canberra lakes and ponds with the exception of 2/25 Nov Newline Quarry GrN14 (LaS1) and 1/14 Jan Coppins Crossing GrI13 (HoS1). They were reported in all seasons: spring (23); summer (21); autumn (24); and winter (8). Breeding was again reported from 2 sites in LBG: E Basin-Molonglo R GrsL14/M14 nb/27 Oct, on/27 Oct, on/28 Oct, ny/16 Mar, dy/24 Apr, (LaS1, MaR4, HoJ1, TaN1); and E side Black Mt Peninsula GrK13 on/25 Oct, ny/15 Dec, ny/26 Jan (BoC4). The number of birds involved varied from 4 to 50 (E Basin-Molonglo R) and 2 to 5 (E side Black Mt Peninsula). Little Pied Cormorants, Great Cormorants and Little Black Cormorants were also breeding at the E Basin-Molonglo R site and Great Cormorants and Little Black Cormorants at the Black Mt Peninsula site (see also Holland 2008a, 2008b).

GBS: 13 records of 1 or 2 birds from 4 sites. 10 of the records came from a site close to a body of water at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

The number of records and the distribution of this species continues to increase.

General: 163 records (4 WOO) from 49 grid cells. Although the number of records has shown a small decrease from the large number reported last year (180) the number of grid cells from which they were reported has increased from 38 to 49. This is the largest distribution of records for this species since COG re-defined its area of interest in January 1990 (COG 1993). Although the records have been more widespread this year, the majority, 105 (65%), continue to come from urban lakes and wetlands in Canberra. They were reported in all seasons: spring (66), summer (30), autumn (43) winter (25). Breeding was reported from two sites: on an island in a small lake at Yowani Country Club GrL12 on/27 Oct (5 birds) (CuR1) and Molonglo R GrL14 on/27 Oct, on/28 Oct, on/16 Mar (2 to 4 birds) (LaS1, MaR4, HoJ1); Australian White Ibis were also breeding at the Yowani Country Club site and Australasian Darters, Great Cormorants and Little Black Cormorants at the Molonglo R site. Away from the breeding colonies the largest numbers reported were: 18/17 May, 15/9 Jun Norton Rd Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1); and 15/5 Apr Tin Hut Dam Googong GrO18 (AnI1).

GBS: 123 records throughout the year from 10 sites. This is the largest number of records so far recorded for this species in the GBS and reflects the increased number of rural and urban sites close to bodies of water. They also reflect the more widespread distribution of this species. Most came from sites at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (36 records), Murrumbateman GrI8 (35 records), Hoskinstown GrS17 (18 records) and Red Hill GrK14 (13 records). The largest numbers were 11/4wk Oct, 8/3wk Oct, 7/5wk Oct, 7/4wk Jan from Murrumbateman (BIJ1), and 10/3wk Jan, 6/1wk Feb from Jerrabomberra (HaL2). The others were all 5 or fewer with the majority (96) being of 1 or 2 birds.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 77 records from 18 grid cells. Although the number of records are fewer than the past two years they are still historically high. 62 (81%) of the records came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra. They were reported in all seasons: spring (36) summer (24) autumn (7) and winter (10). The largest numbers were 35/17 Feb LTug GrJ16 (HoJ1), 14/2 Jan, 13/5 Oct, 11/27 Oct LGIN GrJ12 (AlB1). There was one breeding record from the Molonglo Reach ny/16 Mar (HoJ1) involving 3 birds and two breeding records from the E side Black Mt Peninsula

GrK13 ny/9 Mar, ny/29 Mar (BoC4, HoJ1) involving 1 and 8 birds respectively. Australasian Darters and other species of cormorant were also breeding at one or both these sites at the same time.`

GBS: 29 records from 6 sites. 23 of the records involved sightings of 1 to 7 birds from Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) which is an urban site close to a body of water.

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* Common, Breeding Resident

General: 59 records from 18 grid cells. As in the previous 4 years most records (53) came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra with the majority coming from LBG and JWNR (32) and LGin (11) and there were fewer records in winter (6) than in spring (19), summer (18) or autumn (16). Breeding was reported from 2 sites in LBG: E end Black Mt Peninsula GrK13 ny/15 Dec (16 birds), ny/26 Jan (6 birds), on/27 Jan (4 birds), ny/9 Mar (32 birds), ny/29 Mar (150 birds) (BoC4,McI1, HoJ1); and Molonglo Reach GrL14 dy/16 Mar (6 birds) (HoJ1). Australasian Darters, Little Pied Cormorants and Great Cormorants were also breeding at these sites (see also Holland 2008a, 2008b). Little Black Cormorants were first reported breeding between the E end Black Mt Peninsula and the mouth of Sullivans Ck in 2003-04 (COG 2005). Since then the number of birds involved has increased dramatically. The largest numbers reported away from the breeding colonies were: 100/16 Jan, 63/2 Jan, 60/29 Dec LGin GrJ12, 50/1 Dec W Basin, LBG GrK13 (FeP1, AlB1, WhB2).

GBS: 17 records from 3 sites (none in winter): Macquarie (GrJ13) 1 record of 3 birds; and 2 urban sites close to bodies of water – Greenway (GrJ16) 5 records of 4 to 17 birds (HaA2) and Jerrabomberra GrM16 11 records of 1 to 4 birds (HaL2).

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius* Rare, Visitor

Since February 2001 there have been 54 endorsed records of this species. It has been observed throughout the year in numbers from 1 to 15. All but 3 of the records have come from Canberra, namely: LBG and JWNR (26 records) LGin (12) LTug (11) and GBS sites (2).

General: 10 records from 3 grid cells: 1/16 Sep, 5/27 Oct, x/7 Dec, 2/30 Jan, 1/20 Feb, x/21 Mar JWNR GrL14, 1/19 Oct Central Basin LBG GrK14, 3/18 Jan Aspen Island LBG GrK14, 1/27 Oct Molonglo Reach GrL14, 1/21 Mar LGin GrJ12 (SmA1, MaR4, StR2, HoS1, BuM1, HuL1, LaS1, BoC4). There was also one unconfirmed sighting near Gunning (K03).

PELECANIDAE: pelican

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus* Common, Visitor

General: 56 records from 9 grid cells continues last year's fall in the recording rate from the high of 93 records from 18 cells recorded in 2005-06 which was the largest reported in this category since 1988-89. As in previous years the majority of records (52) came from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra of which 48 were from LBG and JWNR and there were fewer records in winter (3) and autumn (8), than in spring (28) and summer (17). Largest numbers reported were as usual during the warmer months: 32/27 Oct, 21/27 Oct, 20/21 Oct, 20/6 Nov all JWNR GrL14 (LaS1, MaR4, HoS1, SmA1).

GBS: 14 records from 3 sites from 1wk Aug to 2wk Jan. All of 1 or 2 birds except for 6/3wk Nov Macquarie GrJ13 (LaS1) and 3/1wk Nov Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

ARDEIDAE: herons, egrets, bitterns**Australasian Bittern** *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 27 Jun 2001.

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus*

Rare, Visitor

General: 7 records of 1 or 2 birds at Acacia Inlet, LBG GrK13 from 16 Jan to 10 Feb (SmA1, AlB1, BuM1, LeM1, HoS1, McI1).

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 22 records (1 WOO) from 13 grid cells. They were widely distributed and recorded in all seasons. The largest numbers reported were: 8/15 Sep Wet Lagoon GrS02, 6/14 Oct, 4/12 Sep Rose Lagoon GrU04 (FrM1, BuM1). All other reports were of single birds.

GBS: 1/2wk Oct Murrumbateman GrI08 (BIJ1), 1/4wk Oct Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Eastern Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 43 records from 9 grid cells. This is a similar reporting rate as last year and is the largest number of records reported for this species in an ABR, although some may have been repeat sightings of the same bird. All the records were from suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra with the majority coming from LBG and JWNR (29) and Yerrabi Pond (6). The numbers reported were 1 bird (28 records) or 2 birds (5 records) and were recorded in most months from 21 Jul to 14 May.

GBS: 3 records: 1/1wk Aug Lyneham GrK12 (UpA1), 1/2wk Nov Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), 1/1wk May Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Rare, Visitor

General: 6 records each of 1 bird from 3 sites: 1/4 Oct Uriarra Hs dam GrF13 (SmA1); 1/31 Dec, 1/3 Jan, 1/4 Jan JWNR GrL14 (AnI1, SmA1); and 1/7 Apr, 1/26 Apr Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (ZwM1, CuR1).

Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis*

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 13 records from 4 grid cells. This reverses last year's rise in the reporting rate (23 records from 2 cells) which was largest number reported since 1992-93. Numbers varied from 1 to 9 and were reported from JWNR (8 records), Yerrabi Pond (3), LGin (1) and LBG (1). A number of the records may have been of the same bird or birds.

White Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 175 records (6 WOO and 5 WBS) from 57 grid cells. The number of records is the same as last year but came from a larger number of cells (57 compared with 44). The records were spread over the region with 58 (33%) coming from 33 cells beyond suburban Canberra. Reported in all seasons with the largest number in spring (75) and fewer in winter (28), summer (38) and autumn (34). Most records were of 1 or 2 birds (95 and 41 records respectively), the largest recorded were: 7/30 Jan JWNR GrL14 (HoS1), 6/5 Apr Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (AnI1). There were only 2 breeding records: nb/28 Oct Molonglo R GrL14 (MaR4); and dy/26 Jan National Gallery of Australia GrL14 (BrJ3).

GBS: 153 records throughout the year of mainly 1 or 2 birds from 16 sites, the majority coming from sites in Hoskinstown (35 records), Red Hill (32), Jerrabomberra (18), Murrumbateman (17), Gordon (17). These were mainly sites close to bodies of water.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Rare, Visitor

First record since 26 Jun 1999.

General: 1/31 Dec Kellys Swamp GrL14 (AnI1).

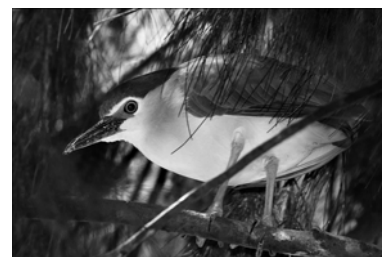


Little Egret

Photo by Tobias Hayashi

Nankeen NightHeron

Photo by Julian Robinson



Nankeen Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: The number of records have fallen from 23 last year to 7 this year: x/16 Sep, 1/6 Oct, 1/27 Oct, 1/6 Nov, 1/10 Nov JWNR GrL14 (SmA1, FrM1, MaR4); 2/27 Oct LGin GrJ12 (AlB1); and x/1 Dec vicinity Yarralumla Woolshed GrJ14 (AlR1).

THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

Rare, Visitor

General: 22 records by 10 observers, all from JWNR GrL14 from 6 Oct to 10 Nov. Most records were of 1 or 2 birds (5 and 12 records respectively) and are likely to have been of the same individual or individuals. Largest number reported: 6/27 Oct (McI1).

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 91 records (5 WOO) from 21 grid cells which is similar to the last two years' reporting level. 82 (90%) of the records came from parks and reserves in Canberra. As in previous years the majority were reported in spring (46) and summer (27), with fewer in autumn (11) and winter (7). Largest numbers reported: 120/14 Oct, 100/3 Jan, 100/23 Apr JWNR GrL14 (SmA1, HoS1). There was 1 breeding record at JWNR, nb/27 Oct (MaR4) and 2 (ny) from an island at Yowani Country Club GrK12. The first was on 27 Oct when 90 birds were reported as being present (CuR1) and the second on 28 Oct when 40 birds were reported as being present (BoC4). 90 is the largest number of birds reported from this site. 5 Little Pied Cormorants were also reported as breeding there on 27 Oct.

GBS: 87 records from 16 sites. This is the largest number of records and sites to date, the previous highest was 62 from 11 sites in 2000-01. 52 (60%) of the records came from two sites: 28 from Murrumbateman GrI08; and 24 from Jerrabomberra GrM16. Largest: 100/2wk Sep, 75/1wk Aug Kambah GrJ16, 70/4wk Apr, 50/3wk Feb, 50/3wk Apr Jerrabomberra. As is usual, the majority of records were reported in spring (25) and summer (36), with fewer in autumn (13) and winter (13).

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Common, Visitor

General: 73 records (1 WOO, 1 WBS) from 22 grid cells is a substantial drop from the number of records reported last year which were at an all time high (123 from 27 grid cells). 62 (85%) of the records came from parks and reserves in Canberra, 35 of which came from the JWNR. They were reported in all seasons: spring (38), summer (7), autumn (17) and winter (11). The largest numbers reported were: 100/2 Sep LGin GrJ12 (AlB1), 60/27 Feb JWNR GrL14 (HoS1); and 51/28 Oct Yowani Country Club GrL12 (BoC4). It should be noted that the number of records this year would have been even lower had it not been for the success of the Canberra Bird Blitz 2007 (Allan 2008), 15 (21%) of the 73 reports were made on the days of the Blitz (27-28 Oct) whereas in the previous year only 9 (7%) of the 123 reports were made on the days of the Bird Blitz 2006 (28-29 Oct).

GBS: 75 records from 23 sites is a substantial drop on the number of records reported last year which were at an all time high (137 from 26 sites). They were from sites distributed over most of Canberra (none in Gungahlin) and one each in Queanbeyan and Murrumbateman, with the greatest numbers of records from a site in Red Hill (16) (WaR4). They were reported in all seasons: spring (17) summer (5) autumn (23) and winter (30). The largest group was 80/4wk Sep Weetangera GrJ13 (OnP1).

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 26 records (1 WBS). Of these, 22 records of 1 to 4 birds came from the JWNR GrL14 from 23 Sep through to 15 May. This is similar to previous years. Also: 1/31 Jul Barton GrL14 (SmA1); 2/27 Oct Yowani Country Club GrL12 (CuR1); 6/28 Oct S Morass LBath GrZ08 (CrI1); and 2/10 Dec McKellar Pond GrJ12 (WhB2).

GBS: 9 records of 1 or 2 birds from a site at Murrumbateman GrI08 from 3wk Oct through to 4wk Dec (BlJ1).

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes*

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 8 records (2 WBS). Of these, 4 records of 1 bird came from the JWNR GrL14 from 2 to 24 May (HoS1, SmA1). Also: 4/28 Nov, 1/31 Jan S Morass LBath GrZ08 (CrI1, LeM1), 2/14 Jan Bungendore GrS13 (BuM1), 1/6 Apr Belconnen Golf Club GrI12 (BrM2).

ACCIPITRIDAE: kites, harriers, goshawks, eagles**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus axillaris*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 23 records from 9 grid cells, all of single birds except 2/28 Oct Point Hut Crossing GrJ17 (BeR3) and 2/30 Nov Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1). This is a considerable drop from last year's 78 records and is well below the 10-year average of 41.4. Most records come either from the grasslands adjacent to JWNR or along the Murrumbidgee River Corridor. No breeding recorded; the species has only been recorded breeding in our area twice in the last 10 years. Seventy per cent of records come from the spring months, and only 2 from the second half of the year.

GBS: 2 records, of a single bird, in Aug from the same site in Curtin (AJR1) adjacent to grasslands, where the species is regularly recorded. This represents a drop of 85% in abundance from last year's 23 GBS records; abundance over the long term is down 91%.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Rare, Visitor

GBS: One probable summer record which was not endorsed for want of detail. The species has been recorded in 5 of the last 10 years. While the species is unlikely to ever be common in our region, it was removed from COG's unusual birds list in 2008 as it does visit with a degree of regularity.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Uncommon, Visitor

Continues the pattern of low level but regular reporting of this species in our area in recent years.

General: 9 records, all of single birds or presence; 1 from each of Jul, Sep, Jan, Feb, and 4 from May. Recorded from 4 sites, with 6 records from the ever-popular JWNR GrL14 and one each from Googong Dam GrO17, Cotter Hut GrD22 and Casuarina Sands GrG14. Still no breeding recorded.

GBS: One record of a single bird, 2wk Mar, from a site in Turner GrK13 (MiP1). This is the fifth year in the last 10 that sea-eagles have been recorded over suburban gardens.

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Although this year's overall total of 55 records compares well with the 10-year average of 25, the actual number of individuals may be quite low, given the concentration of records from COG grid cell L14.

General: 55 records of 1-3 birds from all months except Jul. Over a third of all records came from Oct, in part a reflection of COG's bird blitz weekend. Records from 11 grid cells but with 76% from GrL14, including JWNR. Two breeding records: ny/27 Oct Jerrabomberra Creek GrL14 (MaR4); and di/27 Oct Molonglo Crossing GrH12 (RoD2).

GBS: One record of a single bird, 3wk Jul, Gordon GrK18 (RaB1). Continues the pattern of regular but low level recording of this species over suburbia.

WHISTLING KITE*Photo by Julian Robinson*

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

Common, Breeding Resident

Comparable numbers of records overall to the previous 2 years and up on the 10-year average of 73. The species appears to be well-adapted to the habitat mix and conditions in our region.

General: 83 records (18 WOO), mainly of single birds, with 15 records of 2 birds. Recorded in all months, with 47% of records in spring. Widespread, with records from 36 dispersed grid cells. Despite anecdotal indications of breeding, only two formal breeding records: on/28 Oct Hall Cemetery GrJ11 (CuR1); and dy/12 Feb Morass S GrZ08 (LeM1).

GBS: 34 records of mainly single birds from 13 widespread grid cells. No records from 3wk Oct to 2wk Dec, suggesting (hopefully) that the birds have moved out to the woodlands to breed. The A value of 0.0119 is similar to the long-term GBS mean.

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrhocephalus*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

While overall numbers of this species have fluctuated over the past 10 years, the trend seems to be an increase in “general” records at the expense of GBS ones.

General: 48 records (2 WOO) of 1-3 birds, though mainly singles. Recorded throughout the year, with a spike in Oct, with a third of all records – a probable blitz effect. Widespread, recorded from 28 urban, semi-rural and rural grid cells. Five breeding records: on/26 Sep and 6 Oct Hawker ovals GrI12 (AlB1) but subsequently abandoned; dy/22 Oct Callum Brae NR GrL15 (BoJ1); on/27 Oct Rob Roy NR GrL18 (HoO1); and dy/26 Jan Turner GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: 50 records, 48 of single birds and 2 of 2. Recorded fairly uniformly throughout the year, and from 23 widespread sites. No breeding records. The abundance value of A=0.0168 was down 20% on the long-term average.

Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

Rare, Visitor

This species was dropped from COG’s “unusual birds” list in 2008. While it remains highly uncommon, it has been recorded in low numbers in 6 of the previous 10 years.

General: One record of a single bird, 22 Jun, Coppins Crossing GrI13 (SmA1).

GBS: One record of a single bird, 1wk Sep Isaacs GrK16 (MaC4).

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

Rare, Visitor

General: Two records in early Feb, both from GrL14: 1/3 Feb JWNR (McI1); and 1/8 Feb Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (SmA1). This species is an irregular visitor to COG’s region, being recorded in 7 of the past 10 years.

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 11 records, all of single birds or presence, except 5/15 Sep Wet Lagoon GrS02 (FrM1). All records between Sep-Jan. Six came, predictably, from JWNR GrL14; the remainder variously Rose Lagoon, Wet Lagoon or the wetter parts of Namadgi NP. No breeding recorded, but the presence of 5 birds is encouraging. Swamp Harriers have been recorded in all but one of the previous 10 years, with the average nos reported at 5.2 p.a.

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*

Common, Breeding Resident

The overall total of 211 records is the highest in recent years for this species; the average total number of records in the previous 10 years was 111. It is reasonable to conclude that, despite fluctuations in observer numbers and effort, the species is currently doing well in our region. One should bear in mind though, that it is arguably our most readily identifiable species, which may contribute to the high level of records.

General: 134 records (7 WOO); 76 of a single bird; 32 of 2; 8 of 3; 3 of 4; 14 of presence; and one of 6/26 Aug LBath GrY08 (LeJ2). Records from 64 widespread rural or semi-rural grid cells; recorded fairly evenly throughout the year though with the now-usual blitz effect – 15

records (11% of the total) coming from the one weekend in Oct. Surprisingly few breeding records, however, particularly considering the numbers of nests studied by researchers at the University of Canberra: on/6 Nov Lees Rd GrM7 (BoC4); br/6 and 21 Oct Callum Brae NR GrL15 (SmA1); and br/1 Feb Woodlands Iron Mines GrK03 (SpB1).

GBS: 77 records, of 1-4 birds, from 25 widespread sites. Again, recorded fairly evenly throughout the year. The abundance ($A=0.0348$) is 209% above the long-term average.

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

For a species reported as being in severe decline in the ACT (Olsen 2006), this is again a surprisingly high number of records, and may be the consequence of the many warm exhortations to COG members to submit all records of this species declared “vulnerable” in the ACT in 2008. Misidentification cannot be ruled out entirely, however.

General: 49 records, down from last year’s 80: 36 of single birds; 10 of 2; 2 of 3; and one of presence. Recorded in all months but Jul, with 37% of records in summer; records from 18 grid cells but again most commonly from L14, which accounted for over half the records. Two breeding records of the one breeding event: on/13 Nov and ny/5 Jan West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1).

GBS: 19 records from 11 sites. Regular in none. Autumn produced the most records (9). Mostly single birds but 2/2wk Mar Torrens GrK15 (RaG1) and 2/4wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3). Abundance 22% above the long-term average but from a low base.



Little Eagle

Photo by Julian Robinson

FALCONIDAE: kestrel, falcons, hobby

Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides*

Common, Breeding Resident

This species appears to be holding its own quite nicely in our region. If one attributes a GBS record for a GBS week as a single observation (which may of course result in serious undercounting) the average combined total for this species over the past 10 years is 124 p.a.(range 62-225). It is the second most commonly recorded raptor in our area, After the Wedge-tailed Eagle.

General: 135 records (17 WOO), of 1-2 birds but also 3/27 Oct Uriarra Rd GrI14 (OvA1) and 3/28 Oct Molonglo River GrI13 (AlB1). Recorded in all months, with the heaviest concentration of records in spring. 19% of all records came from the blitz weekend. Records came from 62 widespread grid cells, including urban nature reserves and fringes and Namadgi NP. Only one breeding record: on/27 Oct Sams River Fire Trail GrG26 (RoJ5).

GBS: 24 records, mainly of single birds but also 2/3wk Oct Gundaroo GrO7 (NiA1) and 2/2wk Jan Burra GrM21 (AnI1). Records scattered throughout the year from 9 sites, 3 of which were in rural areas. The increasing urban spread of Canberra presumably accounts for the abundance level 62% below the long-term average.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 67 records (4 WOO), of 1-2 birds from 34 semi-rural or rural grid cells. Recorded in all months, and fairly evenly throughout the year apart from the now usual blitz weekend peak in Oct (15 records). One breeding record: co/28 Oct Macgregor grasslands GrH11 (BaJ1). Records of this species have remained relatively steady over the last three years.

GBS: 2 records of single birds: 1/5wk Oct Turner (MiP1); and 1/1wk Jan Jerrabomberra (HaL2). The Brown Falcon is the least urban of our raptors; its abundance level is now down 90% on the long-term average.

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 49 records, down from last year's 68 but up on the "general" average over the last 10 years of 30. Recorded in all months but Jul but most common in Oct (14 records) and Jan (11). Records from 27 grid cells, both urban and rural. 5 breeding records, of probably four breeding events: on/27 Oct Ainslie GrL13 (CuR1); on/27 Oct Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4); on/28 Oct and 24 Nov Black Mtn GrK13 (BoC4); and br/7 Jan Callum Brae NR GrL15 (SmA1).

GBS: 85 records, from 24 widespread sites, mainly of single birds, except for 2-3 in the period Oct-Feb, and 5/4wk Dec and 4/1wk Jan, associated with breeding Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). Recorded in all months save Jun, with 46% of the records from the summer months. Unusual in winter. Two breeding events: from on/2wk Oct to dy/4wk Dec Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) where the species has successfully bred in the past; and cf/4wk Oct Letchworth GrM15 (StK2). The hobby has bounced back from a lean GBS recording rate in 2006-07 and is once more the most commonly recorded urban raptor, with an abundance value of $A=0.0394$, up 14% on the long-term average.



Juvenile Australian Hobby
Photo Julian Robinson

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

Rare, Visitor

General: 2 records, each of a single bird: 1/7 Feb Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1); and 1/25 May LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). The species has now been recorded in low numbers in our area in 5 of the past 10 years and, while irregular in occurrence, has been dropped from COG's "unusual birds" list.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

One has to question whether the spread of suburbia is taking its toll on this species, or whether our birders simply do not frequent the spots it inhabits.

General: 32 records (5 WOO), all of single birds save 2/4 Aug Macgregor GrI11 (AnF1), and 4/1 Nov and 5/28 Nov Big Hole GrX24 (CoE1). The latter two records included dy, the only recorded breeding event for the species in COG's area of interest though University of Canberra research shows otherwise. The falcons have previously used the same nesting site (see Compston 2006). Recorded in all months with the now-usual blitz-associated spike in Oct. Recorded in 23 grid cells, both urban and rural.

GBS: 4 records, from 4 separate sites, in Sep, Oct, Nov and Mar. This is by far the lowest number of records for this species in many years; it is now 75% below its long-term average.

RALLIDAE: rails, crakes, swamphen, moorhen, coot**Purple Swamphen** *Porphyrio porphyrio*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 157 records is a return to average reporting rates after a high of 191 records last year. The urban lakes and their associated tributaries and wetlands again account for 94% of the records (74 from JWNR, 38 from various other sites around Lake Burley Griffin, 19 from LGin, 5 from LTug, 5 from Point Hut Pond, 3 from Gungahlin wetlands, and 3 from Dunlop). Just 10 records from widespread locations away from Canberra, including Wet Lagoon GrS02, Rose Lagoon GrU04, LBath GrZ08 (WBS), Plains Road GrR16, Captains Flat GrS21, Queanbeyan sewage works GrN15, Uriarra GrF13, and Tidbinbilla GrF18. The mean number of individuals reported per record was 7.6, the largest number reported was 51 at Point Hut pond on 20 Feb (RaB1). There were 32 records of breeding (17% of all records), up on last year's 14 (7%), including co, nb, dy and br, over a more extended breeding period from 25 Aug to 9 Mar.

GBS: Regular records throughout the year, of up to 20 birds, from two sites, one in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), the other at Lake Jerrabomberra, NSW GrM16 (HaL2). Dependent young recorded from 1wk Nov to 4wk Mar at Lake Jerrabomberra.

Lewin's Rail *Lewinia pectoralis*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 3 records at Kellys Swamp on 19 Oct (HoS1), 27 Oct and 11 Nov (SmA1). This is the seventh year in the past 11 years in which the species has been recorded.

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 4 records this year is a return to average reporting levels (mean 5.4, range 0-19 for the previous 10 years) after a high of 19 records last year. There are now records of this species from 10 of the past 11 years. One report 11 Nov Kellys Swamp (SmA1) and 3 reports of up to 2 birds observed at the pond at the Namadgi Visitor's Centre GrJ19 between 25 Feb and 12 Apr. Breeding is suspected to have occurred there based on the presence of a juvenile bird on 10 Mar (PeH2, CanberraBirds email discussion list, 16 Apr 2008) but this is not recorded in the COG database.

**Buff-banded Rail at Norgrove Park***Photo by Julian Robinson***Baillon's Crake** *Porzana pusilla*

Rare, Visitor

General: 13 records this year is a return to near-average reporting rates (mean 7.3, range 0-41 for the previous 10 years) after the exceptional 41 records last year and none the year before that. The species has now been recorded in 8 of the past 11 years. All records were from Kellys Swamp GrL14, between 23 Sep and 10 Nov, of up to 3 birds (SmA1, FrM1, BuM1, HoS1, AnF1).

Australian Spotted Crake *Porzana fluminea*

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 8 records this year is a return to average reporting rates (mean 6.6, range 0-24 for the previous 10 years) after the exceptional 24 records last year; this is the 9th year in the past 11 with records. All records were from Kellys Swamp GrL14, between 14 and 31 Oct, of up to 2 birds (HoS1, SmA1, BuM1, GiM3, AnF1, MoM3).

Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis*

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 7 records this year is a return to average reporting rates (mean 6.8, range 0-32 for the previous 10 years) after the exceptional 17 and 32 records of the previous two years. The species has now been recorded from 10 of the past 11 years. 4 of the records were of from Kellys Swamp between 16 Sep and 20 Oct (SmA1, FrM1), the other three of 2 birds present at the Namadgi Visitor's Centre pond between 25 Feb and 11 May (FrM1, HoS1, ZwM1). No breeding was officially recorded this year, however reports to the CanberraBirds email discussion list of three birds at the Namadgi Visitor's Centre pond in early July 2008, including possible juveniles, suggest the pair there did breed.

Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis*

Rare, Visitor

General: An apparent micro-influx of this species this year resulted in 12 records from several locations, though only three of these were submitted to the COG Rarities Panel for endorsement. Unendorsed records included up to 3 birds at the Uriarra homestead dam GrF13 in the first half of Oct followed by single birds at Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 in the last week of Oct. There were endorsed records of a bird at Point Hut Pond GrJ18 from 31 Oct to 2 Nov, and again on 16 Nov (RaB1); and a single bird at the Readymix quarries near Bungendore GrS12 on 15 Nov (DeD2). It is not clear just how many birds were in the region, but it is the first occurrence of the species here since the record of a bird at Kellys Swamp in Dec 2002.

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 155 records this year: fewer than last year's 177 but represents a return to average reporting levels. The urban lakes and associated tributaries and wetlands account for 81% of the records (down on 89% last year): 72 from JWNR, 23 from various other sites around Lake Burley Griffin, 19 from Lake Ginninderra, just 1 from Lake Tuggeranong, 5 from Point Hut Pond, 3 from Gungahlin wetlands, and 2 from Dunlop. The 28 records from locations away from Canberra include several from Queanbeyan, Googong dam, a variety of scattered riverine and farm dam sites, and a single WBS record from LBath on 31 Jan. The average number of individuals reported per record was 7, the largest number reported was 50 at Jerrabomberra Wetlands on 23 Apr (HoS1). There were 14 reports of breeding (up on 7 last year) including nb, dy, and br, all from major urban wetlands, between 28 Oct and 4 May.

GBS: Regular records throughout the year, of up to 25 birds, from two sites, one in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), the other at Lake Jerrabomberra, NSW GrM16 (HaL2). Dependent young recorded from 3rd week Oct to 4th week Mar at Lake Jerrabomberra.

Coot *Fulica atra*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 175 records this year is within the range of recent reporting rates. The urban lakes and associated tributaries and wetlands account for 82% of records (down on 86% last year): 74 from JWNR, 33 from various other sites around LBG, 20 from LGIN, 2 from LTug, 5 from Point Hut pond, 4 from Gungahlin wetlands, and 6 from Dunlop. The 28 records from locations away from Canberra include several from Queanbeyan, Bungendore, Googong Dam, Tidbinbilla, Uriarra, several farm dam or rural wetland sites, and three WBS records of just 2 or 3 birds from LBath on 28 Nov, 28 Dec, and 31 Jan. The average number of individuals reported per record was 29, the largest numbers reported being around 200, at Yarralumla on 27 Oct (AnI1) and Yerrabi Pond GrL10 on 14 May (CuR1). Local breeding was again evident this year, with 14 records from several locations including JWNR, Yerrabi Pond, the Yowani golf course, Fassifern pond in Dunlop GrI11, and Tidbinbilla NR. The first record, of nb, was from Tidbinbilla on 1 Oct (BoC4), the final record of dy from Yerrabi Pond on 17 Apr (ZwM1).

GBS: Regular records throughout the year, of up to 80 birds, from two sites, one in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), the other at Lake Jerrabomberra, NSW GrM16 (HaL2). Recorded on/4wk Oct and dy/5wk Oct to dy/3wk Apr at Lake Jerrabomberra.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet

No records of Banded Stilt (last recorded Feb 1998).

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

General: 25 records from 5 grid cells, similar to previous years, mainly from JWNR (14 records), Lake Bathurst (8 records). 78% of records were during the spring months, similar to last year. No records during autumn. Largest concentration 180/28 Oct GrY08 LBath E (CrI1).

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor



Black-winged Stilts
Photo by Julian Robinson

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 4 records from GrY08 and GrZ08 LBath in Aug and Oct and then again May and Jun. The observation in Aug most interesting: co/26 Aug GrY08 (LeJ2).

CHARADRIIDAE:

plovers, dotterels, lapwings

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

Rare, Migrant

General: A single record 2/12 Feb GrZ08 LBath S Morass (LeM1). This species is an infrequent visitor to our area, not being recorded last year, 2 records in 2005-06 and then no records in 2002-03 or 2004-05.

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 9 records from 2 grid cells, all records from the LBath area GrY08 and GrZ08 during the Waterbird surveys. Seen regularly with the largest concentration 68/25 Apr GrZ08 (LeM1), numbers much reduced from previous years.

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 2 records from GrZ08 LBath S Morass on 25 May and again 15 Jun, as expected with this New Zealand winter visitor. Maximum 31/15 Jun, half the number reported when compared with last year.



Double-banded Plover
Photo by Julian Robinson

Black-fronted Dotterel *Elseyaornis melanops*

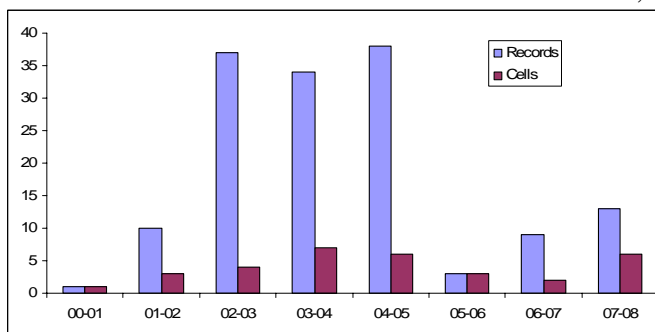
Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 41 records from 8 grid cells, the lowest number of records and cells since at least 2002-03. Seen throughout the year but over 50% of records during the spring. Highest concentration 11/27 Oct GrL14 JWNR (LaS1). A single breeding record co/23 Sep GrJ19 Tharwa Sand Wash (FrM1).

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythronyctes alba*

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 13 records from 6 grid cells incl JWNR GrL14 (7 records), and Uriarra Homestead Dam GrF13 (3). This is a slight increase in the number of records from the last two years but well below the records that were received between 2002 and 2005 see graph. Similar to last year, no autumn or winter records.

**Banded Lapwing** *Vanellus tricolour*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 6 records from 2 grid cells, all from the immediate vicinity of LBath, birds recorded throughout the year. Largest concentration 5/15 Jun GrY07 LBath (LeM1), much reduced from last year. No breeding records.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 201 records from 56 grid cells (21%), similar to previous years. Present throughout the year with 42% of records during the spring. Largest concentration 10/15 Jun GrL14 JWNR (SmA1) and 92/15 Jun GrZ08 LBath S/Morass (LeM1). Interesting to note that the highest number recorded were on the same day but at two very different locations. 12 breeding records from 3 grid cells, well down from the 21 records from 10 grid cells the previous year.

GBS: Records from 28 sites, a slight increase from last year. A single breeding observation, GrM16 Jerrabomberra (HaL2) where two sequential breeding events were recorded.

ROSTRATULIDAE: painted snipe**Australian Painted Snipe** *Rostratula australis*

Rare Visitor

General: A single record 1/14 Oct GrL14 JWNR (HoS1). This unusual observation has been described in detail – see CBN 32 (3) p135-136. The last recorded observation of this species within the ACT occurred on 18 Dec 1977 when 2 individuals were reported LBG east end by J McNaughton and then a single bird reported on 7 Jan 1978 by A.D. Ross at the Fyshwick Sewage Farm- see CBN 4 (4) p7.

SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies

No records of

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* (last recorded Mar 2006)

Rare, Migrant

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* (last recorded Jan 2006)

Rare, Migrant

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (last recorded Sep 2005)

Rare, Migrant

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* (last recorded Dec 1996)

Rare, Migrant

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* (last recorded Nov 1999)

Rare, Migrant

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta* (last recorded Dec 2002)

Rare, Migrant

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* (last record Aug 2006 and

Rare, Migrant

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis* (last recorded Sep 1997)

Rare, Migrant

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* (last record August 2006).

Rare, Migrant

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 24 records from 4 grid cells, well down from the previous two years. Apart from single records 2/27 Oct GrL11 large dam Mulligans Flat (BoJ1), 4/16 Jan GrJ13 Yarramundi Reach LBG (SmA1) and 1/20 Jan GrF13 large dam Uriarra Homestead (LiB1) all other records from GrL14 JWNR (LiB1) between 5 Sep and 30 Jan. Largest concentration 19/30 Jan JWNR (HoS1).

GBS: An unusual record of a single bird observed week 3wk Sep at Murrumbateman (BJ1).

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Vagrant

General: 8 records all from GrL14 JWNR of a single bird between 25 Sep and 28 Sep. The previous record was 1/7 Nov 2005 at LBath and before that Nov 1996

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

Rare, Migrant

General: A single record 4/23 Sep GrY08 LBath (LeJ2). Although down from the 6 records last year it is not unusual to get the occasional sighting for this species.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

Common, Migrant

General: 14 records from 2 grid cells, similar to previous years. The 12 records from GrL14 JWNR were between 16 Sep and 27 Oct whilst the 2 records from GrZ08 LBath S Morass were between 31 Jan and 12 Feb. The largest concentration was 65/31 Jan LBath (LeM1).

TURNICIDAE: button-quail**Painted Button-quail** *Turnix varius*

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: No records again this year. There is normally a handful of records of this species each year (long-term mean 4.6, range 1-12) and this and last year are the only years since 1992-93 that the species has not been recorded.

GBS: One record of a single bird 4th week Nov from a site in Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3).

Little Button-quail *Turnix velox*

Rare, Migrant

General: No records this year, after a single record last year (not submitted for endorsement).

LARIDAE: gulls and terns

No records of

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (last record 7 Nov 2005)

Rare, Visitor

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* (last record 1 Aug 2005)

Rare, Visitor

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 6 records from 2 cells, similar to the previous three years. Up to 6 birds seen between 3&7 Oct by two observers (SmA1, FrM1) and 2/29 Oct Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (HoS1) all from GrL14 and 35/28 Oct GrY08 LBath S Morass (CrI1).

Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 73 records from 11 grid cells, as in previous years. Records throughout the year. Largest numbers were LBath, the maximum being 499/28 Nov GrZ08 LBath S Morass (CrLI1). Elsewhere the largest concentrations were 50/27 Oct GrK14 Red Hill/Yarralumla (AnI1) and 50/29 Dec GrJ12 L. Gin (AlB1). 4 breeding records incl 2 from GrZ08 LBath S Morass of dy/23 Sep (LeJ2) and 28 Oct (CrI1). The remaining 2 were from GrK14, K13, LBG both of birds on nests 27 Oct (AnI1) and a very late and unusual record: on/14 June (BoC4).

GBS: 3 records from GrJ14 Curtin (AjR1), GrJ16 Greenway (HaA2) and GrK13 Turner (MiP1).

CACATUIDAE: cockatoos**Glossy Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

Rare Visitor

General: Only one record this year compared with 20 records in 2006-07: 4/3 Mar Mt Majura GrM12 (HoS1).

GBS: Mean abundance $A=0.0113$. Last recorded 2005-06. Recorded from 3 sites: 2/4wk Mar Hughes GrK15 (AnI1); 1/3wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1); 2-6/3wk Dec, 1wk Mar, 3wk Mar, 2-3wk Apr, 2,4wk May; and 1-4wk Jun Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 62 records from 38 grid cells (14%), from all months, compared with 117 records in 2006-07. 2 were WOO (3.2%). Reporting rate 2.6%. Abundance: mean 4.6, median 2, max 43/25 Apr The Morass GrZ08 (LeM1). No breeding records (3 last year).

GBS: Records from 48 sites (66.7%) from all weeks of 1-110 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=0.5237$) was 69.6% higher than the long-term mean but similar to 2006-07 and much lower than the peak abundance after the 2003 bushfires ($A=2.2998$ in 2003-04), representing a return to earlier levels of abundance. Reporting rate 208% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 3 sites (compared with none last year): dy/5wk Apr Cook GrJ13 (BrM2); dy/1wk Feb Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1); and dy/3wk Mar, 2-3wk Apr, 3wk Jun Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 118 records from 39 grid cells (14.7%) from all months, compared with 108 the previous year. 9 (7.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 4.9%. Abundance: mean 2.58, median 2, max 17/20 Oct CSIRO Black Mtn GrK13 (LsC1). 4 breeding records (1 last year): ih/14 Jul, 17 Jul Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1); ih/ 7 Oct Black Mt GrK13 (BoC4); and ih/15 Dec Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4).

GBS: Records from 72.2% of sites from all weeks of 1-40 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=0.915$) was 36% higher than 2006-07 ($A=0.6710$) but not yet back at the levels of 2003-04 ($A=1.1505$). Both Abundance and Reporting rates were 28% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 7 sites (compared with 4 last year) from ih/5wk Oct Watson GrL12 (WaK1) to dy/3wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Lophochroa leadbeateri*

Escapee/Vagrant

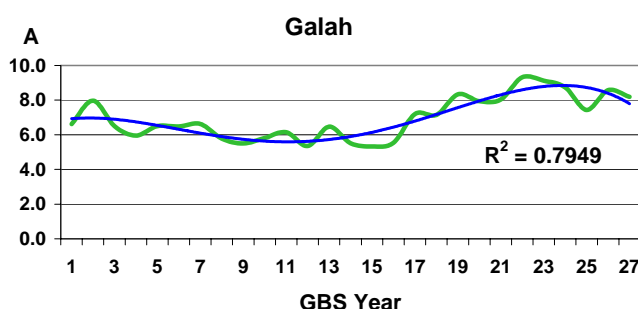
General: 12 records (1 last year) of a single bird from 4 grid cells (1.5%) with 9 records from Cooleman Ridge GrI15 and one each from Telopea Park GrL14 and Hughes GrK14 from Jul to Feb, presumably the same bird which has been frequenting the southern suburbs for some years now. One record from GrN20 (Burra). Recorded from 7 Jul to 3 Feb.

GBS: Single bird recorded from four sites (recorded from one site in 2006-07) in Chapman (GrI15), Weston (GrJ15), Curtin (GrJ14) and Hughes (GrK14).

Galah *Eolophus roseicapilla*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 912 records from 144 grid cells (54%) from all months, compared with 809 in the previous year. 245 (27%) were WOO. Reporting rate 38%. Abundance: mean 5.36; median 3; max 258/4 Jun Aranda Primary School GrJ13 (OrP1). 38 breeding records (19 last year) commencing with ih/14 Jul Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1) and concluding



with dy/16 Feb Billy Crace Reserve GrA10 (BoC4) including 3 early hollow inspections between April and June.

GBS: Records from all sites from all weeks of 1-100 individuals. Most abundant species recorded in the GBS. The mean abundance ($A=8.0965$) was 5.6% lower than 2006-07 ($A=8.5765$) but 17.3% above the long-term mean. Reporting rate was 8.8% higher than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 19 sites (compared with 16 last year) from ih, co/ 3wk Jul to dy/3wk Feb.

Long-billed Corella *Cacatua tenuirostris*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 9 records from 6 grid cells (2%) compared with 10 in 2006-07. Abundance: mean 3.71; and max 15/24 Jan Murrumbateman GrI06 (DaC1). 1 breeding record: co/12 Aug Callum Brae NR GrL15 (NeG1).

GBS: Records from 5 sites (6.9%) compared with 3 last year. Recorded in 14 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.011$) was 264% higher than 2006-07. Most records were of 1-3 individuals with one record of 15. Reporting rate 531% higher than long-term mean. No breeding records.

Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea*

Breeding Resident

General: 83 records from 22 grid cells (8.27%), the same number of records as in 2006-07, mainly from southern suburbs but some records from northern suburbs (e.g. ANU GrK13). 19 (23%) were WOO. Reporting rate 3.5%. Abundance: mean 6.4; median 3; and max 85/23 Mar Lake Tuggeranong (GrJ16 (HoJ1). 3 breeding records, ih/3 Oct Goorooyarroo NP GrM11 (HoS1), on/27 Oct, 3 Nov Callum Brae GrL15 (CoE1).

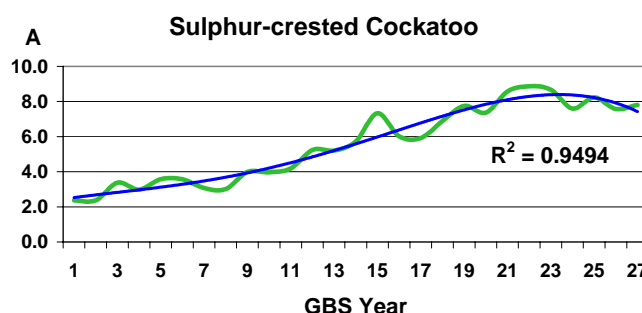
GBS: The mean abundance ($A=0.5821$) was 60.9% higher than 2006-07 ($A=0.3618$) continuing a long term increase (643% higher than the long-term mean). Records from 47.2% of sites of 1-60 individuals from all weeks. Reporting rate 531% higher than long-term mean. No breeding records.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 875 records from 151 grid cells (57%) from all months, compared with 835 in the previous year. 218 (24.9%) were WOO. Reporting rate 36.5%. Abundance: mean 8, median 3, max 600/2 Jun Mt Painter GrJ13 (LeM1). 22 breeding records (12 last year) commencing with ih/1 Sep Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4) and concluding with dy/18 Dec Hawker J12 (AlB1) with 2 early hollow inspections in May and June at The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: Second most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Records from 98.6% of sites from all weeks of 1-200 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=7.7654$) was about the same as for last year, but 41% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 22% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 13 sites (compared with 3 last year) from ih/1wk Jul to dy/1wk Jun.



Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

Rare Vagrant

These records of single birds are most probably of escapees; wild flocks are sometimes recorded in the COG area, however.

General: 1 record (3 in 2006-07): 2/11 Oct Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1).

GBS: Recorded from 3 sites (4 in 2006-07): 1/2wk Oct, 3wk Mar Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1); 1wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (TaN1); and 4wk Feb, 2wk Mar-2wk Jan Wanniasa GrK16 (HeS1).

PSITTACIDAE: lorikeets, parrots**Rainbow Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus haematodus*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 24 records from 5 grid cells (1.9%) (mostly from The Pinnacle NR GrI13 and Hawker / Scullin GrI12) compared with 18 in 2006-07. Abundance: mean 2.54, median 2, max 7/30 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1). Two breeding records: dy/8 Dec The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1), br/24 Feb Scullin GrI12 (FeP1).

GBS: The mean abundance ($A=0.0694$) was 37% lower than 2006-07 ($A=0.1106$), but 270% higher than the long-term mean. Records from 15.3% of sites of 1-6 individuals from 48 weeks. Reporting rate 228% higher than long-term mean. No breeding recorded (recorded from 1 site last year).

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna*

Rare Visitor

General: 1 record compared with 3 in 2006-07: 2/4 Mar Antill St Queanbeyan GrN15 (PaD2)

GBS: No records (recorded from 2 sites in 2006-07)

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*

Rare Visitor

General: No records in 2007-08 compared with 25 records in 2006-07.

GBS: Recorded from 2 sites (same sites as in 2006-07): 2/2wk Feb Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1); and 2/4wk Jan Turner GrK13 (MiP1).

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 164 records from 35 grid cells (13%) from all months, compared with 189 in the previous year. 24 (14.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 6.8%. Abundance: mean 4.23, median 3, max 59/13 June Mt Majura GrM12 (LeM1). 7 breeding records (2 last year) commencing with ih/14 Jul Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1) and concluding with dy/8 Feb Namadgi NP GrF19 (HoS1).

GBS: Fifteenth most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Records from 88.9% of sites, from all weeks of 1-50 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=1.7538$) was 5.38% lower than 2006-07 ($A=1.8536$) continuing a downward trend since 2002-2003 ($A=2.5261$), but still 14% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 34% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 11 sites (compared with 6 last year) from dy/4wk Oct to dy/3wk Feb.

Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii*

Rare Visitor

General: 39 records from 16 grid cells (6%) compared with 47 in the previous year with most records from September to April with one record each from May and June. 6 (15%) were WOO. Reporting rate 1.6%. Abundance: mean 2.28; median 2; and max 15/15 Sep Gundaroo Common GrO07 (FrM1). 2 breeding records (4 last year): dy/18 Dec Hawker GrJ12 (AlB1); and dy/21 Dec Cook GrJ13 (FeP1).

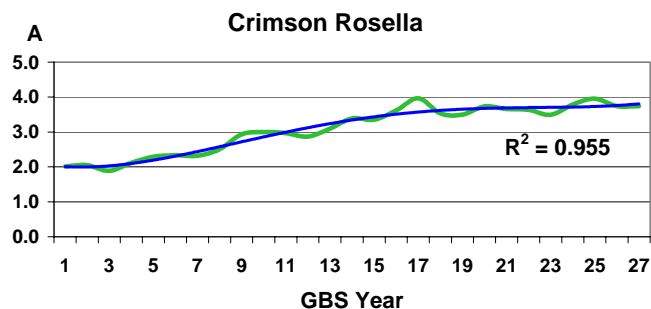
GBS: Records from 15.3% of sites of 1-28 individuals from 22 weeks (all but 3 records from 1wk Aug to 2wk Jan). The mean abundance ($A=0.1094$) was 48% higher than 2006-07 ($A=0.0737$) and more than 16 times greater than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 1 site (compared with 3 last year): dy/2-4wk Dec Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 1249 records from 196 grid cells (74%) from all months, compared with 1077 in the previous year. 329 (26%) were WOO. Reporting rate 52%, the 2nd most sighted species in general surveys after the Australian Magpie. Abundance: mean 5.27; median 3; max 121/13 June Mt Majura NR GrM12 (LeM1). 57 breeding records (20 last year) commencing ih/13 Jul The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and concluding with dy/24 Feb Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2).

GBS: 5th most abundant species recorded in GBS (down from 3rd in 2006-07.). Records of 1-30 individuals from all sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=3.7393$) was 1.33% lower than 2006-07 ($A=3.7896$) but 22% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 16% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 18 sites (compared with 12 last year) from ih/1wk Aug to dy/2wk Feb with an early hollow inspection 1wk May.

**Eastern Rosella** *Platycercus eximius*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 752 records from 123 grid cells (46%), from all months, compared with 691 in the previous year. 239 (32%) were WOO. Reporting rate 22%. Abundance: mean 3.98, median 2, max 34/27 Oct The Pinnacle NR (BrJ3). 22 breeding records (17 last year) commencing with ih/14 Jul Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1) and concluding with dy/4 Feb TSR 48 GrN05 (LeM1).

GBS: Records of 1-14 individuals from 97.2% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=1.7348$) was 4.46% higher than 2006-07 ($A=1.6606$) and 15% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 6% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 13 sites (compared with 11 last year) from ih/4wk Sep to in dy/3wk Mar.

Crimson-Eastern Rosella Hybrid

GBS: Single birds recorded from 1 site (4 sites in 2006-07): 1/4wk Aug-1wk Nov; 4wk Nov-1wk Dec Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2).

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*

Rare Visitor

General: 8 records compared with 1 in 2006-07, all from GrM12 Mt Majura in April and May. Abundance: mean 14.25, max 26/26 Apr Mt Majura GrM12 (HoS1).

GBS: One record (same as in 2006-07): 7/4wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1).

Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 289 records from 65 grid cells (24%), from all months, compared with 309 in the previous year. 40 (13.8%) were WOO. Reporting rate 12%. Abundance: mean 5.59; median 4; and max 85/21 Mar Duffy GrI15 (HoJ1). 7 breeding records (9 last year) commencing ih/23 Sep Goorooyarroo NR GrM12 (BoC4) and ending dy/15 Jan Cotter Rd GrH15 (HoS1).

GBS: Records of 1-50 individuals from 40.3% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.4656$) was 9.27% higher than 2006-07 ($A=0.4261$) and 14% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 4.9% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 2 sites (compared with 1 last year): dy/4wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1); and dy/3wk Feb Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1).

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella*

Rare Vagrant

General: 1 record (2 in 2006-07): 1/8 Feb Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (HoS1).**Budgerigar** *Melopsittacus undulatus*

Rare Vagrant

General: No records. Last recorded Jun 2005.**CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel**

A marked increase in records for most species compared to last year. There was no corresponding increase in breeding records. GBS increases influenced by records from rural sites, apart from Eastern Koel.

Eastern Koel *Eudynamys orientalis*

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 28 records of single birds from 6 grid cells (30 from 5 last year). Of these, 14 records are likely to be of a single bird by the same observer in Garran GrK15 (SmA1). 7 All records from urban areas except 2 from Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). First record 1/20 Oct Macquarie (AnF1) last 1/18 Jan Higgins (OrP1).

GBS: 1-2 birds recorded from 33 sites, an increase on last year's 24, with abundance up 55% over previous year: first was early 1/wk2 Sep Ainslie GrL13 (DoC1) and last 1/wk2 Mar O'Connor GrK13 (BaI1). No records from rural sites.

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

Vagrant

General: As for last year, a single record: 1/1 Jan Garran GrK15 (SmA1).**Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo** *Chalcites basalis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: A big increase in records: 150 (26 WOO) from 60 grid cells compared to 48 records (5 WOO) from 24 grid cells last year. First record in Jul Iron Mines Rd GrK03 (SpB1), last x/7 Mar TSR56, Yass Road GrC07 (FyM1). Records mostly of 1-5 birds with a high count of 9/5 Oct Callum Brae GrL15 (SmA1). Breeding: dy/16 Jan Uriarra Crossing GrG12 (BuM1).

GBS: Recorded from 9 sites during 23 weeks cf 2 records from 2 sites last year. Most records from rural sites at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). First 1/3wk Aug from Burra (AnI1) and Gundaroo GrO07 (NiA1), last 1/1wk Feb Hoskinstown (KaJ1). 2 breeding records: di/wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and dy/1wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chalcites osculans*

Rare, Visitor

General: First endorsed records since 1989. Up to 3 birds at Uriarra East Reserve GrG12, first reported on 9 Oct (see Scialfa 2007) with further records for 10-11 Oct (SmA1). Also a WOO record 1/17 Dec Majura Firing Range GrN13 (BoJ1).

Shining Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 38 records (3 WOO) from 29 grid cells, an increase from 27 records last year. Most records of 1-2 birds, also 3/22 Sep Googong Dam GrO17 (AnI1). First record 1/25 Aug ANBG GrK13 (McI1) and last 2/30 Jan JWNR GrL14 (HoS1). No breeding records.

GBS: 8 records from 4 sites: first 1/3wk Sep Burra GrM21 (AnI1), last was very late 1/3wk Apr Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Pallid Cuckoo *Cacomantis pallidus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 134 records (34 WOO) of 1-6 birds from 62 grid cells, compared to 84 (17 WOO) from 31 grid cells last year: first x/1 Aug Iron Mines Rd GrK03 (SpB1) with 7 other records in

August, and last 1/8 Mar Mulligan's Flat GrM11 (BuM1). Only 1 breeding record (9 last year), co/3 Sep Whiskers Creek Road GrQ16 (BuM1).

GBS: Records of 1-2 birds from 15 sites (3 last year): first 1/2wk Aug Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and last 1/1wk Mar Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). Breeding: 3 di records from Carwoola (BuM1).

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

The number of records for this species has fluctuated significantly over the past 10 years.

General: 70 records from 47 grid cells, up from 49 records last year. Numbers: 1-11 birds with maximum 11/8 Oct Brandy Flat walking track GrI23 (LaD1). First 1/2 Sep Yanununbeyan NP GrQ20 (KaJ1); last 1/25 Apr Sweeneys TSR GrU11 (LeM1). Many of the records are from the ACT's western and southern ranges. One breeding record: co/27 Oct Old Boboyan Rd GrH26 (RoJ5).

GB7S: 15 records from 5 sites (4 records last year): first 1/3wk Aug Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and last 1/2wk Feb Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). One breeding record: dy/4wk Dec Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

Records for this species have declined significantly over the past 10 years, so an increase this year was welcome.

General: 10 records of 1-2 birds from 10 grid cells, compared to 3 records last year. 5 were during the Blitz Weekend 27-28 Oct, these were the first records for the year. Last report was 1/5 Feb Whiskers Creek Rd GrQ16 (BuM1). No breeding recorded.

GBS: 15 records of single birds from 3 sites, no records last year. All but one record from rural sites at Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) from 1/4wk Sep to 1/4wk Jan. The other record was 1/1wk April Gordon GrK18 (RaB1).

STRIGIDAE: hawk owls

Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 8 records, all presumably of the same bird which frequented the ANBG from 13 May 2007 (see Overs 2007). It was last recorded on 20 Sep (StR2). No records this year from Tallaganda or the Brindabella Range. Powerful Owls have now been recorded in our region in 5 of the previous 10 years. They are believed to be resident in Tallaganda SF and have also been recorded in the Brindabella Range and Tidbinbilla, but never previously in the heart of the city.

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*

Rare, Visitor

The most recent endorsed record comes from Shepherds Lookout in Apr 1998.

General: Two records from GrK03, not presented for appraisal.

GBS: One record of 2 birds from a rural site, not presented for appraisal.

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 17 records, all of single birds or presence, from all months except Jul, Jan and Apr, and from 12 grid cells in both urban and rural locations. The highest number of general records since 2000-01.

GBS: 112 weekly records, all of single birds save 2/1wk Dec Hughes (BeR3) and 2/4wk Apr Hackett (BoS2). Surprisingly, no breeding recorded, though the species has been recorded as breeding in 6 of the past 10 years. Abundance ($A=0.0365$) 10% below the long-term average.

TYTONIDAE: masked owls**Eastern Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

Rare, Visitor

GBS: A single record, 1/2wk Sep Turner (MiP1). Only the second GBS record in 10 years.**ALCEDINIDAE: kingfishers****Azure Kingfisher** *Ceyx azureus*

Rare, Visitor

General: A single bird at Shoalhaven River/Kings Highway Crossing GrZ15 (BoC4).**HALCYONIDAE: kookaburra, kingfishers****Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Regularly reported through the year. 443 records (69 WOO) from 18% of sheets and 139 grid squares. Despite this widespread reporting there were only 2 breeding records: co/19 Sep Majura GrM12 (WaK1) and dy/17 Nov Mt Ainslie GrL13 (BoC4).**GBS:** Similar to last year with reporting from 42 sites with 9 recording regular observations though the year. For the 3rd year running, a breeding record at Watson ih/2wk Aug to ih/2wk Sep Watson GrL12 (WaK1) plus dy/1wk Feb Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1).**Red-backed Kingfisher** *Todiramphus pyrropygia*

Rare, Visitor

General: This was a very unusual year for this species. The last endorsed record was in 2002. This year there were 16 records including 3 breeding records. The records of 1 or 2 birds came from two areas. The major area was the Ginninderra/Parkwood area Grids H11/I11 and the birds were recorded 11 times from 27 Oct Ginninderra Ck GrH11 (BaJ1) until 1 Dec Ginninderra Ck GrH11 (CuR1). During that time 3 breeding incidents were recorded as follows di/29 Oct (BuM1), co/8 Nov (HoS1) and ne/1 Dec (CuR1). The 2nd area was in Namadgi NP where all records were "Blitz" records on 27 Oct: 2 at the Naas Rd N entry to Namadgi NP GrJ23 (HaS4) and two at Long Flat Grs I28, J28 (LuN1).**Sacred Kingfisher** *Todiramphus sanctus*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 175 records (cf 148 last year) from 7% of sheets, including 16 WOO. First records 4/20 Sep: TUGHNR GrK17 (BaL1); JWNr (StR2); Jerrabomberra Grasslands (BoJ1) and TUGHNR (BaL1); and the last 1/29 Mar Lake Burley Griffin GrK14 (HoJ1). 10 breeding records from 1/ih Jerrabomberra GrL16 (BoJ1) to 1/cf Bruce GrK13 (BoC4).**GBS:** 21 records from 10 sites in the period 2wk Sep to 2wk Mar which is back to the numbers of the year before last.**MEROPIDAE: bee-eater****Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 51 times, similar to last year. The first for the year was an early one 1/8 Sep Gundaroo GrO05 (AnI1) the next being 4/4 Oct Belconnen GrK13 (TaN1) and the last for the year was 2/9 Mar Mt Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1). Five breeding records, the first on/28 Oct West Macgregor GrI11 (BaJ1) and the last dy/3 Feb Naas GrJ22 (BrM2).**GBS:** 6 records from 6 sites in Oct, mainly in North Canberra and South Belconnen and 2 records from 2 sites (Aranda and Kambah) in 2wk Mar.

CORACIIDAE: dollarbird**Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 63 records (cf 76 last year and 71 the year before) including 6 WOO. The first record for the year was 1/11 Oct Uriarra GrG12 (SmA1) and the last 2/27 Feb Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (HoS1). Again 2 breeding records: ih/22 Oct Callum Brae GrL15 (BoJ1); and co/28 Oct Black Mtn GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: 73 records from 18 sites – similar to last year. Earliest record 1/4wk Sep O'Connor GrK13 (BaI1) and latest 2 records 5wk Jan (MuT1, WaK1) both at Watson GrL12. Three breeding records (all dy): 4wk Dec Hoskinstown GrS17; and at Ainslie GrL13 2wk Jan (HoS1) and Hughes 5wk Jan (BeR3).

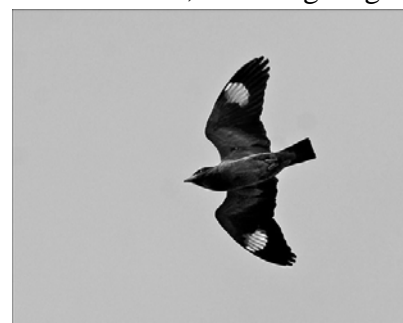
**Dollarbird**

Photo by Julian Robinson

MENURIDAE: lyrebird**Superb Lyrebird** *Menura novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: This year there were 51 records from 31 grid cells in all months except July compared to 39 from 23 grids last year and 33 from 20 grids the year before. Of the 51 records, the majority were from Namadgi NP with 9 from the Eastern edge of our area. 12 were recorded during the “Blitz”. The only breeding record was di/28 Apr Gourock NP (BoC4).

CLIMACTERIDAE: treecreepers**White-throated Treecreeper** *Cormobates leucophaeus*

Common, breeding resident

General: 535 records from 151 grid cells (57% of those surveyed), with half the records from just 13 cells, from all months of the year. Number of records similar to the previous year. 89 (17%) were WOO. Reporting rate 22.3%, far higher in Spring than other seasons. Mean abundance 1.9, median 1, max 18/15 Jul Black Mountain GrK13 (BoC4), 81% of records were 1-3 birds. 9 breeding records (6 the previous year) from ih/14 Oct The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1) to fs/19 Nov Urambi Hills GrJ16 (FrM1).

GBS: The mean abundance ($A=0.08$) 22% higher than last year and 49% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate ($R=6.00$) 27% higher than the long term mean. Recorded from 17% of sites over all weeks. Mean group size 1.33, all records being of 1 to 4 birds.

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythrops*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A species of the wet gullies with numbers again at the pre- Jan 2003 fires levels.

General: 8 records compared with 15 last year, 7 in 2005-06, none in 2004-05 and 2 in 2003-04, all from Namadgi NP. Similar to the number of reports in most years before the Jan 2003 fires (a mean of 6.2 and a median of 5 in the 10 years pre-2003 fires). Reporting rate 0.33%. 3 records in Oct, first 1/14 Oct Warks/Blundells Ck/Old Mill Rds GrD15 (SmA1), 1 in Dec, 2 in Jan, 1 in Feb and last 2/9 Apr Bendora Dam circular walk GrD17 (BoJ1). Mean abundance 1.86, 3 records of 1 bird; 3 of 2 birds and 1 of birds. 1 breeding record: br/5 Jan Warks/Blundells Ck/Old Mill Rds GrD15 (SmA1).

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Listed as vulnerable in the ACT owing to the loss of its woodland habitat. Significantly fewer reports than in the previous year.

General: 81 records (102 last year) from 26 grid cells (28 last year), 10% of those surveyed, in all months, with 18 (22%) WOO. Reporting rate 3.38%. Mean abundance 2.74 (last year 3.4), max 20/15 Dec Kellys Road nr Williamsdale GrL21 (AnI1). Most of the records of 1-3 birds. 6 breeding records (5 last year) from nb/13 Sep Murrumbidgee River approx 15 km S of Tharwa GrL22 (OrP1) to dy/15 Dec Kelly Road near Williamsdale GrL21 (AnI1).

PTILONORHYNCHIDAE: bowerbird**Satin Bowerbird** *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

Common, Breeding Resident

Of Australia's 10 species of bowerbirds this is the only one found in COG's area of concern, and this area is near the western edge of its distribution at this latitude.

General: 50 records from 27 grid cells (10% of those surveyed), similar to last year. Recorded in all months but Aug, with most records from Spring and Summer. Reporting rate 2.1%. Mean abundance 1.64, max 6/9 Dec Warks/Blundells Ck/Old Mill Rds GrD15 (SmA1). 1 breeding record: on/28 Dec Warks Rd GrE15 (BuM1).

GBS: Recorded at 21 sites (27%), reporting rate ($R\%=5.87$) 38% higher than the long-term mean, in all weeks of the year. Abundance ($A=0.1404$) 16.5% higher than last year and 22% higher than the long-term figure. The mean group size was 2.39, max 15/3&4wks Aug at a site at Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). No clear seasonal pattern, but (as last year) recorded in most weeks at a site at Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). 3 breeding records (6 last year) from 2 sites: dy/5wk Oct and di/4wk Jan Red Hill GrK14 (WaR1); and dy/5wk Jan Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1).

MALURIDAE: fairy-wren**Superb Fairy-wren** *Malurus cyaneus*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 859 records from 165 grid cells (62% of those surveyed), from all months, figures similar to the previous year. 95 (11%) were WOO. Reporting rate 35.8%. Mean abundance 5.83, median 4, max 49/6 Jun The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1). 23 breeding records (6 last year) commencing with co/5 Oct LGin Peninsular GrJ12 (AlB1) and concluding with dy/14 Mar City West Hobart Place GrL13 (BuM1), plus an late record dy/14 Jun Lake Burley Griffin GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: The mean abundance ($A=1.2185$) was similar to last year's figure and 55% higher than the long-term mean, maintaining the trend of recent years. Records from 85% of sites from all weeks. Most records were of 1-6 individuals (range 1-16) with a mean group size of 3.7. Reporting rate 33% was 31% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 7 sites (the same number as last year) from nb/2wk Aug Hackett GrL13 (LeB1) to dy/4wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

ACANTHIZIDAE: scrubwrens, thornbills and allies**Pilotbird** *Pycnoptilus floccosus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 12 records of 1-5 birds from 5 grid cells in Namadgi NP and Tidbinbilla NR: Camelback Trail GrF17 DaC1 (5 records); and Warks Rd/Blundells Ck Rd/ Old Mill Rd GrD15 SmA1 (4 records). This continues last year's increase and may reflect a recovery from the 2003 fires. No breeding records.

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

General: 298 records (2 WOO) from 102 grid cells, up from 227 records from 66 grid cells last year. Most records of fewer than 10 birds with a maximum of 25/26 Oct Camelback Trail, Tidbinbilla NR GrF17 (DaC1). Breeding: 11 records (7 last year), first cf/1 Oct Mt Clear Campground GrI27 (BoC4), last dy/23 Dec Camelback Trail, Tidbinbilla NR GrF17 (DaC1).

GBS: Recorded from 29 sites and in all months, similar to last year. Numbers from 1-4. Abundance ($A=0.1630$) is 22.5% higher than the long-term average. 5 breeding records from 2 sites: first dy/4wk Aug Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1) and last dy/3wk Oct Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1).

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren *Calamanthus pyrrhopygia* Uncommon, Resident

General: A single record, the first since Feb 2005: 2/15 May Googong Dam Foreshores Reserve GrP19 (BoC4).

Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittata* Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 157 records (38 WOO) from 38 grid cells, almost the same as last year (157 records from 34 sites). Numbers: mostly 1-7 birds with highest 8/29 Apr Brandy Flat walking track GrI23 (LaD1). 7 breeding records compared to 1 last year: 6 of dy from 6 Oct Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (FrM1) to 16 Apr O'Connor Ridge GrK13 (BuM1), also ny/4 Dec Mulligan's Flat GrL10 (HoS1).

GBS: 5 records of 1-3 birds from sites in Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and Carwoola Q16 (BuM1).

Weebill *Sericornis brevirostris* Common, Breeding Resident

General: 637 records (277 WOO) from 95 grid cells, compared with 718 records from 74 grid cells last year. This is one of the highest ratio of WOO-to-General records for any species. The majority of records are of 10 birds or fewer with highest 35/8 Jul Campbell Park GrM13 (MiP1). 7 breeding records (the same as last year): first cf/28 Oct TUGHNR GrK17 (HoO1) and last on/1 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1). Also early nb/29 Jun Mulligans Flat GrL11 (HoJ1).

GBS: Recorded from 49 sites (44 last year). Numbers: most records are of 10 birds or fewer, highest 15/2wk Aug Hawker GrI13 (WhB2). Abundance ($A=0.7783$) is 72% higher than the long-term average. Breeding: 7 records, from nb/2wk Oct Watson GrL12 (WaK1) to ny/5wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki* Rare, Visitor

General: No reports of this sporadic visitor after 9 records 2006-07 ABR.

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca* Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 96 records (42 WOO) in 28 grid cells, similar to last year, with first 2/29 Jul Mulligans Flat GrL10 (BuM1) and last 2/11 Apr Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1). 2 winter records: 1/28 Jun Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1) and 1/30 Jun Hall/Gold Creek GrJ11 (RoA1). Numbers: most records are of 1-2 birds, highest, 5/27 Oct Kowen Forest entrance GrN14 (MuT1). Breeding: 2 records probably of same breeding event, nb/15&18 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1, HoJ1).

GBS: 15 records of 1-2 birds from 4 sites, compared with 3 records last year, with most records from rural sites at Carwoola and Burra: first 1/4wk Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and last 1/4wk Mar Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone albogularis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 185 records (95 WOO) from 44 grid cells, down from 208 records last year. Note over 50% of records from WOO. First 1/12 Aug Bruce Ridge GrK13 (BoC4), with the next records in September, and last 1/29 Jun Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1). Numbers: mostly 1-4 birds, highest, 10/8 Dec Mulligans Flat GrM11 (AnI1). 5 breeding records: first nb/28 Oct Gooroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1) and last cf/28 Dec Bungendore Rd GrR12 (DeD2).

GBS: 1-3 birds recorded from 7 sites: first 1/2wk Sep Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and last 1/wk June Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata*

Common, Breeding Resident

**Striated Thornbill**

Photo by Julian Robinson

General: 264 records (57 WOO) from 105 grid cells, similar to last year (268 from 82 grid cells). The majority of records were of 10 birds or fewer with highest 37/22 Jul Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (MiP1). 10 breeding records, all dy: first dy/6 Oct Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4), last dy/23 Feb Tallaganda NP GrU21 (BoC4).

GBS: Recorded from 25 sites, cf 28 last year. Numbers: 1-15 birds with largest counts in Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). High counts from all seasons. Breeding: a single record, dy/4wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 37 records from 23 grid cells, down from 47 records last year. All records were of 1-10 birds. Breeding: 4 records, first dy/6 Oct Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4), last dy/4 April Lyndfield Park GrL02 (TaN1).

GBS: Records of 1-3 birds from 5 sites, the same number of sites as last year. The majority of records came from 2 sites in Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and Gundaroo GrO07 (NiA1). Abundance ($A=0.0255$) fell 47% from the previous year but was still 22% higher than the long-term average. No breeding recorded.

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 506 records (80 WOO) from 129 grid cells compared with 512 records from 87 grid cells last year. Numbers: 90% of records are for 10 birds or fewer with highest 40/25 May LBath GrY07 (LeM1) and 35/20 Apr The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1). Breeding: 38 records, up from 17 last year, first nb/13 July The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1), last dy/29 Feb Kambah GrJ16 (FrM1).

GBS: Recorded from 56 sites. Numbers: mostly 10 birds or fewer with highest 50/3wk Jul Lyons GrJ15 (KoL1) and 30/4wk Jul Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). Abundance ($A=1.2717$) was higher than last year but 11% lower than the long-term average. 23 breeding records from 7 sites: first co/4wk Jul Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1) and last dy/4wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

Chestnut-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza uropygialis*

Rare, vagrant

General: No records, last recorded June 2007.

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 390 records (121 WOO) from 102 grid cells, compared with 386 records from 64 grid cells last year. Numbers: 91% of records are of 10 birds or fewer. Highest numbers: 40/8 Jul Campbell Park GrM13 (MiP1). 13 breeding records, first dy/13 Jul The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and last dy/9 Mar Tinderry Range GrN22 (BoC4). Also an early record, nb/29 Jun Gooroo South GrM12 (CoD2).

GBS: Recorded at 9 sites from all months but with fewest records in Dec-Jan. Numbers: mostly fewer than 10, highest, 20/2wk Jul Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). Abundance ($A=0.1859$) is 22% down on last year but 64% higher than the long-term average. Breeding: 1 record dy/4 Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 336 records (21 WOO) from 130 grid cells, compared with 304 records from 88 grid cells last year. The low WOO number probably reflects the lack of a shrub understorey in many WOO sites. Numbers: nearly all records of 10 birds or fewer, highest counts 15/23 Feb Tallaganda NP GrU21 (BoC4) and 12/22 Jun Ashbrook Trail, Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (McD1). Breeding: 5 records, the first nb/7 Aug Brooks Hill Reserve GrR14 (DeD2) and last two records of dy/28 Oct Tidbinbilla NR GrG17 & GrG18 (AlB1).

GBS: Recorded in 37 sites. Numbers: most records of 1-10 birds. Abundance ($A=0.3533$) is 16% lower than last year but 37% higher than the long-term average. Breeding: nb/2wk Jul Cook GrJ13 (BrM2) and dy/4wk Oct Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 80 records (9 WOO) from 29 grid cells, down from 90 records last year. Records of 1-5 birds except for 7/24 Nov Caloola Farm Naas Valley GrJ23 (BoJ1). Breeding: br/Aug Iron Mines Rd GrK03 (SpB1) and cf/22 Sep Newline Quarry GrM14 (LaS1).

PARDALOTIDAE: pardalotes**Spotted Pardalote** *Pardalotus punctatus*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 582 records (129 WOO) from 146 grid cells, compared to last year's 565 records from 120 grid cells. There were 159 WOO records last year. Numbers: all records of 1-30 birds except for 130/23 Apr Mt Ainslie NR western side GrL13 (LeM1). 10 breeding records: first ih&nb/27 Oct Aranda Bushland GrJ13 (RoS1), last dy/3 Feb Black Mtn GrK13 (BoC4). Observed throughout the year with most records in spring (221) and autumn (176).

GBS: Recorded in 57 sites. Numbers: mostly 1-15 with highest 70/2wk Apr Pearce GrK15 (KrS1). Of 13 counts of 10 or more, 7 were in April. Abundance ($A=0.6405$) is down 13% on last year but similar to the long-term average. Breeding: just 2 records from 1 site (6 from 5 last year): nb/2wk Sep and dy/5wk Oct Deakin GrK14 (RoD2).

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: A substantial increase with 877 records (348 WOO) from 189 grid cells compared with 646 records (200 WOO) from 106 grid cells last year. Numbers: 93% of records are of 1-10 birds with highest 90/29 Mar Red Hill GrK14 (PeH2). Breeding: 26 records (12 last year): from on/1 Sep Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4) to ny/11 Mar Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1). Observed throughout the year with most records in spring (379) and autumn (207).

GBS: Recorded in 57 sites. Most records of 1-10 birds with highest 30/2wk Apr Pearce GrK15 (KrS1). 7 out of 9 counts of over 10 birds were in Mar-Apr. Abundance ($A=0.6102$) is 15% higher than last year and similar to the long-term average. 21 breeding records (many of which are likely to be repeat observations of the same breeding events) from 4 sites: first ih/1wk Aug Watson GrL12 (WaK1): and last dy/4wk Feb Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1).

MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters and chats

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

General: 145 records (20 WOO) from 50 grid cells, 27% fewer than last year but very similar to 2005-06. Records evenly spread throughout the year and across the region from mountain and lowland areas. 2 breeding records: dy/2 Feb Captains Flat GrS21 (BoC4), dy/4 Mar Tuggeranong Town Centre (FrM1).

GBS: Recorded from 88% of sites, similar to last year. Recorded in all weeks but less in period 1wk Oct to 4wk Feb. Abundance ($A=0.5395$) similar to the long term average.

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii* Vagrant
 Usually found in Tallaganda forests in the east of the region, rare further west. Last records in 2003.

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: 561 records, 31% more than last year, from 172 grid cells, the most of any honeyeater. 118 WOO, more than double last year. Only one record in Jul then 2 in Aug. Big increase in records from 8 Sep and nearly half of all records were from Spring. Largest number recorded during Spring migration 250/23 Sep Lake Bathurst GrY08 (LeJ2). Autumn movement seemed to start in early March, two weeks earlier than last year, largest number recorded during Autumn migration 200/12 Apr Kambah Pool GrI16 (FrM1). 24 records in May and 26 in June indicate a larger than usual number of birds overwintering. 5 breeding records, all dy: 20 Jan Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (McD1), 27 Jan Warks Rd GrE15 and Bendora Dam GrD17 (BoC4), 8 Feb Whiskers Ck Rd GrQ16 (BuM1), 23 Feb Tallaganda NP GrT21 (BoC4).

GBS: Recorded at 85% of sites in all but 4 weeks. Overwintering records from only 2 sites during Jul, much less than last year (15). First records for spring return migration 50/3wk Aug from a rural site at Burra GrM21 (AnI1) but increase in numbers at most sites not until 2wk Sep. Many records until 1wk Oct, then very few records through Nov-Feb. Main autumn migration started 1wk Mar, 2 weeks earlier than last year and continued until 1wk May. In contrast to last year, small groups of birds were recorded at many sites through May-Jun. Abundance ($A=2.8780$) was more than double last year's low ($A=1.0975$) but only 10% above the long term average.. The species has risen to 10th most abundant bird in the GBS, and 2nd honeyeater behind Red Wattlebird. 1 breeding record: dy/4wk Jan from a rural site at Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens* Vagrant
 Rare vagrant from the inland. Only 3 previous records in Wilson (1999) and 1 in 2006-07. No records this year.

Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera* Vagrant
 Very rare vagrant from coastal districts. One record from Yarramundi Reach in Jun 2007.

General: 17 records of a single (possibly the same) bird at ANBG GrK13, 8 records between 12 Jul – 17 Aug, 1 record 1 Nov, 8 records from 21 Apr – 16 May. 1 record not presented for appraisal.

GBS: 1 record, 1/3wk Sep in Chapman GrI15 (LiB1).

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis*

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, generally irregular in the suburbs.

General: 272 records (33 WOO) from 122 grid cells, fewer records but from more grid cells than last year. 31% of records from Spring and 32 % from Autumn but the majority of WOO records from Winter. 10 breeding records (only 2 last year), most of dy: first records both dy/28 Oct from Cotter Hut Rd GrE21 (DaC1) and Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (AlB1), last dy/8 Mar Smokers Gap car park GrF19 (BoC4).

GBS: Recorded at 43% of sites, slightly more than last year (39%). Almost no records from suburban sites between 4wk Aug and 1wk Apr, but records continued during this time from rural sites: from Queanbeyan GrO12 (ScG1) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1), and more sporadically from Gundaroo GrO07 (NiA1), Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). Abundance ($A=0.1236$) continues to rise after a low several years ago, it was 31% above last year and 25% above the long term average, probably due to the inclusion of more rural sites which add records during the summer months.

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

Uncommon in the region, found along drier mountain valleys, in Apple Box woodland.

General: 20 records from 10 grid cells, similar to last year, 12 from Tinderry area GrQ21 and P21 (BrM2) between 11 Dec and 27 Apr, maximum number of birds 20. Other records, 3 in Jul from Forbes Ck GrT16, JWNR GrL14, Mt Taylor GrJ15, 1 in Sep from Yanununbeyan GrQ20, 4 in May from Googong Dam GrO10 and P19, Newline GrM14 and Molonglo Gorge GrN14. 1 breeding record cf/11 Dec Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2).

GBS: Single records from 2 rural sites, 1/4wk Jul Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and 1/1wk Sep Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, breeding in the mountains over summer.

General: 73 records (11 WOO) from 39 grid cells, similar to last year; nearly half the records coming from Blitz surveys in the mountains in Oct. Most WOO records in Jun indicating a number of overwintering birds. 8 breeding records (0 last year), first 2 both on/27 Oct (AlH1) Naas Valley GrJ25 and K23, last dy/25 Apr Gundillion GrX25 (CoE1).

GBS: Recorded at 18% of sites, nearly double last year, most records in Apr-Jun. Recorded at 2 sites in Jul, 1 in Aug, 3 in Sep and 1 in Oct, then no records until 1wk Apr. Regular records of up to 5 birds through Apr-Jun from 3 sites, 1 in Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and 2 in Cook GrJ13 (BrM2 and TaN1), plus sporadic records from 5 other sites in these months. Abundance levels over the years have fluctuated greatly. This year ($A=0.0252$) was 5 times that of last year but still 81% down on the long term average.

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

Common, Breeding Resident

Non-migratory honeyeater of woodlands in lowland areas.

General: 258 records (51 WOO) from 69 grid cells, one-third less than last year but from more grid cells. Recorded throughout the year in urban and rural areas. 10 breeding records, similar to last year. First dy/5 Oct Lake Ginninderra GrJ12 (AlB1), last dy/21 May Callum Brae GrL15 (KaJ1).

GBS: Recorded at 38% of sites, fewer than last year (61%). Recorded consistently throughout the year from only 2 sites, Greenway GrJ18 (HaA2) and O'Connor GrK13 (BaI1). Most records from 1wk Jul to 3wk Sep, with few over summer then a slight increase after 2wk Apr. Abundance has fluctuated over the years and this year ($A=0.1075$) was 29% below last year ($A=0.1504$) and 27% below the long term average.

White-fronted Honeyeater *Purnella albifrons*

Rare, Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland. First record for ACT of 1 bird at JWNR Jun 2007.

General: 4 records, 3 from the one garden in Kambah GrJ14 from 6-8 Jul, 1 record further south in Kambah GrJ16 19 Jul (GiM3).

GBS: The single bird reported under General records was recorded in the GBS site in Kambah GrJ14 (VeP1) from 1wk Jul to 4wk Sep.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

Uncommon, Vagrant

Rare species for the region, more common in coastal forests. Records for the region usually come from the upper Queanbeyan River (GrP-Q21), but the 1 record from last year was from Captains Flat GrS21. No records this year.

Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala*

Common, Breeding Resident

Common sedentary species of woodlands.

General: 472 records from 75 grid cells, similar to last year but from more grid cells. 195 records (41%) from WOO, by far the most commonly reported honeyeater in these surveys. 17 breeding records, nearly twice as many as last year: first cf/9 Sep Mulligans Flat GrL10 (HoS1), last dy/14 Jun Acton GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: Recorded at 44% of sites (41% last year), and consistently throughout the year from 8 sites, more than the usual 3 in previous years. Breeding recorded at only 3 sites: 2 sites in Watson GrL12 dy/1-2wk Sep, on/4wk Sep, ny/1-2wk Oct, dy/3wk Oct (WaK1) and dy/5wk Oct-1wk Nov (DoM1); and 1 site in Burra GrM21 nb/1wk Oct (AnI1). Abundance has been increasing over the last few years but this year ($A = 0.6102$) was slightly below last year ($A = 0.6637$) however still nearly double the long term average.

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. Last endorsed records Sep-Oct 2004.

Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

Rare summer visitor to the region. Last records were in Apr 2005 from ANU.

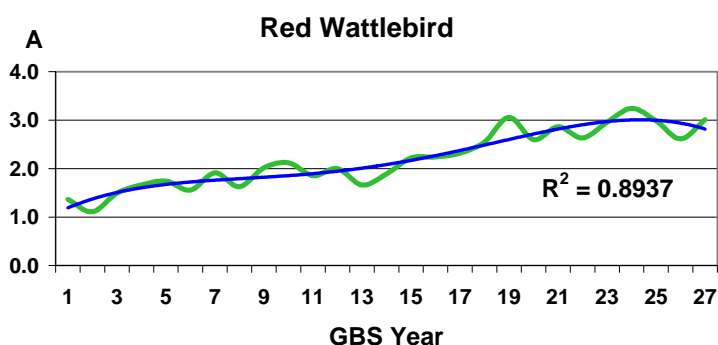
Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*

Common, Breeding Resident

The most commonly reported honeyeater with records throughout the year across the region.

General: 808 records (117 WOO) from 161 grid cells, 18% more records than last year and from more grid cells. The largest number recorded 200/4 May Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1) were not necessarily migrating. Other large numbers 36/13 June Majura NR GrM12

(LeM1) and 50/28 Jun Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1) indicated that many birds were present during the winter. 26 breeding records; the first on/22 Sep Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4) was later than usual for this species, last dy/14 Jun Acton GrK13 (BoC4).



GBS: Recorded at all 72 sites in all weeks with breeding at 38 sites. The abundance value ($A=2.9897$) was 12% higher than last year ($A=2.6724$) and 38% above the long term average. This was the 9th most abundant species in the GBS and the most abundant honeyeater. First breeding record nb/1wk Aug in Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1), last dy/1wk Mar at Page GrJ12 (AIB1) and Curtin J14 (MoM3).

Crimson Chat *Epthianura tricolor*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant to the region from inland districts. First definite record for the ACT was in 2004-05. No records this year.

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albifrons*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Uncommon resident, now rarely reported except at Lakes George and Bathurst.

General: 23 records from 9 grid cells, about half as many as last year but more than the usual number for previous years. 6 records from the Lake Bathurst area GrsY07 and Z08. 5 records from Stromlo Forest Park GrI14 from Jul, Mar and Jun, 4 records from Coppins Crossing area GrI13 and J13 in Oct and Jan, 6 records from Uriarra Homestead Dam GrF13 in Aug and Oct. Single records from Gundaroo Common GrO07 in Jul, and Bungendore Readymix Quarries GrS12 in Nov. 3 breeding records: cf/23 Sep Morass Sth GrZ08 (LeJ2), cf/15 Oct Uriarra Homestead Dam GrF13 (MoM3); and cf/14 Jan Coppins Crossing GrI13 (HoS1).

Black Honeyeater *Sugomel niger*

Rare, Vagrant

Rare vagrant from inland. Only 1 early record (Wilson 1999). 15 records in 2006-07 from Mulligans Flat GrsL11, M10 -11, Bellmount Forest GrO5 and Queanbeyan GrN15.

General: 1 record not presented for appraisal.

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

Rare, Summer Vagrant.

Rare vagrant from coastal districts. 2 records in 2006-07. No records this year.

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, reported mostly during the winter months.

General: 13 records, 4 times as many as last year but similar to previous years, from 5 grid cells. 7 records from ANBG GrK13, 2 in Aug, 5 in May-Jun. 3 records from Urambi Hills GrJ16 in Jul, 1 record from each of Warks Rd GrD15 in Dec, Big Hole GrX24 in Apr and Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 in Jun.

GBS: Records from 4 sites, 1 more than last year. Winter 2007 records from 2 sites in Kambah GrJ16, 2/2wk Jul (IoA1), 1/1-2wk Aug (PeH2). From this latter site records for the following winter in 1/4wk May-1wk Jun and 3wk Jun. Other winter 2008 records from 2 sites, in Hawker GrI13 1/3wk May to 1wk Jun (WhB2) and Hackett 1/3wk Jun (BoS2). This year's ($A=0.0035$) was less than half that of last year ($A=0.0087$) and 85% below the long term average.

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Uncommon altitudinal migrant, reported regularly from a few locations where grevilleas or banksias are abundant.

General: 94 records from 12 grid cells, throughout the year, similar to last year. 42 from grevillea plantings at JWNR GrL14, 35 records from ANBG GrK13. 2 breeding records: cf/27 Oct ANBG GrK13 (NiH1); and dy/27 Oct Murrumbidgee Country Club Golf Course GrI16 (RoM4).

GBS: Recorded at 5 sites. Only recorded in one week at 3 sites, in Turner GrK13 1/1wk Aug (MiP1), Holt GrI12 1/3wk Dec (DaC1) and Kambah GrJ16 1/1wk Jun (PeH2). Recorded 4 times in 4 different months (Nov, Jan, Apr, May) at a site in Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3), and up to 3 birds for

a string of 4 weeks 3wk May-2wk Jun in Dunlop GrI11 (BaJ1). Abundance for this species fluctuates greatly and this year ($A=0.0071$) was 51% higher than last year ($A=0.0047$) but still 81% down on the long term average. 1 breeding record dy/3wk Apr in Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3).

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant although normal distribution is only c. 100km to north-west of ACT. First endorsed records in Jun 2007 from Mt Majura GrM12 and Newline GrsM14-N14.

General: 4 records all of 1 bird from Newline GrsM14-N14, presumably one of the same birds as in Jun 2007; 8 Jul (AnF1), 15 Jul (FrM1), 20 Jul (GiM3), 22 Sep (LaS1).

Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris*

Common, Breeding Resident

A species of drier forests at all altitudes.

General: 131 records (38 WOO) from 48 grid cells throughout the year, very similar to last year. Highest number 30/16 Apr Orroral Valley GrG21 (BoJ1). 1 breeding record: dy/7 Mar Tuggeranong Town Centre GrJ17 (FrM1).

GBS: Recorded at 8 sites, most frequently throughout the year from 2 rural sites, at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). The other records from 2 rural and 4 suburban sites were scattered throughout the year. Records were mostly of small groups (2-7 birds) staying for 1-4 weeks. Abundance ($A=0.0574$) was very similar to last year ($A=0.0563$) and still well above the long term average largely due to the influence of the rural sites.

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

Migratory, departing in large flocks in autumn and returning in spring to breed in the mountain forests.

General: 188 records (25 WOO) from 88 grid cells, 41% more records than last year but WOO records less than half. Only 2 records before 2 Sep. Majority of records from Spring and Autumn (39% each). Similar to the other migratory honeyeaters, more than the usual records in May and Jun compared to last year. Highest number recorded during Autumn migration 60/25 Apr Tinderry GrP21 (BrM2). 12 breeding records, more than double last year: first cf/28 Oct Old Boboyan Rd GH26 (LaS1) and dy/28 Oct Tidbinbilla GrF18 (AlB1); and last dy/8 Feb Tidbinbilla NR GrF17 (HoS1); plus one very early record for the 2008 breeding season nb/29 Jun Gooroo South GrM12 (CoD2).

GBS: Records from 42% of sites, similar to last year. No records in Jul. Most records in two distinct periods: the return migration from 3wk Aug to 1wk Oct, then only 2 single records from the suburbs and 1 bird for 3 weeks in Feb at a rural site, until autumn migration from 3wk Mar to 2wk May. Records through May and Jun at 7 sites showing a similar pattern to the Yellow-faced and Fuscous Honeyeaters with many more records of overwintering birds than last year. Abundance ($A=0.1662$) was 47% higher than last year ($A=0.1129$) but still 72% below the long term average.

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*

Rare, Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. One bird at ANU May-Jul 2007. No records this year.

Noisy Friarbird *Philomen corniculatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

Common summer migrant mostly to the lowland woodland regions.

General: 335 records from 65 grid cells, 13% fewer records than last year from a similar number of grid cells. 87 WOO, 23% fewer than last year, making it the 4th most reported honeyeater in WOO surveys. First records later than usual, 1 Sep Iron Mines Rd GrK03 (SpB1), then 2 records 9 Sep both Mulligans Flat GrsL10, M10 (HoS1), then more records from 16 Sep onwards. Most records in Spring (46%) and Summer (38%). More records late in the season than last year; 15 records in Apr, 5 in May, 5 in Jun. The largest number was not recorded during migration but in Summer 20/8 Dec Mulligans Flat GrM11 (AnI1). 21 breeding records, same as last year, first on/20 Oct CSIRO Black Mountain GrK13, last dy/1 Mar Scullin GrI12 (FeP1).

GBS: Recorded at 88% of sites, similar to last year. First returns 4wk Aug at 2 sites. Last records at most sites 2wk Apr, but occasional records at 7 sites until 3wk Jun. Abundance ($A = 0.4282$) was 21% lower than last year and 51% lower than the long term average. Breeding at 11 sites, 1 more than last year. First breeding record nb/2wk Oct, 4 weeks later than last year. Last breeding, dy/3wk Feb, 5 weeks later than last year.

Little Friarbird *Philomen citreogularis*

Uncommon, Migrant

Rare summer migrant, recorded mostly to the north-west of the ACT.

General: 4 records from Mulligans Flat GrsL11, M10 and M11, from 22 Oct to 11 Dec.

GBS: 1 record, 1/4wk May in Watson GrL12 (KaW1).

Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant with a major influx to the region in 2002-3. 3 records last year, no records this year.

POMATOSTOMIDAE: babblers**Grey-crowned Babbler** *Pomatostomus temporalis*

Vagrant

General: No records this year. Last recorded at Duntroon Golf Course, GrM14, during the three previous years (the first endorsed record since 1968).

White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

Vagrant

General: No records this year. Recorded last year and the year before, first records since the 1950s.

EUPETIDAE: whipbird, quail-thrush**Spotted Quail-thrush** *Cinclosoma punctatum*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A bird of the dry forests now less frequently recorded in its former strongholds in Namadgi NP and Tidbinbilla NR owing to fire-damaged habitats.

General: 18 records (7 last year and 6 in 2005-06) from 16 grids in various parts of COG's AOI of last year when all were from Namadgi National Park. Recorded Aug-Nov, Feb, Apr and May, all 1 or 2 birds except for one group of 3/15 May Googong Dam London Bridge Arch GrO19 (BoC4). Reporting rate 0.75%. Despite being a resident species, no breeding recorded.

Eastern Whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

This species was particularly affected by the Jan 2003 fires as its habitat included the wet, east-facing gullies of the ranges to the west of Canberra.

General: 14 records, similar to last year's number, of 1-2 birds, from Oct to May, from just 6 grids: 10 records from Namadgi National Park plus 3 from Tinderry and 1 from the Warri Bridge area. The 14 records this year is more than twice the number of records over the long-term and similar to the years just before the 2003 fires: 19 in 2000-01; 21 in 1999-2000 and 14 in 1998-99. Reporting rate 0.58%. Despite being a resident species, no breeding recorded.

NEOSITTIDAE: sittella**Varied Sittella** *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 67 records compared with 83 last year and 101 in 2005-06, from all months. Recorded from 28 grid cells (11% of those surveyed). 12 (18%) WOO. Reporting rate 2.79%. Mean abundance 3.94, median 4, max 16/8 Jul Campbell Park GrM13 (MiP1), most reports being of 1-5 birds. 7 breeding records (4 last year) from on/25 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (RoA1) to dy/8 Dec The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: 6 records (10 last year) from 3 rural sites: Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1), Murrumbateman GrI08 (BlJ1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1), with abundance ranging from 1 to 8.

**Varied Sittella**

Photo by Julian Robinson

CAMPEPHAGIDAE: cuckoo-shrikes, cicadabird, triller**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Res/Migrant

A widespread, easily identified, largely summer migrant

General: 477 records, a number similar to the previous year, from 104 grid cells (39% of those surveyed). WOO 83 (17%). Recorded from all months with only 26 winter records cf 240 in Spring. Reporting rate 20%. Mean abundance 1.89, median 1. Just 3 records of 10 or more birds with max 15/13 Apr Back Creek TSR GrY19 (McD1). 13 breeding records (the same as last year), from nb/20 Oct LBG West Basin Foreshore GrK13 to dy/11 Mar Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1).

GBS: Recorded from 85% of sites in all months. Abundance ($A=0.3082$) was 37.5% higher than last year and 38% below the long-term mean. Mean group size 1.46, most observations of 1 to 3 birds, with one large group: 8/4wk Aug Gundaroo GrO07 (NiA1). 9 breeding records cf 1 last year, from 6 sites from 3wk Dec Scullin GrI12 (OvA1) to 2wk Mar Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*

Rare, Visitor

The patchy continental distribution of this nomadic species means that it is only occasionally recorded in the Canberra region. The usual pattern of low numbers of records of this rare species continued this year.

General: 1 record of 1 bird, 7 Apr Hawker East GrI13 (BrJ3). No breeding recorded.

Cicadabird *Coracina papuensis*

Uncommon, Migrant

This elusive species was recorded more frequently in the past than now, owing to fire damage to its breeding areas in the wet forests to the west of Canberra.

General: 3 records (2 last year): 1/9 Dec, 1/5 Jan and 1/12 Jan, all from a single Namadgi NP locality: Warks/Blundells Creek/Old Mill Rds GrD15 (all SmA1). No breeding recorded.

White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

A species declared "vulnerable" in the ACT in Dec 2003. More records than in recent years.

General: 125 records (102 last year and 82 and 80 the two previous years), the highest number recorded since 1988-89 (151). Annual numbers have fluctuated markedly since then. From 55 grid cells (21% of those surveyed) cf just 29 grid cells last year. 15 (12%) WOO. First 1/3 Sep LGin Peninsula GrJ12 (PeH2) and last 3/18 Feb Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1). Reporting rate 5.2%. Mean abundance 2.37, median 2, max 3 records of 10 birds: 15 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1), 18 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (HoJ1) and 15 Dec Kelly road GrL21 (AnI1). 17 breeding records (8 last year), from nb/14 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) to dy/18 Feb Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1).

GBS: Recorded from 6 sites from 1wk Oct to 2wk Jan. Most records of 1 or 2 birds, plus 2 of 3 birds, 1 of 4 and 1 of 5. 1 breeding record: dy/2wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

PACHYCEPHALIDAE: whistlers and allies**Crested Shrike-tit** *Falcunculus frontatus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 37 times through the year incl 5 WOO. Three breeding records, dy/4 Feb TSR48 GrN05 (LeM1), the other two both dependant young at Newline 1/1 Jan GrM14(AnI1) and 2/3 Mar GrN14(BuM1).

GBS: 2 records from 1 site 3wk and 4wk Aug Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Two records: x/7 Oct Ginini GrC19; and 1/5 Jan Warks Rd GrD15 (both SmA1).

Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 187 times (from 8% sheets) including 14 WOO cf 225 last year and 203 the year before. Three breeding records, all of dependant young: two at Warks Rd GrE15 4/28 Dec and 4/27 Jan (BuM1, BoC4); and 6/20 Jan Tidbinbilla GrF18 (McD1). Again the usual drop off in numbers recorded in the warmer months 4 in Nov, 4 in Dec, 10 in Jan and 5 in Feb, only 12% of observations in 33% of the year.

GBS: This year the abundance is $A=0.12$ compared with 0.14 last year and 0.10 the year before, slightly down against the long term average. It was reported from 45 sites cf 46 last year. Very few records in the period 5wk Oct 1wk Feb with only 5 records from 2 sites.

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 475 times (on 20% of sheets) incl 134 from WOO. This compares with figures of 457, 480, 331, 276, 289 and 364 in previous years. Seven breeding records - the first cf/28 Oct Fairbairn GrN14 (KaJ1) and the last dy/24 Feb Tallerack GrI10 (AlB1). Again disappeared from the area in the colder months, 2 records in May, 1 in June and July and none in Aug.

GBS: This years abundance ($A= 0.08$) was up from last years 0.04 and the 0.02 of the year before. In fact it was back to the levels of the mid 1990s. Recorded from 27 sites 38% of the total. No records until 2wk Sep and from 2wk Jun.

Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

Common, Breeding Resident

Widely recorded through our area and in all months.

General: 418 records from 17% of sheets incl 25 from WOO. This compares with 374 and 410 in the previous two years. Only four breeding records: two at Campbell Pk GrM13 di/22 Aug and cf/18 Nov (HoS1, HoJ1); nb/28 Oct Gooroo GrM11 (BoJ1); and on/6 Nov Lees Rd GrM07 (BoC4).

GBS: The abundance $A=0.1236$ increased from 0.0777 of last year. Recorded from 22 sites (31%). Two breeding records: nb/2wk Oct Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1); and dy/1wk Mar Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

ORIOLIDAE: oriole**Olive-backed Oriole** *Oriolus sagittatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

A migratory woodland species not uncommonly recorded in Canberra suburbs. Generally the first of the summer migrants to return to our region.

General: 170 records from 58 grid cells (22% of those surveyed), a marked increase on the 107 records from 32 grid cells last year. 44 (26%) were WOO. Reporting rate 7.1%. Mean abundance 1.42, median 1, all but 14 records of 1 or 2 birds, max 6/27 Oct Red Hill GrK14 (AnI1). Recorded from across the region from Aug to Apr: first 1/22 Aug Campbell Park M13 (HoS1) and last 1/23 Apr Mt Ainslie NR GrL13 (LeM1). 4 breeding records (none last year) from nb/27 Oct Uriarra Crossing and surrounds GrG12 (RoD4) to dy/3 Feb Black Mountain GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: Recorded at 43% of sites; reporting rate 6.84%, all of 1-3 birds, from 1wk Aug to 4wk Jun. Abundance ($A=0.0787$) 34.3% higher than last year and 38% higher than the long-term mean. 1 breeding record: dy/1wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

ARTAMIDAE: woodswallows, butcherbirds, magpie, currawongs**Masked Woodswallow** *Artamus personatus*

Rare, Visitor

7 records (cf 13 last year) from 4 widely dispersed grid cells; 3 of the 7 from 1 site at Iron Mines Rd Gunning area GrK03 (SpB1). Recorded Sep to Dec and in Mar: first in Sep Iron Mines Rd Gunning area GrK03 (SpB1) and last in Mar from the same site and observer. Abundance provided for 3 records: 1 of 1 bird, 1 of 3 and max 7/8 Oct Brandy Flat walking track GrI23 (LaD1).

GBS: 1 record from each of 2 sites: 20/1wk Oct Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1); and 2/3wk Oct Hackett GrL13 (LeB1).

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus*

Uncommon Breeding Migrant

No repeat of the irruption that occurred last year.

General: 16 records from 11 grid cells (4.1% of those surveyed) cf 72 records from 28 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 0.67%. Mean abundance 7.71 with max 30/8 Oct Brandy Flat walking track GrI23 (LaD1). All records from between Sep and Apr: first 6/27 Sep Cook GrJ13 (TaN1) and last 5/12 Apr ANBG GrK13. 2 breeding records (none last year): dy/27 Oct Dunlop GrI11 (BaJ1) and nb/28 Oct Corin Rd/Tidbinbilla Rd junction GrH17 (LaD1).

GBS: 3 records, 1 each from 3 sites: 40/1wk Oct Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1); 10/3wk Oct Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1); and 1/2wk Apr Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

Woodswallows of unknown species

An observer (HoS1) recorded hearing 2 woodswallows 3wk Oct at Ainslie GrL13 but could not determine if they were White-browed or Masked Woodswallows.

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus*

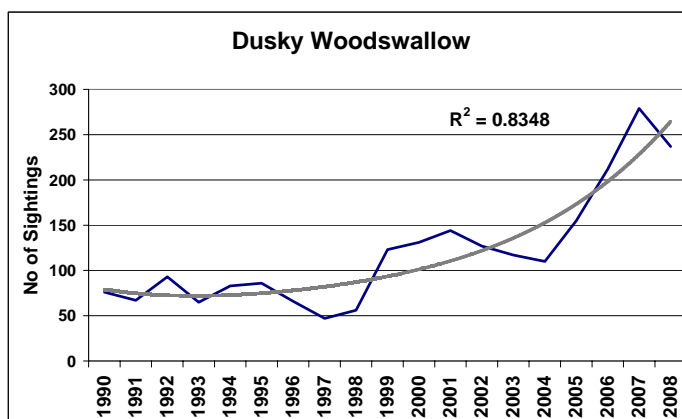
Common, Breeding Migrant

A migrant woodland species; some over-winter. The second-highest number of records since the late 1980s.

General: 237 records from 77 grid cells (29% of those surveyed) cf 279 records from 70 grid cells last year, from all months, with lower numbers of records in winter. Number of records last year highest since ACT Atlas period (1988-89: 426 records), this year's figure more than twice the annual mean of 76 reported during the 1900s. Reporting rate 9.88%. Mean abundance 5.27, median 3, 85% of records being 1-9 birds. Max 54/20 Apr

The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1). 35 breeding records similar to 33 last year, from nb/6 Oct Lake Burley Griffin West Basin GrK13 (BoC4) to dy/4 Feb TSR 48 GrN05 (LeM1).

GBS: Higher than the long-term figures on most parameters. Recorded over 31 weeks. Abundance ($A=0.0994$) 27.3% lower than last year but 31% higher than long-term mean. The percentage of sites at which recorded ($F\%=23.6$) 58% higher and reporting rate ($R\%=1.84$) 62% higher than the long-term means. Group size ranged from 1-40 (mean $G=5.40$), similar to the long-term mean.

**Grey Butcherbird** *Cracticus torquatus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A woodland species more frequently recorded in recent years than earlier.

General: 214 records from 94 grid cells (35% of those surveyed), an increase on the 200 records from 60 grid cells last year. Present in all months. 61 records (28%) WOO; 55 records (26%) from Mulligans Flat. Reporting rate 8.9%. Mean abundance 1.16, all records of 1 or 2 birds plus 5 records of 3. 3 breeding records: on/23 Sep Mulligans Flat GrL11 (LiB1), on/7 Oct Paddys River Road GrH17 (McD1) and ne/9 Oct Goorooyaroo NR GrM11 (HoS1).

GBS: As last year, far above the long-term means on key parameters. Recorded at 44% of sites (33% last year), 4.4 times the long-term mean, over 51 weeks (5.0 times the long-term mean). Reporting rate 10.07, 13.5 times the long term mean. Mean abundance ($A=0.1123$) twice that of last year (+109.5%) and 14.5 times the long term mean. Mean group size ($G=1.12$) similar to the long term mean. 3 reports of 3 birds, two from a site at Kambah GrJ15 (HaB2) and the other from Watson GrL12 (WaK1), the remainder 1 or 2 birds.

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis*

Rare, Visitor

General: 8 records (cf 6 last year): 1/Nov Ironmines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1) and again in Dec, Jan and Mar. Also 1/1 7 Jan Mulligans Flat NE GrM10 (HoS1) and 1/2 Feb Captains Flat GrS21 (BoC4). Also an unconfirmed record at University House ANU. No breeding recorded.

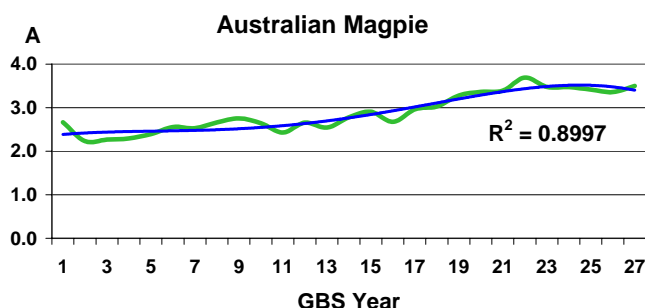
Pied Butcherbird
Photo by Julian Robinson



Australian Magpie *Cracticus tibicen*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: The most frequently reported species, with 1,367 records from 204 grid cells (130 last year), 77% of those surveyed, incl 362 (26%) WOO, from all months. A 15% increase on the previous year but still well below the 1,635 records in 2000-01. Reporting rate 57%. Mean abundance 4.07, max 205/25 May



Lake Bathurst GrY7 (LeM1) and 136/8 Jul Plains Road West GrR16 (BuM1), 79% of records being 1-5 birds. 98 breeding records (74 last year) from all months except Mar, Apr and July.

GBS: 6th most abundant species, recorded from all sites and in all weeks, with most parameters similar to the long-term figures except for abundance (A=3.4963) which was 22% higher than the long-term average. Abundance similar to last year. Mean group size 3.69 with the largest 22/3wk Jun Curtin GrJ14; large numbers recorded from this site most weeks. Breeding records from 36 sites (50%) in all months but Jun.

Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: The 7th most frequently reported species (14th last year), with 863 records from 170 grid cells (64% of those surveyed) of 602 records from 114 grid cells last year, from all months, with 32% reported in Oct the month of COG's annual blitz. 113 (13%) WOO. Reporting rate 36%. Abundance: mean 3.68; median 2; and max (roost flight) 521/13 Jun Mt Majura GrM12 (LeM1). 76% of records were of 1-3 birds. 50 breeding records (31 last year) in Jul, Sep – Feb and May; from co/14 Jul Bruce Ridge GrK13 (AlB1) to dy/7 May Mt Majura GrM12 (CuR1).

GBS: 3rd most abundant species (A=3.9697) (5th most abundant last year), recorded in all weeks, with records from all sites. Abundance similar to last year and to the long-term mean. Reporting rate 90.84%. Mean group size 4.37, max 51/1wk Mar and 51/1wk Apr, both from a site at Turner GrK13 (MiP1). Breeding records from 37 sites (51%) from nb/4wk Jul Hackett GrL13 (BoS2) to dy/3wk Feb Hughes GrK15 (BeR3) and one early record for the coming year, from the same site: nb/3wk Jun.

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*

Common, Breeding Resident

Generally thought of as a bird of the forests and woodlands, but also found in Canberra, particularly the suburbs near its periphery.

General: 152 records from 56 grid cells (21% of those surveyed) of 146 records from 43 grid cells last year, from all months, with 25 (16%) WOO. Reporting rate 6.33%. Mean abundance 1.33, max 3, 72% being of 1 bird, 23% of 2 and 5% of 3 birds. 9 breeding records of 1 last year, from nb/22 Aug Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1) to on/30 Nov Bruce Ridge GrK12 (WhB2).

GBS: Similar to the long-term means on all parameters calculated. Recorded at 37.5% of sites, in 51 weeks. Abundance A=0.0952, similar to last year's figure. Reporting rate 7.42%. Mean group size 1.28, 1 record of 3 birds, the rest of 1 or 2.

DICRURIDAE: drongos**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus*

Rare, Migrant

General: No records this year. Recorded last year at Jerrabomberra wetlands

RHIPIDURIDAE: fantails**Rufous Fantail** *Rhipidura rufifrons*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 20 times (cf 22 last year). The first record was 1/27 Sep Googong GrO17 (AlB1), the last 1/12 Apr ANBG GrK13. No breeding records.

GBS: 4 single birds at 3 sites: 1/4wk Oct Turner GrK13 (BoC4); two records 4wk Feb Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1, GeJ1); and 4wk Mar Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1).

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: Recorded 711 times on 30% of sheets (57% of grids surveyed) incl 184 WOO. This compares with 749 last year and 742 the year before. Breeding recorded 12 times, first on/11 Nov Gungaharra GrK12 and last dy/8 Mar Smokers Gap GrF19 (both BoC4). Decrease in winter records this year not so noticeable (7% cf 3.7% last year) but still only 9 records in Jul and 12 in Aug.

GBS: This year the reporting rate of A=0.17 was down slightly on last year (0.19) and 49% below the long term average, Reported from 37 sites (52%) compared with 67.5% of sites last year and 85 to 90 % of earlier years.

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 397 times (incl 53 WOO) cf with 432 last year and 407 the year before. This was from 17% of sheets and 47% of grids surveyed. Breeding recorded 22 times: earliest on/6 Oct LBG GrK13 (BoC4); and latest dy/16 Feb Micalong Ck GrA11 (BoC4). Again a marked decrease in recording over winter with only 9% of records in the 3 winter months.

GBS: Recorded at 43 sites (61%). The abundance this year (A=0.2120) is above last years 0.1655 and similar to that of the year before. Breeding records at 4 sites: ny/1wk Nov and ny/1wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1); dy/2wk Nov Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2); dy/2wk Jan and 2wk Feb Lyons GrJ15 (KoL1); and dy/1wk Feb Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

CORVIDAE: ravens**Australian Raven** *Corvus coronoides*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: The 3rd most frequently reported species (same as last year), with 941 records from 170 grid cells (64% of those surveyed) cf 860 records from 113 grid cells last year, from all months. 191 records (20%) WOO. Reporting rate 39.2%. Mean abundance 2.75, max 50/28 Mar Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1), 89% were of 1-5 birds. 43 breeding records cf just 16 last year, each month from Jul to Jan, from on/18 Jul Yarralumla Reach GrJ14 (RoM3) to dy/9 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1).

GBS: Recorded from 96% of sites and in every week. 17th most abundant species. Abundance (A=1.4234) similar to last year's figure but 35% above the long-term mean. Reporting rate 65.47%, 30% higher than the long-term mean. Mean group size 2.17, max 21/3wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (AlR1). Breeding at 6 sites (16 last year): from on/5wk Jul Hawker GrI13 (WhB2) to dy/3wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) and recommencing with nb/1wk Jun Red Hill GrK14(WaR4).

Little Raven *Corvus mellori*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

This species is sometimes difficult to identify and some of the records of one or two birds may be of Australian Ravens.

General: 95 records from 59 grid cells, 22% of those surveyed, figures similar to last year. From all months with no clear temporal pattern except that 25 records (26%) were from October, the month in which COG's ACT blitz was conducted. Reporting rate 4%. Mean abundance 31.1 (21

last year), a highly skewed distribution with a median of 6. 7 records of 100 or more, max 515/25 May Lake Bathurst GrY08 (LeM1). 4 breeding records (none last year): from on/11 Sep 6 Mile TSR GrS15 (BuM1) to nb/27 Oct Boboyan Pines GrH25 (DeD2).

GBS: Records higher than the long-term means on most, but not all, parameters. Records from 9 sites (12.5%) the same as last year, with no clear temporal pattern. Abundance ($A=0.1288$) 49% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate ($R\%=1.68$) 2.3 times the long-term mean. Mean group size ($G=7.67$) 55% lower than the long-term mean, with the largest 100/3wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). No breeding recorded.

Crow and raven species not elsewhere reported upon

3 records: 7/4 Jul Gundaroo Common GrO07 (NiA1), 6/29 Jul Lake Bathurst East Basin GrY08 (LeJ2) and 6/10 Mar Lake Bathurst South Morass GrZ08 (LeJ2).

MONARCHIDAE: flycatchers, monarchs

Leadhen Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 129 times (from only 5% of sheets) incl 24 WOO, down slightly from previous two years. First record for the year 1/26 Sep The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1) and the last 3/12 Apr ANBG GrK13. Breeding recorded 10 times (same as last year), the first being nb/27 Oct Kambah Pool GrI16 (RoM4) and the last dy/24 Jan The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: The abundance level ($A=0.0384$) has risen sharply from 0.0141 last year. Recorded from 14 sites (20%) up to the level of previous years after the low numbers of the last two years. The first records for the year were at two sites 1wk Oct, and the last at 3 sites 2wk Mar. 3 breeding events: on/3wk and 4wk Nov, ny/2wk Dec, dy/3wk Dec at Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1); dy/4wk Jan Carwoola GrQ19 (BuM1); and dy/1wk Feb Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1).

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

Common, Breeding Migrant

A summer migrant, usually recorded in the Brindabella Range, and very occasionally on passage through the suburbs.

General: Recorded 30 times with the first observation 1/7 Oct Black Mtn GrK13 and the last 1/9 Mar Tinderry GrO24 (both BoC4). Breeding recorded 6 times from cf/28 Dec Warks Rd GrE15 (BuM1) to dy/27 Jan Warks Rd GrE15 (BoC4).

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 20 times throughout the year from 12 grid cells cf 42 times last year and 26 and 22 the previous two years. Most records were of a single bird recorded once in locations such as Kama, Huntley, Hall Pound and Cotter Reserve. 7 records were from the one area, Iron Mines Road GrK03 (SpB1), with 2 from Uriarra Homestead GrF13 (HoS1 and LiB1) and 2 from Brandy Flat Walking Track (LaD1).

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*

Rare, Visitor

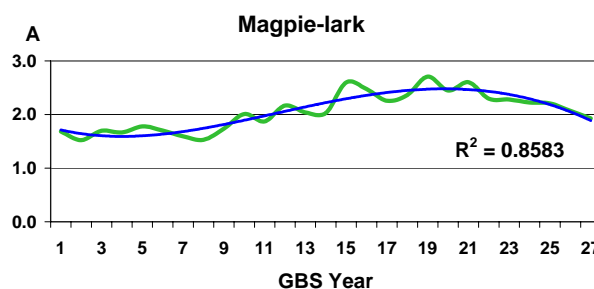
General: No records this year. Previously recorded 1 Apr 2006 at Wamboin GrQ12.

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 737 times (616 last year) throughout the year on 31% of the sheets covering 44% of grids. WOO contributed 138 records to the total. Interestingly the recording percentage in the winter months was only 11%. There were 60 breeding observations of which one third were during the “Blitz”, up from 27 last year and 38 the year before. First breeding was nb/30 Aug The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1) and the last dy/14 Jun LBG GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: Present at 69 of the 72 sites with $A=1.9251$ which is around the long term average. Breeding reported from 22 sites (30%). First breeding nb/1wk Aug O'Connor GrK13 (BaI1) a month earlier than last year and two weeks earlier than the year before. Last two breeding record dy/2wk Feb at Isaacs GrK15 (HoA1) and at Hughes GrK15 (BeR3).

**CORCORACIDAE: chough****White-winged Chough** *Corcorax melanorhamphos*

Common, Breeding Resident

A woodland species also found in the suburbs, with current GBS numbers somewhat higher than the long-term mean.

General: 326 records from 79 grid cells (30% of those surveyed), 14% more than the 286 records from 61 grid cells last year, from all months. 64 (20%) WOO. Reporting rate 13.6%. Mean abundance 7.04, median 6, max 43/16 Jun ANU GrK13 (McD1). 48 breeding records (25 last year) from all months Aug to Jan, from nb/18 Aug Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1) to dy/30 Jan Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR GrL14 (HoS1).

GBS: Recorded from 47% of sites (similar to last year) over 51 weeks. Abundance ($A=0.6954$) similar to last year's figure but almost twice the long-term mean. Reporting rate 8.91%, more than twice the long-term mean. Mean group size 7.81, max 21/2wk Mar Hackett GrL13 (LeB1). Breeding records from 4 sites, from ny/4wk Oct Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2) to dy/5wk Apr Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

PETROICIDAE: robins**Jacky Winter** *Microeca fascians*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 31 times throughout the year cf 49 last year and 25 the year before, with nearly half the records from Newline Quarry GrN14. Highest number observed at Newline was 6/20 Oct (BuM1). There were 5 records from Campbell Park GrM13, with the highest number 3/2 Sep (AnF1). One breeding record: dy/4 Feb TSR48 GrN05 (LeM1).

GBS: A record of a single bird 4wk Apr Aranda GrJ13 (HaK1).

Scarlet Robin *Petroica boodang*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 159 times (incl 28 WOO) from 7% of sheets and 26% of grids, down from last years 207 records. Highest number recorded was 14/4 Apr Campbell Park GrM13 (LeM1) at subsite 05 during the Woodland Survey. Most regularly reported from Nature Reserves on the fringes of the suburbs, such as The Pinnacle NR and Cooleman Ridge Nr, Campbell Park and Mulligans Flat. Only 9 records (6%) in the 3 summer months.

GBS: 58 records from 11 sites compared to last year (33 from 10) sites with abundance up from 0.0157 to 0.0290 but still 30% below the long-term average. Only 7 records in the 6 month period 1wk Sep to 1wk Mar incl.

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: Recorded 25 times this year down from 41 last year. 7 records from Mulligans Flat GrsL10-11 and GrM10 and 10 from Goorooyarroo NR M11. Highest number reported: 8/4 Apr Lyndfield Park GrL02 (TaN1). Of these records 7 were during the “Blitz”. No records in May, Jul and Aug with 1 in Jun. Four breeding records: dy/27 Oct Casuarina Sands GrH15 (FrM1); on/27 Oct Mulligans Flat GrM10 (BoJ1); and two (on and nb) 28 Oct Gooroo GrM11 (both BoJ1).

GBS: A single bird 4wk Sep and 1wk Oct Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3).

Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 121 times compared with 120 last year, 101 in 2005/6 and 75 in 2004/5. Only 3 records were WOO. These records came from 5% of sheets and 27% (72) of grids. Again a lack of records in the warmer months: 2 in Nov, 3 in Dec and 7 in Jan. Breeding recorded 7 times: from di/18 Sep Brandy Flat GrI23 (LaD1) to dy/10 Feb Mt Franklin GrC18 (HoS1).

GBS: Two records, 2/2wk Aug Gundaroo GrO07(NiA1) and 1/3wk Aug Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1)

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 15 times. No over wintering birds recorded this year, first for year being 1/31 Aug Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4) and the last 1/27 May ANBG GrK13 (GiM3).

GBS: 7 winter records of single birds from 4 sites in Cook, Aranda and Florey GrJ13 and J12. 1wk Jul, 2wk Aug, 4wk Aug and then a break until 2wk May and 2wk, 3wk and 4wk Jun.

Pink Robin *Petroica rodinogaster*

Rare, Breeding Migrant

General: No records this year. Last record was in 2005/6.

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Declared “vulnerable” in the ACT in May 1997. Over the three years 2003-2006 this species seems to have declined in reported numbers although the numbers involved are fairly small.

General: Recorded 29 times (incl 6 WOO) compared with 43 times (also 6 WOO) last year. Reported from 16 different grids. Four breeding records: cf/27 Oct Mulligans Flat GrM10 (BoJ1); two dy from West Belconnen GrH11 on 28 and 31 Oct (OvA1, BuM1); and dy/4 Feb TSR48 GrN05 (LeM1).

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 86 times throughout the year from 40 grids. This compares with 99 times last year and 87 the year before. 1 breeding dy/27 Sep Googong GrO17 (AlB1).

GBS: 11 records of a single bird through the year at Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

CISTICOLIDAE: cisticolas**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A cryptic grass bird.

General: 35 records from 6 grid cells, far fewer than the 61 records from 10 grid cells last year. 28 (80%) from JWNR and environs GrL14. Recorded in all months except Apr. Reporting rate 1.46, half that of last year. Mean abundance 1.89, max 6/6 Jan JWNR (SmA1).

GBS: 2 records: 1/3wk Feb and 2/4wk Mar, both at Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

ALAUDIDAE: larks**Horsefield's Bushlark** *Mirafra javanica*

Rare, Visitor

General: A single record 1/31 Jan Lake Bathurst GrZ08 (LeM1).**Eurasian Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 84 times from 32 grids (12%) of 75 last year, 66 in 2005/6 and 38 in 2004/5. Highest number reported: 40/29 Jul LBath (LeM1), with most records coming from JWNR (21), LBath (11), West McGregor/Dunlop (6) and LGin (6). Only 7% of records in Autumn with none in Feb and Mar and only 1 in April. No breeding recorded.**GBS:** 4 records from 2 sites at Curtin and Cook GrJ14 and J13 (3wk Aug and 3wk Sep).**ACROCEPHALIDAE: reed-warblers****Australian Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus australis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 136 records from 41 grid cells (15% of those surveyed) of 156 records from 28 grid cells last year, with 47 (35%) from JWNR and FSP GrL14. Reporting rate 5.7%. Mean abundance 5.3, median 3, max 100/27 Oct JWNR GrL14 (MaR4), with 78% of reports being of 6 or fewer birds. 5 breeding records (1 last year): from nb/5 Oct LGin Peninsula GrJ12 (AlB1) to dy/21 Mar LGin GrJ12 (BoC4).**GBS:** Recorded from 2 sites: most weeks from 2/3wk Sep to 2/1wk Feb at Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2) and every week from 3/3wk Oct to 1/2wk Mar at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL1).**MEGALURIDAE: grassbirds and songlarks****Little Grassbird** *Megalurus gramineus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 31 records from just 4 grid cells, well below last year's 54 records. All but 5 records from JWNR and FSP GrL14. Not recorded in December nor from Mar to Jun. Reporting rate 1.29%. Mean abundance 1.44, max 5/9 Feb FSP GrL14 (SmA1), all but 2 of the records 1 or 2 birds. Despite being a resident species, no breeding records.**GBS:** Recorded from 4wk Dec to 4wk Apr, all of 1 bird, at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).**Rufous Songlark** *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

Common, Breeding Migrant

A woodland summer migrant whose numbers have increased in recent years

General: 90 records from 48 grid cells (18% of those surveyed) of 70, 105, 64, 45 and 16 in the 5 preceding years. Reporting rate 3.75%. Mean abundance 2.2, median 1, with max 12/15 Dec Kelly Road GrL21 (AnI1). 85% of records were of 1-3 birds. First record 1/20 Sep Jerrabomberra Grasslands NR GrL16 (BoJ1) and last 1/12 May TUGHNR NR GrK17 (LeM1), with 66% of records in Aug and Sep. 3 breeding records (none last year): cf/15 Jan Cotter Road nr Bibaringa GrH15 (HoS1); di/20 Jan Paddys River Road GrG15 (HoS1); and di/4 Feb TSR48 GrN05 (LeM1).**GBS:** Recorded from 3 sites: from 2/4wk Sep to 2/5wk Oct at Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) (except for 4wk Oct), 1/2wk Dec Turner GrK13 (MiP1); and 1/4wk Dec plus 3wk Jan site Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis*

Rare, Breeding Migrant

A infrequently recorded summer migrant.

General: 15 records (20 last year) from 11 grid cells. Reporting rate 0.63%. First record 1/11 Oct Uriarra homestead dam GrF13 (BuM1) and last 1/14 Jan Coppins Crossing & NW GrI13 (HoS1). Mean abundance 1.5, all records of 1-3 birds.

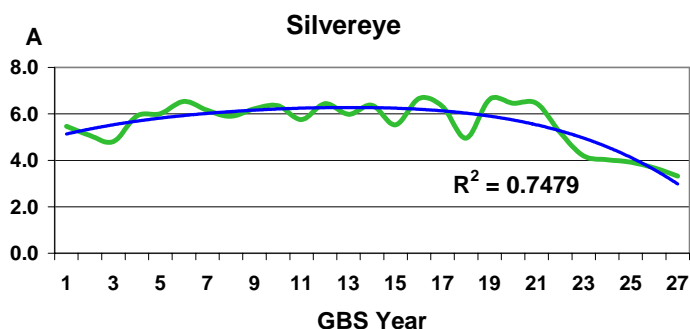
GBS: 1 record: 1/3wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

TIMALIIDAE white-eyes**Silvereye** *Zosterops lateralis*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 301 records from 89 grid cells (33%), most commonly recorded on passage, compared with 287 in the previous year. 19 (6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 12.5%. Abundance: mean 6.12, median 4, max 100/28 Oct JWNP GrL14 ((MaR4). 6 breeding records (none last year) commencing with nb/27 Oct Callum Brae GrL15 (CoE1) and concluding with dy/14 Jun L Burley Griffin GrK13 (BoC4).

GBS: 8th most abundant bird in the GBS, down from 4th last year. Records of 1-100 individuals from 93.1% of sites from 52 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=3.3195$) was 11.6% lower than 2006-07 ($A=3.8811$) and over 40% lower than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 21% lower than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 8 sites (same as last year) from nb/2wk Oct to dy/2wk Feb.

**HIRUNDINIDAE: swallow, martins****Welcome Swallow** *Hirundo neoxena*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 333 times (incl 3 WOO) from 102 grids (38%) cf 401 last year and 279 the year before. Largest group of 250 birds recorded at JWNR GrL14 23 Apr (HoS1). Groups of 100 at the same place 8 Jan, 18 Jan, 8 Feb and 9 Feb (HoS1, SmA1). Also 60 birds 29 Dec LGin W GrJ12 (AlB1). Recorded breeding 10 times in the period from nb/8 Sep TSR48 GrO05 (AnI1) to dy/18 Dec Hawker GrI12 (AlB1).

GBS: Recorded from 30 sites (42%) around the normal average of 40%. The abundance of 0.2617 is up from the 0.2034 of last year and just above the long term average of 0.23. One breeding record dy/4wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 43 times with the largest group 50/31 Oct Dunlop GrH11 (BuM1). First and last for year at Jerrabomberra GrL14 6/5 Sep (BuM1) and x/21 Mar (HuL1). Recorded breeding 13 times: from ny/27 Oct Dunlop GrI11 (BaJ1) to on/ 2 Jan Kelly Rd GrL21 (HoJ1).

GBS: 3 records from 2 sites 1/1wk Nov Dunlop GrI11 (BaJ1) and 20/2wk Mar, 24 3wk Mar Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 92 times incl 20 WOO cf 125 (25 WOO) last year. Only 1% of records in the winter months – no records June and July, 1 in Aug, 2 in Apr and 3 in May. Records mainly in single figures but some records of up to 40. Highest number reported was 100/8 Sep TSR48

GrO05 (AnI1). Five breeding records: from cf/16 Sep Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1) to on/4 Nov Gungaharra GrK12 (BoC4).

GBS: Recorded 12 times in numbers up to 10 from 5 sites between 5wk Jul and 4wk Jan. Largest group 10/3wk Aug Hackett GrL13 (LeB1).

TURDIDAE thrushes

Bassian Thrush *Zoothra lunulata*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 5 records from 2 grid cells, the same as last year. Three records of single birds from the Australian National Botanic Gardens GrK13 in Jul and Jun (GiM3, SmA1, and AnF1). The other two records were from the Tidbinbilla NR GrF17 (DaC1).

GBS: No records (1 in 2006-07)

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 195 records from 47 grid cells (17.7%) from all months, compared with 194 in the previous year. Reporting rate 8%. Abundance: mean 1.91, max 20/21 Oct JWNR L14 (MaR4). 2 breeding records (1 last year): ny/27 Oct Dunlop GrI11 (BaJ1), ne/28 Oct Scullin GrI12 (OvA1).

GBS: Records of 1-15 individuals from 95.8% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=1.1065$) was 12.2% lower than 2006-07 ($A=1.2603$) and 34% lower than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 17% lower than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 10 sites (cf 7 last year) from cf/2wk Oct to dy/1wk Apr.

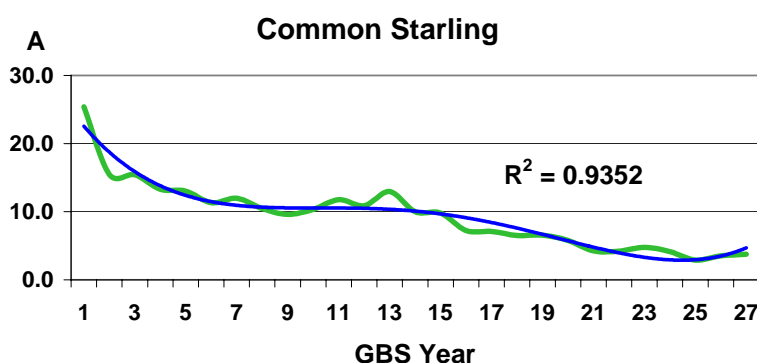
STURNIDAE starling, myna

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 684 records from 136 grid cells (51%) from all months, compared with 676 in the previous year. 166 (24%) were WOO. Reporting rate 28.5%. Abundance: mean 18.7, median 5, max 850/15 June LBath GrY08 (LeM1). 51 breeding records (24 last year) commencing ih/22 Aug Campbell Pk GrM13 (HoS1) and concluding with cf/18 Dec Hawker GrJ12 (AlB1).

GBS: This year, 4th most abundant species recorded in the GBS, up from 6th position in 2006-07. Records of 1-160 individuals from 76.4% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=3.7867$) was 8.37% higher than 2006-07 ($A=3.4941$) but not back to 2004-05 ($A=4.1747$) or historical levels e.g. 1995-96 ($A=9.8804$). Reporting rate 42% lower than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 8 sites (compared with 5 last year) from nb/2wk Aug to dy/2wk Dec.

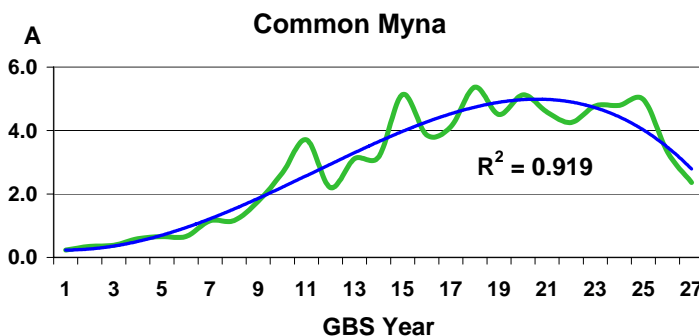


Common Myna *Sturnus tristis*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 302 records from 50 grid cells (18.8%) from all months, compared with 365 in the previous year. 41 (13.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 12.6%. Abundance: mean 3.76, median 2, max 50/7 Apr Rivett GrI15 (HoJ1). 21 breeding records (10 last year) commencing with ih/22 Sep Majura NP GrM12 (WaK1) and concluding with dy/19 Feb Fyshwick GrM15 (BuM1).

GBS: Twelfth most abundant species recorded in the GBS down from ninth last year and third in 2005-06 perhaps as a result of the work of CIMAG. Records of 1-50 individuals from 90.3% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=2.3611$) was 28% lower than 2006-07 ($A=3.2871$) and 20% lower than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 22% higher than long-term mean. Breeding at 8 sites (compared with 13 last year): from ih/4wk Aug to dy/3wk Feb.



NECTARINIIDAE mistletoebird

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 135 records from 41 grid cells (15%) from all months, compared 158 with in the previous year. 61 (45%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5.6%. Abundance: mean 1.47, max 5/27 Oct Pine Is GrJ17 (BeR3). 1 breeding record (2 last year): br/10 Jan Coppins Crossing GrI13 (SmA1).

GBS: Records of 1-2 individuals from 15.3% of sites from 38 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.0203$) was the same as last year, but 17% down on the long-term mean. Reporting rate 9% lower than long-term mean.

ESTRILDIDAE weaver finches

Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata*

Rare Visitor

General: 1 record (11 in 2006-07): 3/26 April near Belconnen Water Treatment Works (west corner) GrH11 (BrM2).

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 72 records from 29 grid cells (10.9%) from all months compared with 106 in the previous year. 7 (9.7%) were WOO. Reporting rate 3%. Abundance: mean 5.3, median 3, max 44/30 Jun Newline Quarry GrM14 (LaS1). 6 breeding records (2 last year) commencing with nb/15 Jul Gossan Hill GrK12 (BoC4) and concluding with br/7 Jan Callum Brae NR GrL15 (SmA1).

GBS: Records of 1-7 individuals from 9.7% of sites from 25 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.0242$) was 59.8% lower than 2006-07 ($A=0.0603$) and well below historical levels e.g. 1999-2000 ($A=0.1971$). Reporting rate 70% lower than long-term mean.

Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 145 records from 54 grid cells (20.3%) from all months, compared with 178 in the previous year. Reporting rate 6%. Abundance: mean 6.8; median 4; and max 73/23 May Kings Highway/Shoalhaven R GrZ15 (BoC4). 11 breeding records (9 last year) commencing with nb/20 Oct Black Mt GrK13 and concluding with br/10 Jan Molonglo R GrI13 (SmA1).

GBS: Records of 1-25 individuals from 12.5% of sites from 47 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.1952$) was 10.6% higher than 2006-07 ($A=0.1765$) but 40% lower than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 23% lower than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 2 sites (same as last year) nb/2wk Jan, 3wk Feb Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4), ny, dy/2-4wk Dec, 2wk Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 86 records from 33 grid cells (12%) from all months, compared with 117 in the previous year. 10 (11.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 3.6%. Abundance: mean 3.73, median 2, max 25/1 Mar TSR 48 GrO05 (AnI1). 1 breeding record (2 last year): dy/4 Feb TSR48 GrN05 (LeM1).

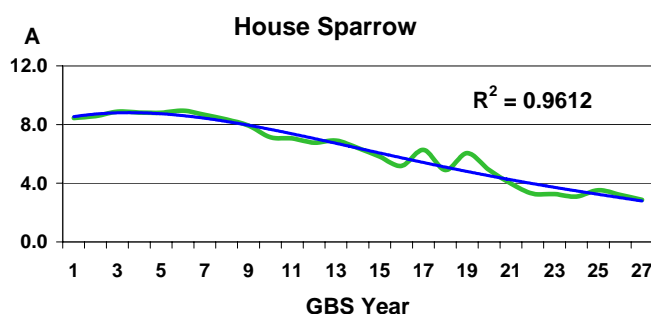
GBS: Recorded from 2 sites (same as 2006-07) 1-3/4wk Jan, 1wk Feb, 3wk Mar-2wk Apr, 2,4wk May Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), 1/1wk Apr Burra GrM21 (AnI1)

PASSERIDAE sparrows**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 121 records from 45 grid cells (17%) from all months, compared with 145 in the previous year. 3 (2.5%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5%. Abundance: mean 5.3, median 3, max 78/13 Jun Bredbo L29 (BoC4). 6 breeding records (3 last year) commencing with nb/14 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and concluding with on/15 Jan Cotter Rd GrH15 (HoS1).

GBS: 11th most abundant species recorded in GBS (down from 10th in 2006-07.). Records of 1-90 individuals from all sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=2.8558$) was 11% lower than 2006-07 ($A=3.2087$) and 55% lower than the long-term mean. Reporting rate 37.4% lower than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 4 sites (compared with 6 last year): from ih/1wk Aug to dy/3wk Feb.

**MOTACILLIDAE: pipit****Australian Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 112 times from 22% of grids (61). Numbers in winter have dropped again - only 11 of records (10% of total) were in the 3 winter months. Five breeding records from ne/17 Oct Goorooyarroo GrM11 (HoS1) to cf/2 Dec Kelly Rd GrL21 (HoJ1).

FRINGILLIDAE finches**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 108 records from 39 grid cells (14.7%) from all months, compared with 175 in the previous year. Reporting rate 4.5%. Abundance: mean 5.11, median 2, max 100/11 June Plains Rd East GrS16 (BuM1) and 15 June JWNR GrL14 (SmA1). No breeding records (1 last year).

GBS: Records of 1-15 individuals from 8.3% of sites from 36 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.0416$) was 35% higher than 2006-07 ($A= A=0.0308$)

Common Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 11 records from 3 grid cells (1%) compared with 6 in the previous year. 10 of the records of 1-2 birds from JWNR GrL14 from Oct to April. The other two records were from GrA11 and GrI03.0

**The Brush Bronzewing has been reported once again
in the Brindabellas after the fires**

(Photo Julian Robinson)



TABLE 1: NUMBER OF RECORDS FOR EACH SPECIES SEGREGATED BY SURVEY TYPE

ABA = Australian Bird Atlas (COG's general survey), **BA** = Birds Australia, **INC** = Incidental, **GA** = Greening Australia, **GDE** = Gungahlin Drive Extension, **WBS** = Waterbird Survey, **WOO** = Woodland Survey (incl subsites, transects and incidental). Unusual sightings not endorsed by the Rarities Panel are not included.

| | Species | Total | COG | BA | INC | GA | GDE | WBS | WOO | WOO % |
|----|----------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1 | Australian Magpie | 1367 | 836 | 119 | 15 | 10 | 21 | 4 | 362 | 26 |
| 2 | Crimson Rosella | 1249 | 653 | 99 | 5 | 5 | 30 | | 329 | 26 |
| 3 | Australian Raven | 941 | 551 | 100 | 9 | 4 | 27 | | 191 | 20 |
| 4 | Galah | 912 | 478 | 98 | 6 | 1 | 25 | 3 | 245 | 26 |
| 5 | Striated Pardalote | 877 | 430 | 43 | 8 | 7 | 26 | | 348 | 39 |
| 6 | Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | 875 | 524 | 98 | 5 | | 27 | 3 | 218 | 24 |
| 7 | Pied Currawong | 863 | 638 | 70 | 15 | | 27 | | 113 | 13 |
| 8 | Superb Fairy-wren | 859 | 618 | 116 | 6 | 9 | 15 | | 95 | 11 |
| 9 | Red Wattlebird | 808 | 581 | 82 | 10 | 5 | 13 | | 117 | 14 |
| 10 | Eastern Rosella | 752 | 372 | 65 | 1 | 5 | 23 | 1 | 239 | 31 |
| 11 | Magpie-lark | 737 | 400 | 98 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 138 | 18 |
| 12 | Grey Fantail | 711 | 426 | 61 | 8 | 7 | | | 184 | 25 |
| 13 | Common Starling | 684 | 411 | 93 | 5 | 3 | | 6 | 166 | 24 |
| 14 | Weebill | 637 | 311 | 24 | 3 | 6 | 2 | | 277 | 43 |
| 15 | Spotted Pardalote | 582 | 400 | 26 | 11 | 4 | 12 | | 129 | 22 |
| 16 | Yellow-faced Honeyeater | 561 | 369 | 37 | 13 | 2 | | 1 | 118 | 21 |
| 17 | White-throated Treecreeper | 535 | 362 | 29 | 9 | 2 | 29 | | 89 | 16 |
| 18 | Yellow-rumped Thornbill | 506 | 343 | 65 | 6 | 7 | | 5 | 80 | 15 |
| 19 | Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike | 477 | 330 | 49 | 5 | 1 | 9 | | 83 | 17 |
| 20 | Rufous Whistler | 475 | 287 | 36 | 6 | 5 | | 1 | 130 | 27 |
| 21 | Noisy Miner | 472 | 188 | 28 | 5 | 2 | | | 195 | 41 |
| 22 | Crested Pigeon | 462 | 314 | 93 | 3 | | | 1 | 51 | 11 |
| 23 | Laughing Kookaburra | 443 | 297 | 57 | 7 | 2 | 7 | | 69 | 15 |
| 24 | Australian Wood Duck | 426 | 289 | 60 | 11 | | 11 | 9 | 46 | 10 |
| 25 | Grey Shrike-thrush | 418 | 327 | 41 | 10 | 4 | 7 | | 25 | 5 |
| 26 | Willie Wagtail | 397 | 272 | 58 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 53 | 13 |
| 27 | Buff-rumped Thornbill | 390 | 233 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 17 | | 121 | 31 |
| 28 | Pacific Black Duck | 348 | 227 | 64 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 16 | 4 |
| 29 | Brown Thornbill | 336 | 274 | 22 | 3 | 3 | 4 | | 21 | 6 |
| 30 | Noisy Friarbird | 335 | 180 | 35 | 3 | 1 | 5 | | 87 | 25 |
| 31 | Welcome Swallow | 333 | 233 | 68 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 3 | |
| 32 | White-winged Chough | 326 | 201 | 34 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 64 | 19 |
| 33 | Common Myna | 302 | 218 | 40 | 3 | | | | 41 | 13 |
| 34 | Silvereye | 301 | 244 | 35 | 2 | 1 | | | 19 | 6 |
| 35 | White-browed Scrubwren | 298 | 222 | 44 | 3 | 1 | | | 2 | |
| 36 | Red-rumped Parrot | 289 | 172 | 56 | 5 | | | 5 | 40 | 13 |
| 37 | White-eared Honeyeater | 272 | 204 | 25 | 7 | 3 | | | 33 | 12 |
| 38 | Striated Thornbill | 264 | 178 | 12 | 1 | 6 | 5 | | 57 | 21 |
| 39 | White-plumed Honeyeater | 258 | 163 | 32 | | 5 | | | 51 | 19 |
| 40 | Dusky Woodswallow | 237 | 173 | 27 | 10 | | | | 23 | 9 |
| 41 | Grey Butcherbird | 214 | 132 | 13 | 4 | | | 3 | 61 | 28 |
| 42 | Masked Lapwing | 201 | 120 | 50 | 14 | | | 15 | 2 | |
| 43 | Common Blackbird | 195 | 130 | 42 | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| 44 | White-naped Honeyeater | 188 | 134 | 19 | 5 | | 1 | | 25 | 13 |
| 45 | Golden Whistler | 187 | 130 | 18 | 6 | | 9 | | 14 | 7 |

| | Species | Total | COG | BA | INC | GA | GDE | WBS | WOO | WOO % |
|----|---------------------------|-------|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 46 | White-throated Gerygone | 185 | 75 | 6 | 2 | 3 | | | 95 | 51 |
| 47 | Sacred Kingfisher | 175 | 124 | 21 | 5 | 1 | 8 | | 16 | 9 |
| 48 | Eurasian Coot | 175 | 112 | 51 | 3 | | | 3 | | |
| 49 | White-faced Heron | 175 | 110 | 50 | 3 | | | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| 50 | Olive-backed Oriole | 170 | 103 | 11 | 5 | | 4 | | 44 | 25 |
| 51 | Grey Teal | 164 | 88 | 48 | 2 | | | 15 | 9 | 5 |
| 52 | Australian King-Parrot | 164 | 75 | 17 | 1 | | 21 | | 24 | 14 |
| 53 | Little Pied Cormorant | 163 | 107 | 41 | 8 | | | | 4 | 2 |
| 54 | Scarlet Robin | 159 | 113 | 7 | 7 | | 3 | 1 | 28 | 17 |
| 55 | Common Bronzewing | 159 | 96 | 23 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 31 | 19 |
| 56 | Speckled Warbler | 157 | 102 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 38 | 24 |
| 57 | Purple Swamphen | 157 | 90 | 50 | 2 | | | 1 | | |
| 58 | Dusky Moorhen | 155 | 100 | 44 | 2 | | | 1 | | |
| 59 | Australasian Grebe | 152 | 90 | 50 | 4 | | | | 8 | 5 |
| 60 | Grey Currawong | 152 | 102 | 7 | 2 | | 9 | | 25 | 16 |
| 61 | Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo | 150 | 94 | 25 | 3 | | 2 | | 26 | 17 |
| 62 | Black Swan | 147 | 89 | 38 | 2 | | | 13 | | |
| 63 | Eastern Spinebill | 145 | 81 | 26 | 2 | 2 | | | 20 | 13 |
| 64 | Red-browed Finch | 145 | 100 | 35 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 65 | Australian Reed-Warbler | 136 | 93 | 30 | 4 | | | | 3 | 2 |
| 66 | Mistletoebird | 135 | 62 | 9 | 1 | 2 | | | 61 | 45 |
| 67 | Nankeen Kestrel | 135 | 91 | 19 | 3 | 1 | | 4 | 17 | 12 |
| 68 | Wedge-tailed Eagle | 134 | 85 | 28 | 10 | | | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| 69 | Pallid Cuckoo | 134 | 83 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | | 34 | 25 |
| 70 | Brown-headed Honeyeater | 131 | 81 | 9 | 1 | | | 2 | 38 | 29 |
| 71 | Leaden Flycatcher | 129 | 95 | 5 | | 1 | 1 | | 24 | 18 |
| 72 | White-winged Triller | 125 | 97 | 12 | | 1 | | | 15 | 12 |
| 73 | Flame Robin | 121 | 94 | 13 | 8 | | | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 74 | House Sparrow | 121 | 77 | 32 | | | | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 75 | Gang-gang Cockatoo | 118 | 66 | 16 | 3 | | 14 | | 9 | 7 |
| 76 | Rock Dove | 115 | 53 | 21 | 1 | | | | | |
| 77 | Australasian Pipit | 112 | 83 | 19 | 1 | | | 9 | | |
| 78 | European Goldfinch | 108 | 75 | 26 | 2 | | | 3 | 1 | |
| 79 | Western Gerygone | 96 | 47 | 4 | | 3 | | | 42 | 43 |
| 80 | Little Raven | 95 | 64 | 10 | 5 | | | 10 | 6 | 6 |
| 81 | Australasian Shoveler | 94 | 39 | 40 | 1 | | | 14 | | |
| 82 | New Holland Honeyeater | 94 | 53 | 34 | | | | | | |
| 83 | Tree Martin | 92 | 56 | 14 | | 1 | | | 20 | 21 |
| 84 | Australian White Ibis | 91 | 42 | 34 | 1 | | | | 5 | 5 |
| 85 | Rufous Songlark | 90 | 65 | 13 | 5 | | | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 86 | Eastern Yellow Robin | 86 | 66 | 14 | 3 | 1 | | | | |
| 87 | Diamond Firetail | 86 | 50 | 17 | 6 | 2 | | 1 | 10 | 11 |
| 88 | Eurasian Skylark | 84 | 52 | 19 | 1 | | | 11 | 1 | 1 |
| 89 | Brown Goshawk | 83 | 51 | 11 | 1 | | | 2 | 18 | 21 |
| 90 | Little Corella | 83 | 41 | 15 | 6 | | | | 19 | 22 |
| 91 | Brown Treecreeper | 81 | 51 | 10 | 2 | | | | 18 | 22 |
| 92 | Southern Whiteface | 80 | 48 | 17 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | 9 | 11 |
| 93 | Great Cormorant | 77 | 55 | 18 | 3 | | | | | |
| 94 | Australasian Dartar | 76 | 55 | 15 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 95 | Fuscous Honeyeater | 73 | 55 | 6 | | | | 1 | 11 | 15 |

| | Species | Total | COG | BA | INC | GA | GDE | WBS | WOO | WOO % |
|-----|------------------------------|-------|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 96 | Silver Gull | 73 | 36 | 17 | 1 | | | 14 | | |
| 97 | Straw-necked Ibis | 73 | 42 | 25 | 4 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 98 | Double-barred Finch | 72 | 59 | 5 | | 1 | | | 7 | 9 |
| 99 | Fan-tailed Cuckoo | 70 | 64 | 3 | 2 | | | | | |
| 100 | Brown Falcon | 67 | 42 | 8 | 6 | | | 6 | 4 | 5 |
| 101 | Varied Sittella | 67 | 41 | 5 | 3 | | 4 | | 12 | 17 |
| 102 | Dollarbird | 63 | 50 | 7 | | | | | 6 | 9 |
| 103 | Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo | 62 | 43 | 11 | 4 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 104 | Little Black Cormorant | 59 | 44 | 9 | 2 | | | | | |
| 105 | Australian Pelican | 56 | 32 | 24 | | | | | | |
| 106 | Whistling Kite | 55 | 31 | 23 | 1 | | | | | |
| 107 | Rainbow Bee-eater | 51 | 40 | 6 | 4 | | | | | |
| 108 | Hardhead | 51 | 31 | 16 | | | | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 109 | Superb Lyrebird | 51 | 46 | 4 | 1 | | | | | |
| 110 | Satin Bowerbird | 50 | 29 | 14 | 2 | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 111 | Australian Hobby | 49 | 28 | 8 | 6 | | | 1 | 6 | 12 |
| 112 | Little Eagle | 49 | 32 | 12 | 4 | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 113 | Collared Sparrowhawk | 48 | 35 | 7 | 2 | | | | 2 | 4 |
| 114 | Chestnut Teal | 44 | 18 | 19 | | | | 6 | | |
| 115 | Australian Shelduck | 44 | 21 | 9 | 1 | | | 13 | | |
| 116 | Eastern Great Egret | 43 | 32 | 10 | | | | | | |
| 117 | Fairy Martin | 43 | 28 | 14 | | | | | | |
| 118 | Black-fronted Dotterel | 41 | 18 | 23 | | | | | | |
| 119 | Superb Parrot | 39 | 21 | 3 | 9 | | | | 6 | 15 |
| 120 | Shining Bronze-Cuckoo | 38 | 29 | 4 | 2 | | | | 3 | 7 |
| 121 | Crested Shrike-tit | 37 | 23 | 7 | | 2 | | | 5 | 13 |
| 122 | Yellow Thornbill | 37 | 24 | 3 | | 4 | | 3 | | |
| 123 | Golden-headed Cisticola | 35 | 14 | 20 | | | | | | |
| 124 | Peregrine Falcon | 32 | 14 | 4 | 5 | 1 | | 2 | 5 | 15 |
| 125 | Little Grassbird | 31 | 18 | 13 | | | | | | |
| 126 | Jacky Winter | 31 | 22 | 3 | | 1 | | | 5 | 16 |
| 127 | Satin Flycatcher | 30 | 24 | 5 | 1 | | | | | |
| 128 | Hooded Robin | 29 | 19 | 2 | 1 | | | | 6 | 20 |
| 129 | Hoary-headed Grebe | 28 | 14 | 10 | | | | 4 | | |
| 130 | Eastern Koel | 28 | 10 | 15 | 3 | | | | | |
| 131 | Royal Spoonbill | 26 | 12 | 11 | 2 | | | 1 | | |
| 132 | Red-capped Robin | 25 | 16 | | | 1 | | | 8 | 32 |
| 133 | Black-winged Stilt | 25 | 10 | 7 | | | | 8 | | |
| 134 | Rainbow Lorikeet | 24 | 23 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 135 | Pink-eared Duck | 24 | 7 | 15 | | | | 2 | | |
| 136 | Latham's Snipe | 24 | 11 | 13 | | | | | | |
| 137 | Black-shouldered Kite | 23 | 11 | 10 | 2 | | | | | |
| 138 | White-fronted Chat | 23 | 10 | 5 | 2 | | | 6 | | |
| 139 | Glossy Ibis | 22 | 11 | 11 | | | | | | |
| 140 | White-necked Heron | 22 | 14 | 7 | | | | | 1 | 4 |
| 141 | Musk Duck | 21 | 16 | 2 | 3 | | | | | |
| 142 | Restless Flycatcher | 20 | 12 | 7 | 1 | | | | | |
| 143 | Rufous Fantail | 20 | 15 | 3 | 1 | | | | | |
| 144 | Yellow-tufted Honeyeater | 20 | 20 | | | | | | | |
| 145 | Blue-billed Duck | 18 | 3 | 15 | | | | | | |

| | Species | Total | COG | BA | INC | GA | GDE | WBS | WOO | WOO % |
|-----|---------------------------|-------|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 146 | Little Wattlebird | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | | | | | |
| 147 | Spotted Quail-thrush | 18 | 12 | 4 | 2 | | | | | |
| 148 | Southern Boobook | 17 | 11 | 6 | | | | | | |
| 149 | Peaceful Dove | 17 | 9 | 6 | | | | | 2 | 11 |
| 150 | White-browed Woodswallow | 16 | 7 | 5 | 1 | | | | | |
| 151 | Red-backed Kingfisher | 16 | 12 | 1 | 2 | | | | | |
| 152 | Brown Songlark | 15 | 9 | 4 | | | | | 2 | 13 |
| 153 | Brown Quail | 15 | 10 | 3 | 1 | | | | 1 | 6 |
| 154 | Rose Robin | 15 | 7 | 5 | 1 | | | | | |
| 155 | Eastern Whipbird | 14 | 10 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 156 | Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | 14 | 6 | 6 | | | | 2 | | |
| 157 | Cattle Egret | 13 | 6 | 5 | 2 | | | | | |
| 158 | Red-kneed Dotterel | 13 | 5 | 7 | | | | 1 | | |
| 159 | Crescent Honeyeater | 13 | 8 | 5 | | | | | | |
| 160 | Baillon's Crake | 13 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | |
| 161 | Pilotbird | 12 | | 5 | | | | | | |
| 162 | Black-tailed Native-hen | 12 | 5 | 4 | 3 | | | | | |
| 163 | Tawny Frogmouth | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | | | | | |
| 164 | Major Mitchell's Cockatoo | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | | | | | |
| 165 | Pied Cormorant | 11 | 7 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 166 | Swamp Harrier | 11 | 7 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 167 | Common Greenfinch | 11 | 7 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 168 | Brush Cuckoo | 10 | 7 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| 169 | Freckled Duck | 10 | 6 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 170 | Long-billed Corella | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 | | | | | |
| 171 | Red-capped Plover | 9 | | | | | | 9 | | |
| 172 | White-bellied Sea-Eagle | 9 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | | | |
| 173 | Yellow-billed Spoonbill | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | 2 | | |
| 174 | Powerful Owl | 8 | 5 | 3 | | | | | | |
| 175 | Pied Butcherbird | 8 | | 6 | 1 | | | | | |
| 176 | Red-browed Treecreeper | 8 | | 4 | | | | | | |
| 177 | Swift Parrot | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | | | | | |
| 178 | Bar-tailed Godwit | 8 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | | | |
| 179 | Australian Spotted Crake | 8 | 4 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 180 | Nankeen Night-Heron | 7 | 3 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 181 | Australian Little Bittern | 7 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | |
| 182 | Spotless Crake | 7 | 4 | 3 | | | | | | |
| 183 | Stubble Quail | 7 | | 2 | | | | 1 | | |
| 184 | Masked Woodswallow | 7 | 3 | 4 | | | | | | |
| 185 | Domestic Goose | 7 | 5 | 2 | | | | | | |
| 186 | White-throated Needletail | 7 | 5 | | 2 | | | | | |
| 187 | Intermediate Egret | 6 | 4 | 2 | | | | | | |
| 188 | Whiskered Tern | 6 | | 3 | | | | 1 | | |
| 189 | Banded Lapwing | 6 | | | 1 | | | 5 | | |
| 190 | Northern Mallard | 5 | | 2 | 1 | | | | | |
| 191 | Muscovy Duck | 5 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| 192 | Bassian Thrush | 5 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | |
| 193 | Spotted Dove | 5 | | 2 | 2 | | | | | |
| 194 | Little Friarbird | 5 | 4 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 195 | Black-chinned Honeyeater | 5 | | 2 | | | | | 1 | 20 |

| | Species | Total | COG | BA | INC | GA | GDE | WBS | WOO | WOO % |
|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 196 | Buff-banded Rail | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 197 | Red-necked Avocet | 4 | | | | | | 4 | | |
| 198 | Australian Owlet-nightjar | 4 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 25 |
| 199 | White-fronted Honeyeater | 4 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 200 | Crow & Raven species | 3 | | | | | | 2 | | |
| 201 | Great Crested Grebe | 3 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 202 | Emu | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 203 | Black-eared Cuckoo | 3 | | 2 | | | | | 1 | 33 |
| 204 | Diamond Dove | 3 | | 1 | | 1 | | | | |
| 205 | Lewin's Rail | 3 | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 206 | Cicadabird | 3 | | 3 | | | | | | |
| 207 | Brush Bronzewing | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 208 | Barking Owl | 2 | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 209 | Black Falcon | 2 | | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 210 | Spotted Harrier | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 211 | Glossy Black-Cockatoo | 2 | | | | | | | | |
| 212 | Olive Whistler | 2 | | 2 | | | | | | |
| 213 | Double-banded Plover | 2 | | | | | | 2 | | |
| 214 | Azure Kingfisher | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 215 | Cockatiel | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 216 | Pacific Golden Plover | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 217 | Chestnut-rumped Heathwren | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 218 | White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 219 | Zebra Finch | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 220 | Musk Lorikeet | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 221 | Australian Painted Snipe | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 222 | Turquoise Parrot | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 223 | Wonga Pigeon | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 224 | Channel-billed Cuckoo | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 225 | Red-necked Stint | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 226 | White-headed Pigeon | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 227 | White-cheeked Honeyeater | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 228 | Horsfield's Bushlark | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| 229 | Little Egret | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 230 | Fork-tailed Swift | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 231 | Black Honeyeater | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| 232 | Grey Goshawk | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | |

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

TABLE 2: GARDEN BIRD SURVEY STATISTICS — 2007-08

Values for 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 (year 27), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (years 1-26).

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 individuals/observation

W (weeks) = number of weeks with records

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 decrease over the 26 years 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.

* 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).

| | Species | A | dA% | F% | dF% | W | dW% | R% | dR% | G |
|---|---------------------------------|--------|--------|------|-------|----|-------|-------|--------|------|
| | 1 Galah | 8.0965 | 17.3 | 100 | 0.5 | 52 | 0.0 | 85.87 | 8.80 | 9.43 |
| | 2 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | 7.7654 | 41.3 | 98.6 | 0.9 | 52 | 0.0 | 85.35 | 22.08 | 9.10 |
| | 3 Pied Currawong | 3.9697 | 0.1 | 100 | 1.1 | 52 | 0.0 | 90.84 | 12.29 | 4.37 |
| - | 4 Common Starling | 3.7867 | -60.5 | 76.4 | -17.8 | 52 | 0.0 | 37.82 | -42.33 | 10.0 |
| | 5 Crimson Rosella | 3.7393 | 21.9 | 100 | 1.0 | 52 | 0.0 | 92.93 | 15.96 | 4.02 |
| | 6 Australian Magpie | 3.4963 | 22.0 | 100 | 0.4 | 52 | 0.0 | 94.84 | 9.88 | 3.69 |
| + | 7 Crested Pigeon | 3.3556 | 237.8 | 98.6 | 93.7 | 52 | 39.7 | 83.38 | 164.7 | 4.02 |
| | 8 Silvereye | 3.3195 | -41.3 | 93.1 | -3.9 | 52 | 0.0 | 52.40 | -21.09 | 6.33 |
| | 9 Red Wattlebird | 2.9897 | 37.5 | 100 | 2.3 | 52 | 0.0 | 89.80 | 16.15 | 3.33 |
| | 10 Yellow-faced Honeyeater | 2.8780 | 9.9 | 84.7 | -1.1 | 48 | -5.2 | 21.75 | -14.27 | 13.2 |
| - | 11 House Sparrow | 2.8558 | -55.0 | 72.2 | -22.4 | 52 | 0.0 | 42.88 | -37.41 | 6.66 |
| | 12 Common Myna | 2.3611 | -19.9 | 90.3 | 26.9 | 52 | 0.2 | 59.99 | 21.92 | 3.94 |
| | 13 Magpie-lark | 1.9251 | -6.7 | 95.8 | -2.4 | 52 | 0.0 | 80.90 | 7.51 | 2.38 |
| | 14 Rock Dove | 1.8548 | 56.2 | 55.6 | 10.0 | 52 | 0.0 | 20.91 | 19.29 | 8.87 |
| | 15 Australian King-Parrot | 1.7538 | 14.0 | 88.9 | 15.1 | 52 | 0.8 | 53.86 | 34.49 | 3.26 |
| | 16 Eastern Rosella | 1.7348 | 14.9 | 97.2 | 0.6 | 52 | 0.0 | 61.44 | 6.18 | 2.82 |
| + | 17 Australian Raven | 1.4234 | 34.7 | 95.8 | 1.6 | 52 | 0.0 | 65.47 | 30.00 | 2.17 |
| | 18 Yellow-rumped Thornbill | 1.2717 | -11.2 | 77.8 | -10.1 | 52 | 0.0 | 29.46 | -16.05 | 4.32 |
| + | 19 Superb Fairy-wren | 1.2185 | 54.8 | 84.7 | 19.7 | 52 | 0.0 | 33.01 | 30.96 | 3.69 |
| | 20 Common Blackbird | 1.1065 | -33.9 | 95.8 | 3.2 | 52 | 0.0 | 59.54 | -16.86 | 1.86 |
| | 21 Gang-gang Cockatoo | 0.9151 | 28.5 | 72.2 | 1.8 | 52 | 0.3 | 28.14 | 18.51 | 3.25 |
| + | 22 Weebill | 0.7783 | 71.6 | 68.1 | 38.0 | 52 | 0.2 | 28.98 | 64.84 | 2.69 |
| + | 23 White-winged Chough | 0.6954 | 93.7 | 47.2 | 61.5 | 51 | 14.2 | 8.91 | 95.86 | 7.81 |
| + | 24 Australian Wood Duck | 0.6505 | 242.9 | 45.8 | 88.7 | 52 | 33.7 | 13.91 | 261.1 | 4.68 |
| | 25 Spotted Pardalote | 0.6405 | 4.5 | 79.2 | 2.2 | 52 | 0.1 | 31.14 | 7.71 | 2.06 |
| | 26 Striated Pardalote | 0.6102 | 4.4 | 79.2 | 6.3 | 52 | 0.0 | 26.78 | -0.37 | 2.28 |
| + | 27 Noisy Miner | 0.6102 | 193.8 | 44.4 | 103.2 | 52 | 3.5 | 15.78 | 179.1 | 3.87 |
| + | 28 Little Corella | 0.5821 | 643.2 | 47.2 | 258.6 | 52 | 132.7 | 10.71 | 531.2 | 5.43 |
| + | 29 Eurasian Coot | 0.5686 | 1912.4 | 2.8 | 352.4 | 50 | 877.4 | 2.61 | 1306. | 21.7 |
| | 30 Eastern Spinebill | 0.5395 | -3.0 | 87.5 | -0.6 | 52 | 0.8 | 36.66 | 6.75 | 1.47 |
| + | 31 Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo | 0.5237 | 69.6 | 66.7 | 195.5 | 52 | 220.4 | 10.94 | 208.1 | 4.79 |
| | 32 Red-rumped Parrot | 0.4656 | 14.0 | 40.3 | 2.6 | 52 | 2.4 | 8.94 | 4.87 | 5.21 |
| - | 33 Noisy Friarbird | 0.4282 | -51.4 | 87.5 | -5.7 | 41 | -4.8 | 22.59 | -38.88 | 1.90 |
| | 34 Laughing Kookaburra | 0.3543 | -0.6 | 58.3 | -20.2 | 52 | 0.0 | 20.04 | 0.82 | 1.77 |
| | 35 Brown Thornbill | 0.3472 | 36.9 | 51.4 | 9.8 | 52 | 2.1 | 16.13 | 20.62 | 2.19 |
| - | 36 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike | 0.3082 | -37.8 | 84.7 | -7.6 | 51 | -1.5 | 21.04 | -33.96 | 1.46 |
| + | 37 Pacific Black Duck | 0.2685 | 150.6 | 23.6 | 139.6 | 52 | 69.0 | 8.71 | 281.0 | 3.08 |
| | 38 Welcome Swallow | 0.2617 | 15.1 | 38.9 | 3.4 | 51 | 3.4 | 8.65 | 24.85 | 3.03 |
| + | 39 Hardhead | 0.2594 | 234045 | 1.4 | 617.9 | 32 | 16540 | 1.03 | 12857 | 25.1 |
| + | 40 Australian White Ibis | 0.2388 | 54.5 | 22.2 | 91.3 | 42 | 136.9 | 2.81 | 184.4 | 8.51 |
| + | 41 Dusky Moorhen | 0.2243 | 5704.9 | 2.8 | 427.0 | 45 | 1158 | 1.74 | 1243. | 12.8 |
| | 42 Willie Wagtail | 0.2120 | -21.4 | 59.7 | -23.7 | 52 | 0.0 | 14.94 | -27.44 | 1.42 |
| | 43 Striated Thornbill | 0.2026 | -4.7 | 31.9 | -11.6 | 51 | 11.8 | 5.23 | -9.08 | 3.88 |
| | 44 Red-browed Finch | 0.1952 | -40.7 | 12.5 | -50.1 | 47 | 7.1 | 3.65 | -23.25 | 5.35 |
| + | 45 Buff-rumped Thornbill | 0.1859 | 64.1 | 12.5 | -21.5 | 47 | 18.2 | 4.45 | 43.61 | 4.17 |
| | 46 Straw-necked Ibis | 0.1820 | -54.3 | 31.9 | 38.0 | 36 | 42.2 | 2.42 | 3.11 | 7.52 |

| | | Species | A | dA% | F% | dF% | W | dW% | R% | dR% | G |
|---|-----|----------------------------|--------|--------|------|-------|----|--------|-------|--------|------|
| - | 47 | Grey Fantail | 0.1742 | -48.7 | 54.2 | -33.2 | 51 | -1.7 | 10.13 | -53.71 | 1.72 |
| - | 48 | White-naped Honeyeater | 0.1662 | -72.6 | 41.7 | -18.9 | 27 | -12.4 | 3.68 | -45.53 | 4.52 |
| + | 49 | Purple Swamphen | 0.1652 | 2895.8 | 2.8 | 455.7 | 47 | 779.1 | 2.10 | 979.0 | 7.88 |
| | 50 | White-browed Scrubwren | 0.1630 | 22.5 | 40.3 | 52.1 | 52 | 10.5 | 9.75 | 26.66 | 1.67 |
| + | 51 | Masked Lapwing | 0.1417 | 47.3 | 38.9 | 3.9 | 52 | 9.7 | 8.74 | 68.10 | 1.62 |
| | 52 | Satin Bowerbird | 0.1404 | 21.6 | 29.2 | 81.0 | 52 | 54.5 | 5.87 | 37.79 | 2.39 |
| + | 53 | Little Raven | 0.1288 | 49.1 | 12.5 | 31.3 | 35 | 230.9 | 1.68 | 230.5 | 7.67 |
| | 54 | White-eared Honeyeater | 0.1236 | 25.5 | 43.1 | -14.0 | 52 | 28.6 | 8.42 | 12.94 | 1.47 |
| + | 55 | Grey Shrike-thrush | 0.1236 | 62.9 | 30.6 | -20.5 | 52 | 8.9 | 10.33 | 52.84 | 1.20 |
| | 56 | Golden Whistler | 0.1220 | -16.7 | 62.5 | 2.7 | 38 | -12.3 | 10.87 | -12.49 | 1.12 |
| + | 57 | Grey Butcherbird | 0.1123 | 1348.8 | 44.4 | 343.1 | 51 | 400.4 | 10.07 | 1250. | 1.12 |
| | 58 | Superb Parrot | 0.1094 | 1615.7 | 15.3 | 468.8 | 22 | 589.2 | 1.77 | 1111. | 6.16 |
| | 59 | White-plumed Honeyeater | 0.1075 | -26.8 | 37.5 | -11.9 | 52 | 12.5 | 7.20 | 4.18 | 1.49 |
| + | 60 | Dusky Woodswallow | 0.0994 | 31.4 | 23.6 | 57.8 | 31 | 76.0 | 1.84 | 62.11 | 5.40 |
| | 61 | Grey Currawong | 0.0952 | 15.7 | 37.5 | 8.1 | 51 | 3.8 | 7.42 | 6.69 | 1.28 |
| + | 62 | Little Pied Cormorant | 0.0849 | 1334.7 | 13.9 | 413.8 | 50 | 598.9 | 4.00 | 1182. | 2.12 |
| + | 63 | White-throated Treecreeper | 0.0800 | 48.9 | 16.7 | -1.8 | 52 | 11.6 | 6.00 | 27.19 | 1.33 |
| + | 64 | Olive-backed Oriole | 0.0787 | 38.1 | 43.1 | 4.1 | 44 | 29.1 | 6.84 | 30.66 | 1.15 |
| + | 65 | Common Bronzewing | 0.0758 | 117.5 | 20.8 | 94.4 | 49 | 55.7 | 4.65 | 138.2 | 1.63 |
| | 66 | Rufous Whistler | 0.0755 | -19.8 | 37.5 | -28.8 | 37 | -16.1 | 5.23 | -32.86 | 1.44 |
| + | 67 | Rainbow Lorikeet | 0.0694 | 270.1 | 15.3 | 87.0 | 48 | 174.9 | 3.07 | 228.3 | 2.26 |
| + | 68 | Spotted Dove | 0.0662 | 631.7 | 20.8 | 306.0 | 51 | 360.4 | 4.03 | 472.0 | 1.64 |
| + | 69 | Eastern Koel | 0.0584 | 892.6 | 45.8 | 367.1 | 26 | 382.9 | 5.58 | 893.2 | 1.05 |
| + | 70 | Brown-headed Honeyeater | 0.0574 | 77.3 | 11.1 | 45.8 | 34 | 119.9 | 1.77 | 141.1 | 3.24 |
| + | 71 | White-faced Heron | 0.0565 | 90.3 | 22.2 | 42.6 | 50 | 61.5 | 4.97 | 154.3 | 1.14 |
| - | 72 | European Goldfinch | 0.0416 | -84.6 | 8.3 | -79.0 | 36 | -25.0 | 1.39 | -82.57 | 3.00 |
| | 73 | Silver Gull | 0.0403 | -92.6 | 4.2 | -49.4 | 25 | 31.8 | 0.87 | -4.19 | 4.63 |
| | 74 | Australian Hobby | 0.0394 | 13.9 | 33.3 | -3.5 | 38 | 4.7 | 2.74 | -6.59 | 1.44 |
| + | 75 | Black Swan | 0.0387 | 708.7 | 4.2 | 220.0 | 44 | 1044.0 | 2.10 | 1382. | 1.85 |
| + | 76 | Australasian Grebe | 0.0384 | 3498.8 | 4.2 | 515.1 | 44 | 3713.3 | 1.94 | 3421. | 1.98 |
| | 77 | Leaden Flycatcher | 0.0384 | 22.8 | 19.4 | -9.0 | 24 | 4.7 | 1.94 | -15.15 | 1.98 |
| - | 78 | Dollarbird | 0.0371 | -35.3 | 23.6 | -28.6 | 20 | -10.3 | 2.48 | -29.96 | 1.49 |
| + | 79 | Grey Teal | 0.0365 | 975.1 | 6.9 | 459.6 | 33 | 784.5 | 1.61 | 912.9 | 2.26 |
| | 80 | Southern Boobook | 0.0365 | -10.2 | 47.2 | 37.1 | 44 | 16.3 | 3.58 | -3.42 | 1.02 |
| + | 81 | Wedge-tailed Eagle | 0.0348 | 209.3 | 34.7 | 141.2 | 42 | 182.2 | 2.48 | 220.1 | 1.40 |
| + | 82 | Australian Reed-Warbler | 0.0326 | 1083.9 | 2.8 | 47.8 | 26 | 468.1 | 1.36 | 577.9 | 2.40 |
| + | 83 | Tawny Frogmouth | 0.0319 | 112.4 | 16.7 | 194.9 | 36 | 106.2 | 1.71 | 104.5 | 1.87 |
| | 84 | Pallid Cuckoo | 0.0290 | -0.4 | 20.8 | -20.2 | 26 | 39.1 | 2.55 | -4.24 | 1.14 |
| - | 85 | Scarlet Robin | 0.0290 | -30.0 | 15.3 | -45.3 | 30 | 16.2 | 1.87 | -33.94 | 1.55 |
| | 86 | Yellow Thornbill | 0.0255 | 21.8 | 6.9 | -14.5 | 32 | 40.3 | 1.36 | 26.91 | 1.88 |
| - | 87 | Fuscous Honeyeater | 0.0252 | -81.2 | 18.1 | -45.8 | 19 | -23.2 | 1.36 | -69.03 | 1.86 |
| - | 88 | Double-barred Finch | 0.0242 | -80.4 | 9.7 | -51.7 | 25 | -33.8 | 0.94 | -70.06 | 2.59 |
| + | 89 | Little Black Cormorant | 0.0226 | 590.8 | 4.2 | 163.8 | 14 | 391.9 | 0.55 | 342.1 | 4.12 |
| | 90 | White-throated Gerygone | 0.0226 | 24.1 | 8.3 | -54.3 | 28 | 37.1 | 1.77 | 5.64 | 1.27 |
| | 91 | Mistletoebird | 0.0203 | -16.6 | 15.3 | 7.5 | 38 | 38.8 | 2.00 | -8.79 | 1.02 |
| + | 92 | Great Cormorant | 0.0190 | 247.1 | 8.3 | 96.9 | 25 | 345.2 | 0.94 | 298.3 | 2.03 |
| | 93 | Collared Sparrowhawk | 0.0168 | -19.5 | 31.9 | 35.1 | 35 | 15.0 | 1.61 | -17.20 | 1.04 |
| + | 94 | Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo | 0.0165 | 106.1 | 12.5 | 22.0 | 23 | 92.3 | 1.45 | 89.78 | 1.13 |
| | 95 | White-browed Woodswallow | 0.0165 | -41.4 | 4.2 | 85.6 | 3 | 85.7 | 0.10 | 21.05 | 17.0 |
| - | 96 | Tree Martin | 0.0158 | -39.6 | 6.9 | -14.9 | 12 | -1.3 | 0.39 | -32.21 | 4.08 |
| - | 97 | White-throated Needletail | 0.0148 | -93.1 | 6.9 | -70.7 | 5 | -55.3 | 0.19 | -82.52 | 7.67 |
| + | 98 | Fairy Martin | 0.0145 | 355.7 | 2.8 | 146.6 | 3 | 100.0 | 0.10 | 72.97 | 15.0 |
| | 99 | White-winged Triller | 0.0136 | 0.1 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 14 | 25.1 | 0.84 | 8.53 | 1.62 |
| | 100 | Sacred Kingfisher | 0.0123 | 9.9 | 13.9 | -27.1 | 19 | 24.7 | 0.68 | -33.64 | 1.81 |
| | 101 | Brown Goshawk | 0.0119 | 0.3 | 18.1 | -17.7 | 28 | 32.6 | 1.10 | -2.23 | 1.09 |
| + | 102 | Glossy Black-Cockatoo | 0.0113 | 2580.0 | 4.2 | 978.7 | 12 | 4357.1 | 0.42 | 3799. | 2.69 |
| + | 103 | Long-billed Corella | 0.0110 | 960.4 | 6.9 | 433.2 | 14 | 613.7 | 0.48 | 531.2 | 2.27 |
| | 104 | Rainbow Bee-eater | 0.0097 | -34.8 | 11.1 | 50.4 | 6 | 17.3 | 0.26 | 0.82 | 3.75 |
| + | 105 | Stubble Quail | 0.0087 | 595.7 | 1.4 | 61.5 | 14 | 628.0 | 0.45 | 404.1 | 1.93 |
| - | 106 | Nankeen Kestrel | 0.0084 | -62.4 | 12.5 | -36.0 | 22 | -22.5 | 0.77 | -60.15 | 1.08 |
| | 107 | Australian Pelican | 0.0074 | -58.7 | 4.2 | -57.9 | 12 | 9.5 | 0.45 | -13.35 | 1.64 |
| + | 108 | Major Mitchell's Cockatoo | 0.0071 | 1104.4 | 5.6 | 660.5 | 22 | 1366.7 | 0.71 | 1104. | 1.00 |
| - | 109 | New Holland Honeyeater | 0.0071 | -81.5 | 6.9 | -37.5 | 10 | -60.3 | 0.35 | -77.50 | 2.00 |
| - | 110 | Varied Sittella | 0.0071 | -81.7 | 4.2 | -56.9 | 6 | -61.7 | 0.19 | -73.54 | 3.67 |
| + | 111 | Masked Woodswallow | 0.0071 | 108.2 | 2.8 | 395.4 | 2 | 246.7 | 0.06 | 156.5 | 11.0 |
| | 112 | Little Eagle | 0.0068 | 22.0 | 15.3 | 58.3 | 16 | 35.5 | 0.61 | 18.40 | 1.11 |

| | | Species | A | dA% | F% | dF% | W | dW% | R% | dR% | G |
|---|-----|---------------------------|--------|--------|-----|-------|----|--------|------|--------|------|
| + | 113 | Brown Quail | 0.0061 | 436.4 | 1.4 | 158.4 | 9 | 680.0 | 0.29 | 487.6 | 2.11 |
| + | 114 | Cockatiel | 0.0061 | 260.0 | 4.2 | 14.2 | 18 | 392.6 | 0.61 | 320.3 | 1.00 |
| - | 115 | Australasian Pipit | 0.0061 | -64.0 | 2.8 | -20.2 | 13 | -24.0 | 0.45 | -45.22 | 1.36 |
| + | 116 | Chestnut Teal | 0.0052 | 48.3 | 1.4 | 232.3 | 10 | 326.2 | 0.32 | 217.5 | 1.60 |
| | 117 | Western Gerygone | 0.0052 | 9.4 | 5.6 | -8.2 | 13 | 40.8 | 0.48 | 11.23 | 1.07 |
| | 118 | Diamond Firetail | 0.0052 | 10.1 | 2.8 | 153.8 | 8 | 141.9 | 0.29 | 106.9 | 1.78 |
| + | 119 | Australian Owlet-nightjar | 0.0048 | 94.7 | 5.6 | 213.2 | 11 | 113.4 | 0.45 | 103.0 | 1.07 |
| - | 120 | Fan-tailed Cuckoo | 0.0048 | -50.3 | 6.9 | -47.6 | 11 | -28.9 | 0.45 | -51.38 | 1.07 |
| + | 121 | Brush Cuckoo | 0.0048 | 738.7 | 4.2 | 173.6 | 13 | 766.7 | 0.48 | 755.4 | 1.00 |
| + | 122 | Australasian Darter | 0.0045 | 249.7 | 5.6 | 639.6 | 12 | 661.0 | 0.42 | 591.9 | 1.08 |
| | 123 | Hybrid Crimson-Eastern | 0.0042 | 1379.8 | 1.4 | 531.9 | 13 | 1509.5 | 0.42 | 1379. | 1.00 |
| | 124 | Rufous Songlark | 0.0042 | -6.8 | 4.2 | 75.3 | 8 | 44.4 | 0.26 | -16.64 | 1.63 |
| + | 125 | Royal Spoonbill | 0.0035 | 1886.6 | 1.4 | 239.4 | 9 | 3242.9 | 0.29 | 2523. | 1.22 |
| - | 126 | Crescent Honeyeater | 0.0035 | -85.0 | 5.6 | -52.4 | 7 | -64.7 | 0.32 | -80.98 | 1.10 |
| | 127 | Eastern Yellow Robin | 0.0035 | -20.7 | 1.4 | -40.4 | 11 | 22.2 | 0.35 | -10.19 | 1.00 |
| - | 128 | Speckled Warbler | 0.0029 | -71.9 | 4.2 | -17.4 | 5 | -61.9 | 0.16 | -71.21 | 1.80 |
| - | 129 | Shining Bronze-Cuckoo | 0.0026 | -63.1 | 5.6 | -44.5 | 7 | -40.3 | 0.26 | -62.59 | 1.00 |
| + | 130 | Swift Parrot | 0.0023 | 256.1 | 1.4 | 169.2 | 1 | 136.4 | 0.03 | 95.88 | 7.00 |
| - | 131 | Rose Robin | 0.0023 | -83.0 | 5.6 | -60.1 | 7 | -59.2 | 0.23 | -81.63 | 1.00 |
| - | 132 | Eurasian Skylark | 0.0016 | -94.6 | 2.8 | 38.0 | 4 | -75.6 | 0.13 | -83.72 | 1.25 |
| - | 133 | Black-shouldered Kite | 0.0013 | -91.9 | 1.4 | -87.3 | 4 | -83.3 | 0.13 | -90.13 | 1.00 |
| - | 134 | Peregrine Falcon | 0.0013 | -75.0 | 5.6 | -40.9 | 4 | -62.3 | 0.13 | -72.94 | 1.00 |
| | 135 | Little Lorikeet | 0.0013 | -12.2 | 2.8 | 69.6 | 2 | 62.5 | 0.06 | 26.64 | 2.00 |
| - | 136 | Rufous Fantail | 0.0013 | -59.6 | 4.2 | -51.6 | 3 | -50.0 | 0.13 | -57.51 | 1.00 |
| + | 137 | Peaceful Dove | 0.0010 | 450.0 | 1.4 | 136.8 | 3 | 550.0 | 0.10 | 449.9 | 1.00 |
| + | 138 | Eastern Great Egret | 0.0010 | 71.9 | 4.2 | 262.0 | 3 | 116.7 | 0.10 | 86.72 | 1.00 |
| - | 139 | Flame Robin | 0.0010 | -92.1 | 2.8 | -58.9 | 2 | -82.0 | 0.06 | -88.60 | 1.50 |
| - | 140 | Golden-headed Cisticola | 0.0010 | -66.1 | 1.4 | 17.2 | 2 | -56.7 | 0.06 | -65.44 | 1.50 |
| + | 141 | Australasian Shoveler | 0.0006 | 490.9 | 1.4 | 1958 | 1 | 2500.0 | 0.03 | 1968. | 2.00 |
| + | 142 | White-headed Pigeon | 0.0006 | 38.8 | 1.4 | 137.3 | 2 | 126.1 | 0.06 | 71.76 | 1.00 |
| | 143 | White-necked Heron | 0.0006 | 22.6 | 2.8 | 95.2 | 2 | 67.7 | 0.06 | 33.81 | 1.00 |
| | 144 | Whistling Kite | 0.0006 | 1.5 | 1.4 | -13.2 | 2 | 36.8 | 0.06 | 9.38 | 1.00 |
| - | 145 | Brown Falcon | 0.0006 | -90.0 | 2.8 | -67.1 | 2 | -83.6 | 0.06 | -88.57 | 1.00 |
| + | 146 | Barking Owl | 0.0006 | 252.3 | 1.4 | 373.9 | 1 | 136.4 | 0.03 | 110.7 | 2.00 |
| - | 147 | Yellow-tufted Honeyeater | 0.0006 | -75.8 | 2.8 | 28.6 | 2 | -37.3 | 0.06 | -58.61 | 1.00 |
| - | 148 | Crested Shrike-tit | 0.0006 | -68.5 | 1.4 | 100.1 | 2 | -44.1 | 0.06 | -57.67 | 1.00 |
| + | 149 | Pied Butcherbird | 0.0006 | 4739.2 | 2.8 | 4811 | 2 | 5100.0 | 0.06 | 4739. | 1.00 |
| + | 150 | Red-capped Robin | 0.0006 | 571.2 | 1.4 | 317.1 | 2 | 766.7 | 0.06 | 571.2 | 1.00 |
| + | 151 | White-bellied Sea-Eagle | 0.0003 | 98.4 | 1.4 | 126.7 | 1 | 160.0 | 0.03 | 98.39 | 1.00 |
| + | 152 | Black Kite | 0.0003 | 262.2 | 1.4 | 280.3 | 1 | 333.3 | 0.03 | 262.2 | 1.00 |
| | 153 | Grey Goshawk | 0.0003 | 15.4 | 1.4 | 113.9 | 1 | 44.4 | 0.03 | 27.14 | 1.00 |
| + | 154 | Latham's Snipe | 0.0003 | 928.2 | 1.4 | 965.0 | 1 | 1200.0 | 0.03 | 928.1 | 1.00 |
| + | 155 | Painted Button-quail | 0.0003 | 1152.2 | 1.4 | 2427 | 1 | 1200.0 | 0.03 | 1152. | 1.00 |
| | 156 | Eastern Barn Owl | 0.0003 | 12.5 | 1.4 | 58.0 | 1 | 36.8 | 0.03 | 18.06 | 1.00 |
| + | 157 | Little Wattlebird | 0.0003 | 51.0 | 1.4 | 377.4 | 1 | 85.7 | 0.03 | 50.99 | 1.00 |
| | 158 | Little Friarbird | 0.0003 | -3.3 | 1.4 | 39.6 | 1 | 44.4 | 0.03 | 6.69 | 1.00 |
| - | 159 | Jacky Winter | 0.0003 | -72.3 | 1.4 | -7.6 | 1 | -58.7 | 0.03 | -65.96 | 1.00 |
| + | 160 | Brown Songlark | 0.0003 | 32.1 | 1.4 | 209.9 | 1 | 85.7 | 0.03 | 56.93 | 1.00 |

Total birds per observation-week:75.8216

Note: Some of these values are extreme, for species that have undergone big changes in populations since the start of the GBS.

DATA, METHODOLOGIES, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

SOURCES OF DATA

General records

All records other than the GBS records have been included this year as 'General' records. The preferred survey method is that of Birds Australia Atlas 2 hectare search, although other types of search (Area searches) are also acceptable. See full instructions for BA searches at:

<http://www.cogatlas.org.au/userGuides/AtlasInstructions10Jan07Version2.pdf>. COG Observation Record Forms can be downloaded from: http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/Forms/COG_obs_form.pdf

Woodland Survey (WOO)

Generally nine sub-sites (plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high complexity are set up at each site. 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. Surveys are done each season in September, December, March and June.

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 normally involves visits to three locations at Lake Bathurst and to two locations at Lake George, when those lakes have water.

Garden Bird Survey (GBS)

GBS data are derived from standard charts on which participants record observations on a weekly basis at sites throughout suburban Canberra. Observers record the maximum number of each species seen at any one time during a week within an area of approximately 3 Ha, equivalent to a radius of 100 metres of their home or

workplace. Details of the Garden Bird Survey methodology can be found in Veerman (2003).

Statistical values for measures of abundance (A), distribution (F), weekly presence (W), recording rate (R), and group size (G), are shown in Table 2 on pp. 64-66. The methods used to calculate these are described below. Table 2 also shows the percentage changes in some of these values when compared with the average of the previous 25 years. The long-term average has been calculated as the average of the values from the previous years. For most species, the differences are not significant, but care should be taken when comparing the percentage changes between that year with this and previous editions.

A Measure of abundance

This is 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 $(1106/2156) = 0.513$.

F Measure of distribution

This is the number of sites at which a species was recorded at least once during the year expressed 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 $(9/50 * 100) = 18\%$.

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

This is 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 were recorded during 111 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. If the calculated G value for the Silver Gull was 134.3, it is an indication that the Silver Gull was usually observed in sizeable flocks.

Explanatory notes on the text

The names and sequence of birds in the Systematic List conform to *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (Christidis & Boles 2008). **Note that the order in which species are presented in this volume is significantly different from previous volumes of this Report.**

The status shown for each bird in the Systematic List is based on previous survey data. It is updated from time to time by the COG Rarities Panel.

As a general rule details of specific records are set out in the following format: number of individuals/date, place, grid (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. 70-71.) Note that x indicates presence of the species instead of the number of individuals.

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. For breeding records of cuckoos, the host species, if recorded, is shown in brackets immediately following the breeding indicator, e.g. dy (Eastern Spinebill) /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 often 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. The first day of the first week rarely starts on the first day of the month, however. The dates of each GBS week are shown at the top of the GBS chart and are also listed by Veerman (2003).

Abbreviations for the Woodland Survey sites (CAS CMP GOO GOS HAL JER KAM MAJ MJF MUL NAS NLN RED SYM TUG) are only used when the Woodland Surveys are being referred to.

Abbreviations**General**

| | |
|----------------|--|
| ANBG | Australian National Botanic Gardens |
| ANU | Australian National University |
| BA | Birds Australia |
| br | breeding (unspecified) |
| CAS | Castle Hill (WOO site) |
| CBN | Canberra Bird Notes |
| CIMAG | Canberra Indian Myna Action Group |
| Ck | creek |
| CMP | Campbell Park (WOO site) |
| CNP | Canberra Nature Park |
| CSIRO | Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation. The abbreviation is followed by the location, e.g. CSIRO Black Mtn |
| E | East |
| f | female |
| FSP | Fyshwick Sewage Ponds |
| GA | Greening Australia |
| GBS | Garden Bird Survey |
| GOO | Gooroo/Goorooyarroo (WOO site) |
| GOS | Goorooyarroo South (WOO site) |
| Gr[A01] | COG grid cell (number A01) |
| GunL | Gungahlin Lakes |
| HAL | Hall/Gold Creek (WOO site) |
| Hs/Hstd | Homestead |
| Hwy | Highway |
| incl | including |
| juv | juvenile |
| JER | Jerrabomberra (WOO site) |
| JWNR | Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Reserve |
| KAM | “Kama” (WOO site) |
| km | kilometre |
| LBath | Lake Bathurst |
| LBathE | Lake Bathurst east basin |
| LBathW | Lake Bathurst west basin |
| LBG | Lake Burley Griffin |
| LGeo | Lake George |
| LGeoN | Lake George northern end |
| LGeoS | Lake George southern end |
| LGin | Lake Ginninderra |
| LTug | Lake Tuggeranong |
| m | male |
| MAJ | Mt Majura (WOO site) |
| max | maximum |
| MJF | Majura Firing Range (WOO site) |

I

| | |
|-------------|--|
| MUL | Mulligans Flat (WOO site) |
| N | North |
| NAS | “Naas” (WOO site) |
| NLN | Newline Quarry (WOO site) |
| NP | National Park |
| nr | near |
| NR | Nature Reserve |
| R | River |
| Ra | Range |
| Rd | Road |
| RED | Red Hill (WOO site) |
| Res | Reserve |
| S | South |
| SF | State Forest |
| SP | sewage ponds |
| SYM | Symonston (WOO site) |
| TSR | Travelling Stock Reserve |
| TUG | Tuggeranong (WOO site) |
| TUGH | Tuggeranong Hill Nature Reserve |
| VIC | Visitors Information Centre, Tidbinbilla |
| W | West |
| WBS | Waterbird Survey |
| WOO | Woodland Survey |
| wk | week |
| x | presence of species (BA records) |

Breeding codes

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| br | unspecified breeding (BA records) |
| 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 |
| fs | faecal sac |

List of contributors

| Code | Observer | COG | GBS | BA | Code | Observer | COG | GBS | BA |
|------|--------------------|-----|-----|----|------|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| AIB1 | Barbara Allan | * | * | | GeJ1 | J Geue | | * | |
| AIM2 | Mark Allen | * | | | GoP2 | Phyl Goddard | * | | |
| AIR1 | R & J Allen | | * | * | GoJ3 | John Goldie | * | | |
| AlF1 | Fred Allsopp | * | | | HaK1 | Kay Hahne | * | * | |
| AlH1 | Heather Allsopp | * | | | HaA2 | Anne Hall | * | * | |
| AnI1 | Ian Anderson | * | * | | HaB2 | Bill Handke | * | * | |
| AnF1 | Frank Antram | * | | | HaL2 | Lindsay Hansch | * | * | |
| AsM1 | Margaret Aston | * | * | | HaS4 | Stuart Harris | * | | |
| BaS2 | Shaun Bagley | * | * | | HaT1 | Tobais Hayashi | * | | |
| BaS1 | Sophie Barker | * | * | | HeS1 | Sandra Henderson | * | * | |
| BaJ1 | Joe Barr | * | * | | HoJ1 | Jack Holland | * | * | |
| BaL1 | Lia Battison | * | | | HoS1 | Steve Holliday | * | * | |
| BeD1 | Darryl Beaumont | * | | | HoO1 | Owen Holton | * | | |
| BeR3 | Rosemary Bell | * | * | | HoJ2 | Jim Hone | * | * | |
| BIR1 | Rosemary Blemings | * | | | HoB1 | Bill Horrigan | * | | |
| BoC4 | Con Boekel | * | * | | HoA1 | A Howarth | | * | |
| BoS2 | Suzi Bond | | * | | HuJ1 | John Hutchings | * | | |
| BoM1 | Margaret Boots | * | * | | HuL1 | Leanne Huxley | | | * |
| BoJ1 | Jenny Bounds | * | * | | IoA1 | Anne I'ons | | * | |
| BrJ3 | John Brannan | * | * | | IrJ1 | Janet Irons | * | | |
| BrM2 | Muriel Brookfield | * | * | | KaJ1 | Julienne Kamprad | * | * | |
| BuP1 | Prue Buckley | * | | | KeL1 | Linda Kendall | | | * |
| BuM1 | Martin Butterfield | * | * | | KiM2 | Michael Kingsford | | | * |
| CCR1 | Christine Cannon | | * | | KoL1 | L Kosseck | | * | |
| CIS1 | Sylvia Cleland | | * | | KrS1 | Shirley Kral | * | * | |
| CoE1 | Elizabeth Compston | * | | | LaD1 | David Landon | * | | |
| CoD2 | David Cook | * | | | LaS1 | Sue Lashko | * | * | |
| CoB4 | Belinda Cooke | * | | | LaC2 | Clare Lawler | * | | |
| CrI1 | Isobel Crawford | * | | | LaT2 | Tony Lawson | * | | |
| CuJ5 | John Cumming | * | | | LaJ5 | John Layton | * | | |
| CuR1 | Roger Curnow | * | | | LeM1 | Michael Lenz | * | * | |
| DaC1 | Chris Davey | * | * | | LeJ2 | John Leonard | * | | |
| DeD2 | Dianne Deans | * | | | LeB2 | Lepschi & Lally | | * | |
| DeB2 | B & C DeBruine | * | | | LiP1 | Paddy Lightfoot | | | * |
| DoC1 | Coral Dow | | * | | LiB1 | Bruce Lindenmayer | * | * | |
| DoM1 | Mick Doyle | | * | | LiJ3 | Julie Lindner | * | | |
| DwB1 | B & K Dwyer | | * | | LuN1 | Noel Luff | * | | |
| EyC1 | C&R Ey | | * | | MaR4 | Rod Mackay | * | | |
| FaR1 | Rodney Falconer | | | * | MaC2 | Carol Macleay | | * | |
| FaD1 | Damien Farine | * | | | McD1 | David McDonald | * | * | |
| FeP1 | Paul Fennell | * | | * | McJ4 | Julie McGuinness | * | | |
| FoA1 | Alan Ford | * | | | McL3 | Lynda McLaughlin | | | * |
| FoJ2 | Joe Forshaw | * | | | McI1 | Ian J McMahon | * | | |
| FrM1 | Matthew Frawley | * | | | MiP1 | Peter Milburn | * | | |
| FuP1 | Peter Fullagar | * | | | MoM3 | Martyn Moffat | * | * | |
| FyM1 | Malcolm Fyfe | * | | * | MoM1 | Mike Moncur | | * | |
| GiM3 | Matt Gilfedder | * | | | MuT1 | Terry Munro | * | * | |

| Code | Observer | COG | GBS | BA |
|------|--------------------|-----|-----|----|
| NeG1 | Gail Neumann | * | | |
| NiA1 | Nick Nicholls | * | * | |
| NiH1 | Henry Nix | * | | |
| OcJ1 | James O'Connor | | | * |
| OnP1 | P & A O'Neil | | * | |
| OrP1 | Peter Ormay | * | * | |
| OvA1 | Anthony Overs | * | * | |
| PaD2 | David Parker | * | | |
| PeH2 | Harvey Perkins | * | * | |
| PIV1 | Vanessa Place | * | | |
| PoD1 | David Pool | | | * |
| RaS1 | Stuart Rae | * | | |
| RaB1 | B J Ramsay | * | * | |
| ReM1 | Reid / Robertson | | * | |
| RoM1 | Michael Robbins | * | | |
| RoM3 | Margaret Robertson | * | | |
| RoS1 | Susan Robertson | * | * | |
| RoG2 | G Robertson | | * | |
| RoJ5 | Julian Robinson | * | | |
| RoD2 | David Rosalky | * | * | |
| RoA1 | Alison Rowell | * | | |
| ScB2 | Brian Scales | * | | |
| ScG1 | Gutta Schoefl | | * | |
| SmA1 | Alastair Smith | * | | * |
| SpB1 | Bob Spiller | | | * |
| StR2 | R Stapleton | | * | * |
| TaN1 | Nicki Taws | * | * | |
| ThA1 | Alan Thomas | * | | |
| VeP1 | Philip Veerman | * | * | |
| WaR4 | R & B Walcott | * | * | |
| WaJ3 | J Waldron | * | * | |
| WaK1 | Kathy Walter | * | * | |
| WhB2 | Benj Whitworth | * | * | |
| WiM1 | Margaret Windle | | * | |
| WiK2 | Kevin Windle | | * | |
| WoD1 | Don Wood | | * | |
| YoL1 | L Young | | * | |
| ZwM1 | M Zwankhuizen | * | | |

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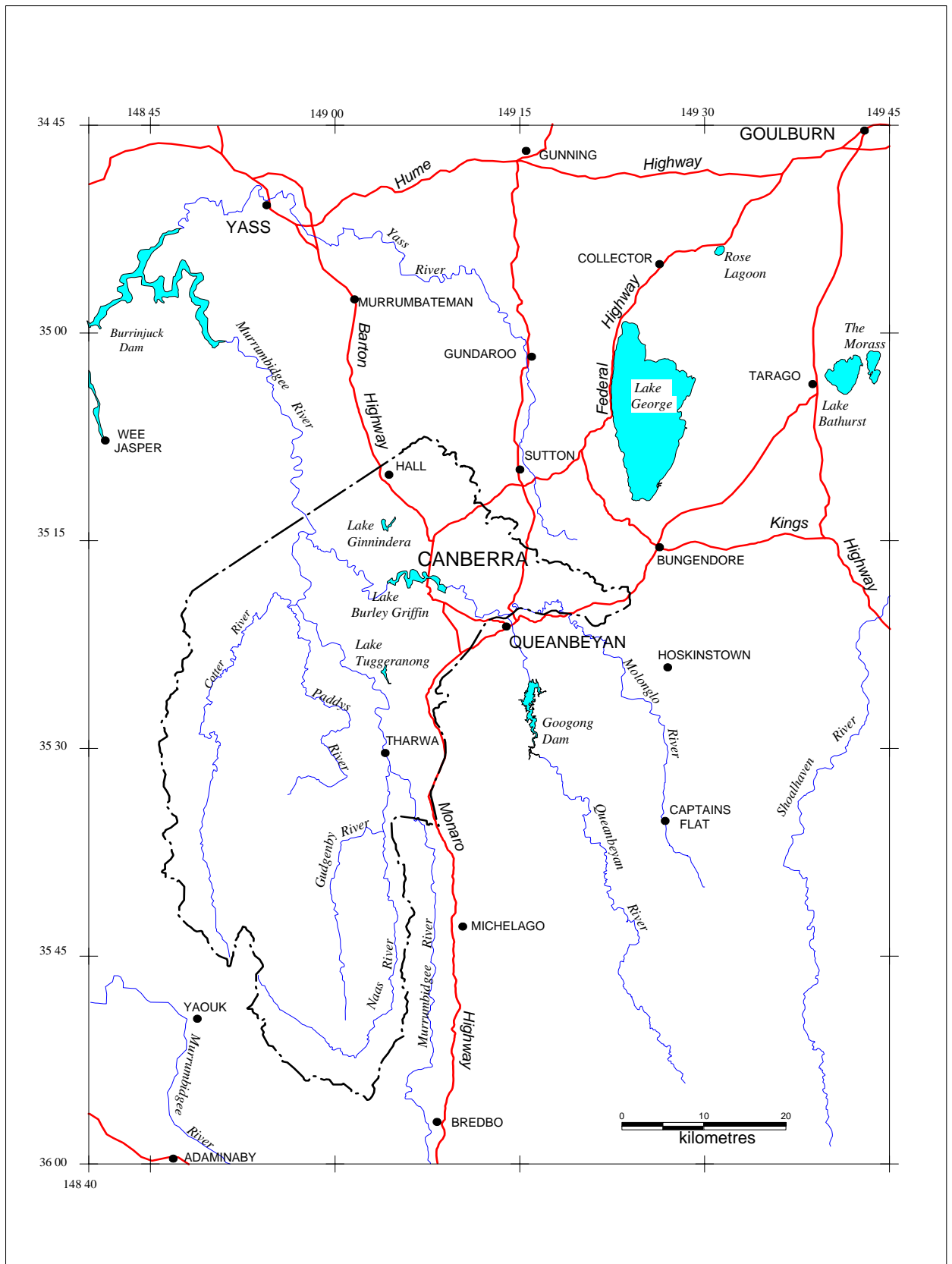
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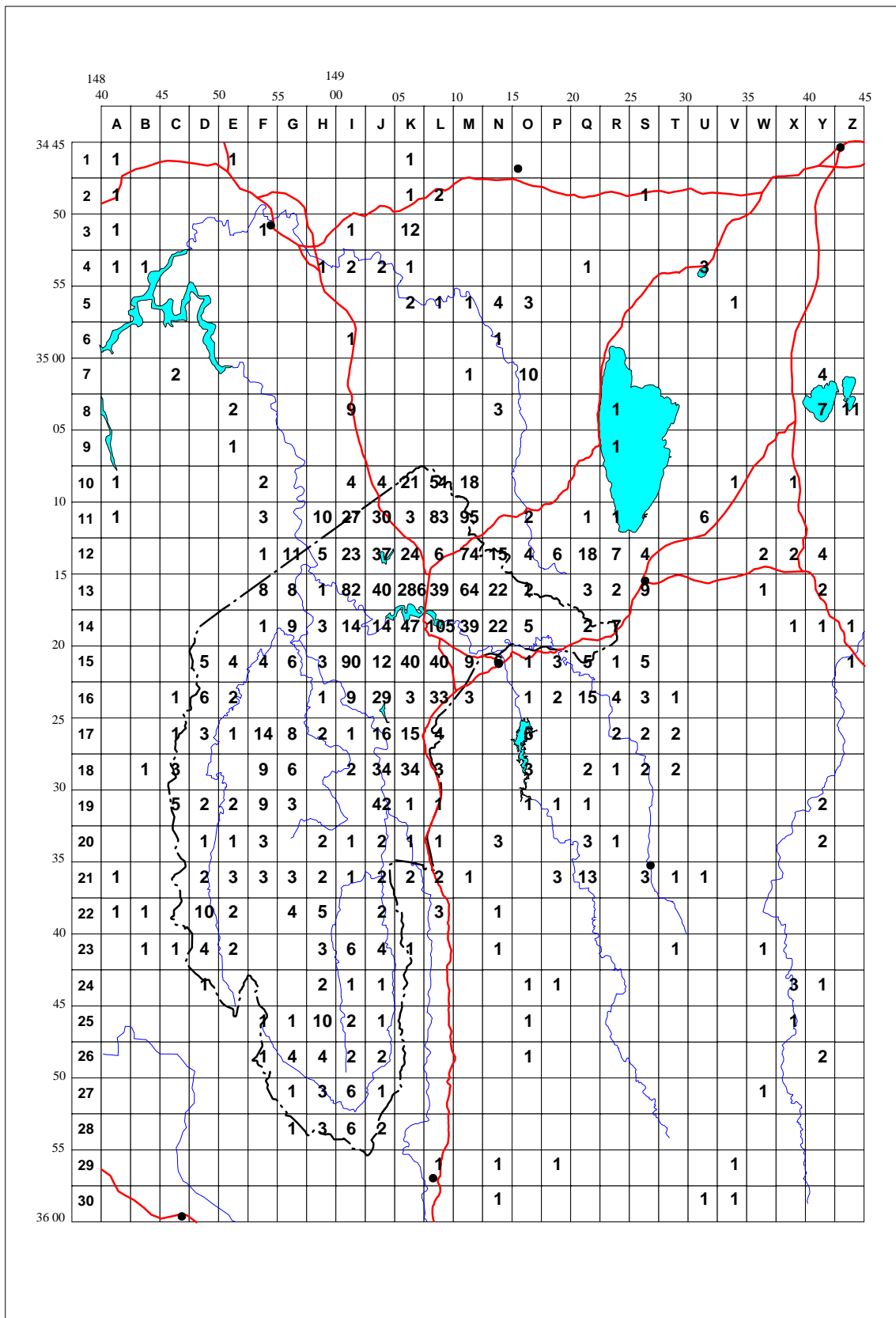
This Black-eared Cuckoo was the first reported in the ACT since 1989

(Photo Stuart Harris)

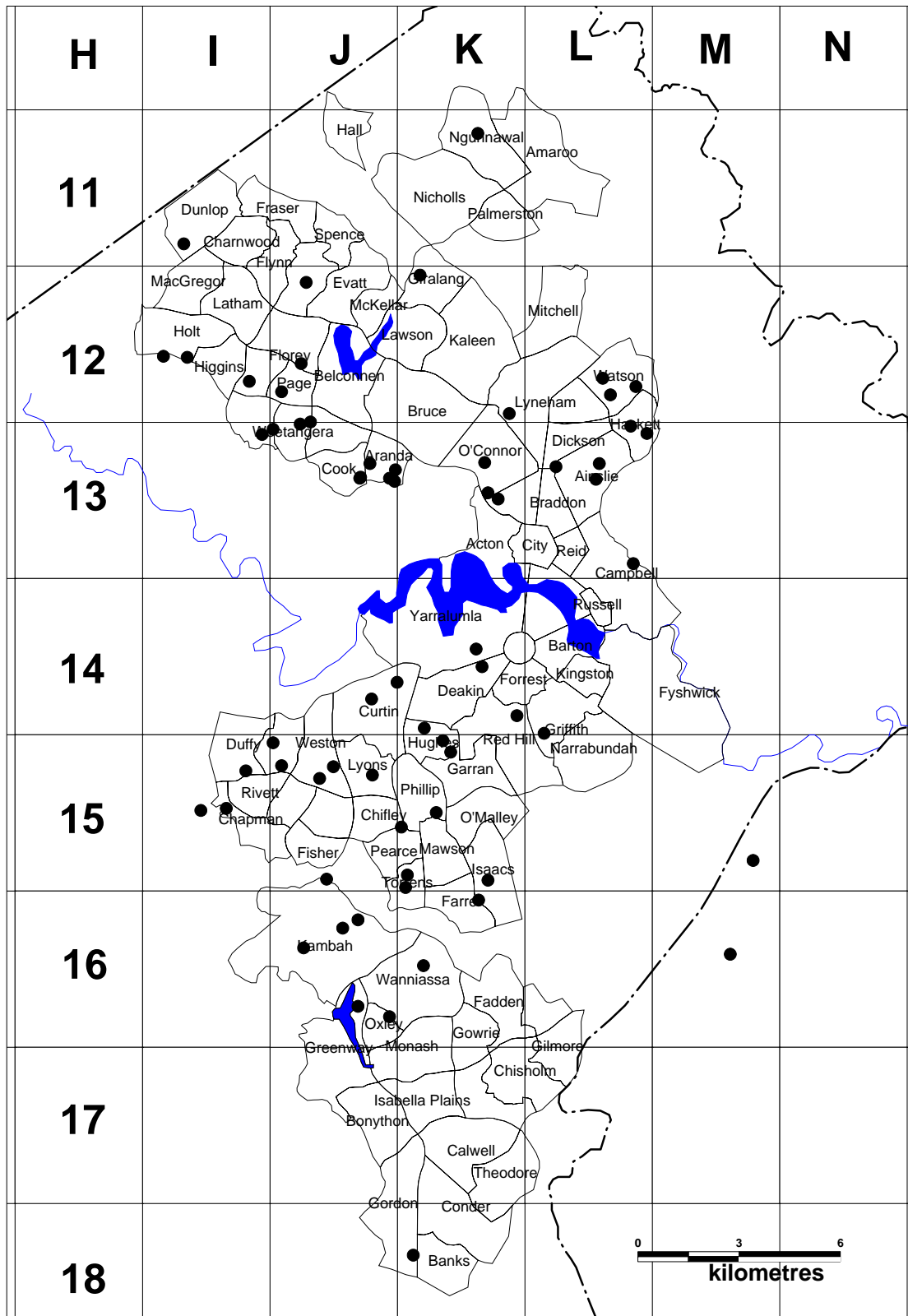


MAP 1. THE CANBERRA REGION (COG'S AREA OF INTEREST)

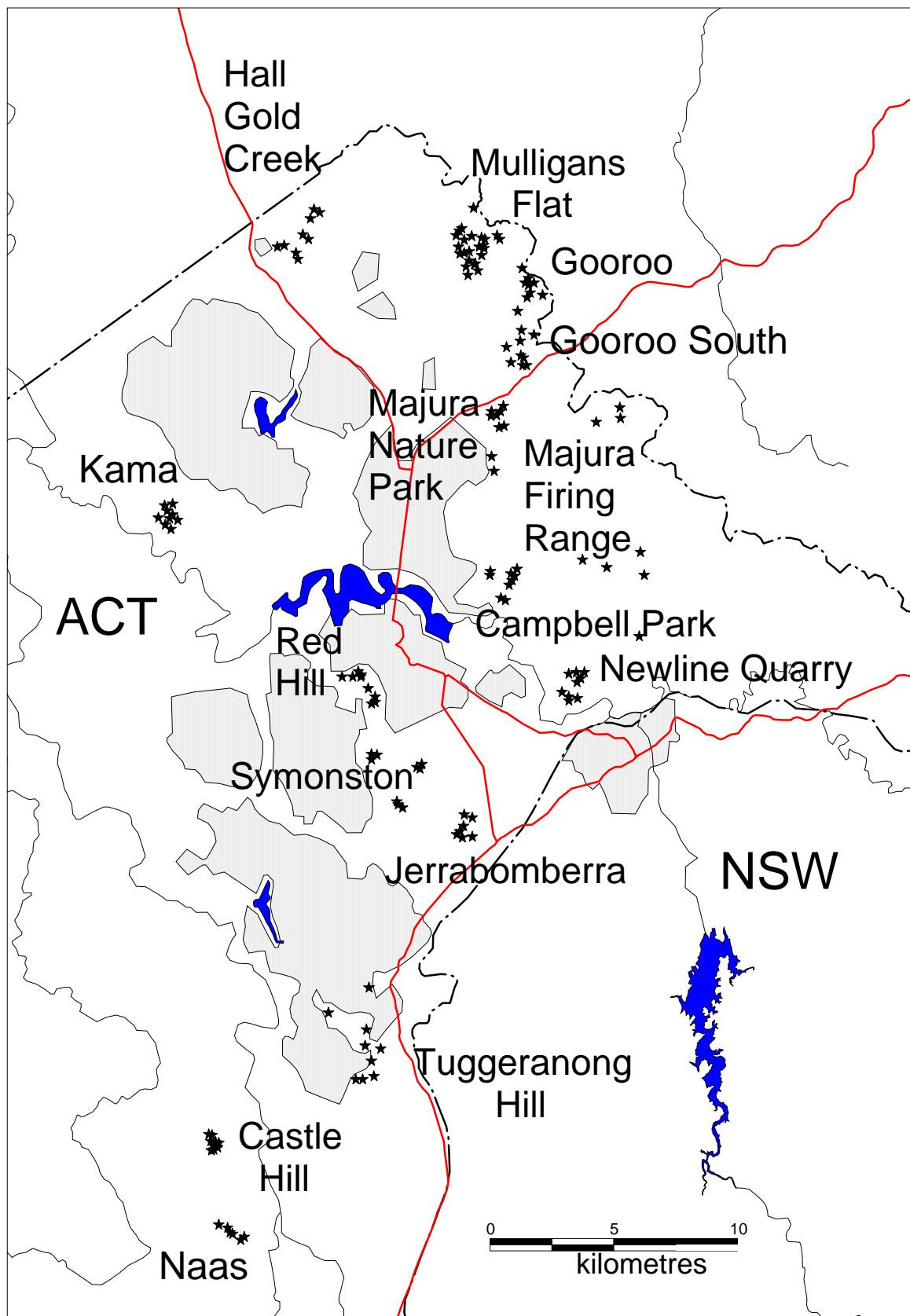


MAP 2: NUMBER OF RECORD SHEETS PER GRID CELL FOR 2007-08

MAP 3: LOCATION OF GARDEN BIRD SURVEY SITES FOR 2007-08

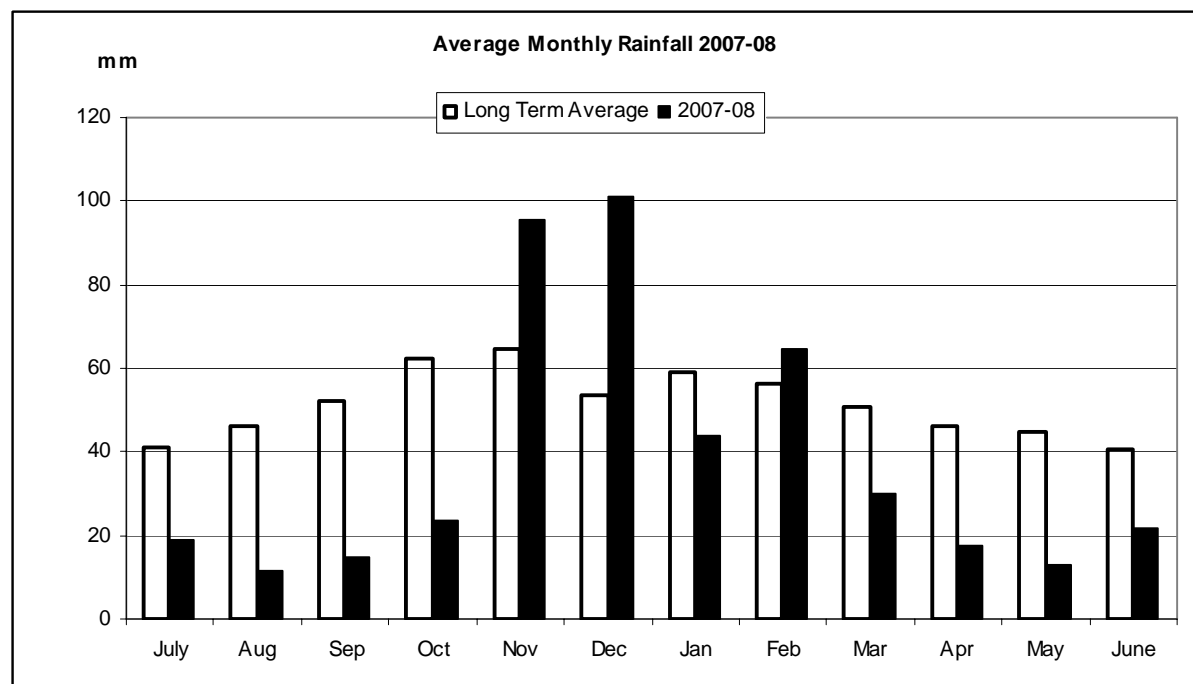
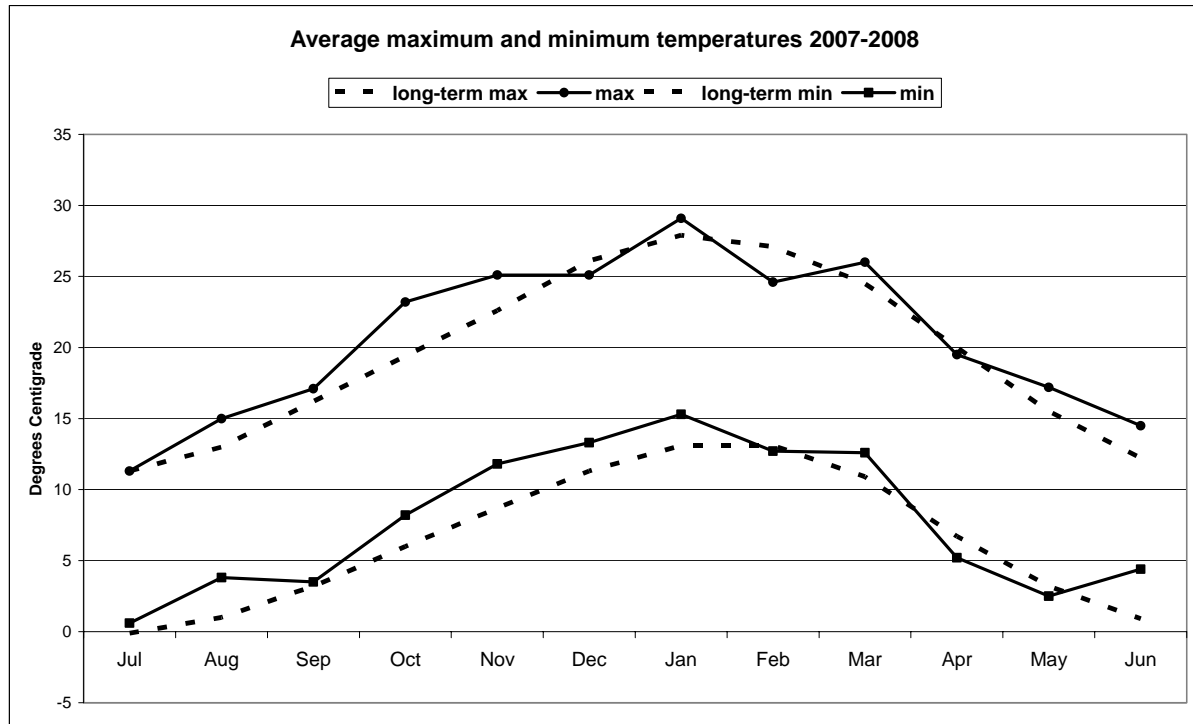


MAP 4. LOCATION OF WOODLAND SURVEY SITES FOR 2007-08



APPENDIX 1. 2007-08 WEATHER SUMMARY

- Warmest year on record for Murray Darling Basin, South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria
- Drier than average year with 455 mm (74% of long term average), but with greater than average rain in late spring and summer
- November and December the only months with considerably higher than average rainfall, with January and February with close to normal rainfall. Other months generally received only half the normal rainfall
- Very dry from midwinter to late spring (2007)



APPENDIX 2: LIST OF “UNUSUAL” BIRDS IN THE CANBERRA REGION

The current list of unusually occurring or “rare” species for which there have been confirmed sightings within the last 35-40 years is now maintained on the COG Website (<http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/>). The list does not include species which have been classified purely as escapees. The COG standard Observation Form is obtainable from http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/Forms/COG_obs_form.pdf. It lists all species classified as “usual”, so if any species is observed that is not on that form, it is classified as “unusual”. All “unusual” species require endorsement by the COG Rarities Panel. The Panel would appreciate records of unusual species on the Unusual Bird Report form available from the COG website <http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/Unusuals.htm>.

**The Bar-tailed Godwit was sighted at Jerrabomberra Wetlands for the first time since 2005,
and before that 1996**

Photo: Julian Robinson



Canberra Bird Notes is published by the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc and is edited by Anthony Overs. Major articles of up to 5000 words are welcome on matters relating to the distribution, identification or behaviour of birds in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding region. Please discuss any proposed major contribution with the editor on 6254 0168 (h) or email cbn@canberrabirds.org.au. Short notes, book reviews and other contributions should be sent to the above email address or discussed with the editor on 6254 0168 (h).

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