

# canberra bird notes

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## CANBERRA ORNITHOLOGISTS GROUP

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**ANNUAL BIRD REPORT: 1 JULY 2010 TO 30 JUNE 2011**

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

**INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

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. 83). 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 data analysis and reporting, 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. 84). 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. 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. In 2010-11 observations have been posted to the Eremaea website, and these have been incorporated in the data received from Birds Australia, but are designated ERE.

A full breakdown of the contribution of each survey type (except for the GBS) to the total records collected is provided in Table 1 (p. 67). 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. 76) 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 because records are collected on a weekly basis rather than shorter time periods.

COG asks that any sightings of birds considered to be "unusual" in the Canberra region (see Appendix 2, p. 88) 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).

### **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 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 2010-11 year was much wetter than usual, with the 4<sup>th</sup> wettest spring on record and the 2<sup>nd</sup> wettest summer. While the maximum temperatures were similar to the long-term average, the minimum temperatures throughout the year were consistently higher than usual, apart from much lower minimums in April and May. (see Appendix 1, p. 87).

As well as the 78 Garden Bird Survey charts, there were 129 contributors of records from all surveys from COG or persons whose data were provided to COG via Birds Australia (see list pp. 79-80). This is two more than the 127 observers last year, but a decrease from 137 in 2006-07.

The 3019 sheets submitted this year are far more than for last year (2427), mostly due to a massive effort by a single observer (KiM2) submitting 610 observation sheets to Birds Australia. COG appreciates this exceptional effort in recording species, as it does the efforts of all observers who report their observations. An unanticipated effect of a large number of reports from a relatively few sites, is that there are dramatic increases in some species endemic to these sites, while other species continue to be reported at what has been the “normal” rate for the COG area of interest. The apparent distortion in the data from this exceptional effort is picked up in a number of places throughout this report.

Apart from this exceptional effort, there were 150 more sheets than last year submitted by other COG members. There was also an increase in the area covered — 283 grid cells (235 last year) which is 36% of the 780 grid cells, 6% more than last year.

There was a further “evening out” of the number of records submitted by individuals. If the 610 Birds Australia sheets from the one individual are put to one side, this year 50% of the remaining records were provided by the top 17 contributors rather than 13 contributors last year.

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

## Summary and highlights

In 2010-11, 226 bird species were recorded in our area. (This total excludes unendorsed 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.)

Totals were again boosted in part by COG's fifth "ACT Bird Blitz" (257 sheets) held on 30-31 October 2009, an annual survey inaugurated in 2005 to encourage members to undertake surveys (see Allan 2008). The

Year	species	grid cells	sheets	observers
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
08-09	235	280	2421	113
09-10	234	235	2427	127
10-11	226	283	3019	128

The number of record sheets submitted by season is as follows: spring 825, summer 808, autumn 835, and winter 551. The lower observer effort in winter has a significant impact on the abundance of species reported for that season.

The most frequently surveyed cells were:

- L14 (204 sheets cf 180 last year) Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR, Molonglo Reach and Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (FSP).
- J13 (195 cf 95) including parts of The Pinnacle NR and Macquarie, with 30 observations by a single observer around the Macquarie Oval
- K11 (193 cf very few last year) nearly all from a single site in Nicholls and from Gungahlin Pond by a single observer
- I13 (116 cf 142 last year), including part of the Pinnacle NR.
- J14 (106 cf few last year) Curtin/Weston near Molonglo River and Australian Defence Academy most by a single observer
- M13 (105 cf 60) Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park NR
- J12 (104 cf many fewer last year) Lake Ginninderra, boosted by a large number by a single observer in Weetangera and in Florey
- L11 (102 cf 111) including part of Mulligans Flat NR.
- K13 (90 cf 114 last year) Acton including ANU and ANBG
- I15 (87 cf 70) including Cooleman Ridge, which included 72 incidental (INC) reports mostly by one regular observe
- M11 (68 cf 76) Goorooyarroo NR
- M12 (63 cf 67) Mt Majura NR.

Table 1, p 67, shows the number of "general" records per species. The seven most frequently recorded species were, in order, the Australian Magpie, Crimson Rosella, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Galah, Magpie-lark, Australian Raven (down from 3<sup>rd</sup> two years ago), and Superb Fairy Wren – all easily identifiable species. Twenty-three species were recorded only once. These include an escaped Zebra Finch, vagrant waders such as Pacific Golden Plover and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, and a Regent Honeyeater.

## Highlights and Lowlights

A good year for quail, taking advantage of the thicker grass cover of a wetter summer, with Stubble and Brown quail sightings about 4 times higher than average, in both the general surveys and from rural sites in the GBS.

Swan and duck sighting numbers varied. Some were higher than usual including Musk Duck, Black Swan, Australian Wood Duck, Australian Shelduck, Chestnut Teal, and Pacific Black Duck, while others, including Grey Teal, Pink-eared Duck, Hardhead and Blue-billed Duck were lower than usual. For more waterbird highlights, see below in the Waterbird Survey section.

These differences are possibly due to the breaking of the decade-long drought, as are other variations in water bird numbers. For example, there were very few Australian Pelican, White-necked Heron or Nankeen Night Heron, Australian White Ibis or Straw-necked Ibis sightings this year.

While Australasian and Hoary-headed grebe sightings were up over last year, there were no Great-crested Grebe sightings at all.

The sighting of an Eastern Osprey over Giralang Pond is a first for the ACT following only one previous unconfirmed sighting in 1966. However, Whistling Kite sightings are few and far between although Little Eagle numbers remain stable, despite the species being declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

The wetter season appears to have benefited Masked Lapwings, with more than double the numbers reported this year. Similarly, Silver Gull numbers are the highest since 2000. Reports of Rainbow Lorikeets have increased substantially over the last ten years in both the GBS and general surveys.

Cuckoo numbers show some variation. Reports of Eastern Koel have increased over the last few years, as have Shining Bronze-Cuckoos; while Horsfield's Bronze, Pallid and Fan-tailed cuckoos appear to be in decline at this time.

The general ageing of Canberra gardens, with more dense patches of foliage could be a reason for the significantly upward trend of Superb Fairy-wren reports in the GBS, as might be the greater number of rural gardens in the survey in recent years. Over the same period reported numbers in other surveys have remained fairly steady.

For some reason, the number of reports of White-winged Triller has plummeted this year, across all survey types, giving, the lowest reporting rate since 1996. At the same time, there were no reports at all in the GBS. On the other hand, there has been a doubling of Silvereye reports this year.

### *Breeding*

There were 1518 breeding records, down from 1595 last year, but an increase on 1345 of the year before. They include “inspecting hollows” and “display” as described in the COG breeding codes (see p 78). Records also include the BA code (br) which excludes “circumstantial” evidence such as “inspecting hollow” or “display”. The table shows the number of breeding events for each species, and the percentage of that behaviour of the total number of breeding observations for 2010-11.

Behaviour	Count	%
Dependent young	662	43.6
Bird on or seen leaving nest	308	20.3
Nest with young	117	7.7
Inspecting hollow	113	7.4
Nest building	109	7.2
Carrying food	87	5.7
Breeding	78	5.1
Nest with eggs	17	1.1
Display	17	1.1
Copulation	8	0.5
Faecal sac	2	0.1

## Garden Bird Survey (GBS) overview

The Garden Bird Survey (GBS) completed 30 years of collection in 2010-11. A total of 78 sites provided charts, a decrease of 10 over 2009-10. This reflects 7 “additions” (represented by 6 new sites and 1 resumed sites) and 17 ceased sites from 2009-10. Representation continues to be an issue in Tuggeranong other than Kambah (6 sites in Year 30 rather than 7 in Year 29) but has dropped from 5 sites in Year 28 to 1 in Gungahlin-Hall.

No work sites were reported but 6 on-going sites reported from the hinterland, which can broaden the diversity of species observed. There is 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, next to Ginninderra Creek in Giralang, and in a large suburban block containing a large pool (which contributed to high numbers of ducks and other water birds).

The number of weeks observed per observer in 2010-11 averaged 42.7, ranging from 10 to 52 weeks (22 sites reported for 50 or more weeks. This shows a slight increase in “high-week” sites compared to 2009-10. Overall, observers devoted 3333 observer-weeks to their reporting in 2010-11 compared with 3516 in 2009-10 (5% decrease).

A total of 155 species were observed in 2010-11 which was 14 fewer than in 2009-10. While the number of species is lower than for the past 3 years it is well above the diversity reported in years prior to Year 26. Indeed looking back to Years prior to Year 21 it was common for fewer than 140 species to be reported. The detailed analysis required to explain this has not yet been undertaken, but there appears to be only a weak relationship (at best) between number of species observed and number of observation weeks. One species (Eastern Osprey) was reported for the first time in the GBS this year. A Yellow Rosella was also reported for the first time, and while this is usually regarded as a subspecies of Crimson Rosella the observation was thought worth including in the database for an historical record.

Sixty seven species were recorded breeding (a decrease of 4 species over 2009-10), with breeding activity from 61 sites (a decrease of 5 on 2009-10, but still well above the number of sites reporting breeding activity prior to Year 28).

The abundances of the observed birds, measured by the ‘A’ statistic, retain a broadly similar pattern to 2009-10 for most of the commonly recorded species. The ten most abundant species were the same in both years (although changing a little in positions within the group). The Common Myna continued to decline in abundance (as measured by A) dropping back to position 14 from position 13. The Little Corella continues to increase in abundance now sitting in position 11. Details of these and other changes are in the species accounts.

Four species were observed at least once by every observer in both of the past two years. Four of these species as last year (Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Australian Magpie and Red Wattlebird) with Magpie-lark and Australian Raven joining the set. Crested Pigeon and Crimson Rosella were reported at all sites in 2010-11 but missed in one or two sites respectively in 2009-10. 55 species (an increase of 6 on 2009-10) were observed by at least one observer in every week of the year.

Among the 50 most abundant species (defined as  $A \geq 0.2$ ) 46 species met this criterion in 2009-10), 13 species increased at least 100% over the average of all previous years. Four of these were water birds (reflecting the relatively recent uptake of sites with large areas of water) as well as Little Corella, Noisy Miner, Crested Pigeon (these species in a similar situation in 2009-10) and

Superb Fairy-wren, Rainbow Lorikeet, Little Raven, Satin Bowerbird and White-browed Scrubwren. Of the same population, 4 species displayed reductions of at least 50% compared to the average of all previous years: House Sparrow and Common Starling (these two continuing to show a decline as in recent years) Weebill and Red-Browed Finch.

Species recorded in the GBS and no other survey include: Yellow Rosella, Peachface Lovebird, Hybrid Crimson Eastern Rosella and Princess Parrot.

### 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 locations have since been added: Majura Firing Range (1998-99, and from 2004); Hall/Gold Creek, Newline and Tuggeranong Hill (all 2000); Lambrigg (2001-March 2003); 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 now has 142 monitoring points (sites) at 15 locations. A number of sites (generally nine plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high complexity are monitored at each location. Each 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.

Woodland Survey data is analysed to determine trends in bird abundance, and reports are published from time to time in *Canberra Bird Notes* and on the COG website ([www.canberrabirds.org.au](http://www.canberrabirds.org.au)). A major analysis of data was completed in 2010 (data from December 1998 to December 2008), and was reported in *Canberra Bird Notes* in December 2010 (Vol 35/Number 3) as well as published on the COG website.

This major analysis covered the fifteen ongoing monitoring locations in the Project, as well as a separate analysis of sites with 10 years of surveys (drawn from 66 sites at the six foundation locations).

In spring/summer 2009/10 an assessment of habitat at each of the 66 sites at the six foundation locations was made. An analysis was then undertaken in 2011 on the changes in bird occupancy between 2003 and 2010, modelled against a habitat index. The greatest changes were a decrease in cover of eucalypt regeneration, shrub cover and logs and branches, and an increase in mistletoes and native ground cover. Of the 51 bird species with sufficient data:

- 14 showed no change in occupancy with change in habitat
- 27 increased in occupancy with the change in habitat, and
- 10 decreased with the change in habitat.

As a pilot exercise, additional analyses were undertaken to identify a key habitat variable that was the best single predictor of change in bird occupancy between the two years for nine bird species. Four species, Striated Thornbill, Buff-rumped Thornbill, White-plumed Honeyeater and Scarlet Robin decreased significantly with this habitat change. The Noisy Miner increased significantly. This analysis provides a direct relationship between changes in bird occupancy and change in habitat (the likely effect of the drought) at the site level, and may be useful to guide management actions and habitat restoration at the site level.

COG continues to provide access to its Woodland Project data for other research projects, including a current PhD study at the ANU on woodland birds with focus on ACT threatened species. The next major analysis of project data is likely to occur in 2016, as there will be ten years or more data at all project locations by the end of 2015.

### **Waterbird Survey overview**

Eastern parts of Lake George were surveyed in Oct, Jan, May and Jun with the lake up to a third under water.

Lake Bathurst and the Morass were surveyed on all months except Sep. Only small areas of the main lake were under water for limited periods. The Morass held some water throughout the year.

Highlights for Lake George:

- Largest concentration of Chestnut Teal reported so far (Jun): a minimum of 2000 (and a further 4000 unidentified ducks which most likely included many Chestnut Teals as well)
- 140 Australian Pelicans (Jan)
- 37 Banded Lapwings (Oct)

Highlights Lake Bathurst:

- Banded Lapwing: max. 96 (Dec) and breeding (Aug)
- Black-winged Stilt: breeding (Jan – April)
- Black-fronted Dotterel: max. 33 (April)
- Glossy Ibis: max. 15 (May)



Photo by  
Robin Hide

A Brown Goshawk with prey

## SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 1 JULY 2010 TO 30 JUNE 2011

## CASUARIIDAE: emu

**Emu** *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** Two records this year is close to average (mean of 1.6 over previous 10 years). Both records were from Pierces Creek forest (GrG15-G16) by MaM4: 1/14 Jul, 4/24 Mar. There were also two records from within Tidbinbilla NR, however, these birds are considered captive.

## PHASIANIDAE: quail etc

**Stubble Quail** *Coturnix pectoralis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 81 records (incl 4 WOO and 21 WBS) represents the largest reporting year for this species (mean for the previous ten years is 20.0 records, with a range of 2-43). Most records were from summer (77%) with fewer records from the other three seasons. Records came from a wide spread of 49 grid cells, mainly across the lower grassland areas to the north and east of the COG region. The number of birds reported averaged 4 (range 1-15). No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** 15 observations of up to 4 birds from Dec to Jun from a rural site in Burra GrM21 (AnI1) - compares to just 2 observations from the same site last year.

**Brown Quail** *Coturnix ypsilophora*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 42 records (incl 1 WOO), from throughout the year, is well above the average reporting rate (mean 13.3 records over the previous ten years, range 3-32). Records were scattered across 20 grid cells, mainly from around Canberra and the north-eastern half of the COG area, but with several records from the lower elevations of the ranges to the south-west. The number of birds reported ranged from 1 to 11 (mean 3.9). Two breeding records: dy/10 Dec LGin GrJ12 (McD4) and dy/29 Jun Tidbinbilla Tracking Station (MaM4).

**GBS:** 6 observations of up to 2 birds, in Aug, Oct, May and Jun, from a site in Curtin (AJR1).

**Indian Peafowl** *Pavo cristatus*

Escapee

**General:** One record this year of the established roaming flock from the Narrabundah/Griffith area: 10/31 Oct Narrabundah L15 (DaG2). A single bird was also reported from a nursery in Pialligo but this is likely to be a pet bird.

## ANATIDAE: ducks, swan

**Plumed Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna eytoni*

Rare, visitor

**General:** No records. Last record Feb 2010 Lake Bathurst/Southern Morass.

**Musk Duck** *Biziura lobata*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 22 records from 13 grid cells. Recorded from the greatest number of cells for at least 11 years. Recorded throughout the year. Largest concentration 6/29 Jan Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (AnI1). Three breeding records: dy/13 Sep Wet Lagoon GrS02 (ZwM1), di/18 Sep and dy/29 Jan Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (AnI1).

**Freckled Duck** *Stictonetta naevosa*

Uncommon, Visitor

Declared vulnerable in New South Wales

**General:** No records. One bird seen last year at JWNR.

**Black Swan** *Cygnus atra*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 228 records from 30 grid cells, the highest number of records and grid cells in the past 11 years. Recorded throughout the year with just under 50% of records during the summer months. Largest concentration 225/30 April LBath GrY08 (LeM1). 47 breeding records from 16 cells, breeding reported throughout the year, half the number of records last year from a similar number of cells.

**GBS:** Recorded from 6 sites ranging from observations during one week Dunlop GrI11 (BaJ1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1) to records covering 33 weeks Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2) and 32 weeks Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). Breeding reported from Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2) and Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

**Australian Shelduck** *Tadorna tadornoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 34 records from 12 grid cells, highest number since 2007-08 when there were 44 records from 12 grid cells. Recorded throughout the year. Largest concentration 283/1 May LBath GrY08 (LeM1). 2 breeding records, dy/6 Nov Plains Rd West GrR16 (BuM1) and dy/21 Nov Bungendore Sewage Works GrS13 (PeH2).

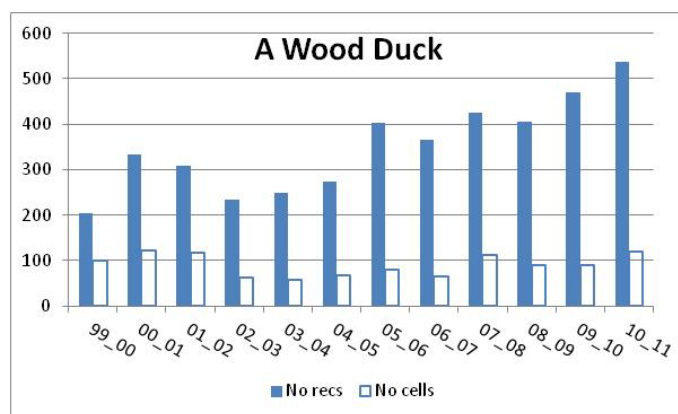
**GBS:** An unusual record from a rural garden of a single bird seen on week beginning 5 Feb Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

**Australian Wood Duck** *Chenonetta jubata*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 356 records from 119 grid cells, highest number of records and cells since at least 1999-00. Recorded throughout the year with 67% of records during the spring-summer months. Largest concentration 300/7 May Giralang Pond GrK12 (McD4). 33 breeding records from 24 grid cells. 27 records of dy; first reported 27 Sep.

**GBS:** Records from 34 sites with a single site Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) with observations for more than 40 weeks. Highest number 72 for week starting 13 Nov and 58 and 54 over 2 consecutive weeks starting 27 Nov from Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). 5 breeding records: Watson GrL12 (WaK1), Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4), Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1).

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

Common, Visitor

**General:** No records, compared with 18 records from 4 grid cells last year.

**Australasian Shoveler** *Anas rhynchos*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 37 records from 10 grid cells, the lowest number of records since 2000-01 and half the number of last year from a similar number of grid cells (73/12). Seen throughout the year but with only 3 records during the spring. Largest concentration 42/26 Jan, 42/1 May and 45/29 May all from LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). A notable single breeding record dy/31 Oct Dunlop West GrI11 (CuR1).

**Grey Teal** *Anas gracilis*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 151 records from 45 grid cells, the lowest number of records since 2004-05 and continues the long-term trend shown in graph CBN Vol 36 p9. Recorded throughout the year with similar numbers of records for each season. Largest concentrations 2000/15 Aug LGeo GrT09 (LeM1) and 1500/1 May LBath GrY08 and 1400/26 Jun LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). These concentrations are the highest since 3500/30 Jul 2006 LBath. 7 breeding records from 5 widely dispersed grid cells; GrJ19, GrG13, GrF13, GrZ08, and GrP13. All of dy apart from a single br. First recording dy/30 Oct Namadgi Visitors Centre GrJ19 (FuP1).

**GBS:** Records from 3 sites with a single breeding record from a rural garden, dy over 4 weeks starting 22 Jan Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

**Chestnut Teal** *Anas castanea*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 65 records from 12 grid cells, the largest number of records from the greatest number of cells since at least 1999-00. 29% from JWNR GrL14. Seen throughout the year with 62% during the spring/summer months. Largest concentration 2000/19 Jun LGeo south-east GrT09 (LeM1), greatest number recorded in the COG database, almost twice the number of the next in rank. Nine breeding records from 4 grid cells all of dy, the first being recorded dy/19 Sep LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). 7 of the breeding records from FSP GrL14/M14, possibly suggesting 2 broods.

**GBS:** Recorded from a single site Murrumbateman GrI8 (BIJ1). Observed between 4 Sep and 8 Jan for 11 weeks, maximum of 2 birds.

**Northern Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** A single record 2/21 Jan Yass River Park GrF03 (BoC4), possibly the domestic form. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from a single site Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) over 2 weeks, week starting 4 Sep and 18 Sep. Possibly the domestic form.

**Pacific Black Duck** *Anas superciliosa*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 404 records from 95 grid cells, the largest number of records and grid cells since at least 1999-00 and well up from the 63 grid cells last year. Recorded throughout the year with 64% of records during the spring-summer months. Largest concentration 690/1 May LBath GrZ08 (LeM1), well up from the 173 recorded last year. 51 breeding records from 15 cells (ih= 1, on= 2, ne= 1, dy= 32, br= 15) 12 of the br records from Gungahlin Pond GrK11 recorded virtually every second day between 27 Jan and 15 Feb. First breeding record dy/3 Jul JWNR GrL14 (AnF1), final record dy/20 Apr Dunlop West GrI11 (CuR1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 18 sites. 2 sites with observations for more than 40 weeks Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4). At Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) more than 10 individuals were observed over 18 weeks and at Giralang GrK12 (McD4) more than 10 were observed over 8 weeks. Breeding from 3 sites Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4), Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

**Hardhead** *Aythya australis*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 44 records from 14 grid cells, lowest number of records since 2000-01. Recorded throughout the year. The largest concentration was of 44/31 Jul and 48/21 Aug Fyshwick Sewage Ponds GrM14 (AnF1) well down from the 230 recorded last year at JWNR. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 2 sites Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

**Blue-billed Duck** *Oxyura australis*

Rare, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in New South Wales

**General:** 9 records from 2 grid cells, lowest number of records since 2001-02. All records from FSP and JWNR GrL14/M14. A maximum of 3 individuals with records between 3 Jul and 14 May. No breeding records.

**Domestic ducks and geese**

These records include Pacific Black Duck X Mallard and domestic Muscovy Duck and Greylag Goose.

**Domestic duck**

**General:** No records.

**Domestic goose**

**General:** A single record 2/3 Jan Tuggeranong Weir and Bunning's Grassland GrJ17 (PeH2), down from previous years.

**Black Duck-Mallard hybrid**

**General:** 4 records from 3 grid cells. Reported from LTug GRJ16, Queanbeyan CBD GrN15 and Gungahlin Pond GrK11.

**Muscovy Duck-domestic form**

**General:** 42 records from 8 cells. 26 records between 20 Jan and 24 Feb from Gungahlin Pond GrK11 (KiM2). Largest concentration 10/15 Jan LGin GrJ12 (AnI1). Reported throughout the year.

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 222 records from 62 grid cells, an increase in the records and grid cells from last year. Recorded throughout the year with a similar number of records for each season. Largest concentrations 99/24 Mar (BuM1) and 121/26 Mar (PeH2) at FSP GrL14 slightly up from the 90 recorded 12 Jan 2010 JWNR. 47 breeding records from 22 cells (co= 1, nb= 2, on= 9, ne= 1, dy= 30, ny=1, br=3) a very large increase from the 26 last year and the 12 records in 2008-09. The first breeding record on/23 Sep Crisp Gallery GrC01 (BoC4) and the last dy/15 Apr Gundaroo Road GrN09 (BoC4).

**GBS:** Recorded from 5 sites. Sites with observations over more than 15 weeks Murrumbateman GrI8 (BIJ1), Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). Maximum 12 Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) on 3 weeks. Breeding records from 2 sites Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 26 Records from 10 grid cells, double the number of records from a similar number of cells over last year. Present throughout the year. Largest concentrations 75/26 Jan, 42/13 Feb and 46 3/Apr all at LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). A breeding record of a single nest on/13 Feb LBath GrZ08 (LeM1).

**Great-crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** No records. 3 records last year.

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 177 records in all months from 26 grid cells, 9.2% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 107 records from 19 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 5.8%, mean 15.3, max: 180/6 Feb JWNr GrL14 (PeH2). Maximum numbers for Campbell Park, for example 20/16 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (HeS1), are well down on the 100 birds recorded at that location several times last year. Breeding: no records, for the third year in a row.

**GBS:** It was the 20<sup>th</sup> most frequently recorded GBS species the same as last year. Reported from 36 sites, compared with 42 sites last year. Recorded in all weeks. Abundance ( $A=1.4476$ ) is 18.7% higher than the long-term average; max: 52/3wk Mar O'Connor GrK13 (DoM1). Breeding, 5 records from 3 sites: first co/3 wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3) and last ny/5 wk Jan Turner GrK13 BoC4.

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

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 2 records: 1/22 Sep Point Hut Pond GrJ17 (RaB1), and 1/22 Jun Cook GrJ13 (LaD1). First record since 2007.

**GBS:** A single record, 1/4wk Aug Fraser GrJ11 (WaS1). During the 30 years of the survey there have been 23 sightings of this species, generally at a single site.

**Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 34 records of 1-3 birds from 10 grid cells compared with 13 records from 7 grid cells last year. The increase in records mirrors the additional input (19 sheets) of an active new contributor. However the increase in grid cells from 7 to 10 may reflect a continuing spread of this invasive feral species. Recorded mainly in and around west and south Belconnen, Weston and Tuggeranong Valley, throughout the year. Breeding: one record, di 30/Oct Macquarie GrJ13 (AnF1).

**GBS:** 1-7 birds recorded from 23 sites in all weeks. This compares with 25 sites last year. ( $A=0.0948$ ) is similar to last year and 474% up on the long-term average. Max, 7/1wk Apr and 7/2wk Jun, both from Fraser GrJ11 (WaS1). Breeding, 5 records: first dy/1wk Aug Turner GrK13 (MiP1) and last di/4wk Mar Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3).

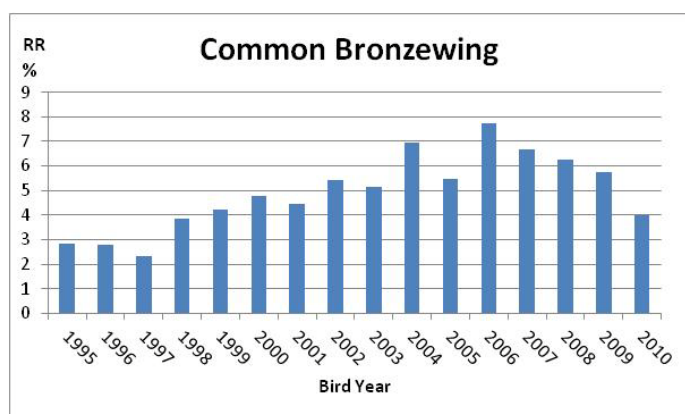
**Common Bronzewing** *Phaps chalcoptera*

Common, Breeding Resident

The population appears to be declining for this species. The reasons are not known. One possibility is that the regional population has not actually fallen, but that birds in the region have moved to post-fire succession areas where there are now very large amounts of wattle seed.

**General:** 119 records (14 WOO) from 52 grid cells, 18.4% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 137 records (24 WOO) from 69 grid cells last year. Recorded throughout the year. Reporting rate 3.94%,

mean 1.4; and max: scattered records of 4. Records have declined from 152 to 119 over the past 3 years. Grid cell distribution has fallen from 69 to 52 over the same period. The reporting rate has dropped from 5.64% last year to 3.94% this year and well below the 5.3% long-term reporting rate. Maximum numbers for both the General and GBS records are also down on last year. Breeding, 7 records: first on/30 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (BoC4) and last on/22 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (AnF1 and SmA1).



**GBS:** Up to 2 birds reported from 7 sites, down from up to 4 birds from 18 sites last year. Reported in 42 weeks and in all months, but with only 1 record each in Apr and May. Abundance ( $A=0.0324$ ) is down from ( $A=0.041$ ) last year and ( $A=0.0557$ ) the year before. This is 14% below the long-term average. It has slipped from 78<sup>th</sup> to 85<sup>th</sup> in rank. Breeding not reported.

**Brush Bronzewing** *Phaps elegans*

Rare, Breeding Resident

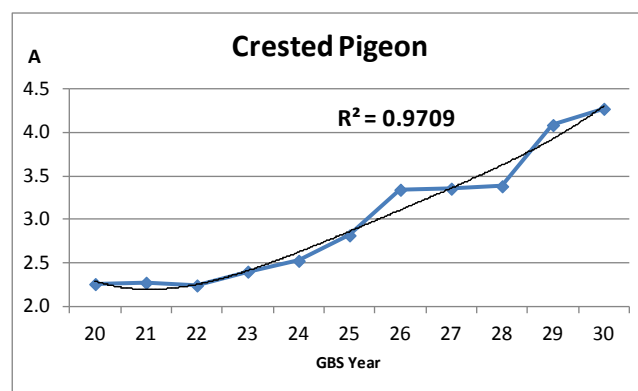
**General:** 1 record (2 last year), which continues a recent pattern of low numbers of records from scattered locations: 2/30 Oct Tidbinbilla Road GrG15 (MoM3). 'Display' was noted as part of this record. This represents the first possible breeding record for the ACT.

**Crested Pigeon** *Ocyphaps lophotes*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 715 records (87 WOO) from 94 grid cells, 33.2% of all grids surveyed. This compares with 566 records (68 WOO) from 75 grid cells last year and 514 records (79 WOO) from 96 grid cells the year before. Reporting rate: 23.7%, compared with 23.3% last year and 14% long-term. Mean 3.6; max: 54/12 Jun Hawker Ovals GrI12 (AlB1). Breeding, 13 records: first on/8 Oct Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1) and last on/16 Feb Latham GrI12 (CoF1).

**GBS:** The 3rd most reported bird in the GBS for the second year in a row. Abundance ( $A=4.2742$ ) is up from ( $A=4.0873$ ) last year and is a 224% increase on the long-term average. Max: 75/2wk Jun Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1). Breeding recorded from 22 sites and in all months. However, all breeding records from 3wk Apr to 2wk Jul are only of display.



**Diamond Dove** *Geopelia cuneata*

Vagrant/Escapee

**General:** 5 records from 4 grid cells. Max: 5/20 Sep West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). Recorded in Sep, Mar and Apr. No records last year but there have been small numbers of records in most recent years. Breeding not recorded.

**Peaceful Dove** *Geopelia striata*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 3 records from 3 grid cells compared with 14 records from 4 grid cells last year: 2/31 Jan Newline Paddocks GrN14 (SmA1), 1/23 Feb GrH12 (SmA1) and 1/13 Apr Casuarina Sands GrG14 (MuT1). Breeding not recorded.

**GBS:** A single record: 1/3wk Jul Cook GrJ13 (DiB1).

**Wonga Pigeon** *Leucosarcia picata* 75

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 4 records each of a single bird: 1/23 Nov Wyanbene Caves GrY26 (BoC4), 1/14 Feb Tallaganda NP GrT22 (BuM1), 1/23 Feb Rocky Pic Tallaganda GrT21 (LaG1) and x/23 Mar Rocky Pic Tallaganda GrT21 (LaG1). This follows the recent pattern of records of low numbers from widely distributed locations. This year's records are from generally more well-watered locations in the COG AOI. Breeding not recorded.

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 22 records from 12 grid cells, 4.2% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 27 records from 13 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 0.7%, mean 1.62; max: 4/30 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3) and 4/23 Jan East Uriarra Reserve GrG12 (COF1). Breeding, 14 records: first on/18 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3) and last ny/4 Feb The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

**GBS:** 1-4 birds recorded from 11 sites compared with 13 sites last year. Recorded in 48 weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.0465$ ) is just over half that of last year ( $A=0.0762$ ) but is 171% above the long-term average. Breeding: 16 records representing a single breeding event in each of 2 sites; first nb/2wk Aug and last dy/4wk Nov both at Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

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

Rare, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 1 record: 1/23 Mar Mulligans Flat GrL10 (BiL1).

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 25 records of from 1 to 3 birds from 5 grid cells, 1.4% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 10 records from 9 grid cells last year. Breeding: 5 records (no breeding records last year), first ny/22 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (AnF1); last on/27 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (AWB1).

**GBS:** 12 records from 3 sites: Hoskinstown GrS17 KaJ1, Turner GrK13 (MiP1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). This compares with 4 records from 3 similar sites last year and 9 records from 3 sites the year before. Breeding not recorded.

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

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 4 records compared with 8 records last year and 3 records the year before that. First: x/24 Jan Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (BiL1); Max (and last record): 25/11 Mar Tuggeranong GrJ17 (FrM1).

**GBS:** 8 records of 1-50 birds recorded from 7 sites compared with 11 records from 10 sites last year. Abundance ( $A=0.0216$ ) is 60% down on last year and on the year before that. It is 88% below the long-term average. First, 2/4wk Nov Yarralumla GrK14 (OnP1) and last 4/3wk Mar Scullin GrI12 FeP1 and 2/3wk Mar Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

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

Rare, Migrant

**General:** No records this year, with 2 records last year.

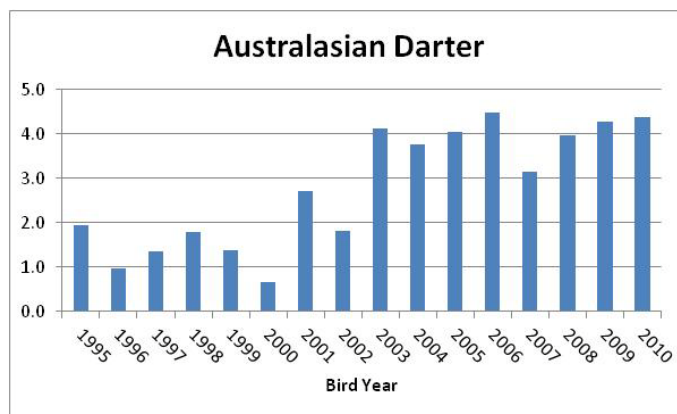
**GBS:** No records this year, 4 records from 4 sites last year.

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

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 133 records, a considerable increase on the 102 and 103 of the previous two years. Numbers ranged from 1-60, the latter recorded on a COG outing on 20 March to "darter central", the Molonglo Reach. While darters were recorded in 19 grid cells, almost half of the records came from that location or its immediate environs, with lower numbers from most other urban waterways.

They were recorded in all months, with 24% of records in spring, 44% in summer, 20% in autumn and 11% in winter, suggesting that the species can now be regarded at least in part as a resident. There were only three formal breeding records, though the darters were known to have nests and young throughout the summer: the earliest was on/30 Oct Molonglo Reach GrL14 (LaS1); and latest, ny and dy/20 Mar from the same location (COF1), the report on which mentioned that only six active nests were observed and that the breeding season, though highly successful with over 40 juvenile birds seen, was nearly over (Holland 2011). It appears that thus far the darters have not been affected by the clearing of the willows. The other recorded breeding event was ny/27 Feb Molonglo River between the parkway and the RSPCA GrJ14 (MaA2).



**GBS:** 31 records, compared with last year's 30, with a range of 1-4 birds, from the end of Oct onwards. Darters were recorded from 7 sites, most near water bodies, in Kambah, Curtin, Gordon, Turner, Jerrabomberra, Giralang and Lyneham. Abundance  $A=0.0135$ , up 530% against the long-term average; the darter is now being recorded with a degree of frequency in suburbia, even at some distance from water bodies.

#### PHALACROCORACIDAE: cormorants

##### Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 183 records, compared with last year's 177, continues the relatively high reporting rate for this species and confirms its "common" status. Groups size ranged from 1-30, the latter figure representing an unusually large (for the ACT) breeding colony at Yowani Golf Club GrL12. If this group is disregarded, the next highest abundance figure is 16, with an average of 4.25. The species was widely recorded, over 49 grid cells, and in all months. The lower percentage of winter records (13.7%) may simply reflect the lower number of datasheets submitted in winter (18%). There were 16 breeding records, from four locations (Yowani, Molonglo Reach, Molonglo River and Lake Tuggeranong), the earliest being on/8 Aug Yowani (LeM1) and the latest on/1 Apr Tuggeranong GrJ17 (FrM1). The maximum number of occupied nests at Yowani was 26/ 8 Oct (LeM1)

**GBS:** 169 records, somewhat down on last year's 196, but massively up on the long-term average. The species was again recorded from 13 sites, though was fairly regular in only two, in Giralang (McD4) and Murrumbateman (BJ1), near water bodies. Abundance ranged from 1-24 birds; the species was recorded in all but one week of the year.

##### Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 108 records, of 1-40 birds, average 3.85. The reporting rate for this species has remained quite stable over the last decade. Records came from 27 grid cells, predominantly those containing the urban lakes, rivers and wetlands, as well as the occasional rural area. The Great Cormorant shows a somewhat more pronounced seasonal pattern than the other Phalacrocoracidae, with 28% records from spring, 55% summer, 14% autumn and 4% winter, though these figures may be distorted by the fact that a quarter of the records came in the second half of the year from a single observer and a single location. Breeding was only reported once: ny (a single nest containing three advanced chicks) /20 Mar Molonglo Reach GrL14 (COF1).

**GBS:** 25 records, down on last year's 43 records, but up 41% on the long-term average. The majority of records again as usual between Sep and Mar. Numbers ranged from 1-3. The species

was recorded from only five sites, and was fairly regular as usual only in one at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), a suburban site close to a body of water.

**Little Black Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 130 records, compared with last year's 66, however this discrepancy is partly accounted for by a similar series of records as mentioned under Great Cormorant. Abundance ranged from 1-73, average 7.2. The species was recorded from 26 mainly urban grid cells with water sources. Even allowing for the distortion above, the species is strongly seasonal, with 22% records in spring, 55% summer, 18% autumn and 6% winter. 7 breeding records from Yowani Golf Club GrL12, beginning with on/12 Sep and continuing through several broods till ny/24 Mar (LeM1, CuR1). The maximum number of occupied nests at Yowani was 27/ 7 Feb (LeM1). A further breeding event was recorded: co/18 Feb Jarramlee Pond GrI11 (FeP1).

**GBS:** 78 records, a huge increase over last year's 34 records, from 9 sites; largely absent over winter. Most records were from 2 sites near bodies of water in Giralang (McD4) and Jerrabomberra (HaL2). Numbers ranged from 1-35 birds. The abundance value  $A=0.1229$  is over 20 times the long-term average.

**Pied Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax varius*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Two records, both of single birds. One was from Lake Burley Griffin, the Yarralumla end rather than the previously favoured location of Aspen Island; in Feb (AWB1); the other from Bungendore GrR12 in Oct (DeD2). The status of this species is unclear. It has been recorded albeit in low numbers every year since 2001 and sporadically before that. Misidentification is a possibility; it also may be overlooked.

**GBS:** Three records, compared with none last year, from two sites: 1/2wk Sep Giralang GrK12 (ReM1); and 2/2wk Sep and 1/1wk Mar in nearby Kaleen GrK12 (PiV1).

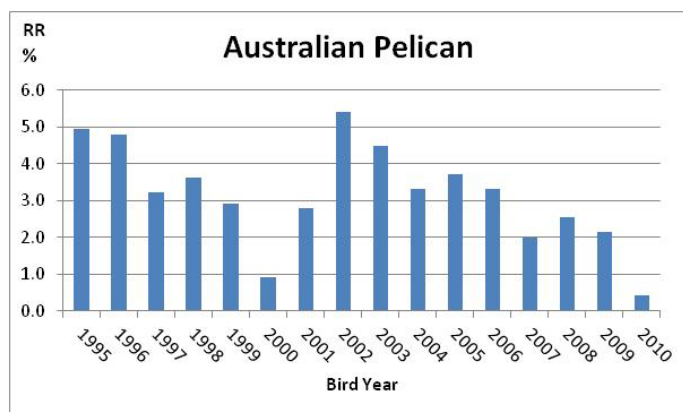
**PELECANIDAE: pelican**

**Australian Pelican** *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

Common, Visitor

**General:** A mere 13 records, compared with last year's 52; a return to the low numbers of 2000-01, presumably due to the breaking of the decade-long drought in the inland. Abundance ranged from 1-8 in the ACT, where the species was only recorded from Jerrabomberra Wetlands and Tidbinbilla between Oct and Jun. The only significant numbers came from the waterbird survey of Lake George (140 in Jan; 100 in Jun). The current reporting rate for this species of 0.43 compares with an all-years rate of 4.49, but for once this is not a cause for concern for the long-term well-being of the species.

**GBS:** Only one record this year, 2/4wk Apr Giralang GrK12 (ReM1). The abundance value of  $A=0.0006$  is down 96.6% against the long-term value.



**ARDEIDAE: herons, egrets, bitterns****Australian Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus* 207

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 10 Feb 2008, with records from four of the past ten years.

**White-necked Heron** *Ardea pacifica*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 11 records (incl 1 WOO and 1 WBS) from 10 grid cells is a drop to below average reporting rates (mean of 18.3 over past 10 years, range 5-37) after relatively high reporting rates for the past four years. They were widely distributed and from all seasons: spring (6), summer (3), autumn (1), winter (1). One report of 3 birds, one of 2, all other reports of single birds.

**GBS:** 1 observation of a single bird 2wk Mar from a site in Turner (MiP1).

**Eastern Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 23 records from 6 grid cells, of up to 3 birds, represents a return to near average reporting rates (mean 21.3, range 9-43 over past 10 years); this follows the low 9 records last year and records in the 30's and 40's for the three years prior to that. Fifteen of the records were from JWNr, with records also from Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (2), Dunlop ponds GrI11 (2), Wet Lagoon GrS02 (2), and two WBS records from LBath GrZ08 and GrX07. All records were from Spring and summer except for a single June record.

**GBS:** Four observations of a single bird in Aug-Sep from a site in Giralang (McD4) - down from 27 weekly observations last year), and a single observation of a single bird 2wk Apr from a site in Curtin (AJR1).

**Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 5 records, 4 of up to 2 birds from JWNr between 30 Oct and 20 Dec, the fifth being a WBS record from LBath on 26 Jan. There are records of this species from 7 of the past 10 years, with a mean of 3.5 records per year.

**Cattle Egret** *Ardea ibis*

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 11 records brings the reporting rate back to near average (mean of 8.6, range 3-23 over the past 10 years) after several years of declining records. Records were from throughout the year; eight of them from JWNr, with single records from Point Hut Pond and Gungahlin Pond.

**GBS:** 3 records from 2 sites: 1/3wk Jun and 1/4wk Jun from a site in Curtin (AJR1), and 1/3wk Apr from a site in Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

**White-faced Heron** *Egretta novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 183 records (incl 2 WOO and 27 WBS) from 62 grid cells. This increased reporting rate is in line with the high rates of the 2005-08 period, and is above the average (mean 140.1 over past ten years, range 88 to 212). They were reported in all seasons: spring (53), summer (58) and autumn (49), with, as is usual, the lowest number in winter (21). Most records were of 1-6 birds, but large numbers were recorded during the WBS, particularly from LBath where up to 90 birds were recorded (LeM1). There were 18 breeding records (nb, on, ny, dy) from 25 Oct through 11 Feb. Most relate to a well observed nesting at Campbell Park (see Compston 2011), but other breeding sites included JWNr (MaR4) and Tin Hut Dam (AnI1).

**GBS:** 127 records from 15 sites is fairly typical. Groups of up to 4 birds were reported. The most consistent sites with records regularly throughout the year were at Giralang (McD4) and at Hoskinstown where two breeding observations were also reported - nb/4wk Nov and dy/5wk Jan (KaJ1). See Compston (2011).

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Three records of the same bird at Kellys Swamp on 5 Jan (PeH2, AnF1, and SmA1). This is the third year in four that the species has been reported – prior to that the species had not been recorded since Oct 1994.

**Nankeen Night Heron** *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 5 records this year is a low reporting rate (cf 12 last year and a mean of 13.9 for the past ten years, range 7-23). All records were from two known regular locations: 3 from Jerrabomberra Creek in the JWNr, and 2 from the western edge of LGin. All records were from 5 Oct to 23 Nov, and were of 1 to 4 birds.

**GBS:** Fewer records from the GBS this year also, though still from the same two sites as last year: 1/3wk Nov Curtin (AJR1); and 6 records from 5wk Jul through 3wk Dec from a site in Giralang (McD4); all of single birds.

**THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills****Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** A single record, 15/29 May LBath GrZ08 (LeM1), maintains a low reporting rate for this species after higher numbers several years ago (38 in 2006-07, 22 in 2007-08, 10 in 2008-09). This compares to a mean for the past ten years of 9.1, with no records for three of those years.

**Australian White Ibis** *Threskiornis molucca*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 107 records (incl 5 WOO and 1 WBS) from 22 grid cells is a drop on last year (131 records from 27 grid cells) but is still well above average (mean 75.3 records, range 31-131 over past 10 years). A majority of records came from the various urban wetlands, including the highest group counts from the Yowani Golf Club ponds in Lyneham where regular surveys reported between 120 and 310 birds. By contrast, the mean number of birds reported was 38.2, but the median was just 3. As usual, the majority were reported in spring (30) and summer (55), with fewer in autumn (18) and winter (4). All 10 breeding records were from the colony at Yowani Golf Course, from ne on 8 Aug through ny on 24 Mar (LeM1, CuR1), max no occupied nests at one time: 137/ 21 Jan (LeM1).

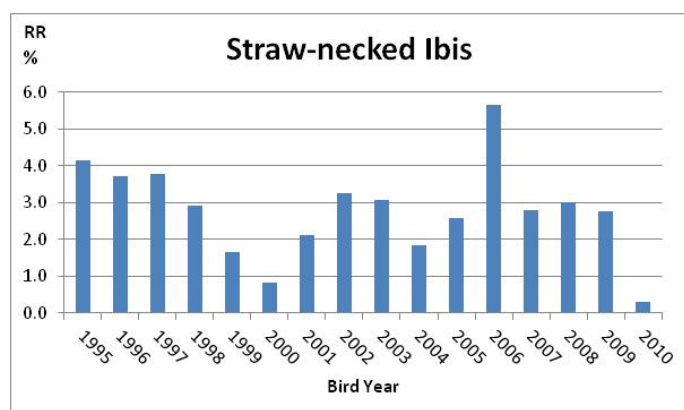
**GBS:** 169 records from 14 sites this year (cf 146 records from 17 sites last year). The most consistent sites with records throughout the year were at Murrumbateman (BLJ1), Giralang (McD4), Jerrabomberra (HaL2), and Lyneham (LeM1). Most observations were of fewer than 10 birds but some sites reported up to 25 birds. No indication of breeding reported this year.

**Straw-necked Ibis** *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Common, Visitor

The number of records of Straw-necked Ibis this year is very low, for both general records and GBS, and is presumably related to most birds moving to the inland for the good breeding conditions.

**General:** Only 9 records this year, including just 3 from Canberra, is a very low recording level (cf mean of 57.2, range 19-123 over the past 10 years) and a big drop from the 66 records last year. Four of the nine records were WBS from The Morass GrZ08 (LeM1, MaD4), and there were single records from Rose Lagoon GrU04 (FrM1) and the old brick pit south of Goulburn GrZ01 (HoJ1). The 3 Canberra records came from JWNr



(2) and the Belconnen golf course (1). Despite the scant records, they came from across the year (30 Oct – 26 Jun). Most records were of 12 birds or fewer, but the Morass produced counts of 80 and 100 in May and Jun surveys.

**GBS:** Just 2 observations from 2 sites falls short of last year's poor return of 13 records from 8 sites which was the lowest, in terms of both reports and sites, for at least ten years. The records were: 30/1wk Sep Deakin (RoD2) and 10/2wk May Curtin (AJR1).

**Royal Spoonbill** *Platalea regia*

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 14 records (incl 1 WBS) from 4 grid cells continues a recent decline in reporting (cf 25 records from 6 grid cells last year and a mean of 24.1, range 12-47 over past 10 years). Nine of the records were from JWNR, three were from Dunlop ponds, one was from Scrivener dam, and the WBS record was from SE LGeo. Records were from across the year with 8 in spring, 2 in summer, 1 in autumn and 3 in winter. No breeding reported this year.

**GBS:** No records this year.

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

Uncommon, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 26 Mar 2009, with records from eight of the past ten years and a mean of 8.1 records per year.

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

**Eastern Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

Rare Visitor

**General:** One record (BiL1), on the same date and at the same location as the bird referred to below. No subsequent observations were reported.

**GBS:** One endorsed record of a single young bird, circling over Giralang Pond GrK12 on 7 May (McD4). This is a significant "first" for the ACT, and follows an unconfirmed sighting of an immature bird over Lake Burley Griffin in 1966 (Wilson 1999).

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 14 records, compared with 26 last year, of 1-4 birds. The abundance of this irruptive species fluctuates dramatically depending on the availability of its preferred food source, rodents. The most recent year of high abundance in our region was 2004-05, with 93 records. This year's records came from 11 widely dispersed grid cells, mostly from grasslands on the outskirts of the city. 9 records in spring, and there were no records at all in summer, a not unusual pattern for the species in our region. Once again no breeding was recorded.

**GBS:** No records, compared with last year's remarkable 34. The species is seriously down on its long-term average, probably a result of the increasing urbanisation of Canberra.

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

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 20 records, a welcome increase over the average of 5 records per annum over the last decade. Most records were of single birds, though a group of 3/4 Jan LGeo GrR10 (LeM1). Records came from 13 widespread grid cells along the Murrumbidgee, LBG, LGeo, and Googong Dam. There was quite a strong seasonal distribution with 55% of records coming in autumn. No breeding was recorded.

**GBS:** No records, compared with last year's one. Sea-Eagles are infrequently recorded in suburbia.

**Whistling Kite** *Haliastur sphenurus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** Only 7 records, a return to the low numbers of 2000-02 and a disappointment compared with the average of 31 records of the previous decade. All records were of single birds or

“presence” and came from six widely dispersed grid cells. Two records were from JWNR, a former stronghold of the species. Birds were recorded between Jul and Feb. No breeding was recorded.

**GBS:** No records again. Generally not seen in suburbia.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Two records: 1/20 Sep West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1); and 1/27 Sep Newline GrM14 (AnF1). An occasional visitor from the inland; it has been recorded in 7 of the past 10 years in our region, always singly.

**Brown Goshawk** *Accipiter fasciatus*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 84 records, of mainly 1-2 birds or “presence”, with one record of 3/10 Oct Tharwa Sandwash (MaM4). Highest numbers for this species have ranged between 80-99 over the past five years. Brown Goshawks were recorded in all months with spring accounting for 63% of records, summer 19%, autumn 10% and winter 8%. Records came from 39 widespread grid cells, both urban and rural. There were five breeding records of probably two breeding events, one on Narrabundah Hill GrI15, on/10 Oct and ne/30 Oct (CaJ4), the other at The Pinnacle NR GrI13, from on/30 Oct (BrJ3) to ny/13 Dec (AlB1). No dy were recorded, however.

**GBS:** 20 records, of 1-2 birds, with one 3/2wk Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Down from last year’s 27 records, and down 35% on the long-term average, though the possibility of confusion with the other common *Accipiter*, the Collared Sparrowhawk, cannot be ruled out. Recorded from only 8 widespread sites, as opposed to 14 last year. Five were urban: in Curtin, Turner, Ainslie, Duffy and Gleneagles; while two were rural: Carwoola and Hoskinstown. Records were spread throughout the year.

**Collared Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter cirrocephalus*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 30 records, of 1-2 birds, from 18 widespread grid cells, both urban and rural, and in most months. As usual the majority of records came in spring (37%), followed by 30% in autumn, 23% in winter and only 10% in summer. An average year for this species in terms of general records, though note the GBS results below. Unusually there were no breeding records.

**GBS:** 108 records, all of single birds. They were recorded in 25 sites, though were relatively common only in one site in Gilmore (GrB1); and in most weeks of the year. The abundance value,  $A=0.0301$ , is up 67% on last year and up 61% against the long-term average. The sparrowhawk remains one of our more common urban raptors but, oddly, there was no breeding recorded.

**Grey Goshawk** *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Two records: 1/20 Nov Orroral Ridge car park (L. Milsom); and 1/14 Mar Parkwood Rd (AnF1). Single birds of this species continue to be recorded once or twice in most years.

**GBS:** One record of a single bird 1wk Aug from a site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Spotted Harrier** *Circus assimilis*

Rare, Visitor

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** No records this year. Last recorded 18 Jun 2010 at Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1). This species is an irregular visitor to COG’s region, being recorded in all but one of the past ten years.

**Swamp Harrier** *Circus approximans*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** Ten records, mainly of single birds or “presence”, with one record of 2/22 Sep Wet Lagoon GrS02 (FrM1). This is an average recording rate for the species in recent years. Seven of the records came in spring, one in summer and two in autumn. Birds were recorded in 9 widely dispersed grid cells containing water bodies. No breeding recorded.

**Wedge-tailed Eagle** *Aquila audax*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 150 records, 16 of them “incidental”, that is, not part of a survey. Abundance ranged from 1-3, average 1.4. This year’s tally is the second highest number of records in the past decade, after 154 records in 2006-07, suggesting that the iconic “Wedgie” is thus far coping with Canberra’s urban sprawl. They were recorded in all months, with 29% of records in spring, 20% summer, 34% autumn (possibly dispersing young?) and 17% in winter. Records came from 77 widely dispersed grid cells. There was only one breeding record: co/30 Oct Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (ReD2).

**GBS:** 95 records, of 1-3 birds, from 25 widespread sites, most commonly from a rural site in Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Recorded in all months. The A value of 0.0346 was slightly down on last year’s result but up a massive 164% on the long-term average. No breeding recorded.

**Little Eagle** *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

For a species reported as being in severe decline in the ACT (Olsen et al 2012), this is again a surprising number of records, and may be the consequence of the many exhortations to COG members to submit all records of this species declared “vulnerable” in the ACT in 2008.

**General:** 60 records, of 1-2 birds, with one record of 3/7 Sep West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1); average 1.15. The level of reporting has remained roughly stable over the last six years. Little Eagles were recorded in 17 grid cells, most commonly in and around JJWNR GrL14, West Macgregor GrH11 and TSR48 GrO05. 30% of records in spring; 20% in summer and 25% in both autumn and winter. There were four breeding records from two locations: on/29 Sep, on 30 Oct and ny/16 Dec, both West Macgregor (CuR1); and dy/27 Dec TSR48 (LeM1). Olsen (2012) reported a further successful breeding at Uriarra East.

**GBS:** 25 records, from nine sites, a surprising number of which were inner suburban locations. Regular in none. All of single birds save 2/4wk Mar Weetangera GrJ12 (WoD1). Records were spread fairly evenly throughout the year. With an abundance value of  $A=0.0072$ , the species is a surprising 43% above the long-term average. It is unclear what to make of this. If the decline is real, then we must have a few birds that are highly mobile and are thus recorded over a wide area.

**FALCONIDAE: kestrel, falcons, hobby****Nankeen Kestrel** *Falco cenchroides*

Common, Breeding Resident

Our most commonly recorded raptor, perhaps in part because it is readily identifiable and inhabits localities frequented by birders.

**General:** 197 records, the highest number in more than a decade, over which the average has been 103. Abundance ranged from 1-6 birds, with an average of 1.3. The highest count over a 5km radius was 6/31 Oct Stromlo Forest Park GrH14 (RaL1). Kestrels were recorded in 87 widespread grid cells, from outer suburban grasslands to rural areas. While they were recorded in all months of the year, 46% of records in spring, 19% summer, 21% autumn and 14% winter. There were only four breeding records, however: ih/28 Oct Waroo TSR GrE06 (TaN1); dy/26 Nov Moncrieff GrM11 (DaC1); dy/26 Dec Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1); and dy/4 Feb “Strathnairn” GrH12 (BIR1).

**GBS:** 61 records, the same number as last year. Most were of single birds, with seven records of two. Records came from 19 sites, mainly from the urban fringes outwards, though the species was relatively common only in one site in Curtin (AJR1) adjacent to grasslands. The relatively high number of records is perhaps partly explained by the increasing number of rural garden bird sites. Kestrels were recorded in all months. The abundance value of  $A=0.0204$  is nevertheless down 5% on the long-term average.

**Brown Falcon** *Falco berigora*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 83 records, the same as last year, and well up on the 49 average over the last ten years. Abundance ranged from 1-4, average 1.35, with 4/6 Feb TSR46 GrN02 (BoC4). Brown Falcons were recorded in all months, with 40% of records in spring, 19% summer, 22% autumn and 19% winter. They were recorded in 53 widespread, mainly rural, grid cells. Breeding was recorded four times: on/26 Sep Naas Valley GrJ19 (McJ4); on/25 Nov LBath GrY08 (MaD4); dy/22 Dec LBath (LeM1); and dy/4 Jan LGeo GrR10 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 8 records, from 3 sites in Red Hill, Lyneham and Carwoola. All were of single birds recorded in Mar-Apr, save 2/1wk Oct Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1). The Brown Falcon is increasingly the least urban of our raptors; its abundance level is down 53% on the long-term average.

**Australian Hobby** *Falco longipennis*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 54 records, compared with a 10-year average of 29, but down from a high of 68 in 2006-07. Abundance 1-2, average 1.17. Recorded in 23 grid cells, mainly urban or semi-rural; and in all months save Jul. 19% of records in spring; 56% in summer (dispersing young?); 19% in autumn; and 7% in winter, possibly confirming the species' partially migratory status. Breeding was recorded twice, on the same day: on/30 Oct Oakey Hill GrJ15 (MaA2); and dy/30 Oct Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1).

**GBS:** 65 records, slightly up on last year's 59 records; abundance mainly 1-2 birds, with one 3/1wk Apr Burra (AnI1). Recorded throughout the year, though only 4 records in winter. Hobbies were recorded in 21 sites from many parts of Canberra and the region. The abundance value of  $A=0.0246$  is up on last year but down 26% against the long-term average. Breeding records from two sites: on/2wk Oct-1wk Nov, Pearce (KrS1); and on/1wk Nov Holder (BeS1). No dy were recorded, however.

**Black Falcon** *Falco subniger*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** No records this year. This inland raptor has been recorded in our area in nine of the previous ten years, albeit infrequently. The possibility of misidentification cannot be discounted, however, as the region is home to some unusually dark Brown Falcons.

**GBS:** A surprising record of a single bird, in 5wk Jan, from a site in inner Canberra: Turner GrK13 (MiP1), which also recorded the species last year.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 36 records, a fairly standard result for this species in recent years, though up on the ten-year average of 19. Most records were of a single bird, with three records of two and one of 4/16 Mar Googong GrO19 (COF1). Records came throughout the year: 7 in spring; 10 in summer; 12 in autumn, and 7 in winter; and from 21 widespread grid cells, both urban and rural. Insofar as the species has a "hotspot" location, it is Shepherds Lookout (GrH12), with the only breeding record being ny/30 Oct on the cliffs along the river there (AlB1).

**GBS:** 33 records, mostly of single birds except for 3 twos, which all came from one site in Burra GrM21 (AnI1), which regularly records them. Peregrines were recorded throughout the year albeit with fewer winter records. Records came from 11 widespread sites, both urban and rural. At  $A=0.011$ , the abundance value for the Peregrine is up massively against last year and up 120% on the long-term average. One possible breeding record: cf/3wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 187 records is a drop from last year's high to being closer to normal recent reporting rates (mean 143.2, range 70 to 220 over previous ten years). As usual, most records (169 or 90%) are from around the various urban and peri-urban lakes, ponds, and wetlands, including 8 records from various golf courses and one from the botanic gardens. Of the 18 records away from Canberra, 1 was from Queanbeyan, 12 were WBS records from around the Tarago area GrX07-8, and five came from various areas including Uriarra GrF13, Tidbinbilla NR GrG17, Wet Lagoon GrS02, Collector Rd GrT02 and Rose Lagoon GrU04. The mean number of individuals reported per record was 5.7, the largest number reported was 100/25 Jun LGin GrJ12 (AnI1). Records from all seasons: spring (49), summer (70), autumn (35) and winter (33). It should be noted that 44 records (24%) were contributed by a single observer (KiM2) mainly over the summer period. There were just 14 records of breeding (7% of all records - a drop from 28 records or 12% last year) including on, ny, dy and br, over a more restricted period (30 Oct through 20 Feb) compared to last year's extended breeding period (Aug to Jun).

**GBS:** 91 records, fairly regularly across the year, from 3 sites in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), Jerrabomberra, NSW GrM16 (HaL2) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4). Most records were of 1-4 birds, but the site in Jerrabomberra regularly reported between 5 and 18 birds. Breeding observed at Jerrabomberra with dy from 3wk Oct through to 1wk May; and a single dy observation from Giralang 4wk Feb.

**Lewin's Rail** *Lewinia pectoralis*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

No records this year. The species has been recorded in 8 of the previous 10 years with an average of 2.6 records per year.

**Buff-banded Rail** *Gallirallus philippensis*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Just 2 records this year, all from Callum Brae GrL15 and likely the same bird, on 6 May and 1 Jun (HeS1, MoM3). This compares to a mean of 6.7 records over the previous 10 years (range 1-19).

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

Rare, Visitor

No records this year, following a high of 36 records last year. The species has been recorded in 8 of the previous 10 years (mean 13.1, range 0-41) with 2003-04 and 2005-06 being the nil record years.

**Australian Spotted Crake** *Porzana fluminea*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** Just 1 record: 2/30 Oct Tidbinbilla Rd at Birrigai turnoff GrH17 (LaD1). This is an unusual location for this species which is normally reported from the JWNR. This is a low reporting rate, well below average (mean 7.6, range 0-24 over the previous 10 years, with records from 9 of those 10 years).

**Spotless Crake** *Porzana tabuensis*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 4 records of up to 2 birds, all from Norgrove Park GrL14 from 7-28 Aug (LeM1). This is a significant drop from last year and is well below average (mean 11.1, range 4-32 over the previous 10 years).

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

Rare, Visitor

No records this year. There have been irregular influxes of this nomadic species with an exceptional 55 records last year and records also from 2007-08, 2002-03 and 2001-02

**Dusky Moorhen** *Gallinula tenebrosa*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 249 records (incl 1 WOO), from 31 grid cells, is very much above average (mean 148, range 93-199 over previous 10 years). As usual, most records (223 or 90%) are from around the various urban and peri-urban lakes, ponds, and wetlands and waterways, including 27 records from various golf courses. Of the 26 records away from Canberra, 11 were WBS records from LBath area GrX07-8, and others came from various areas including Uriarra, Tidbinbilla, Namadgi Visitors Centre, Googong Dam, Yass, Gunning, and Goulburn. The average number of individuals reported per record was 7.8, the largest number reported was 100/25 Jun LGin GrJ12 (AnI1). Records from all seasons: spring (57), summer (105), autumn (50) and winter (37). It should be noted that 57 records (23%) were contributed by a single observer (KiM2) mainly over the summer period. There were 48 records of breeding (well up on 11 last year and 20 the year before that), ranging from co, nb, ne, dy and br, from 1 Sep through 31 Mar, from a wide range of locations across the region.

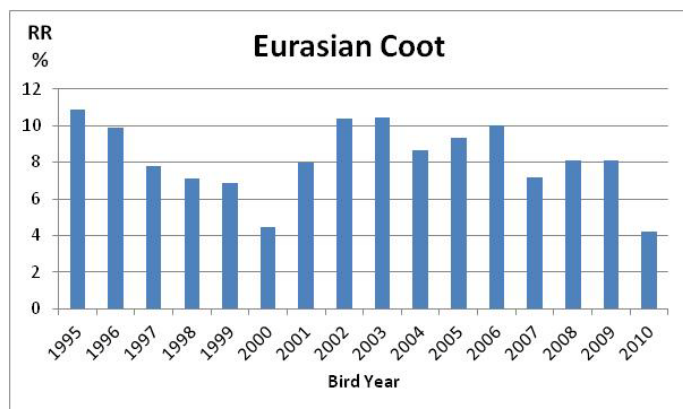
**GBS:** 119 records, fairly regularly across the year, from 4 sites in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), Jerrabomberra NSW GrM16 (HaL2), Giralang GrK12 (McD4) and Murrumbateman GrI08 (BIJ1). Most records were of 1-5 birds, but the site in Jerrabomberra regularly reported between 6 and 32 birds. Breeding observed at Jerrabomberra with dy over an extended period from 3wk Oct through to 3wk May; and from Giralang with on 4wk Dec and 1wk Jan, ny 2wk and 3wk Jan, and dy 4wk Jan.

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 125 records (incl 5 WOO and 11 WBS), from 28 Grid cells, is a relatively low reporting rate (cf mean 169, range 107-217 over previous 10 years). The urban and peri-urban lakes, ponds, waterways and associated wetlands again accounts for most records (101 or 81%). The 24 records from locations away from Canberra include the 11 WBS records from LBath, as well as Uriarra, Wamboin and several locations to the north from Yass to Goulburn. The average number of individuals reported was 17.5, the largest numbers approaching 200 at the Morass, Dunlop Pond and Giralang Pond in late autumn – early winter. Only 5 of the records reported 100 birds or more. Local breeding was again reported and was relatively widespread, with 17 records between 1 Sep and 20 Apr, from several locations including: Yowani golf course, Lyneham (nb, on, dy from Sep-Dec, all LeM1), several ponds in Dunlop (on, dy from Oct-Apr, CuR1, FeP1), a pond in Gungahlin GrL11 (on, Dec, DaC1), a dam on Norton Rd, Wamboin GrP12 (nb, Dec, McD1), Mulligans Flat (br, Feb, SmA1), and LBath GrX07 (dy, Feb, LeM1).

**GBS:** A relatively low 48 records from 3 sites. Only one of these sites, at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), returned regular records across most of the year, with anywhere from 6 to 102 birds reported between 3wk Oct and 3wk Jun. Another regular site in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2) recorded birds only in spring and early winter with 2-3 birds from 4wk Aug to 3wk Oct and 10-16 birds from 2wk May to 4wk Jun. A third site in Giralang GrK12 (McD4) recorded a single bird 1wk Jun. Breeding was observed at the Jerrabomberra site with dy from 3wk Oct through 5wk Jan, and again 1wk May to 2wk Jun.



**RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet****Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 15 records from 3 grid cells – all WBS records from LBath GrZ08 and GrY08, and LGeo SE GrT09 (all LeM1). This is close to average reporting (mean 17.4, range 5-32 over previous 10 years), but contrasts with last year when most records were from JWNR GrL14 and there was only a single WBS record. Records were spread across the year from 15 Aug to 26 Jun. Numbers reported ranged from 2 to 93 (mean of 29.5). Breeding was reported for the first time in 5 years with at least 6 pairs: ne/26 Jan and dy/13 Feb LBath (all LeM1).

**Red-necked Avocet** *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, visitor

No records. Last recorded 25 Sep 2008, with records from 5 of the past 10 years.

**CHARADRIIDAE: plovers, dotterels, lapwings****Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*

Rare, Migrant

**General:** A single WBS record: 1/7 Nov Morass South GrZ08 (MaD4). This is the first record since Oct 2008, with records from 5 of the previous 10 years.

**Red-capped Plover** *Charadrius ruficapillus*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 12 records, all WBS, mainly from LBath and one from LGeo SE (all LeM1 and MaD4). This is an increase on last year and above the average (mean of 5.2, range 3-13 for previous 10 years). Up to 42 birds recorded, though mean count was 9.

**Double-banded Plover** *Charadrius bicinctus*

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 3 records, all WBS: 6/15 Aug LGeo SE, 37/1 May and 36/29 May both LBath (all LeM1). This is above the 10-year average of 1.2 records per year. There are records from 7 of the previous 10 years.

**Black-fronted Dotterel** *Elseyornis melanops*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 36 records from 14 grid cells is a relatively low recording rate, down from the 60 records from 16 grid cells last year and below the average (mean 51.7, range 31-73 over the previous 10 years). Includes 11 WBS records. About half the records were of 1-2 birds, the highest count being 42/29 May LBath (LeM1), with the mean being 7.25. Records were fairly evenly spread across all seasons. A single breeding indicator: co/30 Oct Tharwa Sandwash (FrM1).

**Red-kneed Dotterel** *Erythrogonys cinctus*

Uncommon, Visitor

No records this year, the first time since 1999-2000 that this has occurred. The average number of records over the past ten years is 18.2 (range 1-38).

**Banded Lapwing** *Vanellus tricolour*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

See Boekel 2010 for discussion on status of this species.

**General:** 19 records from 6 grid cells - this is a drop on last year's high 28 records but is still well above average (mean 6.6, range 0-28 over previous 10 years with records for 9 of those 10 years). Most (16) were WBS records from LBath and LGeo (LeM1, MaD4), with an INC record from the same area, but 2 records were of a pair of birds nesting (on) at North Throsby/Mulligans Flat GrL11 in October (BoC4). The mean number of birds recorded was 14.2 although this was boosted from a median of 4 by some high counts (e.g. 96/22 Dec LBath (LeM1) through late spring and summer. Of the 19 records, 7 (37%) were breeding records. In addition to the nesting Throsby pair, there

were: ne/22 Aug and 19 Sep LBath, ne/22 Aug LBath west basin, dy/13 Feb LBath (all LeM1) and dy/19 Sep LBath east (LaD1).

### **Masked Lapwing** *Vanellus miles*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 345 records (incl 14 WOO and 37 WBS), from 58 grid cells, is a very high reporting rate for this species (cf mean of 165, range 108-233 over previous 10 years) and eclipses the previous high of last year's 233 records from 55 grid cells. While the mean number of birds per record was 9.9, the median and mode were both, not unexpectedly, just 2; the highest number reported was 340/3 Apr LBath GrY08 (WBS – LeM1). Records were from throughout the year: spring (94), summer (113), autumn (86), winter (52). It should be noted that 113 records (33%) were contributed by a single observer (KiM2) mainly over the summer period. Breeding was reported from only 17 (just 5%) of the records. Indicators were mainly dy, but also on and br, from 17 Jul through 1 May from 11 different grid cells. As for previous years, this low proportion of breeding records does not reflect well the breeding status of the species in the region.

**GBS:** 209 records from 29 sites. All counts were of 1-6 birds with the exception of 13 birds and 8 birds in 1wk and 2wk Jun at a site in Giralang (NoA1). No breeding records this year.

### **ROSTRATULIDAE: snipe**

No records of

**Australian Painted Snipe** *Rostratula australis* (1 record 2007-08)

Rare Visitor

Declared endangered in New South Wales and vulnerable in the Commonwealth

### **SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies**

No records of:

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica* (6 records Oct 2007)

Vagrant

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* (4 records 2008-09)

Rare, Migrant

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* (last recorded Oct 2009)

Rare, Migrant

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* (last record Nov 2008)

Rare, Migrant

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis* (2 records Sep 2009)

Rare, Migrant

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

Rare, Migrant

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* (last record Sep 2009)

Rare, Migrant

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata*

Common, Migrant

**General:** A single record 2/1 May LBath GrY08 (LeM1) well down from previous years.

### **Latham's Snipe** *Gallinago hardwickii*

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 11 records from 8 grid cells, the lowest number of records since 2000-01. 4 records from JWNR, others from Goorooyarroo NR GrM11, Rose Lagoon GrU04, Dunlop West GrI11, Back Creek TSR GrY18, Uriarra Homestead Dam GrF13, Lanyon property GrJ18 and North Watson Wetlands GrL12. Earliest record 1/7 Aug (MiP1) a very early record for this migratory species and a very late record of 2/13 May GrL12 (BiL1). Largest concentration 2 on 4 occasions.

**GBS:** Recorded from a single site on week starting 9 Oct and again 27 Nov. On each occasion a single individual from Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

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

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records from 5 grid cells is fairly typical reporting for this species (mean 5.0 range 0-13 over the past 10 years). Records this year were from LGin, Mulligans Flat, Gooroo NR, Hall (WOO) and Pierces Creek – all sites different from the six records from last year. Records were from Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr and May. No breeding reported.

**Little Button-quail** *Turnix velox*

Rare, Migrant

**General:** 3 records from 2 grid cells: 1/18 Dec Red Hill (WOO) (HaS4), 2/19 Jan and 1/16 Feb, both TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1). This is the third consecutive year, but only the fourth in ten, that the species has been recorded.

**LARIDAE: gulls and terns**

No records of:

**Gull-billed Tern** *Sterna nilotica* (last record Sep 2002)

Rare, Visitor

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia* (last record Aug 2005)

Rare, Visitor

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** A single record 7/26 Jan Morass GrZ08 (LeM1) down from previous years.

**Silver Gull** *Larus novaehollandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 105 records from 13 grid cells. Largest number of records since at least 1999-00 from the usual number of cells. Present throughout the year with a peak during the summer months. Largest concentrations 820/1 May LGeo GrT09 (LeM1). Up to 400 recorded on LBG 9 Nov (MoM3) and 21 Dec (RoJ5). 3 breeding records from LBG, ne/22 Oct (RoJ5), ny/9 Nov (MoM3) and ny/21 Dec (RoJ5). For a detailed report of breeding on LBG see Davey and Fullagar 2011.

**GBS:** Recorded from 4 sites Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2), Turner GrK13 (MiP1) and Yarralumla GrK14 (OnP1). Largest number 40 from Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

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

Rare Visitor

Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

**General:** 12 records of 1-16 birds this year from 6 grids compared with 6 records last year. Most records in Mt Ainslie/Mt Majura and Rob Roy NP (e.g. 16/13 May Rob Roy NP GrK18 (CIJ2) and one record from Carwoola (2/31 Mar Carwoola, Widgiewa Rd GrQ18 (BuM1)). Records from 27 July to 21 May. One breeding record: di/25 Sep Mt Majura GrM12 TBA.

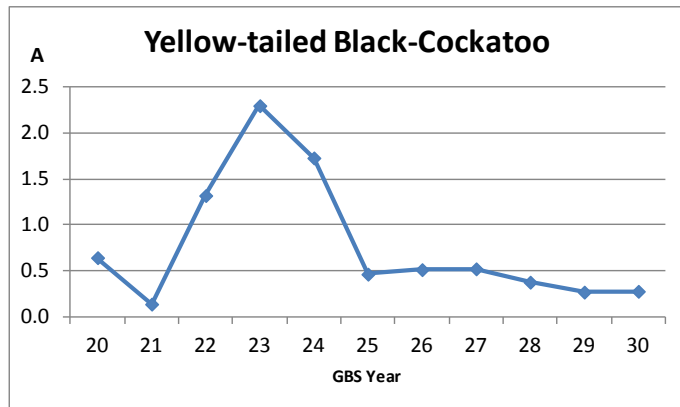
**GBS:** Recorded from 1 rural site: 2/3 wk Jul, 1/3-4 wk Aug, 4/4 wk Feb Burra GrM21 (AnI1),. Mean abundance A=0.0240 (A=0.0065 in 2009-10). Mean abundance and reporting rate over 4 times the long-term mean and reporting rate. No breeding records.

**Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus funereus*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 74 records (3 WOO) this year from 41 grids (14.5%) compared with 64 records last year and 98 records in 2008-09. Reporting rate 2.5% considerably less than the long-term average of 4.4%. Numbers reported: mean 7.09, median 3, max 60/30 May Molonglo River J14 (BiL1). 2 breeding records (three last year) dy/12 Dec Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2), dy/13 May ANBG GrK13 (BoJ1).

**GBS:** 254 records from 44 sites (56%) from 51 weeks of 1-33 individuals. Mean abundance ( $A=0.2790$ ) was 11.9% lower than the long-term mean, 3.27% higher than 2009-010 ( $A=0.2702$ ) and much lower than the peak abundance after the 2003 bushfires ( $A=2.2998$  in 2003-04). This represents a return to earlier levels of abundance. Breeding recorded from 3 sites (same as last year) commencing with dy/4 wk Jul Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1) and concluding with dy/4 wk Mar Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).



**Gang-gang Cockatoo** *Callocephalon fimbriatum*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 113 records from 42 grid cells (14.8%) from all months, compared with 104 records last year. 14 (12.4%) were WOO. Reporting rate 3.7% was less than 4.3% last year and less than half the long-term average of 7.79%. Numbers reported: mean 2.7, median 2, max 11/8 May Rivett I15 (HoJ1). 2 breeding records (6 last year) commencing with ih/13 Aug Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1) and concluding with on/22 Oct Gungahlin Hill GrK12 (HeS1).

**GBS:** 780 records from 64.1% of sites from all weeks of 1-27 individuals. The mean abundance ( $A=0.6567$ ) was 13.1% lower than 2009-10 ( $A=0.756$ ), well below levels of 2003-04 ( $A=1.1505$ ) and 10.4% below long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 4 sites (compared with 7 last year) from dy/5wk Jul Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3) to dy/4wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

**Major Mitchell's Cockatoo** *Lophochroa leadbeateri*

Escapee/Vagrant

**General:** No records this year after 12 records of a single bird in 2007-08.

**GBS:** No records (last recorded in 2008-09).

**Galah** *Eolophus roseicapilla*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 1239 records from 146 grid cells (51.6%) from all months, compared with 972 in the previous year. 256 (20.7%) were WOO. Reporting rate 41.0% almost the same as last year and slightly above the long-term average 38%. Numbers reported: mean 6.54, median 3, max 200/12 Jun Hawker ovals GrI12 (AlB1). 26 breeding records (41 last year) commencing with ih/25 Aug Duntroon GrM13 (BuM1), concluding with dy/6 Mar Macquarie Oval GrJ13 (AnF1) with two early ih records for the following breeding season in May and June.

**GBS:** 2763 records from all sites in all weeks of 1-150 individuals. Most abundant species recorded in the GBS. The mean abundance ( $A=8.0771$ ) was 7.9% below than last year ( $A=8.7702$ ) and 13.8% above the long-term mean. Breeding records from 23 sites (compared with 26 last year) from co/1 wk Aug Aranda GrJ13 (RAJ1) to dy/2 wk Mar GrJ11 Fraser (WaS1).

**Long-billed Corella** *Cacatua tenuirostris*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

**General:** 10 records (3 WOO) from 7 grid cells (2.5%) compared with 12 in 2009-10. Abundance: mean 1.43, median 2, max 2. No breeding records (one last year).

**GBS:** 59 records from 7 sites (10.3%), the same as last year. Recorded in 49 weeks, mostly from one site in Chapman. The mean abundance ( $A=0.0846$ ) was higher than 2009-10 ( $A=0.0077$ ) and ten times higher than the long-term mean. Records were of 1-24 individuals. No breeding records.

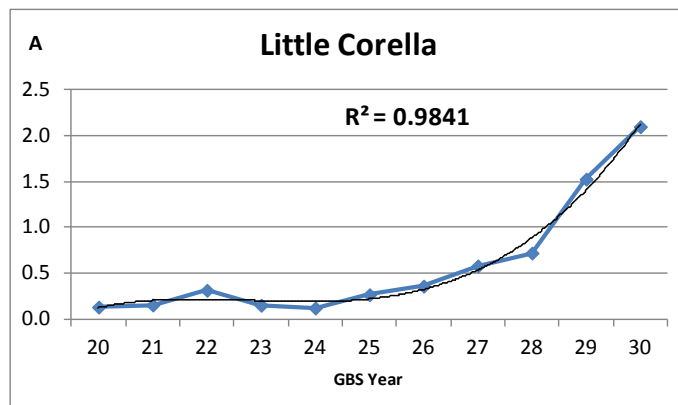
**Little Corella** *Cacatua sanguinea*

Breeding Resident

For a discussion of the spread of this species over recent years see Fennell 2012.

**General:** 158 records from 39 grid cells (13.8%), compared with 125 last year. Once confined to the southern suburbs, many records are now from the northern suburbs. 31 (19.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5.2% about the same as last year, but well above the 1.75% long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 7.65, median 2, max 150/7 Nov Lanyon East K18 (PeH2). 1 breeding record (two last year): ih/27 Nov Tuggeranong Hill GrK17 (BaL1).

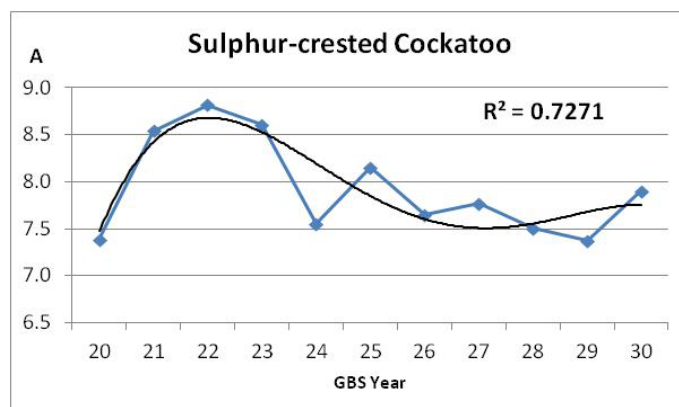
**GBS:** The mean abundance (A=2.0987) was 37.4% higher than 2009-10 (A=0.15273) continuing a long-term increase (almost 10 times the long-term mean). Records from 57.7% of sites of 1-186 individuals from all weeks. Breeding recorded from 1 site: dy/1 wk Jun Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1).

**Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** *Cacatua galerita*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 1262 records from 160 grid cells (56.5%) from all months, compared with 960 last year. 249 (19.7%) were WOO. Reporting rate 41.8% approximates that of last year and the long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 7.1, median 3, max 360/26 Jun Morass South GrZ08 (LeM1). 25 breeding records (54 last year) commencing with ih/2 Oct Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (AlB1) and concluding with dy/13 Jun Page GrJ12 (AlB1) with one early inspection of hollows in June.

**GBS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Records from 100% of sites from all weeks of 1-200 individuals. The mean abundance (A=7.9019) was 7.2% higher than last year (A=7.3734), and 38.7% higher than the long-term mean. Breeding records from 8 sites (compared with 9 last year) from on/4 wk Aug Burra GrM21 (AnI1) to dy/4 wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Cockatiel** *Nymphicus hollandicus*

Rare Vagrant

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

**General:** 1 records (2 last year) : 1/29 Apr Lyneham Ridge (LeM1).

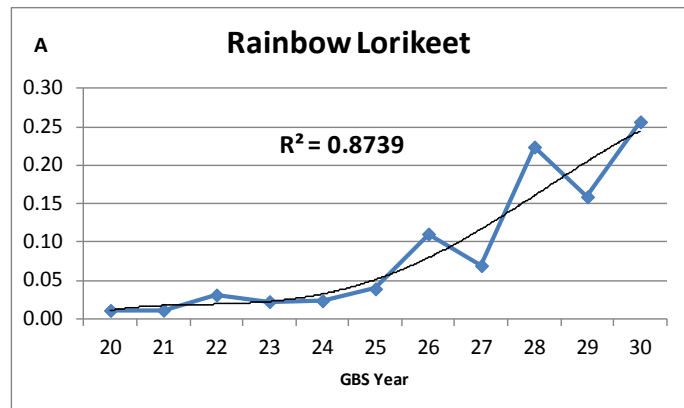
**GBS:** Recorded from 1 site (2 in 2009-10): 1/5 wk Apr Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1).

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

Uncommon Breeding Resident

**General:** 66 records from 11 grid cells (3.9%) compared with 35 last year mostly from Hawker, Aranda, Cook, Weetangera, Macquarie and adjacent suburbs. Numbers reported: mean 2.2, median 2, max 6/31 Oct Macquarie Oval GrJ13 (AnF1). One breeding record (3 last year): on/28 Oct Aranda J13 (AWB1).

**GBS:** The mean abundance ( $A=0.2565$ ) was 61.3% higher than 2009-10 ( $A=0.1590$ ), and almost 6 times higher than the long-term mean. Records from 25.6% of sites of 1-11 individuals from 52 weeks. Breeding recorded from 1 site (same as last year): ih/2 wk Dec Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1).

**Scaly-breasted Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus* 422

Rare Visitor

**General:** One record x/20 Apr Mulligans Flat GrL10 (BiL1)

**Musk Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta concinna* 424

Rare Visitor

**General:** No records (four last year).

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

**Little Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta pusilla* 425

Rare Visitor

**General:** One record (last recorded 2008-09): x/20 Apr Mulligans Flat GrL10 BiL1.

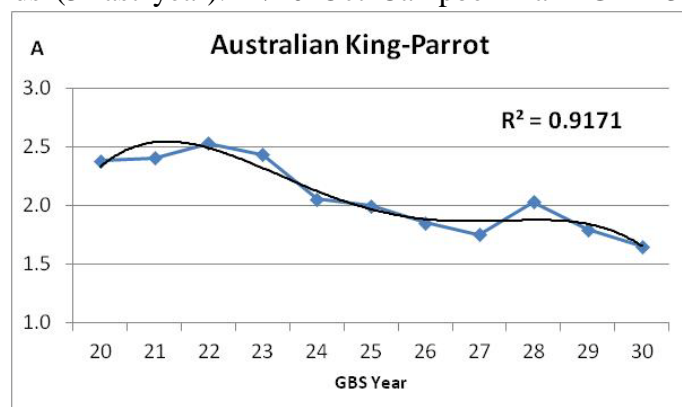
**GBS:** No records (three records in 2008-09).

**Australian King-Parrot** *Alisterus scapularis* 430

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 184 records from 41 grid cells (14.5%) from all months, compared with 139 last year. 35 (19.0%) were WOO. Reporting rate 6.1% is slightly above that of last year and slightly below the long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 5.3, median 2, max 153/18 June roost flight Mt Majura NR GrM13 (LeM1). 2 breeding records (3 last year): ih/10 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (McI1), ih/30 Oct Scullin GrI12 (AIB1).

**GBS:** 15<sup>th</sup> most abundant species recorded in the GBS, down from 12<sup>th</sup> in 2009-10. Records from 91.4% of sites from all weeks of 1-50 individuals. The mean abundance ( $A=1.6519$ ) was 8.1% lower than 2009-10 ( $A=1.7975$ ) but 6.6% higher than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 11 sites (compared with 17 last year) from dy/4 wk Dec Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) to dy/2 wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).



**Superb Parrot** *Polytelis swainsonii*

Uncommon Visitor

Nationally regarded as vulnerable.

**General:** 56 records from 18 grid cells (6.4%) compared with 93 in the previous year with 85% of records from spring and summer. 7 (12.5%) were WOO. Reporting rate 1.8% is about half that of last year but in line with the long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 3.58, median 2, max 50/30 Dec Hawker ovals GrI12 (AlB1). 3 breeding records (9 last year) ih/30 Oct Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1), dy/10 Jan St Matthews, Page GrJ12 (AlB1), dy/30 Dec Hawker ovals GrI12 (AlB1), see also Davey (2012) on breeding status in Gungahlin.

**GBS:** Records from 19.2% of sites of 1-18 individuals from 39 weeks (generally in spring and early summer, with few records before September and after January). The mean abundance ( $A=0.1350$ ) was 17.6% lower than 2009-10 ( $A=0.1638$ ) and over 4 times higher than the long-term mean reflecting the increase in post-breeding movement of birds into urban Canberra. Breeding recorded from 3 sites (compared with 4 last year): dy/3 wk Dec Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3), dy/1 wk Feb Cook GrJ13 (BrM2) and dy/1 wk Feb Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

**Princess Parrot** *Polytelis alexandrae*

Escapee

**GBS:** One record: 1/4 wk Apr Hawker GrI13 (OvA1)

**Crimson Rosella** *Platycercus elegans*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 1416 records from 192 grid cells (67.8%) from all months, compared with 1132 last year. 345 (24.4%) were WOO. Reporting rate 46.9%, about the same as last year and just under the long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 4.5, med 3, max 81/14 May roost flight Mt Majura NR GrK13 (LeM1). 38 breeding records (48 last year) commencing ih/18 Aug The Pinnacle NP GrI13 (BrJ3) and concluding with dy/2 Mar Mt Coree GrD14 (BuM1).

**GBS:** 6<sup>th</sup> most abundant species recorded in GBS, down from 5<sup>th</sup> in 2008-09. Records of 1-34 individuals from all sites from all weeks. Mean abundance ( $A=3.19$ ) was 3.7% lower than 2009-10 ( $A=3.35$ ) but 3.2% higher than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 14 sites (same as last year) from ih/4 wk Aug Deakin GrK14 (RoD2) and Watson GrL12 (WaK1) to dy/1 wk Mar Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1).

**Yellow Rosella** *Platycercus elegans flaveolus*

Rare Visitor

Distinctive sub-species of the Crimson Rosella

**GBS:** Reported from one site x/Kambah GrJ15 (HeS1).

**Eastern Rosella** *Platycercus eximius*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 781 records from 121 grid cells (42.8%), from all months, compared with 785 in the previous year. 206 (26.4%) were WOO. Reporting rate 25.9% slightly lower than the previous year and the long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 4.6, median 3, max 40/26 Jun Newline Paddocks GrN14 (AnF1). 28 breeding records (28 last year) commencing with on/23 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and concluding with) dy/19 Jan TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 21<sup>st</sup> most abundant bird in the GBS, down from 18<sup>th</sup> in 2009-10. Records of 1-12 individuals from 91% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ( $A=1.2796$ ) was 8.2% lower than 2009-10 ( $A=1.3945$ ) and 16.0% lower than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 11 sites (compared with 9 last year) from ih/3 wk Jul Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) to dy/2 wk Mar Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1).

**Crimson-Eastern Rosella Hybrid**

**GBS:** Records from 5 sites over 50 weeks.

**Swift Parrot** *Lathamus discolor*

Rare Visitor

Nationally regarded as endangered.

**General:** 14 records (1 last year) from 6 grids, predominately from Cook and Tuggeranong in Sep-Oct and Mar-May. Max 20/3 Sep Tuggeranong Town Centre GrJ17 (FrM1).**GBS:** Recorded from 1 site (2 last year): 3/4 wk Sep Gordon GrK18 (RaB1).**Red-rumped Parrot** *Psephotus haematonotus*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 474 records from 79 grid cells (27.9%), from all months, compared with 369 in the previous year. 36 (7.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 15.7%, the same as last year and slightly above the long-term average. Numbers reported: mean 6.03, median 3, max 75/12 June Hawker ovals GrI12 (AIB1). 9 breeding records (20 last year) commencing with ih/26 Sep Naas Valley GrJ19 (McJ4) and concluding with dy/19 Jan TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).**GBS:** Records of 1-66 individuals from 43.6% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ( $A=0.5829$ ) was 9.1% higher than 2009-10 ( $A=0.5341$ ) and 36.1% higher than the long-term mean. No breeding records (1 last year).**Turquoise Parrot** *Neophema pulchella*

Rare Vagrant

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** No records (last recorded 2009-10)**Budgerigar** *Melopsittacus undulatus*

Escapee/Rare Vagrant

**General:** No records. Last recorded Jun 2005.**GBS:** No records (one last year).**Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri*

Escapee

**General:** No records. Last recorded Oct 2006.**GBS:** No records (one last year).**Peachface Lovebird** *Agapornis roseicollis*

Escapee

**GBS:** One record: 1/1 wk Dec Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1).**CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel****Eastern Koel** *Eudynamys orientalis*

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 79 records of up to 2 birds from 15 grid cells compared with 28 records of single birds from 11 grid cells last year and 9 records from 3 grid cells the year before. Interpretation of the data is problematic. 86% of records in spring and summer, none in winter. Some of the apparent increase may well be a recording effort artefact. For example, koels appear to be both charismatic and loud, and are therefore more likely to be reported on the COG chat line. 28 of the records are 'incidental' which is high compared with the proportion of incidental records for most other species. Many records are very likely to be repeat observations of the same bird in the same place over successive days. Of 14 breeding records, 8 are very likely to have been of one breeding event and a further 5 records are likely to have been of a second breeding event. First 1/9 Oct Cook GrJ13 (McI1) and last x/2 Apr Scullin GrI12 (BiL1). Breeding, 14 records: first co/30 Oct Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) and last dy/14 Apr Scullin GrI12 (CIg1).**GBS:** 1-3 birds recorded from 37 sites compared with 42 sites last year. Abundance ( $A=.1032$ ) is 7 times greater than the long-term average. First 2/2wk Oct Page GrJ12 (AIB1) and 1/2wk Oct Griffith GrL14 (EmL1), and last 1/1wk Apr Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3). Breeding: 4 records, first co/1wk Jan Macquarie GrJ13 (LaS1) and last dy/2wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

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

Vagrant

**General:** 7 records of single birds in 6 grids compared with 3 records in two grid cells last year. First, 1/30 Oct Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1) and last, 1/21 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (BuM1).

**GBS:** 3 records of single birds from 3 sites compared with 5 records of single birds from 4 sites last year: 1/4wk Nov Ainslie GrL13 (DoC1), 1/1wk Dec Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) and 1/2wk Dec Watson GrL12 (MuT1).

**Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo** *Chalcites basalus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 48 records (8 WOO) from 33 grid cells, 11.7% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 128 records (12 WOO) from 52 grid cells last year and 95 records from 51 grid cells the year before. 96% of records in spring and summer. It is notable that, over the last 3 years, records for Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo have declined while records for Shining Bronze-cuckoo have increased. Reporting rate 1.6% compared with 5.3 last year and 3.6% long-term. First 1/18 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3) and last, 1/20 Apr TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1). Records were mostly of single birds. Max, which includes the single breeding record (di), 4/8 Sep Kowen TSR GrQ14 (BuM1).

**GBS:** 7 records from 2 sites in 6 weeks, compared with 7 sites over 22 weeks last year. First 1/3wk Aug Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and last 1/2wk May Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). Breeding not recorded.

**Black-eared Cuckoo** *Chalcites osculans*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** No records this year following 2 records last year.

**Shining Bronze-cuckoo** *Chalcites lucidus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 63 records (15 WOO) from 38 grid cells, 13.4% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 54 records (3 WOO) from 33 grid cells last year and 41 records from 29 grid cells the year before. 94% of records in spring and summer. Reporting rate 2.1%, mean 1.1, max: 3/4 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 and 3/22 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (SmA1). First 1/18 Aug Mt Ainslie GrM13 (LeM1) and last 1/13 Apr Casuarina Sands GrG14 (MuT1). Breeding not recorded.

**GBS:** 30 records from 9 sites compared with 10 records from 5 sites last year and with 9 records from 3 sites the year before. Recorded in 20 weeks. Abundance: (0.00990) is 57% up on the long-term average. First 1/4wk Aug Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and last 1/1wk Apr Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Breeding: 1 record, di/1wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**Pallid Cuckoo** *Cacomantis pallidus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 85 records (31 WOO) of 1-2 birds from 38 grid cells which is 13.4% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 165 records (27 WOO) of 1-5 birds from 64 grid cells last year and 144 records of 1-3 birds from 64 grid cells the year before. 93% of records in spring and summer. First, 1/9 Aug TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1) and last 1/27 Mar Mulligans Flat GrL10 (BaS2) with an outlier, 1/30 Jun Kama NR GrI13 (SmA1). Reporting rate 2.8%, mean 1.14 compared with reporting rate 6.8% and mean 1.23 last year, and 5.4% long-term. Breeding: 3 records, di/2 Sep Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1), di/8 Sep Kowen TSR GrQ14 (BuM1) and Superb Fairywren dy/14 Jan Elms Rd GrL04 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 1-3 birds recorded from 7 sites compared with 17 sites last year and 12 sites the year before. Recorded in 28 weeks. Abundance (A=.0210) is 24.5% less than the long-term average. First 1/4wk Jul Hoskinstown GrS17 KaJ1 and last 1/3wk Feb Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Breeding: 1 record, di/4wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**Fan-tailed Cuckoo** *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 115 records (5 WOO) from 74 grid cells which is 26.2% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 108 records (5 WOO) from 69 grid cells last year and 96 records from 56 grid cells the year before. 75% of records in spring and summer. Reporting rate 3.81%, compared with 4.45%

last year and 6.2% long-term. Max, 8/30 Oct Glendale Depot Track GrI23 (NeG1). First, 1/24 Sep Wamboin GrQ13 (BuM1) and last 1/21 May ANBG GrK13 (AnF1). Breeding: one record, di/8 Sep Kowen TSR (BuM1).

**GBS:** 63 records from 13 sites compared with 14 records from 5 sites last year. Recorded in 34 weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.0213$ ) is 124% above the long-term average. First 1/3wk Jul at Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1), Cook GrJ13 (BrM2) and Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and last, 1/5wk April at Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Breeding: 3 records, di/2wk Sep, di/4wk Sep and di/1wk, all from Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**Brush Cuckoo** *Cacomantis variolosus*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 18 records from 17 grid cells compared with 16 records from 16 grid cells last year and 11 records from 10 grids the previous year. 94% of records in spring and summer. Reporting rate 0.57% and mean 1.17. First 1/6 Oct Bungendore Rd GrR12 (DeD2) and last 1/30 Mar Majura Firing Range GrN12 (FeP1). Breeding not recorded.

**GBS:** 7 records from 3 sites compared with 1 record of a single bird last year and 3 records from 3 sites the year before. Recorded in 7 weeks: first 2/4wk Oct Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and last 2/2wk Jan Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2).

**STRIGIDAE: hawk owls**

**Powerful Owl** *Ninox strenua*

Rare, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** 3 records, but only one from a known Powerful Owl habitat: 1/7 Apr Lowden Forest Park GrW19 (COF1). One of the other records came from the same general direction: 1/5 Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). The third, from suburbia, is surprising and was not corroborated by other observers: 1/21 Mar Torrens (BrS1). Anecdotal reports of a bird in the Botanic Gardens again were not followed up. Powerful Owls have been recorded in our region in 6 of the previous 10 years and are thought to be resident in Tallaganda SF and the Brindabella Range.

**Barking Owl** *Ninox connivens*

Rare, Visitor

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** One endorsed record: 1/18 Mar Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (AlB1). The most recent endorsed record for this species before this came from the same location in Apr 1998, though there have been other possible records in the interim. The Rarities Panel concedes that some of the reports to it based on calls might indeed be Barking Owls but in an urban environment there are just too many alternatives that go “woof woof” in the night to be confident of identification based on call alone.

**Southern Boobook** *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 21 records, a similar number to recent years. All single birds or “presence”, except 2/30 Oct Black Mountain GrK13 (BoC4) and 2/3 Apr Cuumbeun NR GrO15 (BuM1). Birds were recorded in 13 grid cells, both urban and semi-rural. Records fell between Sep and May, with a surprising 48% being in autumn. No breeding was recorded.

**GBS:** 143 records, a huge increase on last year's 104, with a range of 1-5 birds, from 27 sites. Noteworthy were records of 4/1wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1); and 5/2wk Jan Turner GrK13 (MiP1). This latter was a breeding record, of dy. Birds were recorded in all months except Jun. Abundance  $A=0.0477$ ; up 22% on the long-term average.

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

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Two records: 1/22 Sep Orroral Tracking Station GrG22 (BuM1); and 1/8 Dec Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1). There are one or two records of this species in most years now, plus occasional irruptions in mouse plague years such as 2011-12.

**ALCEDINIDAE: kingfishers****Azure Kingfisher** *Ceyx azureus*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** No records this year. Last report May 2008 Shoalhaven River.

**HALCYONIDAE: kookaburra, kingfishers****Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 450 records from 135 grid cells (48% of grid cells). 87 records (19%) were WOO. Figures are slightly up on last year with the reporting rate (15%) in line with that of the previous 10 years (17%) but are well down on the long-term average of 25%. They are recorded throughout the year although there is a much higher recording rate in spring (38%). A notable record of 11 birds was recorded at Narrabundah Hill GrI15 on 17 Mar 11 (SmA1). 4 breeding records (down from 10 the previous year, but the same as the year before) which does not reflect the common breeding status of Kookaburra in this region: ih/26 Sep Red Hill (WOO) GrK14 (PeH2), cf/17 Nov Hall TSR GrJ10 (COF1), ih/20 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1) and dy/5 Dec Gooroo GrM11 (HoS1).

**GBS:** A common GBS species reported from 2/3rds of all sites throughout the year. Several sites reported them in nearly all months whereas a number of others would have them continuously for 6-8 months. Jul through to Dec typically had 1-2 birds per record whereas from Dec through to Apr records of 3-4 were much more common (and a couple of 5's). The abundance value ( $A=0.3624$ ) is 20% greater than the previous year (0.3015) and about the same as the long-term average. Breeding at 5 sites: earliest ih/1wk Jul Watson GrL12 (WaK1) (6 consecutive years of breeding records from this site), the latest dy/1wk Feb continuously to dy/2wk Mar at Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1).

**Red-backed Kingfisher** *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Following a number of years of this species being recorded along Ginninderra Creek during summer, there was only a single record this year and it was from Campbell Park GrM13 on 30 Oct 2010.

**Sacred Kingfisher** *Todiramphus sanctus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

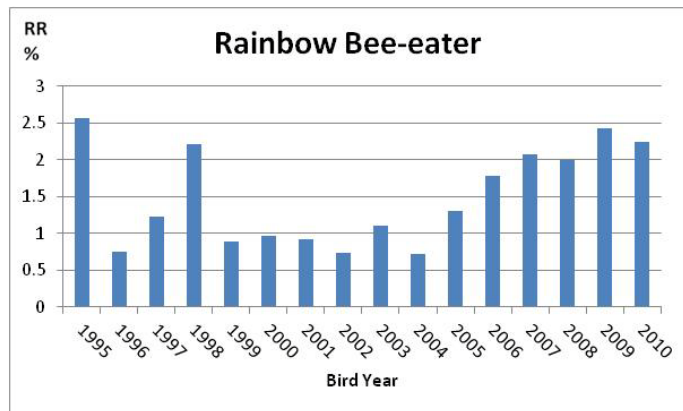
**General:** 149 records from 57 grid cells (20% of grid cells surveyed). Reporting rate 4.9% is about the same as last year and the long-term average. First record 1/22 Sep Orroral Tracking Station GrG22 (BuM1) and last x/2 May Callum Brae GrL15 (SmA1). There were 80 records in spring (54%), 63 in summer (42%) and only 5 in autumn (3%). Mean group size 1.5, max 8/30 Oct JWNR GrL14 (FyM1). 7 breeding records: 3 records of ih on 30-31 Oct 10 and 4 records of cf between 31 Oct (RoD2) and 3 Jan (AnF1).

**GBS:** 39 records from 15 sites (significantly fewer than the previous year of 49 from 14). The earliest record 1/3wk Sep Ainslie GrL13 (BoS2) and the latest 1/1wk Feb 11 from 3 sites Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), Hoskinstown GrS13 (KaJ1) and Turner GrK13 (MiP1). The Hoskinstown site, a rural block, recorded them almost continuously for the entire period and provided a third of the records (as it does many years). The abundance value ( $A=0.0129$ ) is 25% less than the previous year (0.0168) but still 15% greater than the 11 year average (0.0108). No breeding records (1 the previous year).

**MEROPIDAE: bee-eater****Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 70 records from 29 grid cells (10% of grid cells surveyed). Reporting rate 2.2% slightly higher than last year but in line with the long-term average. Earliest record 2/7 Oct Namadgi Visitor's Centre GrJ19 (HeS1) and last 1/29 Mar 11 Mt Majura GrM13 (MuT1). Records in the Oct – Dec period are typically of 2 birds and a maximum of 6, followed by records commonly containing 10 or more in the Jan – Mar period with the highest 30/12 Mar 11 Kellys Swamp GrL14 (AnF1). 7 breeding records (well up on the single record received the previous year): the earliest was nb/30 Oct 10 Top Naas GrJ22 (BrM2) and cf/29 Jan 11 at an adjacent site (BrM2). The latest was dy/24 Feb 11 at West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). There were also 2 records of 'on' and one of 'dy' in Jan 11.



**GBS:** 5 records from 5 sites (similar to the previous year) – 3 of a single bird, 1 of 5 and 1 of 6 birds. The earliest record was 1/3wk Oct Holt GrI12 (DaC1) and the latest 6/4wk Mar Turner GrK13 (BoC4) (which was a month later than the latest record in the previous year). This is the lowest number of records in 8 years. The abundance value ( $A=0.0042$ ) is 18% less than the previous year (0.0051) and 70% less than the long-term average. No breeding records.

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

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 91 records from 35 grid cells (12% of grid cells surveyed). Reporting rate 3% is up on last year and is line with the long-term average. Most records are of 1-2 birds, however there are several records of 4, 5 or 6 with max 7/26 Jan JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). Earliest record 1/8 Oct Namadgi Visitor's Centre GrJ19 (FrM1) and latest x/2 May Callum Brae GrL15 (SmA1). 47% of the records are in spring and 52% are in summer with a single record in autumn. 4 breeding records: first dy/25 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (BoC4) and last di/17 Nov Hall TSR GrJ10 (COF1).

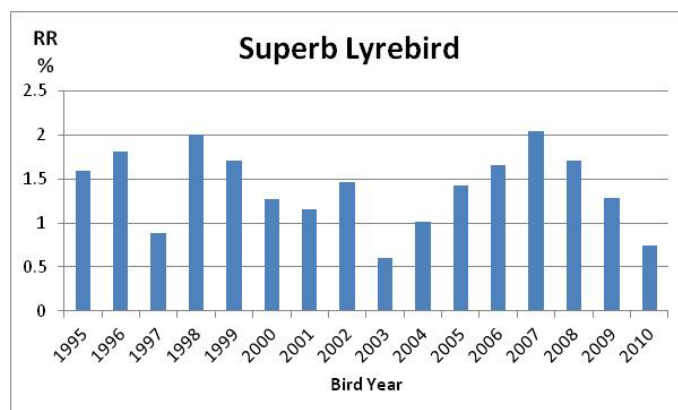
**GBS:** 81 records from 20 sites (a huge increase on 54 from 19 in the previous year) from 3wk Oct to 2wk Feb. Earliest record was 1/3wk Oct 10 at Murrumbateman GrI08 (BIJ1) and latest was 2/2wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). The abundance value ( $A=0.0405$ ) is double the previous year (0.0210) but down 25% on the long-term average. 8 breeding records from 5 sites (4 from 4 in the previous year): first co/3wk Dec Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and last cf/4wk Jan Campbell GrI13 (HiD1).

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

This species has traditionally been considered as “Common” however with the dramatic and continuing decline in the number of records received in recent years, it has been reclassified as “Uncommon”.

**General:** 21 records from 17 grid cells repeats a similar decline as in the previous few years (31 records from 21 grid cells in 2009/10; 40 records from 30 grid cells in 2008/09 and 51 records from 31 grid cells in 2007/08). The reporting rate 0.7% is half that of the average over the previous 10 years and only 20% of the long-term average (3.17%). The majority of the records were from the mountainous country in the ACT, however there were also 5 records from various areas in Tallaganda and 4/23 Nov Mongamulla Trail GrY26 (BoC4). All other records were of a single bird. The records were spread throughout the whole year and all seasons. No breeding records.

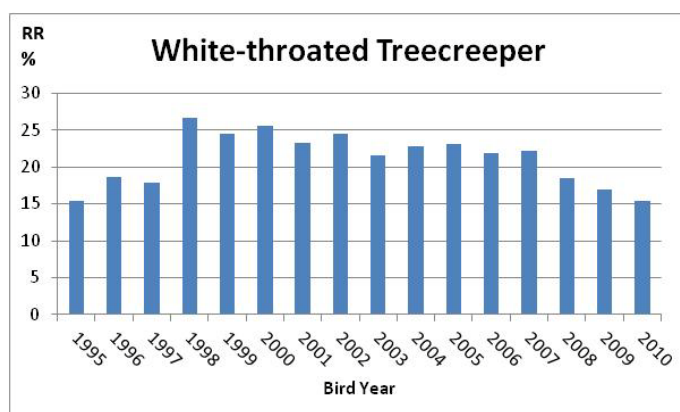
Uncommon, Breeding Resident

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 469 records from 156 grid cells (55%), from all months, 16% more records than the previous year. 91 (20%) were WOO. Reporting rate 15.4%. showing a steady decline from the long-term average 27.4% Abundance: mean 1.6, median 1, max. 10/4 Oct Mulligans Flat (AnF1). 5 breeding records (1 last year): commencing with cf/15 Sep Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AIB1) and concluding with dy/16 Jan at the same site (AIB1).

**GBS:** 235 records from 10 sites (13%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.0837$ ) was 10% higher than the previous year and 47% above the long-term average. Reporting rate ( $R=7.05\%$ ), 19% higher than last year. Average group size 1.19. Nearly all sightings were of 1 bird except for a site in Burra where groups of 2 and 3 were reported (AnI1). No breeding records.

**Red-browed Treecreeper** *Climacteris erythrops*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 8 records from 7 grid cells (2%), from four months, Oct, Mar, April, May. Almost three times as many records as last year and broadly in line with the 10 year average. Reporting rate 0.26% well below the long-term average 0.8%. Abundance: mean 1.9, median 2, max. 4/23 Mar Tallaganda SF Lowden Forest Park GrW18 (BuM1). No breeding records.

**Brown Treecreeper** *Climacteris picumnus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

**General:** 83 records from 25 grid cells (9%), from all months, 12% more records than the previous year. 13 (16%) were WOO. Reporting rate 2.75% down on previous years and the long-term average 4.4%. Abundance: mean 3.2, median 2, max 14/12 Oct TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1). 6 breeding records (9 last year) commencing with cf/27 Sep Newline Paddocks GrM14 (AnF1) and concluding with br/7 Feb Boboyan Rd Namadgi NP GrH24 (SmA1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 58 records from 29 grid cells (10%) from all months except Jul and Apr, marginally more than the previous year. 3 (5%) were WOO. Reporting rate 1.92% lower than the long-term average of 2.8%. Abundance: mean 2.3, median 1, max 20/13 Aug Blue Range Campground GrF13 (MaM4). One breeding record (the same as last year) di/11 Sep Kambah Pool GrI16 (MaM4).

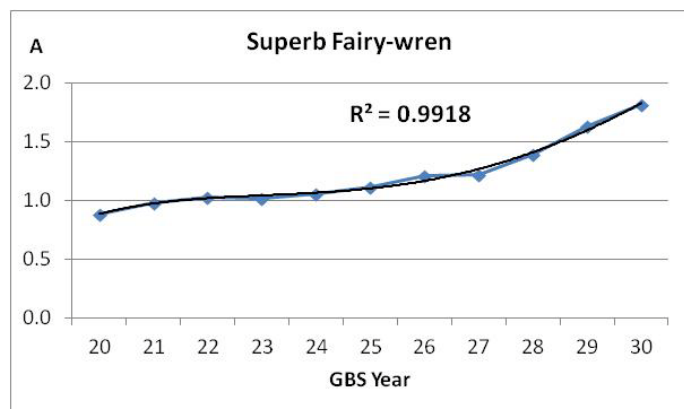
**GBS:** 285 records from 28 sites (36%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.2412$ ) was 106% higher than the previous year and 116% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 8.55%, 39% higher than last year. Average group size 2.82 but groups of up to 20 were seen between July and October at a single site in Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). 7 breeding records (3 last year) from 3 sites commencing with di/Wk 4 July Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and concluding with dy/2 Wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 1,190 records from 211 grid cells (75%), from all months, 40% more records than the previous year. 126 (11%) were WOO. Reporting rate 39.42% is higher than previous years but slightly below the long-term mean 43.8%. Abundance: mean 6.1, median 5, max in a 500 m search 50/30 Oct JWNR GrL14 (FyM1). 21 breeding records (same as last year) commencing with dy/27 Oct Stromlo Forest Park GrI14 (BoC4) and concluding with dy/2 Feb Urila Rd GrP20 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 1608 records from 68 sites (87%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=1.8155$ ) was 11% higher than the previous year and 109% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 48.24%, 9% higher than last year. Average group size 3.76 max 16/4wk Apr Kaleen GrK12 (PiV1) 21 breeding records commencing with nb/4wk Aug Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and concluding with dy/1wk May Page GrJ12 (AlB1).



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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 7 records from 7 grid cells (3%), from three months, Sep, Oct, Jan. Reporting rate 0.23% is up on last year (0.16%) but less than half the long-term average (0.52%). Abundance: mean 1.8, median and max 2 records on five occasions 12 Sep Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (PeH2), 30 Oct East-West Rd Uriarra GrF14 (BaS2), 30 Oct New Chums Rd GrE16 (MiP1), 23 Jan Warks Rd GrD16 (WaK2), 24 Jan Blundells Ck Warks Rd GrD15 (SmA1). One breeding record br/24 Jan Blundells Ck Warks Rd GrD15 (SmA1).

**White-browed Scrubwren** *Sericornis frontalis*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 294 records from 108 grid cells (38%), from all months, 19% more records than the previous year. 6 (2%) were WOO. Reporting rate 9.74% just over half the long-term average 17.0%. Abundance: mean 2.82, max in a 500 m search 20/24 Jan Blundells Creek Warks Rd GrD15 (SmA1). 7 breeding records (same as last year), commencing with dy/ 24 Sep LGin Pen GrJ12 (AIB1) and concluding with dy/3 Apr Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (PeH2)

**GBS:** 503 records from 36 sites (46%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.3093$ ) was 39% higher than the previous year and 125% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 17.9%. Average group size 1.73 max 8/2wk Nov Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). 14 breeding records (11 last year) commencing with nb/4wk Jul Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and concluding Ny/3wk Feb Aranda GrJ13 (GeJ1).

**Chestnut-rumped Heathwren** *Calamanthus pyrrhopygia*

Uncommon, Resident

**General:** 4 records from 2 grid cells (0.7%), the same number as last year, from four months Sep, Oct, Jan, Apr. Reporting rate 0.13% slightly less than last year (0.16%) but slightly above the long-term average (0.9%). Abundance: mean 1.75, median 2, max 4/12 Sep Vanitys Crossing Rd GrF15 (PeH2). One breeding record dy/12 Sep Vanitys Crossing Rd GrF15 (PeH2).

**Speckled Warbler** *Chthonicola sagittata*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

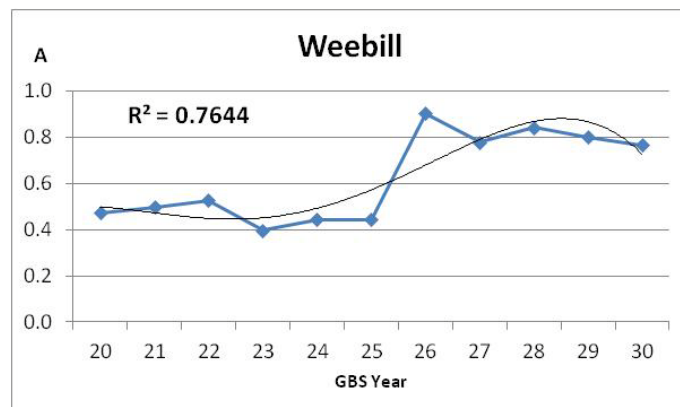
**General:** 179 records from 46 grid cells (16%), from all months, 15% more records than the previous year. 48 (16%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5.93% just under the previous 5 years (6.2%) and the long-term average (6.3%). Abundance: mean 1.94, median 2, max 8 on two occasions 25 Jan Callum Brae NR GrL15 (SmA1) and 27 Apr Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park GrM13 (MuT1). 2 breeding records (6 last year, 2 the year before): dy/30 Oct Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1) and cf/20 Apr Red Hill CNP GrK14 (COF1).

**GBS:** 25 records from 3 sites (4%), from 24 weeks, with 67% of all records from a single site Burra NSW GrM21 (AnI1). Abundance ( $A=0.0090$ ) was 86% higher than the previous year but 8% below the long-term average. Reporting rate 0.75%. Average group size 1.2. No breeding records.

**Weebill** *Sericornis brevirostris*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 745 records from 92 grid cells (33%), from all months, 33% more records than the previous year. 257 (33%) were WOO. Reporting rate 24.7% is just above last year (23.2%) and the long-term average (22.8%). Abundance: mean 4.2, median 3, max in a 10 minute WOO survey 80/25 June New Line Quarry 8 GrM15 (LaS1). 9 breeding records commencing with nb/29 Aug Lyneham Ridge



GrK12 (LeM1) and concluding with dy/19 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** 840 records from 45 sites (58%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.7657$ ) was 4% lower than the previous year but 52% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 25.20%. Average group size 3. One breeding record dy/37 Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**Brown Gerygone** *Gerygone mouki*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 1 record only, 17 May Jerrabomberra Wetlands GRL14 (KiM2). Last year 6 observations of presumably a single bird in the ANBG GrK13. No breeding records

**Western Gerygone** *Gerygone fusca*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 84 records from 31 grid cells (11%), from all months except July and May, marginally fewer records than the previous year. 30 (11%) were WOO. Reporting rate 2.78% down from last year ((3.6%) and the long-term average (4.0%). Abundance: mean 1.37, median 1, max in a 5 km search 6/25 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1). One breeding record nb/12 Sep Namadgi Visitors Centre GrJ19 (FrM1). Last breeding report Nov 2007 Campbell Park.

**GBS:** 3 records from 1 rural (Burra) and one suburban (Red Hill) site (3% of sites), from 3 weeks. No breeding records.

**White-throated Gerygone** *Gerygone albogularis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 163 records from 47 grid cells (17%), from all months from Sep to Apr, 23% fewer records than the previous year. 56 (34%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5.4% well down on last year (8.7%) and the long-term average (8.5%). Abundance: mean 1.63, median 1, max. 10/4 Oct Mulligans Flat GrM10 (AnF1). 5 breeding records (2 last year and 4 the year before), commencing with nb/22 Oct Mullion TSR GrF10 (COF1) and concluding with ny/29 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** 45 records from 6 sites (8%), from 26 weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.0150$ ) was 25% lower than the previous year and 20% below the long-term average. Reporting rate 1.35%. Average group size 1.11. No breeding records.

**Striated Thornbill** *Acanthiza lineata*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 221 records from 101 grid cells (36%), from all months, 5% more records than last year. 43 (20%) were WOO. Reporting rate 7.32% slightly below last year (8.7%) and just over half the long-term average (15.4%). Abundance: mean 3.7, median 4, max in a 10 minute WOO survey 16/18 Jun Naas Valley 6 GrJ19 (McJ4). 19 breeding records (13 last year) commencing with dy/23 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AIB1) and concluding with dy/9 Feb Urila Rd GrO20 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 126 records from 19 sites (24%), from all weeks, with 72% of all records from two sites Hoskinstown NSW GrS17 (KaJ1) and Wamboin NSW GrK13 (MDN1). Abundance ( $A=0.2514$ ) was 14% lower than the previous year but 16% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 3.78%. Average group size 6.65, max over 4 weeks Apr-May Kambah J16 (VeP1). No breeding records (2 last year).

**Yellow Thornbill** *Acanthiza nana*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 54 records from 28 grid cells (10%), from all months, the same number as the previous year. Reporting rate 1.8% is significantly lower than last year (2.2%) and the long-term average (2.7%). Abundance: mean 4.6, median 3.5, max in a 5 km search 16/26 Jan LBath GrY08 (LeM1). 3 breeding records (2 last year), commencing with cf/11 Oct "Willsfield" Gundaroo GrM07 (CoD2) and concluding with dy/27 Jan Dairy Creek Rd GrP07 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 15 records from 6 sites (8%), from 15 weeks, with 58% of all records from a single site Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1). Abundance ( $A=0.0078$ ) was 45% lower than the previous year and 63% below the long-term average. Reporting rate 0.45%. Average group size 1.73. No breeding.

**Yellow-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 824 records from 159 grid cells (56%) from all months, 33% more records than last year. 88 (11%) were WOO. Reporting rate 27.3% is slightly higher than recent years but just under the long-term average (28.1%). Abundance: mean 6.3, median 5, max in a 5 km search 45/18 June Googong Foreshores GrO16 (AnI1). 33 breeding records (47 last year and 27 the year before) commencing with on/8 Aug Casuarina Sands GrG14 (MaM4) and concluding with dy/3 Mar Collector Rd Wetland GrT02 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 1,043 records from 61 sites (78%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=1.5317$ ) was similar to the previous year and 7% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 31.29%. Average group size 4.9. 30 breeding records commencing with dy/Week 1 (site 312) Hoskinstown NSW GrS17 (KaJ1) and concluding with dy/Week 47 (site 413) Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1).

**Chestnut-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza uropygialis*

Rare vagrant

**General:** No records since June 2007.

**Buff-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza reguloides*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 455 records from 112 grid cells (40%), from all months. 17% more records than the previous year. 123 (27%) were WOO. Reporting rate 15.07% just under the long-term average of 17.7%. Abundance: mean 5.1, median 4, max in a 5 km search 40/25 Apr Mulligans Flat GrL10 (WiT1). 32 breeding records (20 last year) commencing with nb/4 July Mt Ainslie NR GrL13 (HoS1) and concluding with dy/3 Mar Goulburn SW GrY01 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 162 records from 13 sites (17%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.2457$ ) was 3% lower than the previous year but 89% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 4.86%. Average group size 5.1 max 20/1wk Apr Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and 20/1wk May Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). 8 breeding records (1 last year) of a single breeding event between 2wk Oct and 4wk Nov Wamboin NSW GrQ13 (MDN1).

**Brown Thornbill** *Acanthiza pusilla*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 276 records from 119 grid cells (42%), from all months, 10% more records than the previous year. 33 (12%) were WOO. Reporting rate 9.14% shows a steady downward trend over the last 10 years and is less than half the long-term average 19.53%. Abundance: mean 2.4, median 2, max in a 500 m search 30/24 Jan Blundells Ck Warks Rd GrD15 (SmA1). 4 breeding records (8 last year) commencing with on/27 Jul Mt Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and concluding with dy/7 Nov Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (PeH2).

**GBS:** 560 records from 44 sites (56%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.3297$ ) was 5% higher than the previous year and 26% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 16.80%. Average group size 1.96. 4 breeding records (13 last year) commencing with dy/2wk Sep Turner GrK13 (BoC4) and concluding with dy/2wk Dec Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

**Southern Whiteface** *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 87 records from 39 grid cells (14%), from all months, marginally higher (4%) than last year. 7 (8%) were WOO. Reporting rate 2.88% slightly lower than the average over the last 5 years (3.3%) but higher than the long-term average of 2.73%. Abundance: Mean 3, median 2, max In a 500 m search 25/26 Nov Moncrieff GrM11 (DaC1). 2 breeding records (5 last year) commencing with cf/15 Aug LGeo SE GrT09 (LeM1) and concluding with cf/7 Nov Morass Sth GrZ08 (MaD4).

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

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 683 records from 149 grid cells (53%), from all months, 57% more records than last year. 177 (26%) were WOO. Reporting rate 22.62% is close to the average of the last 5 years (23.5%) but slightly lower than the long-term average (26.3%). Abundance: mean 4.3, median 2, max in a 500 m search 84/26 Mar Mt Ainslie GrL13 (LaS1). 11 breeding records (8 last year) commencing with nb/9 Sep Mt Taylor GrJ15 (AWB1) and concluding with ih/27 Nov Googong Dam GrO17 (AnL1).

**GBS:** 1207 records from 58 sites (74%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=1.4674$ ) was 113% higher than the previous year and 129% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 38.16%. Average group size 3.85 but many reports of groups over 50 with max 150/4wk Mar Ainslie GrL13 (DoC1). 4 breeding records (the same as last year) commencing with nb/1wk Jul Page GrJ12 (AlB1) and nb/1wk July Weston GrJ15 (MaA2) and concluding with dy/3wk Feb Campbell GrI13 (OvA1).

**Striated Pardalote** *Pardalotus striatus*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 809 records from 155 grid cells (55%), from all months, virtually the same number of records as last year. 255 (32%) were WOO. Reporting rate 26.8% slightly down from last year (33.5%) and a little less than the long-term average of 32.3%. Abundance: mean 3.8, median 2, max 60/22 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (AnF1). 20 breeding records (29 last year) commencing with nb/29 Jul Newline Paddocks GrM14 (HoS1) and concluding with br/13 Feb Mulligans Flat GrL10 (SmA1).

**GBS:** 953 records from 60 sites (77%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.8665$ ) was 45% higher than the previous year and 46% above the long-term average. Reporting rate 28.59%. Average group size 3.03 with max 50/2wk Mar Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3). 43 breeding records (33 last year) from 4 sites commencing with on/1wk Jul Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) with almost continuous nesting activity until dy/3wk Feb at that site.

**MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters and chats****Eastern Spinebill** *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, common in gardens during autumn and winter.

**General:** 177 records (18 WOO) from 58 grid cells (70 last year), with a reporting rate of 5.86%, slightly more than the 5.4% of last year but well down on the reporting rate of 12.4% for all years. Spread throughout the year, but fewer in summer. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 87% of sites, similar to last year. Recorded in all weeks but fewer in period October to February. Abundance ( $A=0.566$ ) was slightly more than last year and 4.2% above the long-term average. 5 breeding records: first, dy/1 wk Feb Isaacs GrK15 (HoA1), last dy/4wk March Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH1). There was a single report of nb/4wk Oct Red Hill K14 (WaR4) but nothing subsequently at that site.

**Lewin's Honeyeater** *Meliphaga lewinii*

Vagrant

Usually found in Tallaganda forests in the east of the region, rarely further west.

**General:** 2 records this year, both of a single bird/23 Nov Wyanbene Caves Grid Y26 at and on the Mongamulla Trail, Deua National Park NSW (both BoC4).

**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:** 450 records, up from 404 last year, from 172 grid cells (149 last year), and still the most widespread honeyeater. 59 WOO, up from 34 last year but the reporting rate of 14.91% is down from 16.61% of last year, and well below the 24.04% for all years. The average group size was 14. Nearly half of all records were in spring and nearly a third in autumn. There were few records this year of large numbers recorded during spring migration, with records of 180 + 170/19 Sep LBath GrZ07 (LeM1). Autumn movement seemed to start in late March; largest number recorded during autumn migration 1000/8 Apr Scottsdale Shearing Shed GrL28 (COF1). 25 records in May and 15 records in June, considerably more reports than for these months last year. 3 breeding records (down from 5 last year), the first being nb/23 Nov Wyanbene Caves GrY26 (BoC4).

**GBS:** Recorded at 76% of sites in all weeks, the same as last year. Overwintering records from 11 sites during July, many more than last year (4), and the previous year (2). Spring return migration records were quite sporadic: the earliest larger group being 30/2wk Jul Burra GrM21 (AnI1), and small groups between 5 and 16 in size for nearly every week up to the end of October at a site in Turner GrK13 (MiP1). The bulk of migration appears to have been complete by the end of November, but there were records throughout summer from 3 rural sites (Burra, Carwoola and Hoskinstown) and one suburban site (Jerrabomberra). Main autumn migration 100/4wk Mar Pearce GrK15 (KrS1), the same time as last year and increased in 1 wk Apr, and continued until 5wk Apr, with the largest flock 200/1 wk Apr Pearce GrK15 (KrS1). Similar to last year, records continued through May-Jun. Abundance ( $A=1.3823$ ) was 21% below last year and 47% below the long-term average. The species fell from 12<sup>th</sup> most abundant bird in the GBS last year to 17<sup>th</sup> this year, and 2<sup>nd</sup> honeyeater behind Red Wattlebird. No breeding records this year.

**Singing Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus virescens*

Vagrant

Rare vagrant from the inland. Only 3 previous records in Wilson (1999) the most recent being 1 in 2006-07 and 1 in 2009-10. No records this year.

**Little Wattlebird** *Anthochaera chrysoptera*

Vagrant

Rare vagrant from coastal districts.

**General:** No records this year. 2 record of single birds at the ANBG last year.

**GBS:** No records this year. 1 record, 1/4wk May Ainslie GrL13 last year.

**White-eared Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus leucotis*

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, generally irregular in the suburbs.

**General:** 260 records (41 WOO) from 115 grid cells, with a reporting rate of 8.6% lower than the 10.4% for last year and significantly less than the 14.8% for all years. In contrast to last year there were considerable more records in autumn and winter (67% of records), only 9% in summer and 24% in spring. Only 1 breeding record: 2/14 Nov Murrumbateman (TaN1), compared with 4 last year.

**GBS:** Recorded at 40% of sites, 20% less than the long-term average. Almost no records from suburban sites between 3wk Sep and 4wk Mar, but records continued during this time from rural sites at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1), and Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and for most of spring, a suburban site at Duffy GrI15 (CaJ4). Abundance ( $A=1.037$ ) was 21% lower than last year but 5.2% higher than the long-term average, owing to the addition of rural sites in more recent years. 3 breeding records this year: first co/4 wk Jul Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and last dy/1 wk Feb at the same site, and at Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus melanops*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

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

**General:** 19 records from 9 grid cells, with the reporting rate 0.6% being about the same as for last year and for the long-term average. Most records (10) from Tinderry area GrQ21 and P21 (BrM2) in spring and autumn, with a maximum of 12 birds. Only two suburban records in late May (Kaleen) and mid-June (Ainslie). 2 breeding records, both dy from Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2) on 25 March and 18 April.

**GBS:** Only 2 records this year from 1 suburban site (1/2 wk Jun Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1)) and 1 rural site (1/4 wk Jul Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1)) compared with 24 records from 5 sites last year.

**Fuscous Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus fuscus*

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, breeding in the mountains over summer.

**General:** 58 records (3 WOO) from 36 grid cells, about the same as last year (and similar to the year before). The reporting rate of 1.9% is down from 2.35% of last year and well below the 3.2% of the long-term average. As with last year, about a third of the records coming from Blitz surveys in the mountains in Oct, leading to a high spring count of 46.7% of records. Highest number 30/30 Oct Glendale Depot Track GrI17 (NeG1). 2 breeding records (1 last year and 4 the previous year): on/31 Oct Old Boboyan Rd H24 (LaS1) and dy/25 Feb Orroral Valley GrG21 (LiT1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 13% of sites, slightly down from last year. Groups of about 12 seen from 1wk Jul to 2wk Sep at Turner GrK13 (MiP1) then no sightings until 2wk Apr-4wk Jun. Groups of about 11 seen from 1wk May to 4wk June at Turner GrK13 (MiP1). Abundance levels over the years have fluctuated greatly. This year ( $A=0.0424$ ) was twice that of last year ( $A=0.0146$ ) but still 64% below the long-term average.

**White-plumed Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

Common, Breeding Resident

Non-migratory honeyeater of woodlands in lowland areas.

**General:** 274 records (42 WOO) from 72 grid cells, 41 more records than last year and from 22 more grid cells. Reporting rate of 9.1% slightly lower than last year, and considerably lower than the 13.4% long-term average. Recorded throughout the year in suburban and rural areas. 16 breeding records (same as last year: first nb/9 Aug TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1) 9 and last dy/17 Apr TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1))

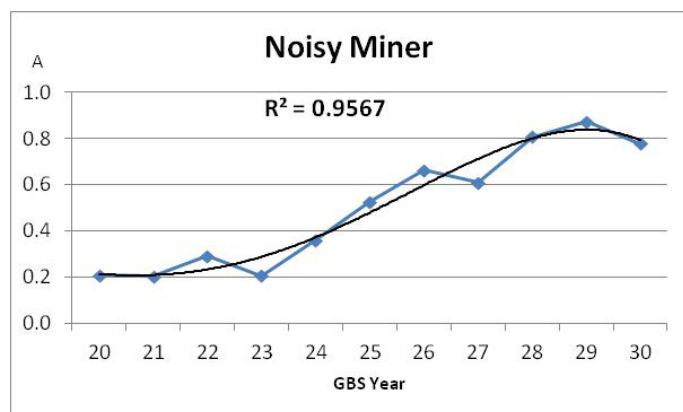
**GBS:** Recorded at 28% of sites, 34% less than the long-term average. Similar to last year, most records from the majority of sites were during Jul-Aug, then very few for the rest of the season. Most consistent records were at Greenway GrJ18 (HaA2). Abundance is significantly down ( $A=0.0571$ ), 33% less than last year and 60% below the long-term average.

**Noisy Miner** *Manorina melanocephala*

Common, Breeding Resident

Common sedentary species of woodlands.

**General:** 506 records from 87 grid cells, more than last year (473), and from 20 more grid cells. 206 records (40%) from WOO, still the most commonly reported honeyeater in the Woodland Survey. Reporting rate 16.8%, slightly lower than last year (19.5%) but above the long-term average of 15.9%. 25 breeding records (34 last year): first nb/8 Aug Mulligans Flat GrL11 (BoC4) and last dy/19 Jan TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1), with an early next season event nb/9 Jun ANU GrK13 (LeM1).



**GBS:** Recorded at 42% of sites (36% last year) 73% above the long-term average, and consistently throughout the year from 14 suburban sites and one rural site, compared to 10 sites last year. Abundance (0.7239) is 17% less than last year but 154% more than the long-term average. Breeding recorded at 3 sites: Apparently 3 broods, the first Jul-Aug, the second Sep-Oct and the third in late Nov-Dec in Watson GrL12: (WaK1), a similar pattern to last year. The other breeding events: ne-ny-dy/2wk July to 1 wk Sep and dy/3wk Sep to 4wk Oct Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3); and dy/1-2wk Oct Macarthur GrL16 (AHF1).

**Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater** *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. Last endorsed records Feb 2010 Mt Ainslie. No records this year.

**Regent Honeyeater** *Anthochaera phrygia*

Rare, Breeding Visitor

Rare summer visitor to the region. Last previous records: August 2010 in Florey.

Declared endangered in the ACT and the Commonwealth, and critically endangered in NSW.

**General:** A single record, 1/11 Dec Castle Hill GrJ16 (McD1).

**GBS:** No records this year after a single record last year in September in Florey.

**Red Wattlebird** *Anthochaera carunculata*

Common, Breeding Resident

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

**General:** 1095 records (93 WOO) from 162 grid cells, considerably more than last year (823 records from 142 grid cells). Reporting rate 36.3% up from 33.9% last year and more than the 32.7% for the long-term average. Records from all seasons, slightly lower in winter. Largest number recorded 156/29 Jan Mt Majura NR GrM13 (LeM1) on a roost flight from the suburbs into the forest. 29 breeding records, slightly more than last year: first ny/11 Sep Mt Taylor GrJ15 (FrM1) with breeding generally recorded until April; last record dy/19 Apr Marked Tree Rd GrR06 (BoC4).

**GBS:** Recorded at all of the 78 sites in all weeks with breeding at 35 sites. The abundance value (2.6757) was slightly lower than last year and maintains the high A-values of the last few years, being 19% higher than the long-term average. The Red Wattlebird remains the 8<sup>th</sup> most abundant species in the GBS and the most abundant honeyeater. First breeding record nb/3wk July Turner GrK13 (MiP1) and last dy/1 wk Apr (more than a month later than last year) in Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

**White-fronted Chat** *Epthianura albifrons*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

Uncommon resident, now rarely reported except at Lakes George and Bathurst. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** 31 records from 14 grid cells, a little more than last year. 14 records from the LBath Grids Y07 and Z08 (about the same as last year), 4 records from LGeo GrT09 and GrS07, and 6 records from Stromlo Forest Park GrI14, with fewer records in winter. Greatest number recorded 45/1 May LGeo SE GrT09 (LeM1). 2 breeding records: on/13 Sep Breadalbane GrT02 (SwM1) and on/20 Sep Currawang, Collector Rd GrT06 (WiR2).

**Black Honeyeater** *Sugomel niger*

Rare, Vagrant

Rare vagrant from inland. Only 1 early record (Wilson 1999). 15 records in 2006-07 from MULNR and 4 records last year from West Macgregor. No records this year.

**Scarlet Honeyeater** *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

Rare, Summer Vagrant.

Rare vagrant from coastal districts. 2 records in 2006-07, 2 in 2008-09, and 2 in 2009-10 at LBath N GrY07 (FrM1), and Gooroo S. No records this year

**Crescent Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, reported mostly during the winter months.

**General:** 26 records from 11 grid cells, a considerably higher number than in previous years, and from more grid cells. Reporting rate 0.86%, up from 0.7% last year but about half the long-term average of 1.65%. 61% of records in winter. Unlike last year there were few records from ANBG GrK13, with 12 records from Cook and Macquarie and 11 records from different sites in the Brindabellas.

**GBS:** 20 records from 5 sites (12 last year and 1 the year before). All records in winter: 3 sites in Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1, ReJ6 & LiB1), and in Aranda J13 (RoS1), and Macquarie GrJ13 (LaS1).

**New Holland Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

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

**General:** 68 records from 8 grid cells considerably fewer than the 102 records from last year. Reporting rate 2.25% a little over half the 4.2% of last year, and less than the long-term average of 3.9%. Recorded in all seasons, slightly lower in winter. Highest number recorded 19/16 Jun ANBG GrK13 (AWB1). 38 records from grevillea plantings at JWNR GrL14, 14 records from ANBG GrK13 and 4 from Norgrove Park GrL14. 2 breeding records: dy/1 Aug ANBG GrK13 (LeM1) and dy/11 Sep Norgrove Park GrL14 (LeM1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 13 sites compared to 7 last year, and regularly over 43 weeks from Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH1) and over 36 weeks in Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1). Abundance for this species fluctuates greatly and this year ( $A=0.0418$ ) was 73% more than last year ( $A=0.0242$ ), and 20% higher than the long-term average.

**Black-chinned Honeyeater** *Melithreptus gularis*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant although normal distribution is only about 100 km to north-west of ACT. First endorsed records in Jun 2007 from Mt Majura GrM12 and Newline Grids M14-N14. A single bird remained at Newline until 22 Sep 2007. No records this year.

**Brown-headed Honeyeater** *Melithreptus brevirostris*

Common, Breeding Resident

A species of drier forests at all altitudes.

**General:** 113 records (26 WOO) from 53 grid cells throughout the year, slightly more records than last year. Reporting rate of 3.74% slightly below the 4.37% of last year and the 4.97% long-term average. Average group size 3.4, with max 30/25 Nov Glenoval Rd West GrY07 (MaD4). Only 1 breeding record: dy /8 Feb Avalanche Homestead GrP21 (BoC4).

**GBS:** Recorded at 5 sites, most frequently from 2 rural sites, at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). Other records from sites in Chapman, Turner and Carwoola. Abundance ( $A=0.0365$ ) was 30% less than last year and about equal to the long-term average, largely due to the influence of the more recent rural sites.

**White-naped Honeyeater** *Melithreptus lunatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

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

**General:** 108 records (8 WOO) from 62 grid cells. The reporting rate of 3.6% is again lower than that of the previous year (4.9%) and less than half the long-term average of 9.3%. 13 records in Jul-Aug indicate more overwintering birds than last year, (but similar to the 17 records of the year before). 40% of records from spring, and 36% from autumn. 19 records in May and 5 in Jun,

considerably more than the 7 records of overwintering birds than last year. Highest number recorded was 120/23 Apr Kambah Pool GrI16 (FrM1). Only 1 breeding record (well down on previous years): br/24 Jan Blundells Ck Rd GrD15 (SmA1).

**GBS:** Records from 33% of sites, more than last year (27%) and about the same as the year before (32%). 17 records in Jul-Aug of over-wintering birds, mainly from the rural site at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Relatively few (36) records from 15 sites in the return migration period in spring, then only 4 records until autumn migration from 3wk Mar to 4wk May. Only 4 records after this indicate almost no birds overwintering at the end of the season. Abundance ( $A=0.1011$ ) was 9% higher than last year but 81% 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** *Philemon corniculatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

Common summer migrant mostly to the lowland woodland regions.

**General:** 404 records from 95 grid cells. Reporting Rate of 13.4% about the same as last year and slightly below the long-term average of 16.5%. 99 were WOO, a 13% increase on last year, bringing it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> most reported honeyeater in the Woodland Survey. There appears to be only one record of an overwintering birds at the beginning of the season, in July at the ANBG, and no records from June next winter. Most records in spring and summer (90%). There is little evidence of any significant autumn migration this year with sightings of groups of only 10 and 14 seen on 8 Apr in Scottsdale GrL28 (CoF1) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) with the max very late in the season 22/22 May JWNR (CoF1). 29 breeding records, compared to 11 last year: first nb/25 Sep Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1), last dy/26 Feb Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 87% of sites, up slightly from last year. First return: 1/4wk Aug Turner GrK13 (MiP1). Recorded all through the year but only 7 records after 2wk May with the last record at Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Abundance ( $A=0.3845$ ) is slightly less than last year ( $A=0.4002$ ) and 53% lower than the long-term average. Breeding at 16 sites, 4 more than last year. First breeding record nb/3wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and last dy/2wk Mar at Scullin GrI12 (FeP1) and Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

**Little Friarbird** *Philemon citreogularis*

Uncommon, Migrant

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

**General:** 4 records: first x/1 Nov Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1), two records probably of the same bird, x/31 Jan and 1 Feb from Gungahlin Pond GrK11 (KiM2) and the last x/7 Feb Canberra Motor Village GrK13 (BuA3).

**GBS:** No records this year. 1 record last year O'Connor GrK13

**Painted Honeyeater** *Grantiella picta*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant with a major influx to the region in 2002-3. 3 records 2006-07, 1 record 2008-09. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

**General:** No records this year. 5 records probably of the same 2 birds in 2009.

**GBS:** No records this year or last year. 1 record in 2008-09 in Turner.

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

Vagrant

**General:** No records this year. Last endorsed record from Duntroon Golf Course, GrM14, during the three years from 2004-05, the first endorsed records since 1968.

**White-browed Babbler** *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

Vagrant

**General:** No records this year. Recorded in 2005-06 and 2006-07 at Aranda Bushland GrJ13/K13, first general records since the 1950s. Remains located in nests of predators in previous years. See Trost et al. 2008 and Olsen et al. 2008.

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A bird of the dry forests. Appears to have recovered from the 2003 fires as number of records almost twice the annual mean (8) in the decade prior to that year.

**General:** 13 records (10 last year) from 12 grid cells most in Namadgi NP. Recorded Sep-Nov and Feb-May, all records of 1 or 2 birds plus 3/28 May Vanities Crossing GrF15 (MaM4). Reporting rate 0.4%, the same as previous year though substantially lower than the long-term reporting rate of 1.2%. Despite being a resident species, no breeding recorded.

**GBS:** No records.

**Eastern Whipbird** *Psophodes olivaceus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

This species appears to have recovered from the Jan 2003 fires.

**General:** 14 records (21 last year) from just 8 grid cells (9 last year): 4 records from Namadgi NP, 5 from the Tinderry Range and 5 from elsewhere, in Sep-Jan, plus Mar. Max 3 at 3 sites. The 14 records this year are similar to the years just before the 2003 fires: 19 in 2000-01; 21 in 1999-2000 and 14 in 1998-99. Reporting rate 0.4% compared to 0.9% last year and the long-term reporting rate of 0.8%. Despite being a resident species, no breeding recorded.

**GBS:** No records.

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A species thinly spread in COG's area, usually in dry woodland. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

**General:** 84 records, an increase on last year's 62 and the decade to 2010 (annual mean of 67) from all months. Recorded in 30 grid cells (10.6 % of those surveyed). Reporting rate 2.8%. Numbers recorded: mean 3.2, median 3, max 20/27 Apr Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park GrM13 (5 km area search) (MuT1). 12 breeding records (6 last year) from nb/12 Sep Namadgi NP Visitors' Centre GrJ19 (FrM1) to dy/11 Dec Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1).

**GBS:** 7 records (6 last year) from 1 urban and 3 rural sites: Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and Burra GrM21 AnI1), with abundance ranging from 2 to max 10/4 wk May Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). No breeding records this year.

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

Common, Breeding Res/Migrant

A widespread, easily identified, largely summer migrant.

**General:** 617 records, 17.5% more than the previous year (525), from 132 grid cells (97 last year), 47% of those surveyed. Recorded from all months with only 32 winter records cf. 274 in spring, 202 in summer and 109 in autumn. Reporting rate 20.5%. Numbers recorded: mean 1.9, median 1, max 15/19 Feb Kelly Road GrL21 (AnI1). 12 breeding records (15 last year), from ny/22 Oct Mullion TSR GrF10 (COG field trip) to fs/16 Feb TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 83% of sites in all weeks of the year. Abundance ( $A=0.3393$ ) was slightly higher than last year although 27% below the long-term mean. Recording rate 22.6%, slightly higher than last year and 30% lower than the long-term mean. Mean group size 1.5, most observations of 1 to 3 birds with max 9/4wk Aug Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). 11 breeding records (7 last year) from 6 sites: from nb 3wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) to dy/4wk Mar Ainslie GrJ13 (HaS3).

**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:** 8 records (7 last year), from 6 grids, all of 1 bird, on Jul, Aug, Nov, Mar, May and Jun. No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** No records this year, 2 last year.

**Cicadabird** *Coracina tenuirostris*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

An elusive species of the tall wet ranges, with some lowland observations of migrating birds.

**General:** 5 records (6 last year) from widely separated locations across COG's area of concern. 2 records of 1 bird, 1 of 2 birds and 2 of 3 birds. Recorded from Oct (1 record), Nov (3 records) and Jan (1 record). Reporting rate 0.16%, higher than the previous decade (0.11%) and similar to the long-term reporting rate of 0.20%. No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** No records.

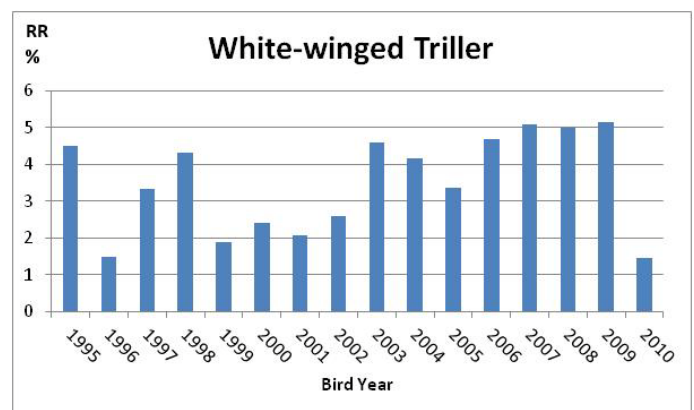
**White-winged Triller** *Lalage sueurii*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

Declared vulnerable in the ACT in Dec 2003. Fewer records than in recent years.

**General:** Just 44 records cf. 124 last year and an annual mean of 82 in the previous decade, from 12 grid cells (4.2% of those surveyed) cf. 32 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 1.46% (5.1% last year and long-term rate 3.8%). First 1/8 Oct Namadgi NP Visitors' Centre GrJ19 (FrM1) and then reported in all months to last 4/26 Feb TSR 48 GrO05 (AnI1). Numbers recorded: mean 2.5, median 2, max 8/11 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (500 m area search) (CoE1). 5 breeding records (19 last year) from on/5 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (PeH2) to dy/26 Feb TSR 48 (AnI1).

**GBS:** No records this year, in contrast to 28 records from 5 sites last year.



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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A sparsely but widely distributed species. On an ACT watching brief.

**General:** 20 records (just 12 last year) from 8 widely separated grid cells, including 10 reports from TSR 48 GrO05. 7 records from the summer months and 7 from autumn. 10 records of 1 bird, 4 of 2 birds and 8 of 3 birds. Reporting rate 0.66% cf. 1.3% in the previous decade and a long-term rate of 1.6%. 3 breeding records (none last year): on/17 Nov Hall TSR GrJ10 (COF1), dy/19 Jan and dy/16 Feb, both TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

**Olive Whistler** *Pachycephala olivacea*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A bird of the high ranges, though altitudinal migration occurs.

**General:** 5 records (none last year) from 5 widely separated sites: Tallaganda GrT21, Brindabella Range GrD14, Warks Road GrE15 and ANBG GrK13. All of 1 bird. No breeding recorded.

**Golden Whistler** *Pachycephala pectoralis*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 213 records (last year 161) from 65 grid cells (23% of those surveyed) from all months. 28% of the records from spring, 38% from autumn and 31% from winter, but only 3.8% from summer. Reporting rate 7%, similar to last year's 6.6% and the previous decade's rate of 8.6% and a little lower than the long-term rate of 10.8%. Numbers recorded: mean 1.7, median 1, max 12/30 Oct New Chums Road GrE16 (MiP1). No breeding records.

**GBS:** Records from 56% of sites during 39 weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.0915$ ) 35% lower than the long-term mean but similar to last year's figure. Recording rate 8.2%, 31% lower than the long-term mean. Most records of 1 or 2 birds, with 2 records of 3. Only 5 records in the Nov-Feb period. The decrease in summer records is even greater than observed for the General Records. This is to be expected for the more urban, lower altitude environments covered by the GBS.

**Rufous Whistler** *Pachycephala rufiventris*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 473 records from 161 grid cells (similar to the 458 records from 122 grid cells last year). Records from all months except Jul; only 3 winter records. 102 records (22%) WOO. Reporting rate 15.7%, similar to last year's 18.8% and the previous decade's rate of 18.3%, but lower than the long-term rate of 21.7%. Numbers recorded: mean 2.0, median 1, max 20/27 Nov Googong Dam GrO17 (AnI1). 11 breeding records (10 last year) from widely separated sites from nb/30 Oct Fairbairn Pines GrN14 (KaJ1) to dy/7 Mar Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WaS1).

**GBS:** The mean abundance ( $A=0.0579$ ) was 37% below the long-term mean but only 5% above last year's figure. Records from 19% of sites during 44 weeks. Recording rate 4.13%, 42% below the long-term mean. Mean group size 1.4, all records of 1 or 2 birds, plus 2 records of 3 birds. No breeding records, same as last year cf 6 the year before from a single site.

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 319 records from 141 grid cells (last year 346 records from 124 grid cells) in all months. Reporting rate 10.6% (14.3% last year and well below the long-term rate of 22.3%). Numbers recorded: mean 1.45, median 1, max 8/27 Nov Googong Dam GrO17 (AnI1). 2 breeding records (the same as last year): cf/30 Oct Paddys River Road GrG15 (MoM3) and dy/27 Dec TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

**GBS:** Abundance ( $A=0.0618$ ) 20% lower than the long-term mean. Records from 10 sites (13%), covering all weeks. Reporting rate 5.1%, 20% below the long-term figure. most records of 1 or 2 birds, but with sightings of 4 or 5 birds at 2 rural sites in March and May. Mean group size 1.2. 5 breeding records from 3 rural and 1 suburban site (Hughes): first nb/4wk Jul Hughes GrK15 (AnI1) and last dy/2wk Mar Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**ORIOLIDAE: oriole****Australasian Figbird** *Sphecotheres vieilloti*

Very rare, vagrant

**General:** No records of this coastal species. The only record for COG's area of concern was at Curtin GrJ15 Nov-Dec 2009.

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

Common, Breeding Migrant

A migratory woodland species also recorded in Canberra's suburbs. Generally the first of the summer migrants to return to the Canberra region, and some occasionally over-winter in Canberra, as occurred this year.

**General:** 162 records from 60 grid cells (21% of those surveyed), up from the 146 records from 47 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 5.4% (similar to last year's 6.0% and the long-term rate of 5.9%). Mean number recorded 1.2, max 4/14 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (COF1). Recorded in all months though 56% of records in spring, 32% in summer, 10% in autumn and just 1.8% (3 records) in winter. 5 breeding records (6 last year) from Campbell Park (4) and Callum Brae (1): first on/25 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (BoC4) and last dy/11 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 41% of sites (49% last year) in 47 weeks, recording rate 6.9%, all records of 1-4 birds, mean group size 1.1. Abundance ( $A=0.0756$ ) 23% lower than last year but 27% above the long-term mean. They arrived early this year with 5 sightings from 3 sites in July and very late records of a single bird from 1 site at Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) in the last 2 weeks of June. Only 1 breeding record (6 last year): dy/1wk Mar Watson GrL12 (MuT1).

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

Rare, Visitor

**General:** Just 2 records (22 last year): x/month of Dec Woodlands GrK03 (SpB1) and 1/6 Apr Strike-a-Light TSR GrN29 (COF1). No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** No records, 1 record last year from a rural site.

**White-browed Woodswallow** *Artamus superciliosus*

Uncommon Breeding Migrant

**General:** Just 3 records (in contrast to last year's irruption in which there were 57 records from 32 grid cells): 18/20 Sep West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1), 1/21 Nov Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1) and 4/25 Jan Callum Brae NR (SmA1). No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** No records, 7 last year.

**Dusky Woodswallow** *Artamus cyanopterus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** A migrant woodland species; with some over-wintering. The number of records remains high, though far below the 1988-89 irruption of 426 records. ACT watching brief.

**General:** 257 records from 80 grid cells (28% of those surveyed), a little more than the 248 records from 66 grid cells last year, from all months except Jun, with nearly half the records (48%) from spring (boosted by the annual Blitz), 30% in summer, 18% in autumn and just 4% in winter. This year's figure substantially more than the annual mean of 176 records over the previous decade. Reporting rate 8.5%, similar to last year's rate of 10.2% and the long-term rate of 9.9%. Numbers recorded: mean 6.8, median 4, max 50/31 Oct Castle Hill GrJ18 (VeP1) and 50/15 Dec Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1). 30 breeding records cf. 42 last year, from nb/1 Oct Jerrabomberra GrL16 (BoJ1) to dy/24 Feb West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1).

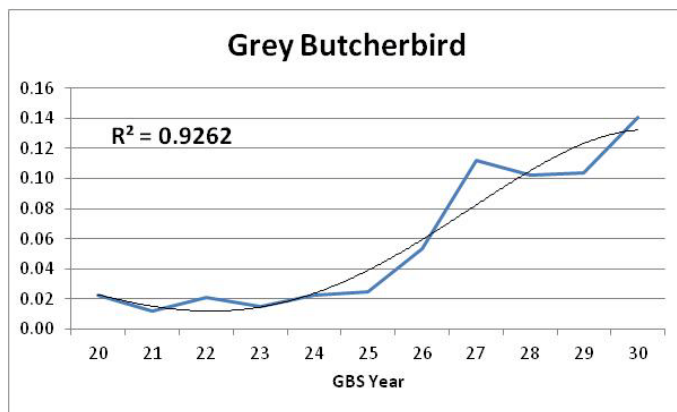
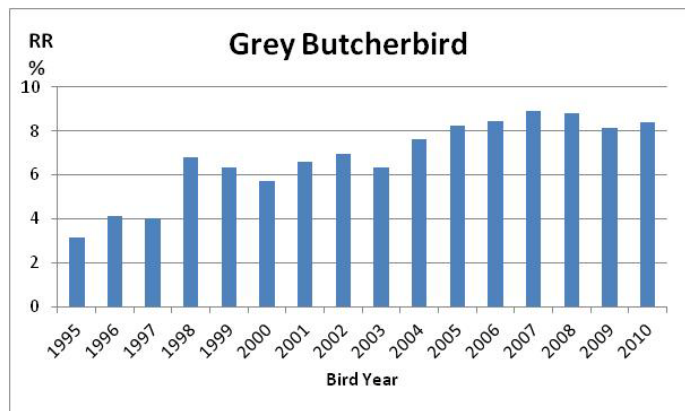
**GBS:** Abundance ( $A=0.0519$ ) 33% lower than the long-term mean and 55% lower than last year. The proportion of sites at which recorded (15%) 25% lower than last year. A significant decrease in records from last year, reflecting the general absence of woodswallows from the region. Recorded in 27 weeks from July through to early May. Mean group size 4.8, ranging from 1 to max 30/5wk Jul Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH1). No breeding records this year, 1 last year.

**Grey Butcherbird** *Cracticus torquatus*

Common, Breeding Resident

A woodland species, also found in the suburbs, more frequently recorded in recent years than earlier.

**General:** 252 records from 82 grid cells (29% of those surveyed), many more than the 195 records from 65 grid cells last year. Although present in all months, 31% of records from spring, 22% from summer, 34% from autumn and just 14% from winter. 69 records (26%) WOO. Reporting rate 8.3%, similar to last year and the long-term rate of 7.3%. Mean 1.25, max 5/13 Feb Mulligans Flat GrL10 (SmA1). 5 breeding records (the same number as last year), from ny/25 Aug Duntroon GrM13 (BuM1) to br/22 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (SmA1).



**GBS:** Continues recent history of being far above the long-term means on key parameters. Recorded at 50% of sites, 4 times the long-term mean, in all weeks. Recording rate (13%) 43% higher than last year. Mean abundance ( $A=0.1414$ ) nearly 6 times the long-term mean. Mean group size (1.1) similar to the long-term mean. All records of 1 to 2 birds plus 3/2wk Feb Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). 1 breeding record (3 last year): dy/1wk Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

**Pied Butcherbird** *Cracticus nigrogularis*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 6 records (5 last year): 2/9 Oct Uriarra Road GrI14 (BoC4), 1/6 Dec Cavan Station GrE07 (TaN1), x/month of Jan Woodlands GrK03 (SpB1), 1/23 Jan Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1), 6/3 Mar Collector Road GrS02 (BoC4) and 2/17 Apr TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1). No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** no records.

**Australian Magpie** *Cracticus tibicen*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** The most frequently recorded species, with 1,888 records from 215 grid cells (76% of those surveyed (an increase on the 1,359 records from 158 grid cells last year), incl 381 (20%) WOO, from all months. The species with the second-largest number counted, 6660, behind the Common Starling with 14,166 counted. This year's 1,888 records far higher than the annual mean for the previous decade of 1,094. A single observer submitted 511 records, 145 of which were from a single address in Gungahlin. Reporting rate 62.5% cf. 54.8% last year and the long-term rate of 59.7%. Numbers recorded: mean 5.1, median 4, max 185/29 May Lake Bathurst GrY07 (LeM1). 127 breeding records (134 last year) from Jul to Mar, plus a late record dy/7 Apr Black Mountain Peninsula GrK14 (AWB1).

**GBS:** 7<sup>th</sup> most abundant species (up from the 5<sup>th</sup> rank last year, back to its ranking of the year before), recorded from all sites and in all weeks, with most parameters similar to the long-term figures: abundance ( $A=3.1074$ ) which was close to the long-term mean though a little lower than in recent years. Reporting rate 90.8%. Mean group size 3.4 with max 21/3wk Aug Curtin GrI14

(AJR1). Breeding records from 42 sites,(54%) with only one breeding event (dy in March/April) after February.

**Pied Currawong** *Strepera graculina*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** The 9<sup>th</sup> most frequently recorded species (up from 12<sup>th</sup> last year, but down from 7<sup>th</sup> the year before), with 1,078 records from 159 grid cells (56% of those surveyed), far more than the 744 records from 147 grid cells last year, from all months. Reporting rate 35.7%, similar to last year's rate of 30.6%, the previous decade's rate of 29.6% and the long-term rate of 37.5%. Numbers recorded: mean 3.8, median 2 and max 316/18 Jun roost flight Mt Majura NR GrM13 (LeM1). 38 breeding records (41 last year) from on/9 Oct Uriarra Road GrI14 (BoC4) to dy/27 Jan Beralston Road, NE of Gundaroo GrP06 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 5<sup>th</sup> most abundant species (4th last year and 3<sup>rd</sup> the year before) recorded in all weeks and at 77 of the 78 sites. Abundance ( $A=3.8773$ ) similar to last year and to the long-term mean. Recording rate 88.8%. Mean group size 4.4, max 110/4wk May Curtin GrI14 (AJR1). Breeding records from 37 sites (47.4%) from nb/5wk Jul Watson L12 (WsK1) to dy/1wk Mar Cook GrJ13 (TaN1). As with the Australian Magpie, there was no breeding observed from March to the end of June.

**Grey Currawong** *Strepera versicolor*

Common, Breeding Resident

Generally thought of as a bird of the forests and woodlands, but sometimes recorded in the Canberra suburbs as well.

**General:** 102 records from 47 grid cells (17% of those surveyed), similar to the 104 records from 46 grid cells last year, from all months. Reporting rate 3.4%. Numbers recorded: mean 1.2, max 4/30 Oct Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (TeJ1) and 4/30 Oct Stromlo Forest Park GrI14 (BoC4). 5 breeding records (2 last year and 7 the year before that) from nb/14 Aug Campbell Park GrM13 (TeJ1) to br/22 Jan Campbell Park Gr M13 (SmA1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 24% of sites, in all weeks. Abundance  $A=0.0486$ , 24% below last year's figure and 40% below the long-term mean. Recording rate 6.9%. Mean group size 1.1, all records of 1-4 individuals. 2 breeding records (same as last year) from 2 sites: dy/2-3wk Jan Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1) and cf/1wk Feb Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

**DICRURIDAE: drongos**

**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus*

**General:** Four records from two sites may represent only one or two individual birds: 1/31 Dec ANBG GrK13 (MaN3); also, two independent records of a single bird at JWNR 4 Jan, which were not presented for appraisal.

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

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** An increase from 16 to 20 records this year: earliest 1/24 Oct 10 at Tallaganda SF GrW19 (McI1) (the same date as the previous year); latest 1/7 Apr Lowden Forest Park GrW19 (COF1) (1 day later than the previous year). Most records were from Canberra parks and nature reserves with 4 from Warks Rd area GrD16, E16 and 5 from Tallaganda GrT21, W19. No breeding records.

**GBS:** 10 records from 7 sites (3 from 2 in the previous year). Being a passage migrant passing through the suburbs to their breeding grounds in the hills, the sightings were in either late spring or autumn. Earliest was a single bird from 3 sites in the same week, 5wk Oct, Lyneham GrK12 (UpA1), Aranda GrJ13 (GeJ1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). Apart from 1 record in early Dec, they appeared again in mid Mar with the latest record 2/1wk May 11 Aranda GrJ13 (GeJ1). The abundance value ( $A=0.0033$ ) is nearly 3 times that of last year, but about the same as the long-term average. No breeding records.

**Grey Fantail** *Rhipidura albiscapa*

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 935 records from 196 grid cells (69% of grid cells surveyed). While this is 20% more records than the previous year, the reporting rate (31%) remains much the same as the previous year (31.7), as well as the previous 10 years (31.6), but a little down on the long-term average (37). 202 records from WOO (22%). Grey Fantails are recorded throughout the year, indicating that not all birds migrate, however highest recording rate is in spring (37%) and lowest in winter (10%). Most of the records, 54% are of 1-2 birds, 4% are of more than 9 birds (16% of the records had no quantity recorded). Mean 2.85; max from a 500 m radius survey 70 /12 Apr The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1). 18 breeding records, much the same as the previous year, first nb /11 Oct at Jerrabomberra Ck GrL14 (TaN1) and final record ny/25 Feb Orroral Valley GrG21 (LiT1).

**GBS:** 541 records from 55 sites (70% of GBS sites) – another very common GBS species. The seasonal distribution is quite different in the GBS to the general survey – 2 rural sites, Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1), recorded them all year, quite a number of GBS sites had them in the colder months and not the hotter months and some others recorded them from Jan onwards. There was one notable record of 8/1wk Apr 11 at Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). The abundance value ( $A=0.2406$ ) is down slightly on the previous year (0.2688) 25% down on the long-term average. No breeding records, down from 8 in the previous year.

**Willie Wagtail** *Rhipidura leucophrys*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 751 records from 154 grid cells (54% of grid cells surveyed) with 138 or these records being from a single observer. Reporting rate (24.9%) is only slightly higher than the previous year (23.4%), and is considerably higher than the previous 10 years (17.8%) but much the same as the long-term average (24.6%). Willy Wagtails are recorded throughout the year however 65% are recorded in the spring-summer period and tapering off in winter (12%). While 33% of the records are of a single bird, numbers vary up to the max (in a 500 m survey) 18/11 Apr West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). 32 breeding records, much the same as the previous year, with nb/23 Aug The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1) and 27 Dec TSR48 GrO5 (LeM1), dy /31 Oct Newline GrN14 (RoD2) and 17 Feb Tuggeranong Town Centre GrJ17 (FrM1).

**GBS:** 630 records at 58 sites (74% of sites, up significantly on the 47 sites in the previous year), recorded throughout the year. The abundance value ( $A=0.2796$ ) is 34% higher than the previous year ( $A=0.2085$ ) and 7% higher than the long-term average ( $A=0.1858$ ). 4 sites recorded breeding: first nb/3wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) was continuous until dy/2wk Nov and then a 2<sup>nd</sup> brood started 2 weeks later with nb/4wk Nov and continuous to dy/3wk Jan 11; and last dy/4wk Feb Hawker GrI13 (OvA1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 1195 records from 165 grid cells (58% of grid cells surveyed) 323 (27% of the records) from a single observer, with 92 from a single address in Gungahlin. While this is a 35% increase on the previous year the reporting rate (39.6%) is much the same as the previous year and the long-term average. 186 records (16%) were WOO. Australian Ravens are recorded evenly throughout the year with a slight decrease in winter. Mean 2.65, max 16/30 Oct JWNR GrL14 (FyM1) and 26 Jun Newline GrN14 (AnF1). There were 21 breeding records (down on the previous year's 29): earliest on/8 Aug 10 Gungahlin Hill GrK12 (FyM1) and latest dy/29 Dec The Pinnacle GrJ13 (AlB1). There was also an early breeding record nb/27 June The Pinnacle GrJ13 (AlB1).

**GBS:** Recorded from all 78 of the GBS sites (up from 94% of the sites last year). Recorded in all weeks of the year and for most sites they were recorded continuously throughout the year. While group sizes are typically 6 or fewer, there are occasional records of greater than 10 with a notable record of 32/4wk Dec 10 at Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2). Breeding was recorded at 12 sites (which is the same as the previous year, both of which are much higher than the years before that): earliest on/1wk Jul 10 at Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). This breeding record actually started in the previous GBS year with nb/2wk Jun 10. This breeding event was continuously recorded through to dy/1wk Feb 11. There are also 3 records from 3 sites showing early breeding activity for 2011/12, all nb - first nb/4wk May at Deakin GrK14 (RoD2). The abundance value ( $A=1.46$ ) is up 8% on the previous year ( $A=1.3478$ ) and up 34% on the long-term average ( $A=1.4240$ ).

**Little Raven** *Corvus mellori*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 147 records from 64 grid cells (23% of grid cells surveyed). While this is 10% more records than the previous year, the reporting rate (4.87%) is down slightly compared with the previous year, but is in line with the long-term average. As expected the average flock size of 24.2 is far greater than that for Australian Raven (2.65). The greatest number reported was in a 5km radius survey 300 birds /29 May LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). There was also a record of 285 and some records in the 100's. Little Ravens are recorded throughout the year however there is a noticeable seasonal variance with peaks in spring and autumn: spring 31%, summer 14%, autumn 42% and winter 13%. A single breeding record (down from 4 last year): dy/31 Oct Namadgi Apollo Rd GrI20 (BeS1).

**GBS:** 85 records (double the number from the previous year) from 13 sites (10 the previous year). Contrary to the reporting regime in the General surveys, records of the Little Raven occur much more evenly throughout the year. Also contrary to the General surveys, in the GBS, most records are of small numbers (1-5) with a scattering of records with larger numbers of 20-40 and one notable record of 200/4wk May Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). No breeding records. The abundance value ( $A=0.2595$ ) is 70% greater than last year ( $A=0.1527$ ), which was itself a significant increase on the year before that, double the long-term average ( $A=0.1358$ ).

**MONARCHIDAE: flycatchers, monarchs****Leaden Flycatcher** *Myiagra rubecula*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 189 records (including 35 WOO) in 59 grid cells (21% of grid cells surveyed). Reporting rate 6.3% up from 5.0% last year and just above the long-term average. Mean 2 and max 12, 8 Jan, 22 Jan and 22 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1, SmA1, AnF1, COF1). First 2/26 Sep Red Hill GrK14 (PeH2) and last 1/5 May CSIRO Gungahlin GrK12 (DaC1). Most records are in spring (46%) and summer (47%) with only 13% in autumn and none in winter. 24 breeding records (a huge increase on the previous year's 7): first di/22 Oct Tinkers Ck TSR GrF11 (COF1), and last dy/16 Feb 11 at Latham Umbagog Park GrI12 (COF1).

**GBS:** 45 records from 11 sites (down on the previous year's 15 sites). The earliest records were 1/1wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and 1/1wk Oct Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). The latest record was 1/2wk Apr Turner GrK13 (MiP1). A single breeding record (3 the previous year) co/3wk Oct 10 at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Leaden Flycatchers have been reported in the GBS each of the past 11 years. The abundance value ( $A=0.0177$ ) is approximately half of both the previous year ( $A=0.0361$ ) and the 11 year average ( $A=0.0309$ ).

**Satin Flycatcher** *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

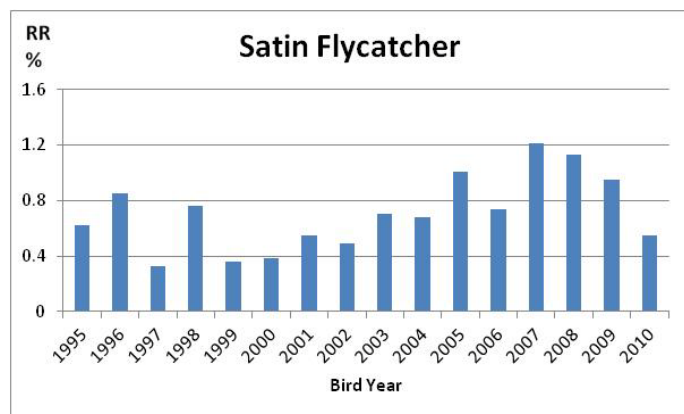
Common, Breeding Migrant

A summer migrant, usually recorded in the Brindabella Ranges, and occasionally on passage at lower altitudes.

**General:** 17 records from 14 grid cells – the number of records is well down on the previous year and the reporting rate (0.56%) is only 40% of the long-term average. First 1/20 Oct The Pinnacle (GrJ13) (AlB1) and the last 1/2 Mar Mt Coree (GrD14) 11 (BuM1). The records were from a wide variety of areas this year including the Warks / Blundells Ck Roads, southern Namadgi and Ballalaba near Braidwood. No breeding records this year.

**GBS:** One record: 1/2wk Mar 11 Ainslie

GrL13 (HoS1) (same week and same site as the only record in the previous year).

**Restless Flycatcher** *Myiagra inquieta*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 23 records from 15 grid cells (5.3% of grid cells surveyed) which is similar to the previous year although the reporting rate (0.76%) is only ¼ of the long-term reporting rate. The previous year there was a spike of records in the Sept-Oct period, however this year records were distributed throughout the year with 3 records in spring and 6-7 records in each of summer, autumn and winter. Approximately half the records were of 2 birds and the other half of one bird. No breeding records.

**GBS:** No records this year compared to 3 records from 2 sites the previous year.

**Black-faced Monarch** *Monarcha melanopsis*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** One record 1/24 Mar Careys Reserve near Wee Jasper GrA9 (BoC4). This was the first record since 1 Apr 2006 (which was at Wamboin GrQ12).

**Magpie-lark** *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 1239 records from 143 grid cells (50% of grid cells surveyed). While this is a huge increase (65%) on the previous year's figures of 750 records and 91 grid cells, is due in large part to a remarkable 481 records (40% of total) from one observer, with 116 records from an address in Gungahlin. There were 101 WOO, slightly down on the previous year's 106. The reporting rate of 41% is well above the long-term average of 34.3%. While most records are of 1-4 birds there are quite a number of records (13) with 20 or more birds with the highest being 50/5 Sep 10 Macquarie Oval GrJ13 (AnF1). Magpie Larks are recorded throughout the year with a slight peak in summer. 42 breeding records (less than the 49 of the previous year) with first nb/23 Aug The Pinnacle GrI13 (AlB1) and last /3 Mar Sir Henry Parkes Rd GrV01 (BoC4). There was a very early record for next season nb/14 Apr Telopea Park GrL14 (AWB1).

**GBS:** Recorded from all 78 of the GBS sites. Recorded in all weeks of the year and for most sites they were recorded continuously throughout the year. While group sizes are typically 1 or 2, (or 3 - 5 when including young) large groups can be found in winter as the dispersed young congregate together. The largest group was 40/1wk Jul 10 at Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Breeding was recorded at 23 sites (one of the most frequently recorded GBS breeding species): earliest was at 3 sites nb/4wk Aug Holder GrJ15 (AsM1) + Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) + Deakin GrK14 (RoD2); latest was dy/3wk Mar 11 at Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1). 17 of the sites included records of dy. Several sites recorded multiple broods. The abundance value ( $A=1.8062$ ) is down about 10% on both the previous year and the long-term average.

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 346 records (almost identical to last year) 63 WOO (18%) from 88 grid cells (31% of grid cells). Reporting rate (11.5) is similar to last year's and slightly down on the long-term average (13.6%). This is 20% down on last year. Mean 6.8 with max (5 km radius survey) 40/25 Apr Mulligans Flat GrL10 (WiT1). While the birds are recorded all year, 41% of the records are in spring. 52 breeding records (50% increase on the previous year). First on/13 Jul O'Connor Ridge GrK12 (LaS1 and last dy/21 Mar Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1). The timing of both these events are similar to the previous years (1 Aug and 19 Mar respectively).

**GBS:** 246 records from 34 sites (44% of sites surveyed, a slight increase on the previous year). Recorded in each of the 52 weeks. A site in Cook GrJ13 (BrM2) had them present continuously for a 20-week period. Mean group size 6.5 (compared to 8.2 the previous year) and max 30/4wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). The abundance value ( $A=0.4824$ ) is up slightly on the previous year and down 17% on the long-term average. Breeding records from 6 sites: earliest nb/3wk Jul Pearce GrK15 (KrS1) (the same earliest site as the previous year, which was 1wk Aug) and latest dy/4wk Apr at Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1) (also the latest site in the previous year, which was 1wk Feb).

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 46 records in 14 grid cells (5% of grid cells surveyed). Reporting rate (1.5%) is consistent with the long-term average. It is recorded throughout the year although 85% of the records are in spring and summer. Notably, 40% of the records were from a single location (Campbell Park) which also included 3 records each with 6 birds between 6 and 29 Jan. 3 breeding records again this year although they were all much later than the previous year. First cf/16 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (HeS1) and br/22 Jan (SmA1) at and last dy/15 Feb Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WaS1).

**GBS:** One record (the same as the previous year): 1/4wk Oct Burra GrM21 (AnI1). Jacky Winters have been recorded in GBS in most of the past 11 years sometimes with more than one record.

**Scarlet Robin** *Petroica boodang*

Common, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** 224 records from 77 grid cells (27% of grid cells surveyed). 44 WOO records (24 the previous year). The reporting rate (7.4%) is much the same as the average over the last 10 years but is just under half the long-term average. Most records report 1 or 2 birds with the mean 1.73 and max (in a 5 km radius survey) 10/18 Jun Googong Foreshores GrO16 (AnI1). Scarlet Robins are present and recorded all year although 75% of the records occur in autumn and winter. 5 breeding records (compared to 7 the previous year) with first cf/12 Sep The Pinnacle GrJ13 (AnF1) and last cf/19 Dec The Pinnacle GrI13 (AIB1).

**GBS:** 30 records from 7 sites (well down on the 56 from 13 in the previous year). The winter 2010 records finished 1/4wk Jul at each of Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). The autumn 2011 records started 1/1wk Feb at Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and continued through winter. Most records were of a single bird. In contrast to the general records, GBS birds were only recorded in autumn and winter. The abundance value ( $A=0.0102$ ) is 55% down on last year and 75% down on the long-term average. No breeding records.

**Red-capped Robin** *Petroica goodenovii*

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 9 records from 5 grid cells (well down on recent years where 25 reports from 41 cells were recorded). The reporting rate (0.3%) is 1/4 of last year's and about half the long-term reporting rate. First 1/2 Oct Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (TaN1) and last 2/25 May Mulligans Flat GrL10 (MuT1). Mulligans Flat and Goorooyarroo NR are again the stronghold for this species in the ACT. There were 2 observations from Willsfield GrM07 near Gundaroo (CoD2), one from Lyndfield Park GrL02 near Gunning (TaN1) and one from Shepherds Lookout GrH12. One breeding record from dy/30 Oct 10 Goorooyarroo NR GRM11 (BoJ1).

**Flame Robin** *Petroica phoenicea*

Common, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in NSW and is on a watching brief in the ACT.

**General:** 92 records (up from 84 the previous year) from 55 grid cells (the same as the previous year and 19% of grid cells surveyed). 6 WOO records (compared to none the previous year) The reporting rate (3.1%) is much the same as the average over the last 10 years but is only half the long-term average. Mean 2.29, median 2 and, in a 5km radius survey, max 20/28 May Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (AnI1). Flame Robins were recorded relatively evenly throughout the seasons, except summer with only 4 records. 6 breeding records (up from 3 the previous year): first dy/22 Oct Mullion TSR 60 GrF10 (COF1) and last dy/23 Nov 10 at Mongamulla Trail GrY26 (BoC4).

**GBS:** 4 records from 2 sites, mostly in May: 2/5wk Oct, 1/2wk May, 2/4wk May at Holt GrI12 (DaC1) and a notable 6/1wk May at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). In contrast to the general records, GBS records were only recorded in May. The abundance value ( $A=0.0033$ ) is down 58% on the long-term average ( $A=0.0061$ ). No breeding records.

**Rose Robin** *Petroica rose*

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 26 records (up from 17 last year) from 10 grid cells. There were 11 records from ANBG during autumn and winter and 6 from Mt Ainslie during winter and spring. There was only 1 summer record 1/1 Jan Warks Rd GrD16 (AnF1). Reporting rate (0.09%) is about the same as last year and the long-term average. Most records were of a single bird, 2 records were of 2 birds and 3 records of 3 birds at ANBG (LeM1). No breeding records.

**GBS:** 6 records from 4 sites (well down on last year's 16 from 9). 5 of the records were in July and August and 1 in April: 1/2wk Jul Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), 1/3wk Jul + 1/3wk Aug + 2/4wk Aug Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1), 1/4wk Aug Deakin GrK14 (RoD2), 1/5wk Apr 11 Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2). These Aranda and Deakin sites also had records last year. In contrast to the general records, GBS

records were only recorded in autumn and winter. The abundance value ( $A=0.0021$ ) is down 82% on the long-term average. No breeding records.

**Pink Robin** *Petroica rodinogaster*

Rare, Breeding Migrant

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** 10 records, one of a single bird in 1/6 Feb Rocky Pic Tallaganda GrT21 (LaG1) and 9 records of a single bird (probably the same bird) at ANBG GrK13 between 12 May and 22 May 2011. No breeding records.

**Hooded Robin** *Melanodryas cucullata*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

**General:** 27 records from 15 grid cells (5% of those surveyed) is almost identical number of records as the previous year but 50% more grid cells. The reporting rate (0.9%) is down on recent values and only 40% of the long-term average. Notable records of 6 birds (in 5km surveys) from Scottsdale 8 Apr GrL28 (COF1) and Tidbinbilla 26 Jun GrG17 (BiL1). The records were distributed throughout the whole year. There was single breeding record (down from 7 the previous year) of 2 adults and 2 juveniles br/29 Jan Namadgi Visitors Centre GrJ19 (SmA1).

**Eastern Yellow Robin** *Eopsaltria australis*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 93 records (60 last year) from 54 grid cells (a 50% increase). However, the reporting rate (3.08%) is down slightly on recent years and is only 37% of the long-term average (8.05%). Recorded all year, less so in summer. Most records are of 1 or 2 birds. For a common resident the number of breeding observations remains incredibly low with only 1 record (same as last year) on br/24 Jan Warks Road / Blundells Creek Road GrD14 (SmA1) (the same as the previous year).

**GBS:** As in the previous 2 years all GBS records were from 2 rural blocks: Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) had almost continuous records of mostly a single bird between 3wk Dec and 1wk Jun and in Burra GrM21 (AnI1) had intermittent records of a single bird between 2wk Oct and 3wk Jun. The abundance value ( $A=0.0087$ ) is twice the long-term average. No breeding records.

**ALAUDIDAE: larks**

**Horsfield's Bushlark** *Mirafra javanica*

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 9 records from 6 grid cells, down from 18 last year. Recording rate 0.3% is slightly higher than the long-term recording rate. One record was 2/23 Nov Mongamulla Trail GrY26 (BoC4) and the remainder were from LBath: from 1/7 Nov GrZ08 (MaD4) to 1/13 Feb GrZ07 (LeM1). Most records were of a single bird, but there was also one each of 2, 3 birds and 4 birds.

**Eurasian Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 75 records (down from 88 the previous year) from 29 grid cells. The reporting rate (2.5%) is much the same as the average of the last 10 years but is well down on the long-term average (4.0%). Eurasian Skylarks are recorded in all months with a higher recording rate in spring (41%). The number of birds per survey varies enormously from 1 to flocks of 20-40 with max (in a 5km radius survey) 60/19 Sep LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). The large flocks can be recorded at any time of year. Nearly half of the records come from the LBath and LGeo. As with many grassland species, breeding is seldom observed but it is still surprising that there were no breeding records of this common species.

**GBS:** Two records from 1 site (compared to 1 record the previous year which was at the same site): 1/4wk Aug 10 and 2/5wk Apr 11 Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). No breeding records.

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A cryptic grassland bird.

**General:** 63 records from 13 grid cells (a huge increase from the previous year of 46 and 7). The reporting rate (2.08%) is consistent with the average of the last 10 years but is only 2/3rds of the long-term average (2.95%). Most records are of 1 – 10 birds, however there were 2 adjacent records of 15 and 46 on 30 Oct 10 at JWNR respectively GrL14 (FyM1). 75% of all records are from this area. Golden-headed Cisticolas are recorded all year with a much higher recording rate in spring and summer (30% & 44%). There was a single breeding record: nb/30 Oct JWNR GrL14 (FyM1). The paucity of breeding records does not seem to reflect the true status of this species in the region.

**GBS:** 2 records from 2 sites (compared 9 from 2 in the previous year): 1/2wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and 1/4wk Jun Giralang GrK12 (McD4). No breeding records.

**ACROCEPHALIDAE: reed-warblers****Australian Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus australis*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 238 records from 44 grid cells continues the steady increase of the past couple of years. The reporting rate (7.9%) is above the average of the last 10 years (5.5%) and the long-term average (6.8%). This species is considered to be a 'summer' migrant, however some individuals over-winter as there are occasional records through the colder months (32% spring, 58% summer, 7% autumn, 3% winter). The species was recorded in ~30 locations however over half of the records came from 4 areas (JWNR, Australian Defence College, Gungahlin Pond and LGinn). A remarkable 33% of all records were submitted by one observer. While the number of birds per individual record is most commonly 1, 2 or 3 it is not uncommon to have up to 10 and this year there was a maximum of 25 and 75 in 2 adjacent records on 30 Oct 10 at Fyshwick Sewage Ponds and Jerrabomberra Wetlands respectively GrL14 (FyM1). There were 9 breeding records (5 last year): first on/11 Oct Jerrabomberra Ck GrL14 (TaN1), last was dy/25 Feb ANU GrK13 (LeM1).

**GBS:** Regular spring-summer records from 3 sites near bodies of water at Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2), Giralang GrK12 (McD4) and Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL1) (4 sites the previous year) between 3wk Aug and 4wk April. The Jerrabomberra site in a period stretching over 5 months had 6 – 12 birds per week with a highest count of 15/1wk Dec. 4 breeding records: dy/5wk Jan Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2), cf/4wk Dec + cf/1wk Jan Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL1) and cf/3wk Nov 10 at Giralang GrK12 (McD4). In contrast to the general records, there were no GBS records in winter. The abundance value ( $A=0.0705$ ) is 3 times the 11 year average and nearly 7 times the long-term average.

**MEGALURIDAE: grassbirds and songlarks****Little Grassbird** *Megalurus grammurus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 48 records (63 last year) from 6 grid cells, (much the same as 7 the previous year). Reporting rate 1.6% much less than 2.6% last year but closer to the 1.9% long-term average. 34 records (70% of total) were from JWNR. Mean 1.95, Max 4/2 Oct FSP GrL14 (AnF1) and also 4/3 Mar Collector GrT02 (BoC4). While the records were spread throughout the whole year, 31 records (65%) were in the 3 summer months. No breeding records this year.

**GBS:** 3 records from 2 sites (down from 18 records from 2 sites last year). 1/3wk Dec and 1/1wk Jan 11 at Giralang GrK12 (McD4) and 1/1wk Feb Burra GrM21 (AnI1). No breeding records. Little Grassbirds have been recorded in GBS in only the last 3 years.

**Rufous Songlark** *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

Common, Breeding Migrant

A woodland summer migrant whose numbers have increased in recent years

**General:** 66 records from 31 grid cells (11% of grid cells). These numbers are well down on the previous year of 141 records from 50 grid cells (21%). Reporting rate 2.2% is well down on 3.2% the long-term average. Mean 2.1 and Max 8 birds during 500 m radius surveys at each of West Macgregor GrH11 on 16 Dec and 26 Jan (CuR1) and TSR48 GrO5 27 Dec (LeM1). First 3/30 Sep West Macgregor GrH11 10 (CuR1) and last x/2 May Callum Brae GrL15 (SmA1). 4 breeding records all of dy: First 24 Feb West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1) and last 01 Apr TSR48 GrO5 o (LeM1).

**GBS:** a single record (compared to 5 last year from 2 sites): 1/1wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). No breeding records.

**Brown Songlark** *Cincloramphus cruralis*

Rare, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 4 records from 4 grid cells. The recording rate this year (0.13% fell well below the long-term recording rate (0.5%) after a very high rate (1.0%) last year. There was a single record from each of 4 grid cells GrZ08, U08-09 (all Lake George region) (LeM1) and GrP22 (near Burra) (BoC4) between 22 Dec 10 and 9 Feb 11. All records were of a single bird. No breeding records.

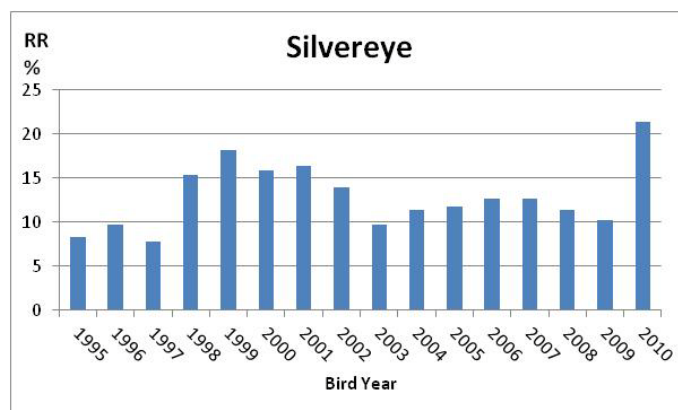
**TIMALIIDAE: white-eyes****Silvereye** *Zosterops lateralis*

Common Breeding Resident

A large increase on last year's figures.

**General:** 641 records from 104 grid cells (37% of those surveyed), 2.6 times the 247 records from 81 grid cells last year. 314 of these records were from a single observer, with 121 records coming from a single address in Gungahlin. 36% of records from autumn, 36% summer, 17% spring and just 10% from winter. Reporting rate 21.2%, twice last year's rate of 10.2% the previous decade's rate of 12.2% but similar to the long-term rate of 19.6%). Numbers recorded: mean 7.1, median 4, max 100/20 Apr Red Hill CNP GrK14 500 m area search (COF1). 1 breeding record (same number as last year): dy/30 Oct Uriarra Forest GrF13 (RoM1).

**GBS:** Back to 4<sup>th</sup> most abundant bird in the GBS, up from 7<sup>th</sup> last year. Records from 94% of sites, in all weeks. The mean abundance ( $A=4.0669$ ) 33% higher than last year and 24% below the long-term mean. Reporting rate 50% which is 20% below the long-term mean. Mean group size 8.1. 15 breeding records from 7 sites (7 sites last year), from dy/1wk Nov Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1) to dy/2wk Apr Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH1).



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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 542 records from 131 grid cells (46% of those surveyed) an increase on the 406 records from 95 grid cells last year. Recorded in all months with 32% of records in spring, 28% in summer, 30% in autumn and just 10% in winter. Reporting rate 18%, similar to last year's rate of 16.7%, the previous decade's rate of 14.0% and the long-term rate 20.0%. Numbers recorded: mean 8.4, median 4, 3 flocks of 100, 1 of 150, max 272/24 Mar Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (BuM1). 10 breeding records (18 last year, and 9 the previous year) from nb/11 Sep Wamboin GrP13 (McD1) to ny/18 Jan Settlers Track, Namadgi NP GrH28 (AlB1).

**GBS:** Abundance ( $A=0.3051$ ) 7.3% lower than last year but 30% higher than the long-term mean. Recorded at 46% of sites in all but 1 week of the year. Reporting rate 8.9% which is 42% above the long-term mean. Mean group size 3.4. Only 3 breeding records (10 last year and none the previous year) from dy/2wk Oct to dy/4wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

**Fairy Martin** *Petrochelidon ariel*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 45 records from 23 grid cells, far fewer than last year's 71 records from 22 grid cells. Reporting rate 1.4% (last year 2.9%). Reported in all months except Jul, 31% of records from spring, 44% from summer, 16% from autumn and just 9% from winter. Numbers recorded: mean 8.0, median 6, 4 flocks of 20 or more, max 30/31 Oct West Macgregor Sewage Works GrH11, the same place from which the max was reported last year (CuR1). 6 breeding records from 6 sites (12 records last year) from nb/27 Sep Uriarra Village GrG14 (PeH1) to dy/19 Jan TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

**GBS:** Only 1 record (3 last year): 40/1wk Mar Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). No breeding recorded.

**Tree Martin** *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 101 records from 44 grid cells (15.5% of those surveyed) cf. 129 records from 43 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 3.3% (5.3% last year and 5.5% long-term). Numbers recorded: mean 7.6, median 3, 6 flocks of 30 or more, max 100/20 Mar Yarramundi Reach GrK13 (SmA1). Records every month with 47% from spring, 30% summer, 18% autumn and just 6% from winter. 6 breeding records (17 last year), 5 ih and 1 on, from ih/8 Oct Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) to ih/15 Apr Tallaganda Lane GrM10 (BoC4).

**GBS:** Only 3 records from 3 sites (21 records from 8 sites last year and 13 records from 6 sites the previous year) at Carwoola, Giralang and Gleneagles. Mean abundance ( $A=0.0048$ ) down 88% on last year and 82% on the long-term mean. Mean group size 5.2. No breeding recorded.

**TURDIDAE: thrushes****Bassian Thrush** *Zoothera lunulata*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

**General:** 4 records of single birds from 4 grids: x/13 Mar Brindabella Ranges GrD14 (BiL1), 2/7 Apr GrW19 Lowden Forest Park (COF1), x/29 Apr Australian Defence College GrJ14 (KiM2) and 1/25 Jun Square Rock Walking Trail GrF19 (WaK2).

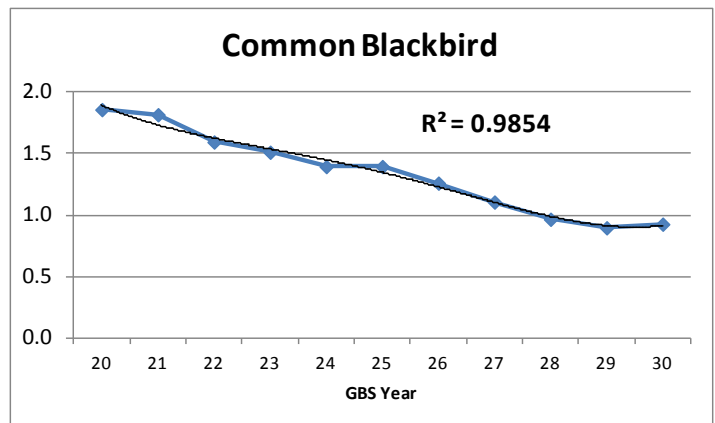
**GBS:** Last recorded in 2006-07.

**Common Blackbird** *Turdus merula*

**General:** 362 records (4 WOO) from 51 grid cells, 18% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 172 records from 39 grid cells last year and 167 records from 46 grid cells the year before. Paradoxically, these figures may mask a continuing decline in abundance because around 200 of the 2010-11 records are by a single observer, 132 of which were from a single address in Gungahlin. Reporting rate 12%, compared with 7.1% last year and 14.7% long-term. Mean 2.16 and max, 15/30 Oct JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). Breeding not recorded.

**GBS:** Records of 1-10 individuals from 68 sites in all weeks. The mean abundance ( $A=0.9268$ ) continues a pattern of decline in recent years and is 41% lower than the long-term average. Breeding: 37 records from 11 sites, first on/1wk Sep Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) and Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1), and last cf/3wk Jan Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

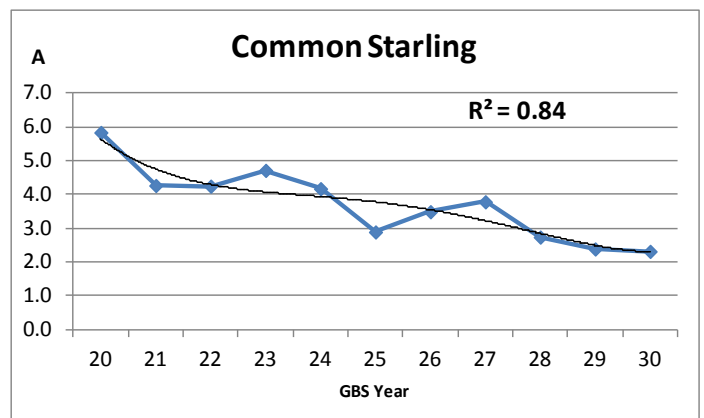
Common Breeding Resident

**STURNIDAE: starling, myna****Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 920 records (141 WOO) from 128 grid cells, 45% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 718 records (144 WOO) from 101 grid cells last year and 708 records from 130 grid cells the year before. The raw data probably masks a continuing decline. Around 250 records were provided by a single observer, with 72 from an address in Weston and 46 from an address in Gungahlin. The highest number of individual birds seen this year (14,166) was reported for this species. Reporting rate 30.5%, compared with 29.6% last year and 31.6% long-term. Mean 22.6; max: 700/14 May JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). Breeding: 56 records with first on/12 Sep The Pinnacle NR GrJ13 (AnF1) and last cf/4 Jan Taylors Creek Road GrU08 (LeM1).

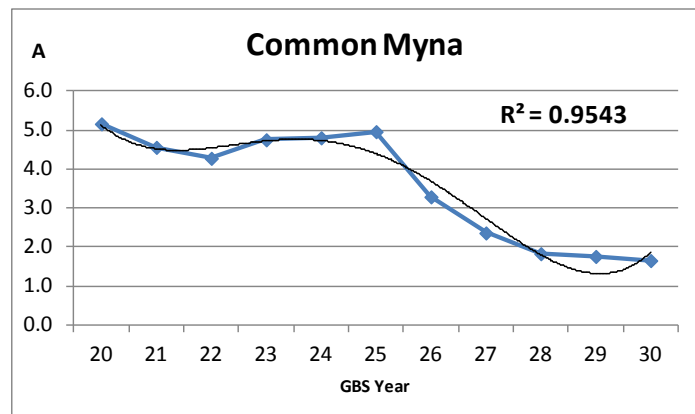
**GBS:** This year, 10<sup>th</sup> most abundant species representing a continuing decline and down from 4<sup>th</sup> position in 2007-08. Abundance ( $A=2.3207$ ) is well below historical levels e.g. 1995-96 ( $A=9.8804$ ) and is 74% lower than the long-term average. Reported from 69% of sites in all months. Breeding, 19 records from 6 sites: first ih/2wk Aug Watson GrL12 (WaK1), last dy/1wk Jan Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), with an apparent outlier, ih/2wk Mar Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1).



**Common Myna** *Sturnus tristis**Common Breeding Resident*

**General:** 535 records (35 WOO) from 48 grid cells, 17% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 302 records from 48 grid cells and 267 records from 44 grid cells the year before. However the raw figures probably mask a decline. There were around 260 records from a single observer, 96 of which were from a single address in Gungahlin. There were 35 WOO records this year compared with 26 last year and 43 the year before. Reporting rate was 17.7% compared with 12.44% last year 11.8% long-term. Mean 3.5, max: 22/26 Jan West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). Breeding: 19 records with first ih/8 Oct Kama GrI13 (DaC1) and last br/29 Jan Florey Shops GrJ12 (KiM2).

**GBS:** 14<sup>th</sup> most abundant species down significantly from 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2005-06, most probably as a result of the continuing work of CIMAG. Records of 1-32 individuals from 81% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ( $A=1.6535$ ) is down from ( $A=1.7588$ ) last year from ( $A=1.8293$ ) the year before. This is 39% lower than the long-term average. Recorded from 63 sites, max 40/1 & 2wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) and also 40/4wk May Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1). Breeding recorded from 10 sites compared with 11 sites last year and 7 sites the year before: first ih/3wk Aug Deakin GrK14 (RoD2) and Watson GrL12 (WaK1), and last dy/4wk Feb Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1) and Turner GrK13 (MiP1) with an apparent outlier, ih/2wk Apr Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1).

**NECTARINIIDAE: mistletoebird****Mistletoebird** *Dicaeum hirundinaceum**Common Breeding Resident*

**General:** 200 records (60 WOO) from 77 grid cells, 27% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 123 records (48 WOO) from 37 grid cells last year and 116 records from 47 grid cells the year before. WOO records continue to provide a relatively high proportion of general Mistletoebird records compared with many other species. Recorded in all months for the second year in a row, but with 83% of records in spring and summer.. Reporting rate 6.6% compared with 5.1% last year and 6.6% long-term. Mean 1.5. Breeding, 4 records: first dy/30 Oct Woodstock NR GrH12 (AlB1) and last dy/23 Mar The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

**GBS:** 106 records of 1-2 birds from 15 sites in all months. Recorded in 43 weeks. 35 records from a rural site in Hoskinstown, but most other records from sites on the fringes of Canberra suburbs, such as Cook or Curtin. Abundance ( $A=.0351$ ) is 47% above the long-term average. Breeding not recorded.

**ESTRILDIDAE: weaver finches****Zebra Finch** *Taeniopygia guttata*

Rare Visitor

**General:** 1 record: 1/16 Dec West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). Breeding not recorded.**GBS:** A single record 1/1wk Nov Gundaroo (NiA1), following two records last year.**Double-barred Finch** *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

**General:** 89 records (2 WOO) from 30 grid cells, 10.6% of all grid cells surveyed. This is up from 37 records (3 WOO) from 17 grids last year and 76 records from 31 grid cells the year before. 76% of records in autumn and winter. Reporting rate 2.95%, mean 4.8, max: 30/30 May Molonglo R GrJ14 (BiL1). Breeding not recorded.**GBS:** Records of 1-38 individuals from 18 sites (23.1% of sites) in 45 weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.1050$ ) is 5.4% less than the long-term average; max 38/2wk Jun Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH2). Breeding not recorded.**Red-browed Finch** *Neochmia temporalis*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 264 records (12 WOO) from 83 grid cells, 29.3% of all grids surveyed. This compares with 179 records (4 WOO) from 45 grids last year and 190 records from 67 grid cells the year before. Reporting rate, 8.7% compared with 11.7% long-term. Mean 5.4, max: 4 reports of flocks of 30 scattered as to time and place. 10 breeding records: first nb/30 Oct LGin GrJ12 (AlB1) and last nb/17 Feb ANBG GrK13 (AWB1).**GBS:** Records of 1-35 individuals from 22 sites in all weeks. Abundance ( $A=0.5071$ ) was 55% higher than the long-term average, with max 35/3wk Jun Giralang GrK12 (McD4). Breeding, 16 records from 4 sites: first nb/2 wk Oct Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and last nb/4wk Apr Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1).**Diamond Firetail** *Stagonopleura guttata*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

Watching brief for the ACT and declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** 152 records (8 WOO) from 54 grid cells, 19% of all grid cells surveyed. This compares with 105 records (11 WOO) from 34 grid cells last year and 146 records from 49 grid cells the year before. Reporting rate 5%, up from 4.3% last year and 3.5% long-term. Mean 4.1, max 21/17 Apr West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). Breeding, 7 breeding records: first dy/4 Jan Taylors Creek Rd GrU9 (LeM1) and last dy/7 May The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).**GBS:** 4 records from 3 sites: 1/3wk Sep Burra GrM21 (AnI1), 2/4wk Oct and 1/2wk Dec Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), and last 1/5wk Jan Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1). Breeding not reported.**Beautiful Firetail** *Stagonopleura bella*

Rare Vagrant

**General:** None reported this year after the only report in the COG Area of Interest in 2008/09.**PASSERIDAE sparrows****House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 377 records from 58 grid cells (21%) from all months, more than double the number of records from the previous year. However 224 records were submitted by a single observer, most of which were from 4 urban and suburban centres where relatively high densities of sparrows would be expected. This has apparently inflated the reporting rate to 12.5%, twice the value of the previous 10 year average (6.24%), but interestingly enough, slightly less than the long-term average of 12.6%. Abundance: mean 6.7, median 2, max in a 500 m search 100/11 Apr Carwoola Mills Cross GrS15 (BuM1). 7 breeding records (the same as last year) commencing with on/30 Oct West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1) and concluding with dy/6 Mar Cook GrJ13 (McI1).

**GBS:** 1317 records from 57 sites (73%), from all weeks. Abundance ( $A=2.8242$ ) was 13% higher than the previous year but 52% below the long-term average. Reporting rate 40.6%. Average group size 6.96 max 50/3wk Apr Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). 20 breeding records from 6 sites commencing with ih/3wk Aug Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1) and concluding with dy/3wk Feb Hawker GrI13 (OvA1).

#### **MOTACILLIDAE: pipit**

**Australasian Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 151 records from 69 grid cells (24%), from all months, 7% fewer records than last year. Reporting rate 5% is slightly above the average of the previous 10 years (4.4%) but below the long-term average of 8.3%. Abundance: mean 3.8, median 2, max in a 5 km search 28/26 Jun LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). 5 breeding records (6 last year) commencing with di/30 Oct Warks Rd GrE14 (BaS2) and concluding with cf/18 Jan Gundaroo O07 (LeM1)

**GBS:** 15 records from a single site (1%), from 15 weeks, Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Abundance ( $A=0.0063$ ) was 46% lower than the previous year and 59% below the long-term average. Reporting rate 0.45%. Average group size 1.40. No breeding records.

#### **FRINGILLIDAE finches**

**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*

Common Breeding Resident

**General:** 223 records from 56 grid cells (20%) from all months, 32% more records than the previous year. 2 (0.9%) were WOO. Reporting rate 7.39% is slightly higher than the previous 10 year average, but considerably less than the long-term average of 12.7%. Abundance: mean 5.2, median 3, max 40/29 May Old Boboyan Rd GrH24 (FyM1). 2 breeding records (5 last year) commencing with dy/16 Jan Narrabundah Hill GrI15 (HoJ1) and concluding with dy/13 Feb LBath GrY08 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 51 records from 8 sites (10%), from 33 weeks, with 76% of all records from a single site (230) Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Abundance ( $A=0.0765$ ) was 41% higher than the previous year but 68% below the long-term average. Reporting rate 1.53%. Average group size 5 max 30/1wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). No breeding records.

**Common Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

**General:** 23 records from a single cell (GrL14), 36% fewer records than the previous year. Reporting rate 0.76% which appears to have been quite constant since records have been kept. Abundance: mean 2, median 1, max 6/14 Aug Kingston Foreshore (LeM1). No breeding records.

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

**ABA** = Australian Bird Atlas (COG's general survey), **BA** = Birds Australia, **ERE**= Eremaea, **WBS**=Waterbird Survey **INC** = Incidental, and **WOO** = Woodland Survey (including subsites, transects and incidental). Greening Australia data included in ABA. GBS records are not included (see Table 2). Unusual sightings not endorsed by the Rarities Panel are not included.

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	ERE	WBS	INC	WOO	WOO%
1	Australian Magpie	1888	861	548	38	58	2	381	20.2
2	Crimson Rosella	1416	708	304	32	27		345	24.4
3	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	1262	604	351	31	22	5	249	19.7
4	Galah	1239	578	349	27	25	4	256	20.7
5	Magpie-lark	1239	554	512	34	36	2	101	8.2
6	Australian Raven	1195	606	351	34	17	1	186	15.6
7	Superb Fairy-wren	1190	679	310	35	36	4	126	10.6
8	Red Wattlebird	1095	616	344	23	16	3	93	8.5
9	Pied Currawong	1078	590	337	30	7	2	112	10.4
10	Grey Fantail	935	555	115	33	29	1	202	21.6
11	Common Starling	920	440	284	20	34	1	141	15.3
12	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	824	486	172	25	49	4	88	10.7
13	Striated Pardalote	809	473	54	16	10	1	255	31.5
14	Eastern Rosella	781	463	76	21	15		206	26.4
15	Willie Wagtail	751	467	159	28	43	3	51	6.8
16	Weebill	745	378	94	13	2	1	257	34.5
17	Crested Pigeon	715	368	218	24	16	2	87	12.2
18	Spotted Pardalote	683	423	57	19	6	1	177	25.9
19	Silvereye	641	258	325	23	8		27	4.2
20	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	617	412	57	21	8	2	117	19.0
21	Welcome Swallow	542	335	137	26	28	5	11	2.0
22	Australian Wood Duck	536	297	131	17	23	4	64	11.9
23	Common Myna	535	213	279	7		1	35	6.5
24	Noisy Miner	506	224	53	16	1	6	206	40.7
25	Red-rumped Parrot	474	262	147	18	8	3	36	7.6
26	Rufous Whistler	473	312	18	17	22	2	102	21.6
27	White-throated Treecreeper	465	324	16	26	8		91	19.6
28	Buff-rumped Thornbill	455	299	8	13	12		123	27.0
29	Laughing Kookaburra	450	304	38	13	8		87	19.3
30	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	450	342	23	13	11	2	59	13.1
31	Pacific Black Duck	404	237	88	23	36	3	17	4.2
32	Noisy Friarbird	404	249	40	15		1	99	24.5
33	House Sparrow	377	128	229	3	14	1	2	0.5
34	Common Blackbird	362	123	230	4	1		4	1.1
35	White-winged Chough	346	217	35	13	12	6	63	18.2
36	Masked Lapwing	345	151	126	10	37	7	14	4.1
37	Grey Shrike-thrush	319	232	27	17	26	1	16	5.0
38	White-browed Scrubwren	294	200	70	17	1		6	2.0
39	Brown Thornbill	276	195	19	9	20		33	12.0
40	White-plumed Honeyeater	274	171	43	15	2	1	42	15.3
41	Red-browed Finch	264	162	54	18	10	8	12	4.5
42	White-eared Honeyeater	260	183	21	8	6	1	41	15.8
43	Dusky Woodswallow	257	198	11	16	2	13	17	6.6
44	Grey Butcherbird	252	148	11	14	9	1	69	27.4

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	ERE	WBS	INC	WOO	WOO%
45	Dusky Moorhen	249	159	63	15	11		1	0.4
46	Australian Reed-Warbler	238	124	83	18	13			0.0
47	Black Swan	228	123	67	10	28			0.0
48	Scarlet Robin	224	155	8	5	7	5	44	19.6
49	European Goldfinch	223	93	87	8	31	2	2	0.9
50	Australasian Grebe	222	160	13	15	12	12	10	4.5
51	Striated Thornbill	221	163	2	12	1		43	19.5
52	Golden Whistler	213	165	9	4	3	2	30	14.1
53	Mistletoebird	200	114	22	2	1	1	60	30.0
54	Nankeen Kestrel	197	140	19	9	9	8	12	6.1
55	Leaden Flycatcher	189	137	6	9	1	1	35	18.5
56	Purple Swampphen	187	118	48	9	12			0.0
57	Australian King-Parrot	184	108	35	6			35	19.0
58	Little Pied Cormorant	183	130	34	6	12	1		0.0
59	White-faced Heron	181	110	24	13	27	5	2	1.1
60	Speckled Warbler	179	111	5	13		2	48	26.8
61	Rock Dove	177	56	114	6			1	0.6
62	Eastern Spinebill	177	117	34	7	1		18	10.2
63	White-throated Gerygone	163	91	5	7	4		56	34.4
64	Olive-backed Oriole	162	106	15	9		1	31	19.1
65	Little Corella	158	72	42	3	9	1	31	19.6
66	Diamond Firetail	152	105	12	13	3	11	8	5.3
67	Grey Teal	151	86	12	15	30	3	5	3.3
68	Australasian Pipit	151	82	14	6	44	4	1	0.7
69	Wedge-tailed Eagle	150	101	15	9	12	6	7	4.7
70	Sacred Kingfisher	149	109	5	17			18	12.1
71	Little Raven	147	71	22	4	45	1	4	2.7
72	Australasian Darter	133	86	36	8		2	1	0.8
73	Little Black Cormorant	130	78	45	6	1			0.0
74	Eurasian Coot	125	88	12	8	11	1	5	4.0
75	Common Bronzewing	119	78	9	11	5	2	14	11.8
76	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	115	102	1	7			5	4.3
77	Gang-gang Cockatoo	113	76	13	8		2	14	12.4
78	Brown-headed Honeyeater	113	70	3	8	5	1	26	23.0
79	Great Cormorant	108	64	40	4				0.0
80	White-naped Honeyeater	108	89	2	8	1		8	7.4
81	Australian White Ibis	107	58	30	12	1	1	5	4.7
82	Silver Gull	105	44	33	5	23			0.0
83	Grey Currawong	102	75	3	6			18	17.6
84	Tree Martin	101	73	2	8	1		17	16.8
85	Eastern Yellow Robin	93	74	6	10	2		1	1.1
86	Flame Robin	92	62	5	3	5	11	6	6.5
87	Dollarbird	91	65	6	11		2	7	7.7
88	Double-barred Finch	89	54	20	9		4	2	2.2
89	Southern Whiteface	87	42	9	4	20	5	7	8.0
90	Pallid Cuckoo	85	51	1	1	1		31	36.5
91	Brown Goshawk	84	61	4	5		2	12	14.3
92	Western Gerygone	84	44		9	1		30	35.7
93	Varied Sittella	84	63	3	4		2	12	14.3
94	Brown Falcon	83	47	3	4	16	5	8	9.6
95	Brown Treecreeper	83	61		7		2	13	15.7

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	ERE	WBS	INC	WOO	WOO%
96	Stubble Quail	81	48	1	6	21	1	4	4.9
97	Eastern Koel	79	28	37	3		11		0.0
98	Eurasian Skylark	75	32		1	41	1		0.0
99	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	74	35	17	8	8	3	3	4.1
100	Rainbow Bee-eater	70	54	6	7		1	2	2.9
101	New Holland Honeyeater	68	54	6	8				0.0
102	Rainbow Lorikeet	66	45	9	5		1	6	9.1
103	Rufous Songlark	66	43	2	6	3	1	11	16.7
104	Chestnut Teal	65	29		3	31		2	3.1
105	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	63	42	2	4			15	23.8
106	Golden-headed Cisticola	63	52	3	8				0.0
107	Little Eagle	60	46	4	5		5		0.0
108	Satin Bowerbird	58	39	6	6	1	3	3	5.2
109	Fuscous Honeyeater	58	51		2		2	3	5.2
110	Superb Parrot	56	29	8	3		9	7	12.5
111	Australian Hobby	54	32	12	5	1		4	7.4
112	Yellow Thornbill	54	26	4	2	21		1	1.9
113	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	48	29	5	2	4		8	16.7
114	Little Grassbird	48	28	13	7				0.0
115	Jacky Winter	46	34		6			6	13.0
116	Fairy Martin	45	37	4	3		1		0.0
117	Hardhead	44	31	3	2	5	2	1	2.3
118	White-winged Triller	44	35	1	4			4	9.1
119	Brown Quail	42	16	6	4		15	1	2.4
120	Domestic Duck_Muscovy	42	11	31					0.0
121	Australasian Shoveler	37	18		3	16			0.0
122	Peregrine Falcon	36	18	5	7	2	3	1	2.8
123	Black-fronted Dotterel	36	15	3	5	11	2		0.0
124	Australian Shelduck	34	8		1	23	2		0.0
125	Spotted Dove	34	8	20	2		4		0.0
126	White-fronted Chat	31	8	2	1	18	2		0.0
127	Collared Sparrowhawk	30	25	2			2	1	3.3
128	Hooded Robin	27	16	1	6		2	2	7.4
129	Hoary-headed Grebe	26	9	2	2	11	1	1	3.8
130	Crescent Honeyeater	26	16		9		1		0.0
131	Rose Robin	26	19		4		3		0.0
132	Australian Owlet-nightjar	25	17		5		3		0.0
133	Musk Duck	24	17	1	6				0.0
134	Eastern Great Egret	23	18		2	2	1		0.0
135	Restless Flycatcher	23	16	2	3	1	1		0.0
136	Common Greenfinch	23	19	2	2				0.0
137	Tawny Frogmouth	22	14	1	1		6		0.0
138	Southern Boobook	21	10	5	3		1	2	9.5
139	Superb Lyrebird	21	14	3	2		2		0.0
140	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	20	11		2	3	4		0.0
141	Crested Shrike-tit	20	17		1		1	1	5.0
142	Rufous Fantail	20	14	3	3				0.0
143	Banded Lapwing	19	2			16	1		0.0
144	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	19	14		5				0.0
145	Brush Cuckoo	18	14	1		1	1	1	5.6
146	Satin Flycatcher	17	11		5		1		0.0

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	ERE	WBS	INC	WOO	WOO%
147	Black-winged Stilt	15	0			15			0.0
148	Royal Spoonbill	14	11		2	1			0.0
149	Black-shouldered Kite	14	7	1	1	1	1	3	21.4
150	Swift Parrot	14	9		4		1		0.0
151	Eastern Whipbird	14	14						0.0
152	Australian Pelican	13	6	1	2	4			0.0
153	White-necked Heron	13	7	1	1	1	2	1	7.7
154	Spotted Quail-thrush	13	7	1	2		3		0.0
155	Red-capped Plover	12	0			12			0.0
156	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	12	5		2		5		0.0
157	Cattle Egret	11	5	2	3		1		0.0
158	Latham's Snipe	11	7		2		2		0.0
159	Swamp Harrier	10	8			1	1		0.0
160	Long-billed Corella	10	4	3				3	30.0
161	Pink Robin	10	3	1	3		3		0.0
162	Blue-billed Duck	9	8		1				0.0
163	Straw-necked Ibis	9	4		1	4			0.0
164	Red-capped Robin	9	4		1		1	3	33.3
165	Horsfield's Bushlark	9	2			7			0.0
166	Red-browed Treecreeper	8	6		2				0.0
167	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	8	4		3		1		0.0
168	Whistling Kite	7	2	1	1	1		2	28.6
169	Channel-billed Cuckoo	7	4		2		1		0.0
170	Pilotbird	7	5		2				0.0
171	Painted Button-quail	6	2		2		1	1	16.7
172	Olive Whistler	6	2	2	2				0.0
173	Pied Butcherbird	6	5	1					0.0
174	Diamond Dove	5	2		2		1		0.0
175	Intermediate Egret	5	3	1		1			0.0
176	Nankeen Night-Heron	5	5						0.0
177	Little Friarbird	5	0	4	1				0.0
178	Cicadabird	5	4				1		0.0
179	Emu	4	0	1	1		2		0.0
180	Wonga Pigeon	4	2	2					0.0
181	White-throated Needletail	4	2		2				0.0
182	Little Egret	4	1		2		1		0.0
183	Spotless Crake	4	4						0.0
184	Powerful Owl	4	2		1		1		0.0
185	White-browed Treecreeper	4	4						0.0
186	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren	4	2		1		1		0.0
187	Brown Songlark	4	3			1			0.0
188	Bassian Thrush	4	1	1	1		1		0.0
189	Black Duck-Mallard hybrid	4	2	2					0.0
190	White-headed Pigeon	3	1		1		1		0.0
191	Peaceful Dove	3	1		2				0.0
192	Grey Goshawk	3	1	1	1				0.0
193	Buff-banded Rail	3	2		1				0.0
194	Double-banded Plover	3	0			3			0.0
195	Little Button-quail	3	2					1	33.3
196	White-browed Woodswallow	3	2		1				0.0
197	Crow & Raven species	3	3						0.0

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	ERE	WBS	INC	WOO	WOO%
198	Indian Peafowl	2	1	1					0.0
199	Magpie Goose	2	0	1	1				0.0
200	Pied Cormorant	2	2						0.0
201	Black Kite	2	2						0.0
202	Cockatiel	2	1		1				0.0
203	Barking Owl	2	0		1		1		0.0
204	Eastern Barn Owl	2	2						0.0
205	Lewin's Honeyeater	2	2						0.0
206	Masked Woodswallow	2	1	1					0.0
207	Northern Mallard	1	1						0.0
208	Brush Bronzewing	1	1						0.0
209	White-throated Nightjar	1	0		1				0.0
210	Glossy Ibis	1	0			1			0.0
211	Eastern Osprey	1	0		1				0.0
212	Black Falcon	1	0		1				0.0
213	Australian Spotted Crake	1	1						0.0
214	Pacific Golden Plover	1	0			1			0.0
215	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1	0			1			0.0
216	Whiskered Tern	1	0			1			0.0
217	Corella sp	1	0	1					0.0
218	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	1	0		1				0.0
219	Little Lorikeet	1	0		1				0.0
220	Red-backed Kingfisher	1	1						0.0
221	Brown Gerygone	1	0	1					0.0
222	Regent Honeyeater	1	0					1	100.0
223	Spangled Drongo	1	1						0.0
224	Black-faced Monarch	1	1						0.0
225	Zebra Finch	1	1						0.0
226	Domestic Goose	1	1						0.0

**TABLE 2: GARDEN BIRD SURVEY STATISTICS 2009-10**

Values for 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 (Year 30), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (years 1-29). The Long-term Average Values of each summary statistic are posted on the COG Website <http://canberrabirds.org.au/index.htm> under "Maps, Forms and Lists" see the "Lists" section.

Rk (rank) = rank of the species

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

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

W (weeks) = number of weeks with records

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

G (group size) = mean number of individuals/observation

B (breeding) = % of sites with one or more breeding obs

### 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 29 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).

	Rk	Species	a	dA%	f	dF%	w	r	g	b
	1	Galah	8.0771	13.81	100.00	0.54	52	83.14	9.72	29.49
	2	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	7.9019	38.67	100.00	2.34	52	86.59	9.13	10.26
+	3	Crested Pigeon	4.2742	224.44	100.00	86.95	52	84.37	5.07	28.21
	4	Silvereye	4.0669	-23.94	93.59	-2.41	52	50.20	8.10	8.97
	5	Pied Currawong	3.8773	-2.07	98.72	-0.27	52	88.8	4.36	47.44
	6	Crimson Rosella	3.1917	3.00	100.00	1.19	52	87.37	3.65	16.67
	7	Australian Magpie	3.1074	6.16	100.00	0.43	52	90.76	3.42	53.85
	8	Red Wattlebird	2.8812	28.10	100.00	2.23	52	87.70	3.29	44.87
-	9	House Sparrow	2.8242	-52.49	75.64	-16.83	52	40.59	6.96	7.69
-	10	Common Starling	2.3207	-73.48	69.23	-23.83	52	30.15	7.70	7.69
+	11	Little Corella	2.0987	989.71	57.69	237.35	52	20.10	10.44	1.28
	12	Superb Fairy-wren	1.8155	109.28	87.18	21.93	52	48.24	3.76	20.51
	13	Magpie-lark	1.8062	-10.71	97.44	-0.66	52	74.86	2.41	26.92
	14	Common Myna	1.6535	-39.00	80.77	14.16	52	46.35	3.57	12.82
	15	Australian King-Parrot	1.6520	6.60	91.03	17.99	52	49.74	3.32	14.10
	16	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	1.5317	7.40	78.21	-7.74	52	31.29	4.89	14.10
-	17	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	1.4884	-42.41	75.64	-10.93	52	18.18	8.19	
	18	Spotted Pardalote	1.4674	129.42	74.36	-3.21	52	38.16	3.85	5.13
	19	Australian Raven	1.4605	34.82	97.44	3.62	52	63.49	2.30	15.38
	20	Rock Dove	1.4476	18.68	46.15	-9.85	52	20.76	6.97	3.85
	21	Eastern Rosella	1.2796	-16.06	91.03	-5.76	52	52.45	2.44	14.10
	22	Common Blackbird	0.9268	-41.31	87.18	-5.52	52	52.15	1.78	14.10
	23	Striated Pardalote	0.8665	45.96	76.92	3.50	52	28.59	3.03	5.13
+	24	Noisy Miner	0.7795	173.77	42.31	73.01	52	18.72	4.16	3.85
	25	Weebill	0.7657	51.83	57.69	15.69	52	25.20	3.04	1.28
	26	Gang-gang Cockatoo	0.6568	-10.41	64.10	-8.99	52	25.80	2.55	5.13
	27	Eastern Spinebill	0.6091	12.12	87.18	0.64	52	38.79	1.57	6.41
	28	Red-rumped Parrot	0.5830	36.15	43.59	8.08	52	10.80	5.40	

	<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>dA%</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>dF%</b>	<b>w</b>	<b>r</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>b</b>
	29	Australian Wood Duck	0.5500	115.12	43.59	70.10	52	12.87	4.27	6.41
	30	Red-browed Finch	0.5071	54.83	29.49	22.99	52	9.87	5.14	5.13
	31	White-winged Chough	0.4824	17.54	43.59	41.55	52	7.38	6.54	7.69
-	32	Noisy Friarbird	0.4140	-49.54	87.18	-4.81	52	22.80	1.82	20.51
	33	Laughing Kookaburra	0.3624	1.91	67.95	-5.25	52	19.32	1.88	6.41
+	34	Pacific Black Duck	0.3474	167.67	23.08	106.26	52	8.37	4.15	3.85
-	35	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.3393	-27.62	83.33	-7.28	52	22.59	1.50	7.69
	36	Brown Thornbill	0.3297	26.39	56.41	23.12	52	16.80	1.96	2.56
+	37	Eurasian Coot	0.3144	178.54	3.85	260.96	40	1.44	21.83	1.28
	38	White-browed Scrubwren	0.3093	124.79	46.15	71.89	52	17.88	1.73	10.26
	39	Welcome Swallow	0.3051	30.31	46.15	20.32	51	8.94	3.41	1.28
	40	Willie Wagtail	0.2796	7.26	74.36	-1.57	52	18.90	1.48	5.13
	41	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	0.2790	-11.95	56.41	96.44	51	7.62	3.66	3.85
+	42	Dusky Moorhen	0.2655	833.63	5.13	501.60	52	3.57	7.44	2.56
+	43	Little Raven	0.2595	199.09	16.67	76.74	48	2.55	10.18	
+	44	Rainbow Lorikeet	0.2565	594.62	25.64	176.60	52	9.45	2.71	1.28
	45	Australian White Ibis	0.2535	66.74	17.95	46.48	48	5.07	5.00	
	46	Striated Thornbill	0.2514	16.16	24.36	-29.44	52	3.78	6.65	
	47	Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.2457	88.63	16.67	4.98	52	4.86	5.06	1.28
	48	Satin Bowerbird	0.2412	115.69	35.90	106.05	52	8.55	2.82	3.85
	49	Grey Fantail	0.2406	-24.47	70.51	-8.41	52	18.84	1.28	
+	50	Purple Swamphen	0.1473	409.54	3.85	324.66	51	2.73	5.40	2.56
+	51	Little Pied Cormorant	0.1440	616.24	16.67	306.28	51	5.07	2.84	
+	52	Grey Butcherbird	0.1404	574.21	50.00	254.15	52	13.02	1.08	1.28
+	53	Black Swan	0.1380	1000.10	7.69	301.07	42	2.19	6.30	2.56
+	54	Superb Parrot	0.1350	438.65	19.23	247.08	39	3.51	3.85	3.85
+	55	Little Black Cormorant	0.1323	2209.17	11.54	536.99	38	2.34	5.65	
	56	Masked Lapwing	0.1128	12.77	37.18	2.03	52	6.27	1.80	
	57	White-eared Honeyeater	0.1116	13.29	39.74	-19.61	51	7.95	1.40	2.56
-	58	White-naped Honeyeater	0.1089	-80.08	33.33	-32.07	38	3.12	3.49	
	59	Double-barred Finch	0.1050	-5.41	23.08	18.67	45	2.97	3.54	
+	60	Eastern Koel	0.1032	698.53	47.44	250.54	26	9.03	1.14	3.85
+	61	Spotted Dove	0.0948	473.82	29.49	329.05	52	6.18	1.53	3.85
-	62	Golden Whistler	0.0915	-34.70	56.41	-4.70	39	8.22	1.11	
+	63	Long-billed Corella	0.0846	4183.15	10.26	434.76	52	1.77	4.78	
	64	White-throated Treecreeper	0.0837	47.10	12.82	-24.80	52	7.05	1.19	
+	65	Australasian Grebe	0.0768	1088.51	6.41	472.95	45	2.19	3.51	2.56
-	66	European Goldfinch	0.0765	-67.81	10.26	-71.94	52	1.53	5.00	
	67	Olive-backed Oriole	0.0756	27.16	41.03	1.46	47	6.93	1.09	1.28
-	68	Fuscous Honeyeater	0.0726	-37.09	12.82	-58.08	21	1.44	5.04	
+	69	Australian Reed-Warbler	0.0705	650.64	3.85	89.98	32	1.83	3.85	3.85
	70	Grey Shrike-thrush	0.0618	-19.80	12.82	-64.51	52	5.10	1.21	5.13
-	71	White-plumed Honeyeater	0.0615	-57.43	28.21	-33.91	40	3.60	1.71	

	<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>dA%</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>dF%</b>	<b>w</b>	<b>r</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>b</b>
-	72	Rufous Whistler	0.0579	-36.96	19.23	-61.84	44	4.14	1.40	
	73	Silver Gull	0.0558	-89.44	5.13	-38.30	22	0.72	7.75	
	74	Dusky Woodswallow	0.0519	-33.19	15.38	-1.44	27	1.08	4.81	
	75	Grey Currawong	0.0486	-40.40	24.36	-28.89	52	6.90	0.70	2.56
	76	Southern Boobook	0.0477	22.25	34.62	1.84	52	5.79	0.82	1.28
+	77	Tawny Frogmouth	0.0465	171.16	14.10	113.47	48	2.46	1.89	2.56
	78	White-faced Heron	0.0459	51.38	19.23	23.20	48	3.81	1.20	1.28
	79	New Holland Honeyeater	0.0450	29.23	16.67	58.00	50	3.24	1.39	
-	80	Dollarbird	0.0405	-25.48	25.64	-20.58	20	2.43	1.67	6.41
	81	Brown-headed Honeyeater	0.0393	9.33	6.41	-14.67	39	1.59	2.47	
+	82	Wedge-tailed Eagle	0.0372	163.81	32.05	99.21	46	2.85	1.31	
	83	Mistletoebird	0.0351	47.11	19.23	34.19	43	2.97	1.18	
	84	Collared Sparrowhawk	0.0324	61.57	32.05	33.10	43	3.24	1.00	
	85	Common Bronzewing	0.0324	-14.38	8.97	-22.37	42	2.58	1.26	
-	86	Australian Hobby	0.0246	-26.51	26.92	-18.75	36	1.95	1.26	2.56
+	87	Grey Teal	0.0225	251.04	3.85	106.26	52	0.72	3.13	1.28
-	88	White-throated Needletail	0.0216	-87.95	8.97	-58.20	7	0.24	9.00	
	89	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	0.0213	123.98	16.67	29.81	34	1.89	1.13	1.28
	90	Pallid Cuckoo	0.0210	-24.52	8.97	-64.24	28	1.77	1.19	1.28
	91	Nankeen Kestrel	0.0204	-4.85	24.36	24.58	37	1.83	1.11	
-	92	Leaden Flycatcher	0.0177	-44.34	14.10	-31.60	23	1.35	1.31	1.28
	93	Hardhead	0.0165	-30.39	2.56	501.60	12	0.39	4.23	
	94	White-throated Gerygone	0.0150	-19.92	7.69	-55.57	26	1.35	1.11	
	95	Great Cormorant	0.0138	41.42	6.41	39.91	20	0.75	1.84	
+	96	Australasian Darter	0.0135	529.30	8.97	501.60	25	0.93	1.45	
	97	Sacred Kingfisher	0.0129	12.58	19.23	2.55	17	1.17	1.10	
-	98	Straw-necked Ibis	0.0120	-96.48	2.56	-88.23	2	0.06	20.00	
	99	Fairy Martin	0.0120	187.58	1.28	-14.06	1	0.03	40.00	
	100	Peregrine Falcon	0.0108	120.76	14.10	56.63	27	0.99	1.09	1.28
-	101	Scarlet Robin	0.0102	-75.32	8.97	-66.38	16	0.90	1.13	
	102	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0099	57.35	11.54	25.19	20	0.90	1.10	1.28
+	103	Stubble Quail	0.0096	567.19	1.28	33.69	15	0.45	2.13	
	104	Speckled Warbler	0.0090	-8.02	3.85	-20.67	24	0.75	1.20	
-	105	Varied Sittella	0.0087	-76.78	5.13	-45.31	7	0.21	4.14	
	106	Eastern Yellow Robin	0.0087	99.73	2.56	17.39	21	0.78	1.12	
	107	Little Eagle	0.0078	42.66	11.54	19.66	20	0.75	1.04	
-	108	Yellow Thornbill	0.0078	-63.26	7.69	-3.10	15	0.45	1.73	
	109	Brown Goshawk	0.0075	-35.58	10.26	-51.51	50	2.10	0.36	
-	110	Crescent Honeyeater	0.0072	-65.96	6.41	-39.54	12	0.60	1.20	
-	111	Australasian Pipit	0.0063	-58.73	1.28	-62.40	15	0.45	1.40	
	112	Chestnut Teal	0.0060	85.71	1.28	167.38	11	0.33	1.82	
+	113	Hybrid Crimson Eastern Rosella	0.0060	817.38	6.41	993.82	50	1.95	0.31	1.28
-	114	Tree Martin	0.0048	-81.79	3.85	-52.19	3	0.09	5.33	

	<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>dA%</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>dF%</b>	<b>w</b>	<b>r</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>b</b>
	115	Rainbow Bee-eater	0.0042	-70.49	6.41	-15.27	52	1.68	0.25	
	116	Australian Owlet-nightjar	0.0039	65.64	3.85	85.11	12	0.36	1.08	
	117	Rufous Fantail	0.0033	9.69	8.97	11.56	7	0.30	1.10	
-	118	Flame Robin	0.0033	-68.66	2.56	-59.56	4	0.12	2.75	
+	119	Brush Cuckoo	0.0030	288.72	3.85	132.88	7	0.21	1.43	
-	120	Brown Falcon	0.0027	-52.98	3.85	-51.87	7	0.24	1.13	
	121	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	0.0024	65.29	1.28	85.11	4	0.12	2.00	
	122	Brown Quail	0.0024	71.47	1.28	60.43	6	0.18	1.33	
-	123	Rose Robin	0.0021	-81.86	5.13	-59.04	5	0.18	1.17	
-	124	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0021	-73.33	2.56	-75.06	6	0.21	1.00	
+	125	Nankeen Night-Heron	0.0021	256.76	2.56	702.14	6	0.21	1.00	
	126	Eastern Great Egret	0.0015	54.96	2.56	100.53	5	0.15	1.00	
-	127	Diamond Firetail	0.0015	-69.90	3.85	188.77	4	0.12	1.25	
+	128	Pied Cormorant	0.0012	919.32	2.56	1504.27	2	0.09	1.33	
+	129	Latham's Snipe	0.0012	316.99	1.28	501.60	3	0.09	1.33	
	130	Cattle Egret	0.0009	-60.46	2.56	183.11	3	0.09	1.00	
-	131	Eurasian Skylark	0.0009	-96.09	1.28	-33.16	2	0.06	1.50	
	132	Little Grassbird	0.0009	29.82	2.56	1103.21	3	0.09	1.00	
	133	Swift Parrot	0.0009	-7.02	1.28	71.89	1	0.03	3.00	
-	134	Western Gerygone	0.0009	-79.94	2.56	-57.03	3	0.09	1.00	
+	135	Channel-billed Cuckoo	0.0009	391.46	3.85	455.33	3	0.09	1.00	
-	136	Golden-headed Cisticola	0.0006	-77.29	2.56	118.76	2	0.06	1.00	
-	137	Australian Pelican	0.0006	-96.35	1.28	-86.17	1	0.03	2.00	
-	138	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	0.0006	-76.23	2.56	9.38	2	0.06	1.00	
	139	Northern Mallard	0.0006	6.67	1.28	140.64	2	0.06	1.00	
-	140	Satin Flycatcher	0.0003	-90.48	1.28	-79.07	1	0.03	1.00	
	141	White-headed Pigeon	0.0003	-8.26	1.28	118.76	1	0.03	1.00	
-	142	Peaceful Dove	0.0003	-91.28	1.28	71.89	1	0.03	1.00	
-	143	Cockatiel	0.0003	-84.29	1.28	-64.61	1	0.03	1.00	
+	144	Peachface lovebird	0.0003	1046.73	1.28	1103.21	1	0.03	1.00	
-	145	Zebra Finch	0.0003	-82.08	1.28	-7.45	1	0.03	1.00	
	146	Australian Shelduck	0.0003	27.41	1.28	1103.21	1	0.03	1.00	
	147	Hoary-headed Grebe	0.0003	20.71	1.28	1103.21	1	0.03	1.00	
-	148	Rufous Songlark	0.0003	-93.05	1.28	-48.80	1	0.03	1.00	
-	149	Jacky Winter	0.0003	-72.70	1.28	-10.87	1	0.03	1.00	
	150	Grey Goshawk	0.0003	4.25	1.28	85.11	1	0.03	1.00	
+	151	Princess Parrot	0.0003	227.64	1.28	702.14	1	0.03	1.00	
-	152	White-necked Heron	0.0003	-55.03	1.28	-19.79	1	0.03	1.00	
	153	Black Falcon	0.0003	20.71	1.28	71.89	1	0.03	1.00	

**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.canberra.birds.org.au/Forms/COG\\_obs\\_form.pdf](http://www.canberra.birds.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 cover all areas under water at Lake Bathurst and some sections of 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 and nearby areas. 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 from

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. 72-75. 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 28 years. The long-term average has been calculated as the arithmetic average of the appropriate observations over the previous years. In previous years the long-term average has been calculated as the average of the final values of the statistics. 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, especially where the values of the statistics have changed over time.

#### *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  $(9/50 \times 100) = 18\%$ .

#### **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).

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. 79-80) 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

<b>ANBG</b>	Australian National Botanic Gardens	<b>m</b>	male
<b>ANU</b>	Australian National University	<b>MAJ</b>	Mt Majura (WOO site)
<b>BA</b>	Birds Australia	<b>max</b>	maximum
<b>br</b>	breeding (unspecified)	<b>MJF</b>	Majura Firing Range (WOO site)
<b>BSP</b>	Bungendore Sewage Ponds	<b>MUL</b>	Mulligans Flat (WOO site)
<b>CAS</b>	Castle Hill (WOO site)	<b>N</b>	North
<b>CBN</b>	Canberra Bird Notes	<b>NAS</b>	Naas (WOO site)
<b>CIMAG</b>	Canberra Indian Myna Action Group	<b>NLN</b>	Newline Quarry (WOO site)
<b>Ck</b>	creek	<b>NP</b>	National Park
<b>CMP</b>	Campbell Park (WOO site)	<b>nr</b>	near
<b>CNP</b>	Canberra Nature Park	<b>NR</b>	Nature Reserve
<b>CSIRO</b>	Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation. The abbreviation is followed by the location, e.g. CSIRO Black Mtn	<b>QSP</b>	Queanbeyan Sewage Ponds
<b>E</b>	East	<b>R</b>	River
<b>f</b>	female	<b>Ra</b>	Range
<b>FSP</b>	Fyshwick Sewage Ponds	<b>Rd</b>	Road
<b>GA</b>	Greening Australia	<b>RED</b>	Red Hill (WOO site)
<b>GBS</b>	Garden Bird Survey	<b>Res</b>	Reserve
<b>GOO</b>	Gooroo/Goorooyarroo (WOO site)	<b>S</b>	South
<b>GOS</b>	Goorooyarroo South (WOO site)	<b>SF</b>	State Forest
<b>Gr[A01]</b>	COG grid cell (number A01)	<b>SP</b>	sewage ponds
<b>GunL</b>	Gungahlin Lakes	<b>SYM</b>	Symonston (WOO site)
<b>HAL</b>	Hall/Gold Creek (WOO site)	<b>TSR</b>	Travelling Stock Reserve
<b>HS</b>	Homestead	<b>TUG</b>	Tuggeranong (WOO site)
<b>Hwy</b>	Highway	<b>TUGH</b>	Tuggeranong Hill Nature Reserve
<b>incl</b>	including	<b>W</b>	West
<b>juv</b>	juvenile	<b>WBS</b>	Waterbird Survey
<b>JER</b>	Jerrabomberra (WOO site)	<b>WOO</b>	Woodland Survey
<b>JWNR</b>	Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Reserve	<b>wk</b>	week
<b>KAM</b>	Kama (WOO site)	<b>x</b>	presence of species (BA records)
<b>km</b>	kilometre		
<b>LBath</b>	Lake Bathurst		
<b>LBG</b>	Lake Burley Griffin		
<b>LGeo</b>	Lake George		
<b>LGin</b>	Lake Ginninderra		
<b>LGin Pen</b>	Lake Ginninderra Peninsula		
<b>LJerr</b>	Lake Jerrabomberra		
<b>LTug</b>	Lake Tuggeranong		
<b>Ln</b>	lane		

### Breeding codes

<b>br</b>	unspecified breeding (BA records)
<b>cf</b>	carrying food
<b>co</b>	copulation
<b>di</b>	display
<b>dy</b>	dependent young
<b>ih</b>	inspecting hollow
<b>nb</b>	nest building
<b>ne</b>	nest with eggs
<b>ny</b>	nest with young
<b>on</b>	bird on or observed leaving nest
<b>fs</b>	faecal sac

**List of contributors**

Code	Observer	COG	BA	GBS	Code	Observer	COG	BA	GBS
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AJR1	Richard Allen			*	HaK1	Kay Hahne	*		*
AIB1	Barbara Allan	*		*	HaL2	Lindsay Hansch			*
AnF1	Frank Antram	*			HaS3	Stephanie Haygarth			*
AnI1	Ian Anderson	*		*	HaS4	Stuart Harris	*		
AsM1	Margaret Aston	*		*	HaT1	Tobias Hayashi			*
AWB1	ANU Womens BC	*			HeS1	Sandra Henderson			*
BaJ1	Joe Barr			*	HeS1	Sandra Henderson	*		
BaL1	Lia Battison	*			HiR1	Robin Hide	*		
BaS2	Shaun Bagley	*			HoA1	Ann Howarth			*
BeD1	Darryl Beaumont	*			HoB1	Bill Horrigan	*		
BeL2	Leo Berzins	*			HoJ1	Jack Holland	*		*
BeR3	Rosemary Bell	*		*	HoS1	Steve Holliday			*
BeS1	Sue Beatty	*		*	HoS1	Steve Holliday	*		
BIJ1	J Black			*	IoA1	Anne I'Ons			*
BIR1	Rosemary Blemings	*			JaN1	Neville James		*	
BoC4	Con Boekel	*		*	KaJ1	Julienne Kamprad	*		*
BoJ1	Jenny Bounds	*		*	KeJ3	Jonathon Kearvell	*		
BoM1	Margaret Boots			*	KiM2	Michael Kingsford		*	
BrJ3	John Brannan	*		*	KoL1	Kosseck			*
BrM2	Muriel Brookfield	*		*	KrS1	Shirley Kral	*		*
BrR2	Browning			*	LaD1	David Landon	*		
BuM1	Martin Butterfield	*		*	LaJ5	John Layton	*		
BuS1	Suzanne Burgin		*		LaS1	Sue Lashko	*		*
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CIS1	Sylvia Cleland			*	LeC1	Christine Ledger	*		
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CoE1	Elizabeth Compston	*			LeM2	Margaret Leggoe	*		
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Code	Observer	COG	BA	GBS	Code	Observer	COG	BA	GBS
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OrP1	Peter Ormay			*	SpB1	Bob Spiller		*	
OvA1	Anthony Overs	*			StH3	Helen Stevens		*	
PaG1	G Parkyn		*		StK2	Kathy Stapleton			*
PeH2	Harvey Perkins	*		*	StM4	Margaret Strong	*		
PeJ2	John Peter		*		TaN1	Nicki Taws	*		*
PhR1	R Phillips		*		TeJ1	Julian Teh	*		
PiR1	R Pinder			*	ThA1	Alan Thomas	*		
PIV1	Vanessa Place	*			TrP1	P Tremain		*	
PoD1	David Pool		*		UpA1	Astrida Uptis			*
RaB1	B J Ramsay	*		*	VeM1	Maret Vesk		*	
RAJ1	A & J Russell			*	VeP1	Philip Veerman	*		*
RaL1	Lucy Randall		*		WaB1	Ben Walmsley	*		
RaS1	Stuart Rae	*			WaJ1	Jo Walker	*		
ReC1	Chris Reidy		*		WaJ2	John Walter		*	
ReD2	David Rees	*		*	WaJ3	J Waldron	*		*
ReJ5	Julian Reid	*			WaK1	Kathy Walter	*		*
ReM1	Margaret Reid			*	WaK2	K Walter & J Goldie	*		
RoA1	Alison Rowell	*			WaR4	R Walcott	*		*
RoD2	David Rosalky	*		*	WaS1	S P & K J Wallace			*
RoG2	Robertson			*	WeD2	Dez Wells		*	
RoJ5	Julian Robinson	*			WiK2	Kevin Windle			*
RoM3	Margaret Robertson	*			WiP4	Anne Wintle			*
RoM4	Michael Robbins	*			WiR3	Williams & Wright			*
RoP5	Peter Robertson	*			WiT1	Tony Willis	*		
RoS1	Susan Robertson	*		*	WLC1	L & C Wenger			*
RoS2	S Roberts		*		WoD1	Don Wood			*
ScA1	Anthony Scott	*			YoL1	L M Young			*

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- GBS: Martin Butterfield
- Waterbirds Survey: Michael Lenz
- Woodland Survey: Jenny Bounds.

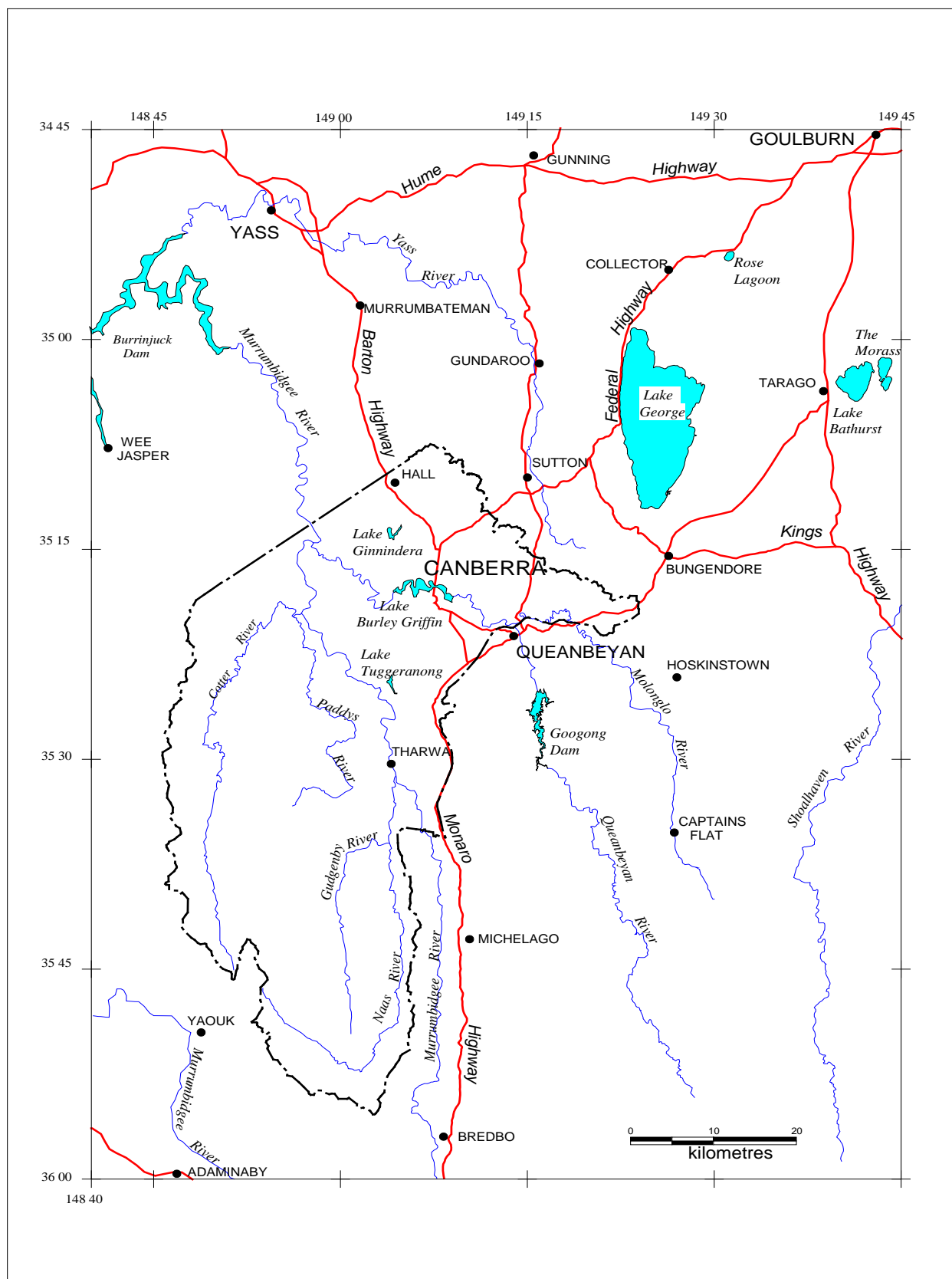
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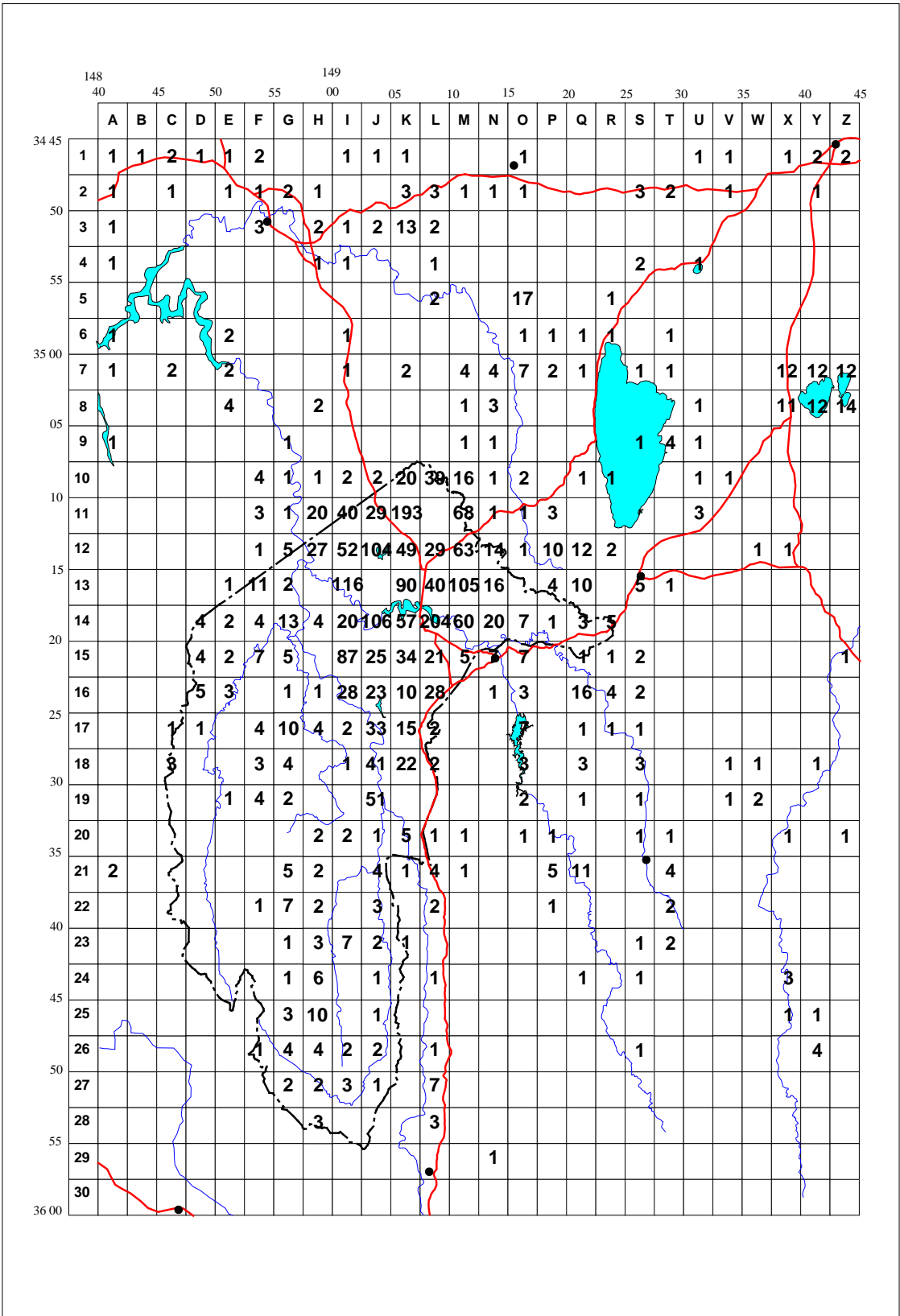
Final responsibility for quality control rests with the ABR editor, Paul Fennell.

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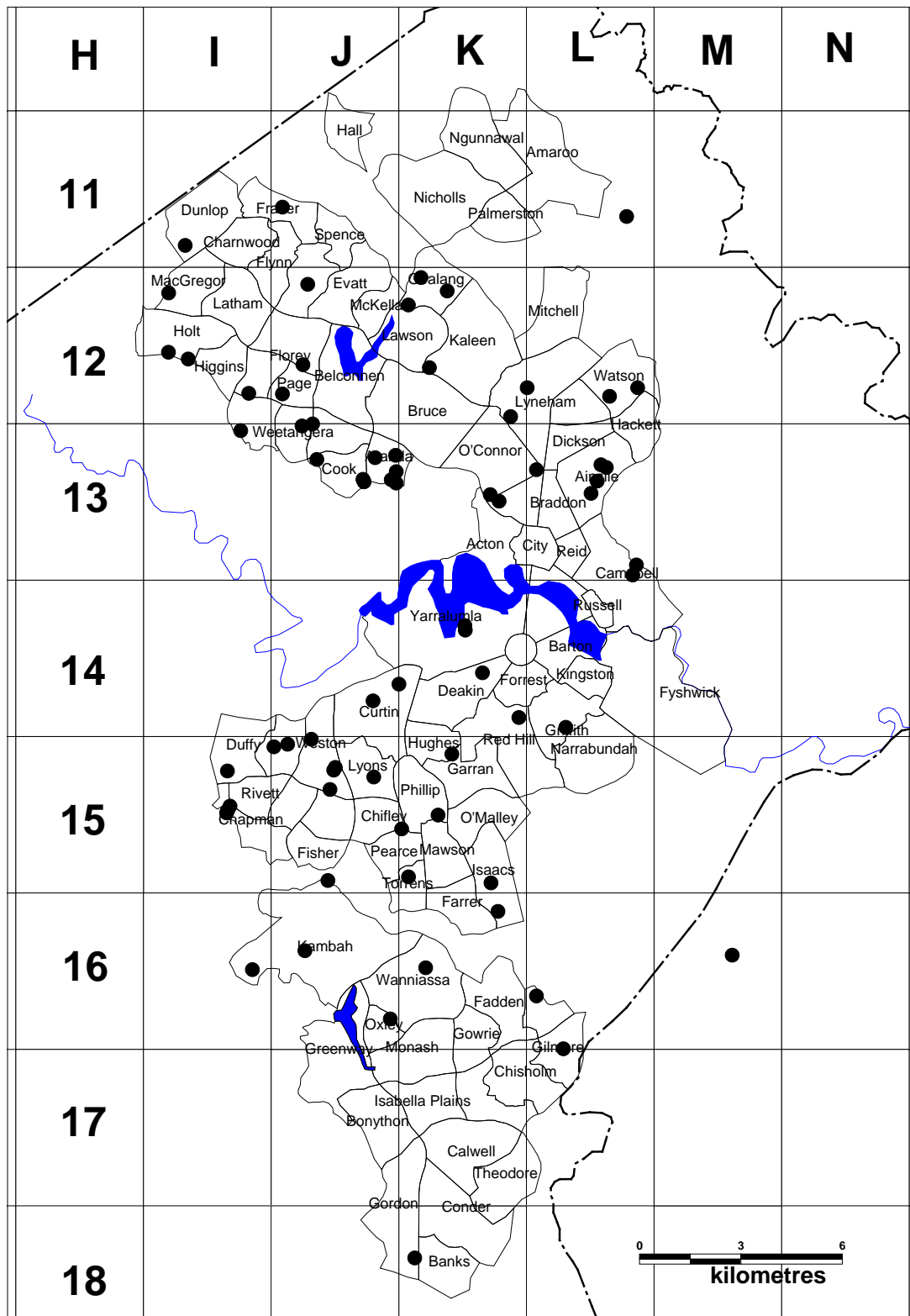
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**MAP 1. THE CANBERRA REGION (COG'S AREA OF INTEREST)**

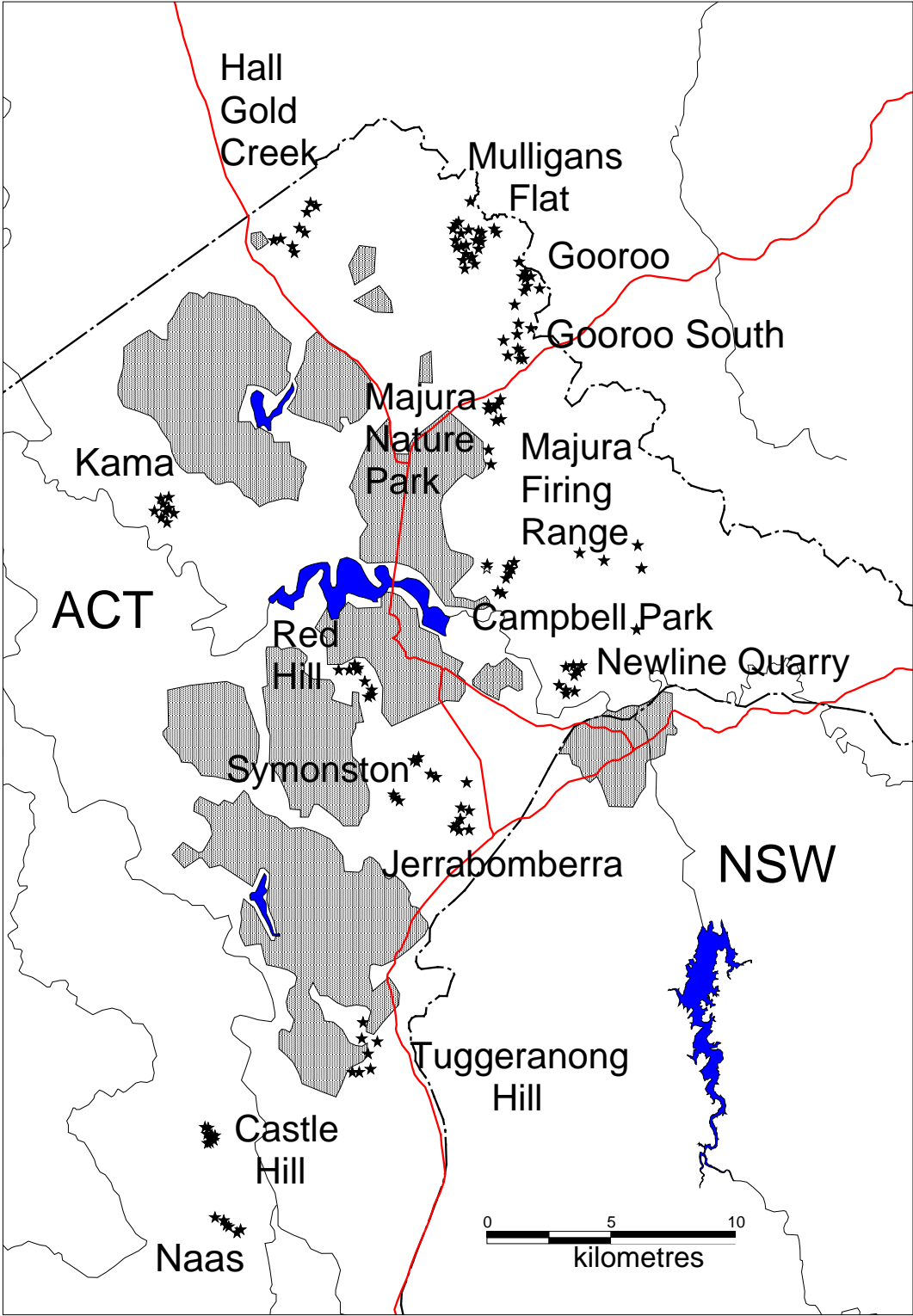
MAP 2: NUMBER OF RECORD SHEETS PER GRID CELL FOR 2010-11



**MAP 3: LOCATION OF GARDEN BIRD SURVEY SITES FOR 2010-11**

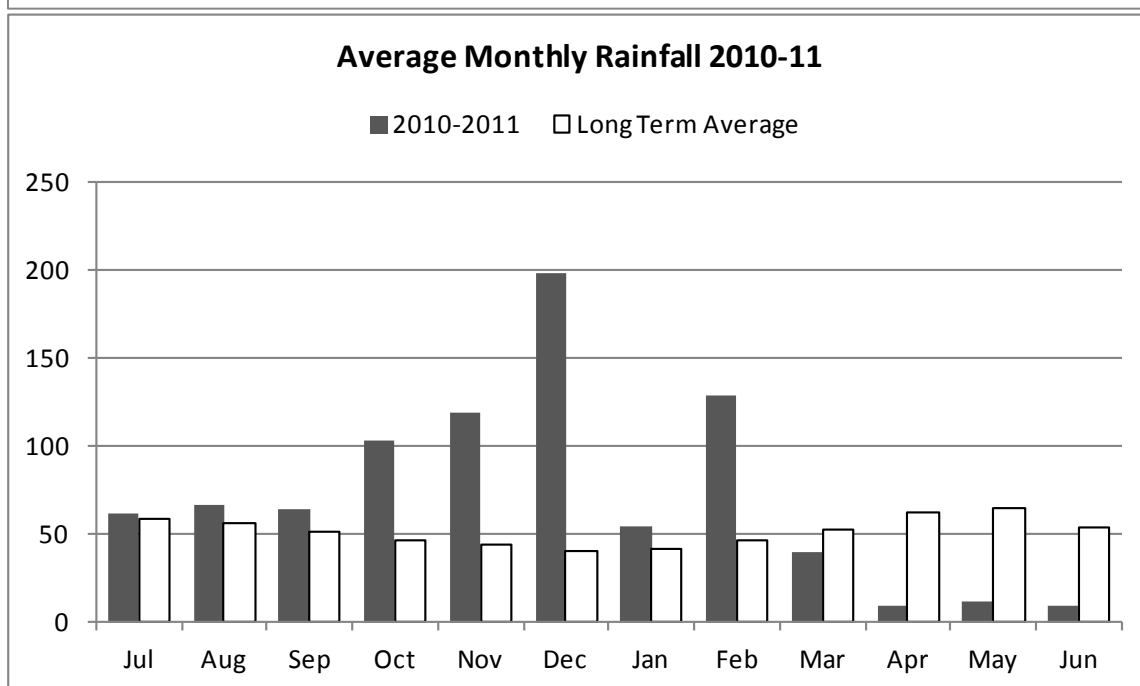
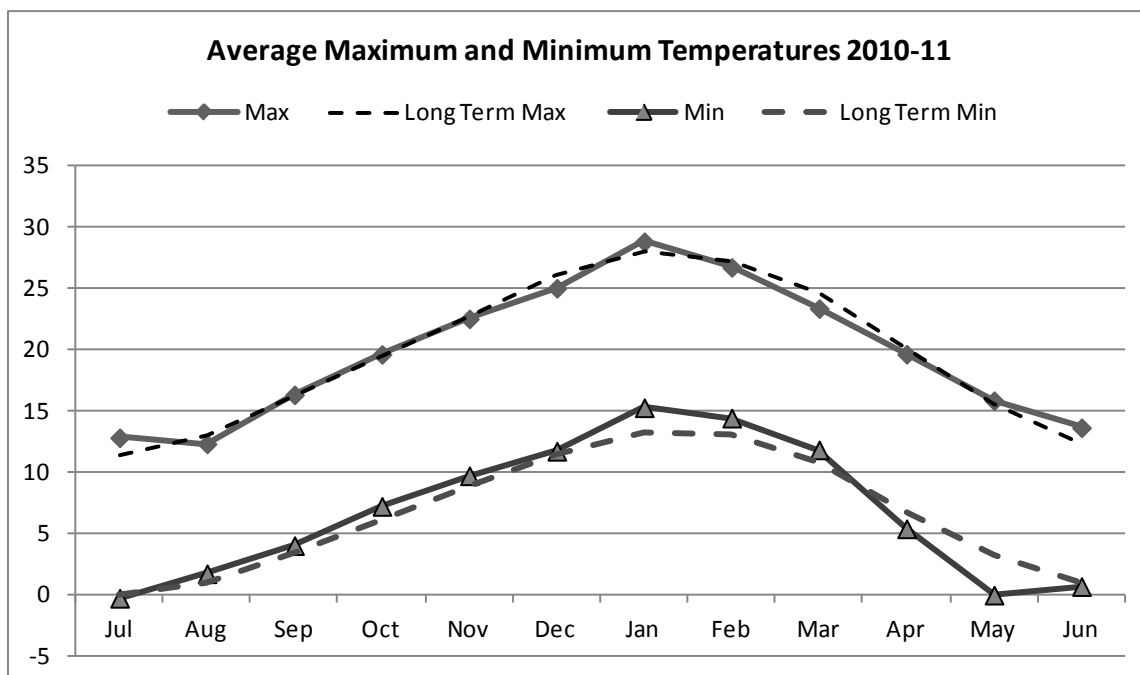


MAP 4 LOCATION OF WOODLAND SURVEY SITES FOR 2010-11



**Appendix 1****2010-2011 Weather Summary**

- A warm and wet July and August followed by 4th wettest spring on record – the wettest spring since 1983, and wettest season since winter 1998. There were well above average minimum temperatures; 16th consecutive spring with above average minimums.
- Summer was the 2<sup>nd</sup> wettest summer on record, the wettest in 63 years, with above average minimum temperatures
- This was followed by the 12<sup>th</sup> driest autumn on record, with 6<sup>th</sup> coldest minimum temperatures on record, and the coolest maximum temperatures since 1995



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

The current list of unusual or “rare” species for which there have been confirmed sightings within the last 35-40 years is now maintained on the COG Website (<http://canberrabirds.org.au/Unusuals.htm>). 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](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>.

**APPENDIX 3: LIST OF THREATENED OR VULNERABLE SPECIES IN COG’S AREA OF INTEREST 2012**

Species name	Status in ACT	Status in NSW	Federal status
Freckled Duck		Vulnerable	
Blue-billed Duck		Vulnerable	
Australasian Bittern		Endangered	Endangered
Square-tailed Kite		Vulnerable	
Spotted Harrier		Vulnerable	
Little Eagle	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Australian Painted Snipe		Endangered	Vulnerable
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Gang-gang Cockatoo		Vulnerable	
Superb Parrot	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Swift Parrot	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered
Turquoise Parrot		Vulnerable	
Powerful Owl		Vulnerable	
Barking Owl		Vulnerable	
Brown Treecreeper	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Speckled Warbler		Vulnerable	
Regent Honeyeater	Endangered	Critically Endangered	Endangered
White-fronted Chat		Vulnerable	
Painted Honeyeater	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Varied Sittella	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
White-winged Triller	Vulnerable		
Crested Shrike-tit	ACT Watching Brief		
Dusky Woodswallow	ACT Watching Brief		
Scarlet Robin		Vulnerable	
Flame Robin	ACT Watching Brief	Vulnerable	
Pink Robin		Vulnerable	
Hooded Robin	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Diamond Firetail	ACT Watching Brief	Vulnerable	

## **Canberra Bird Notes**

Canberra Bird Notes is published three times a year by the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc and is edited by Michael Lenz. 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 in advance. Shorter notes, book reviews and other contributions are also encouraged. All contributions should be sent to [cbn@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto:cbn@canberrabirds.org.au).

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

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