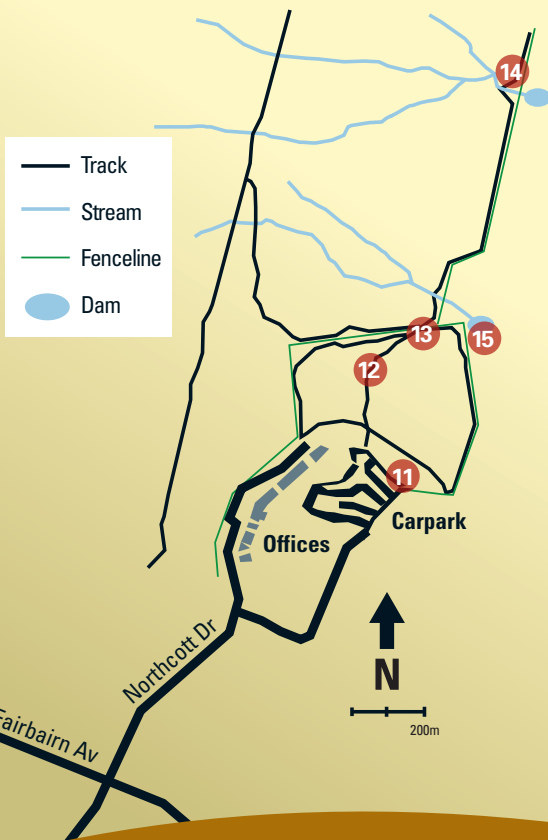


Campbell Park Area



Return to the car, turn left on to Dairy Road and at 10 km, turn left onto the Monaro Highway. When passing the turf farm on the left, look out for Australian White and Straw-necked Ibis.

Continue through the traffic lights at 11.9km to the roundabout at 12.4km. Go straight ahead into Morshead Drive and then at 12.9km turn left into Fairbairn Avenue. At 14.7 km turn right into Northcott Drive. Just before the Campbell Park office building (signposted), take the road to the right and follow it round to the far (northern end) of the carpark **11**. Leave the car here (16.1km) and cross the road to the woodland to the north. Narrow foot tracks lead to the main dirt track **12**. Follow this north, watching out for Speckled Warbler, Sacred Kingfisher, Varied Sittella,

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, parrots, cuckoos, thornbills and whistlers. In spring, as many as 28 different species have been observed breeding here.

Upon reaching the horse crossing **13**, either go over the crossing and walk another 500m up the fence line to a triangular dam, **14** which often attracts birds early in the morning and late in the day, or continue on the main dirt track which soon passes a small stock dam in the adjoining paddock **15**. This dam is on private property but can easily be observed from the reserve. Complete a loop back to the carpark **11**.

To return to the centre of Canberra, turn right out of Northcott Drive (at 17.5 km) into Fairbairn Avenue, and at the Australian War Memorial (19.4 km), turn left into Anzac Parade, then at 20.3 km, right into Constitution Avenue. The bird route ends at London Circuit in Civic (21.5km).

Other brochures on the Canberra region are available from www.canberrabirds.org.au.

PO Box 301, Civic Square, ACT 2608



CANBERRA ORNITHOLOGISTS GROUP

PO Box 301, Civic Square ACT 2608

Internet www.canberrabirds.org.au

Email cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au

COG meets at 7.30pm every second Wednesday of the month (except January) at Canberra Girls Grammar School, Gawler Street, Deakin ACT. Enter the school grounds via Gabriel Drive.



CANBERRA AND THE ACT
BIRD ROUTE ONE

CENTRAL CANBERRA – EAST

 Total driving distance • 21.5 kilometres



Photo: Geoffrey Dabb

1



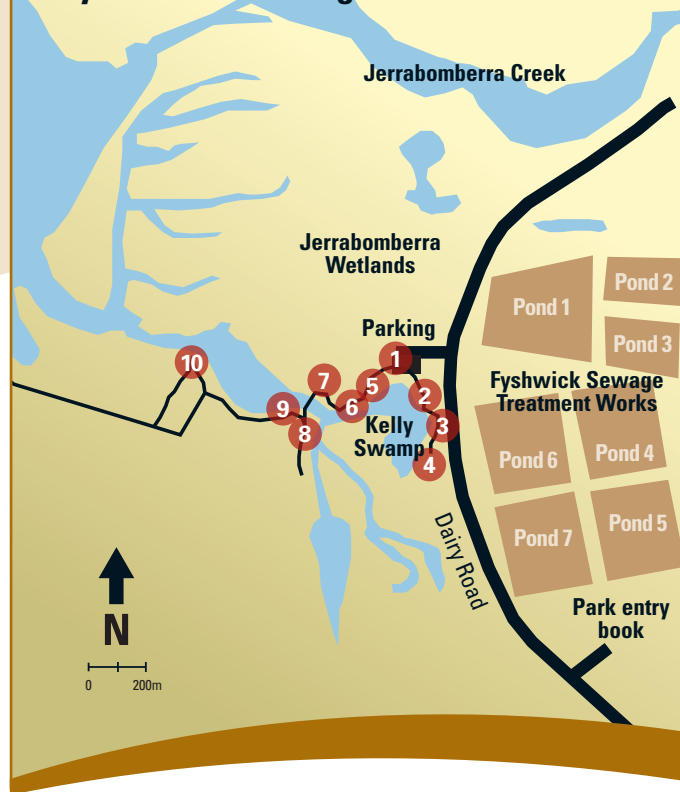
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This bird route covers a variety of habitats at 4 different sites, including lake, wetland, river and grassy woodland over a distance of 21.5 km, and could be covered comfortably in half a day. (Road distances given are from the starting point at the Carillon). A Canberra street directory may be useful, or use Maps 59, 60, 69 and 70 in the front of the *Yellow Pages*.

The bird route begins in the Carillon carpark next to the footbridge to Aspen Island, off Wendouree Drive on the northern shore of Lake Burley Griffin. Look across to the islands to the right of Aspen Island for perching Pied, Little Pied, Great and Little Black Cormorants and Darters. Several species of waterbirds also inhabit the lake. Set the trip meter to 0. Leave the Carillon carpark, turn right into Wendouree Drive and join Kings Avenue, heading north. At the roundabout, do a U turn and head south on Kings Avenue across Kings Avenue Bridge. At 1.9 km, turn left into Bowen Drive which becomes Wentworth Avenue. At 4.5 km, at a large roundabout, continue in a southeasterly direction on Canberra Avenue. At 5.9 km, turn left into Ipswich Street and continue to the T-junction where it meets Newcastle Street (7 km). Turn left, drive under the overpass and straight ahead into Dairy Road. At the end of Dairy Road (8.5km) which is blocked by a gate, turn left into the carpark at the sign **'JERRABOMBERRA WETLANDS'**.

Go through the gateway ① and take the path to the left which passes through native shrubs, home to a variety of bush birds including New Holland Honeyeater, Red Wattlebird, Red-browed Finch, Grey Fantail, Superb Fairy-wren, and Rufous and Golden Whistler. Bittern hide ② provides a good spot to sit and observe Grey Teal, Pacific Black Duck, Eurasian Coot, Purple Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen. Egrets, ibises and White-faced Heron are regular visitors. With patience, Spotted, Spotless and Baillon's Crake may be seen at dawn and dusk in the reeds

Jerrabomberra Wetlands and Fyshwick Sewerage Treatment Works



to the left of the hide, if water levels fall in the warmer months. Latham's Snipe arrive in early spring and are often seen on the grassy edges. Australian Reed-Warbler and Little Grassbird inhabit the reeds. Leaving Bittern hide, continue left to Cygnus hide ③. Look out for Pink-eared and Freckled Duck, Australasian Shoveler, Royal Spoonbill and Australasian Grebe. In summer, visiting waders such as Sharp-tailed Sandpiper favour the far shore, as do Latham's Snipe.

Continue left again to the viewing platform ④ at the end of the path. If there is exposed mud at the southern end of Kelly Swamp, look carefully for waders. Golden-headed Cisticola are

common in the long grass bordering the swamp. Watch out overhead for raptors, including Whistling Kite, Little Eagle and Swamp Harrier.

Return via the pathway and continue past the entry gate to Ardea hide ⑤ for a different view of Kelly Swamp. Leave the hide and follow the path to the right. At the righthand bend with a tree-covered rise to the left, take the well-worn track onto the rise, beyond which are reeds and a narrow strip of water to the south ⑥. This is a reliable spot for crakes and rails in summer, but patience is required.

Return to the path and continue right to the wooden bridge ⑦. Look out for Australian Hobby, Black-shouldered kite and, in summer, Dollarbirds. Continue on for a further 60m until a narrow path branches off to the left ⑧. Spend some time, particularly in spring or in a dry autumn, looking for migrants in the shrubs and trees. 10m further on, to the right, is Fulica hide ⑨ and, 440m further along the main path, Tadorna hide ⑩ both of which overlook Jerrabomberra Creek. Ducks, egrets, ibises, spoonbills, Black Swan, cormorants and Darter are regulars here.

Return to the carpark and drive back down Dairy Road. Just past the speed hump turn left into an open gateway (9.4km) to the **FYSHWICK SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS** (signposted). Park 150m in on the left and go through the small gate with a metal box beside it. Walk to Ponds 4, 5, 6 and 7 and look for Hoary-headed and Australasian Grebe, Hardhead, Grey and Chestnut Teal, Pink-eared, Blue-billed, Pacific Black and Freckled Duck, Australasian Shoveler and Eurasian Coot. In the northern corners of Pond 6, look for Baillon's and Spotless Crake. To visit the more distant Ponds 1, 2 and 3, (which are unlikely to contain any different species), take the track close to Dairy Road. Keep a watchful eye out for raptors, especially Whistling Kite, Little Eagle, Swamp Harrier and occasionally Spotted Harrier.