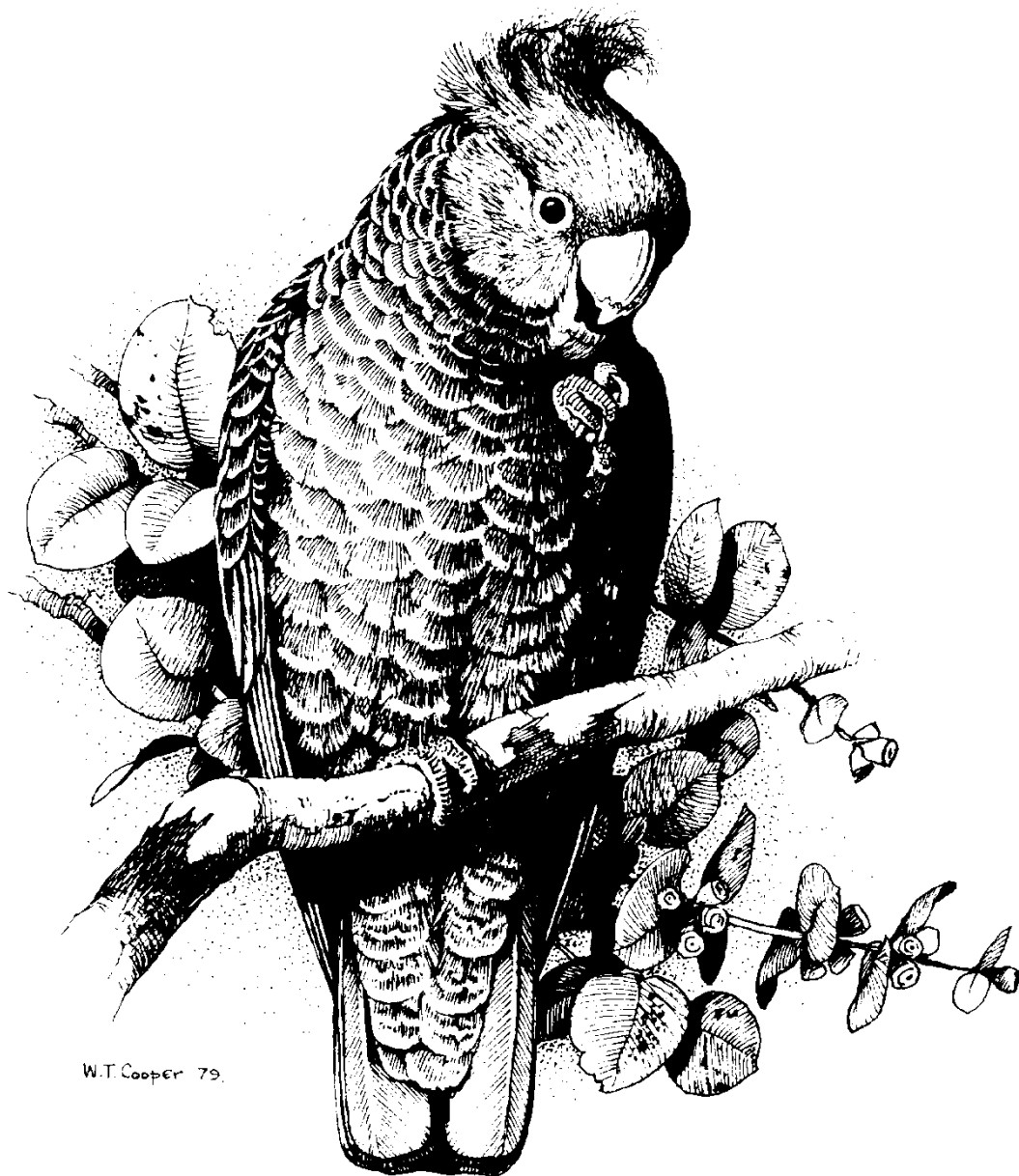


canberra bird notes

ISSN 0314-8211

Volume 44
Number 1
April 2019



Registered by Australia Post – 100001304

CANBERRA ORNITHOLOGISTS GROUP, INC.
PO Box 301 Civic Square ACT 2608

2018-19 Committee

President	Neil Hermes	0413 828 045
Vice-President	Steve Read	0408 170 915
Secretary	Bill Graham	0466 874 723
Treasurer	Prue Watters	
Member	Jenny Bounds	
Member	Chris Davey	
Member	Paul Fennell	
Member	David McDonald	
Member	A.O. (Nick) Nicholls	

Email Contacts

General inquiries	cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au
President	president@canberrabirds.org.au
Canberra Bird Notes	CBN@canberrabirds.org.au/michael.lenz.birds@gmail.com
COG Database Inquiries	COG.database@iinet.au
COG Membership	membership@canberrabirds.org.au
COG Web Discussion List	canberrabirds-owner@canberrabirds.org.au
Conservation	conservation@canberrabirds.org.au
Gang-gang Newsletter	gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au
GBS Coordinator	duncan.mccaskill@gmail.com
Publications for sale	sales@canberrabirds.org.au
Unusual bird reports	rarities@canberrabirds.org.au
Website	cogwebmaster@canberrabirds.org.au
Woodland Project	cogwoodland@canberrabirds.org.au

Other COG contacts

Conservation	Jenny Bounds	
Field Trips	Sue Lashko	6251 4485 (h)
COG Membership	Sandra Henderson	6231 0303 (h)
Canberra Bird Notes		
Editor	Michael Lenz	6249 1109 (h)
Assistant Editor	Kevin Windle	6286 8014 (h)
Editor for Annual Bird Report	Paul Fennell	6254 1804 (h)
Newsletter Editor	Sue Lashko, Gail Neumann	(SL) 6251 4485 (h)
Databases	Vacant	
Garden Bird Survey	Duncan McCaskill	6259 1843 (h)
Rarities Panel	Barbara Allan	6254 6520 (h)
Talks Program Organiser	Jack Holland	6288 7840 (h)
Records Officer	Nicki Taws	6251 0303 (h)
Website	Julian Robinson	6239 6226 (h)
Sales	Kathy Walter	6241 7639 (h)
Waterbird Survey	Michael Lenz	6249 1109 (h)
Distribution of COG publications	Dianne Davey	6254 6324 (h)
COG Library	Barbara Allan	6254 6520 (h)

Use the General Inquiries email to arrange access to library items or for general enquiries, or contact the Secretary on 0466 874 723. Current details of COG's Committee and other aspects of COG are available at: <http://canberrabirds.org.au/>

ANNUAL BIRD REPORT: 1 JULY 2017 TO 30 JUNE 2018

Editor: Paul Fennell

Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc. (COG)
P.O. Box 301, Civic Square, ACT 2608, Australia
cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au

Readers should note that the COG databases and the others such as eBird and BLA databases are being continually updated, with data being added, sometimes from earlier periods. The annual “snapshot” of data relating to previous years in this Annual Bird Report may be different from that reported in previous ABRs.

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Bird Report (ABR) is part of Canberra Bird Notes (CBN) and is based on available records of birds recorded in the Canberra region during the year in question. These records are from COG members and members of other bird-watching organisations such as Birdlife Australia and eBird Australia (Cornell University). (This year due to technical problems, there are no records from Canberra Nature Map canberra.naturemapr.org/.)

This report makes this information readily available to all COG members and to the public, and draws attention to significant changes or trends in the distribution or abundance of species. To assist research, nearly all copies of CBN, beginning with Vol 1 (1968) are available on the COG Website <http://cbn.canberrabirds.org.au/>.

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. 103). This encompasses an area of 13675 sq. km, of which the ACT, at 2357 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 alphanumeric code: A-Z across the region from west to east and 1-30 from north to south (see Map 2, 104). Elevations in the ACT range from 450 m above sea level to 1911 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. Most records are now by people using the Cornell University eBird application (eBird). Incidental observations (INC) are submitted via Canberra Nature Map and the COG website application <http://canberrabirds.org.au/observing-birds/incidental-record-form/>. Specialised COG surveys such as the Garden Bird Survey (GBS), Woodland Survey (WOO), and Waterbird Survey (WBS) are well established. Additionally, records from COG's area of interest that are submitted to BirdLife Australia (BLA) are provided to COG under an agreement between the two organisations. Other atlassing records submitted by COG members by paper record forms are designated COG.

Table 1 (p. 88) provides details of which survey contributes to the records for each species. However, in the Systematic List section, records from all these surveys are considered collectively and summarised under the heading 'General'. The Garden Bird Survey (GBS) is dealt with separately because records are collected on a weekly basis rather than shorter periods.

COG asks that observers of any sightings of birds considered “unusual” in the Canberra region (see Appendix 2, p. 108) submit an Unusual Bird Report Form to 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://canberrabirds.org.au/observing-birds/frequently-asked-questions/unusual-birds/>. The decisions of the rarities panel are published regularly in Canberra Bird Notes, and are available online for members, <http://canberrabirds.org.au>.

Another useful resource is the Annotated Checklist of the Birds of the ACT, available from <http://canberrabirds.org.au/publications/maps-forms-and-lists/annotated-checklist-of-the-birds-of-the-australian-capital-territory/>. The names and sequence of birds, in this list and in the Systematic List in this report conform to the BirdLife Australia Working List of Australian Birds, available at their website <http://birdlife.org.au/conservation/science/taxonomy>.

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 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 considered 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. Max and min temperatures in the ACT in 2017-2018 were again generally higher than usual through summer and autumn, which were drier than usual, although there was average or just above average rain in August, October, November, December and January. There was very little rain between March and June. Conditions provided sufficient water to maintain a reasonable growing season for the region. Water levels in natural pondages within the ACT were reasonably high but Lakes George and Bathurst water levels continued to decrease (see WBS overview p. 10, and Appendix 1, p. 107). ACT Govt policy to create wetlands as part of stormwater reticulation structures, and the development of new suburbs in Gungahlin and Molonglo, has created many water retention ponds that have dramatically increased the habitat for water birds, and subsequently the number of species reported.

As well as the 53 Garden Bird Survey charts, there were 132 named contributors of records from general surveys (see list p. 99). The 12113 sheets submitted this year is less than the highest number of observations submitted in COG's history last year (14198). This continued high level of observations is due to the availability of mobile phone apps that facilitate the entry of data from the field.

Government and non-government agencies continue to seek COG's assistance in addressing important environmental issues. Hence, more members should get involved in surveying and submit more records to enhance the value and accuracy of this resource.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

The table on the right has been compiled from data currently available in the COG general surveys database. It updates the table that has appeared in this place in recent ABRs. The data in the table may differ from those in previous ABRs.

Bird Year 2018

Number of observers	132
Number of sheets	12113
Av no of sheets per observer	92
Number of sightings	176679
Av no of sightings per obs	1338
Av no of sightings per sheet	14.6

In 2017-18, 251 bird species were recorded in our area, with 176679 sightings, up a little on last year, and still considerably higher than in earlier years. Some sightings of rare vagrant species not confirmed have not been included. As in recent years, totals have been boosted by COG's 13th "ACT Bird Blitz" (see Allan 2018) held in Oct 2017.

The number of recognised observers this year is down on last year, despite the large increase in sheet numbers. *There are more people, many of them not members of COG, who are entering data via eBird and Canberra Nature Map. If they have made fewer than 5 observations, they are not allocated a COG Observer code. The observation is attributed to EbD1 or CNM1. This results in the number of "recognised observers" being lower than might be expected. This also affects the average number of sheets and similar statistics.*

The average number of sheets per observer is now 92, up from 88 last year and 65 the year before. The number of sightings per sheet (14.6) is slightly above last year (12.5). This has resulted in the number of sightings increasing to 176679 this year up from 117350 last year and from 161061 the previous year. The average number of sightings per sheet (14.62) indicates that, while many record sheets submitted are incidental sightings of "interesting" birds, there are many sheets reporting on more systematic observation. Apart from the total records being much higher than usual, the effort is spread more evenly throughout the year, although in 2017-18 both winter and summer observations are still a little lower than the other two seasons.

Bird Year	Species	Grid Cells	Sheets	Observers
2018	251	329	12113	132
2017	261	316	14198	159
2016	250	299	11591	179
2015	268	248	8255	171
2014	254	243	4643	247
2013	257	231	4778	163
2012	247	263	4381	161
2011	235	301	3316	140
2010	236	247	2581	145
2009	238	273	2539	134
2008	235	268	2547	130
2007	234	191	2596	114
2006	238	210	2459	107
2005	227	181	2199	82
2004	219	166	2078	87
2003	229	192	2186	104
2002	230	331	2236	135
2001	220	390	2725	144
2000	221	331	2455	167
1999	221	273	1824	162
1998	222	96	879	99

Sheets per season

Winter	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Year
2372	3223	3138	3480	2018
2973	3556	3800	3823	2017
2189	3049	3156	3277	2016
1515	2213	2203	1926	2015
763	1251	1615	1080	2014

The number of grid cells surveyed this year (329) is well above last year and is the highest ever. Most frequently surveyed cells were:

1. L&M14 (1065 cf 1075 reports last year): Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR, Molonglo Reach and Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (FSP).
2. L12 (703 cf 395): Watson and Mitchell, particularly Downer, Flemington and Mitchell Ponds.
3. K13 (701 cf 1052): Acton including ANU and ANBG.
4. J12 (540 cf 574 last year): Lake Ginninderra.
5. K12 (486 cf 176): Kaleen and Lyneham Ridge
6. J13 (474 cf 363 last year): Aranda, Cook and Weetangera, including Aranda Bushland, Mt Painter and The Pinnacle Nature Reserves.
7. K16 (375 cf 500 last year): Wanniasa and Fadden
8. J15 (360 cf 91): Lyons, Weston Ck and Mt Taylor
9. L10 (351 cf 325): Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve.
10. Q13 (315 cf 210): Wamboin and parts of Kowen Pine Forest,
11. L13 (288 cf 503 last year): Central Canberra and part of Mt Ainslie NR from different sites in wetlands, parks and nature reserves.
12. J17 (259 cf 230): Pine Island, Point Hut and the Murrumbidgee corridor,
13. Z01 (236 cf 300): Southwest Goulburn including Goulburn Wetlands.

Table 1, p 88, shows the number of “general surveys” records per species. The 10 most frequently recorded species have changed a little since last year, as indicated in the table. Thirteen endorsed species were recorded only once.

Rank	Species	Records	Comment
1	Australian Magpie	7774	Same rank as last year
2	Magpie-lark	5818	Same rank as last year
3	Crimson Rosella	5767	Up from 4 last year
4	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	5345	Down one from last year
5	Pied Currawong	5231	Same rank as last year
6	Red Wattlebird	5151	Down from 5 last year
7	Australian Raven	4911	Same rank as last year
8	Galah	4910	Down two from last year
9	Superb Fairy-wren	4118	Same rank as last year
10	Crested Pigeon	3909	Up one from last year

BREEDING (GENERAL SURVEYS)

There were 3535 breeding records, down from last year 4801 but up from 3184 the year before. They include “inspecting hollows” and “display” as described in the COG breeding codes (see p 98). Records also include the BA code (br) which excludes “circumstantial” evidence such as “inspecting hollow” or “display”. *EBird breeding codes have more descriptors than COG codes, and in some cases, are subtly different. Currently they are “mapped” across to COG codes, so that the equivalent COG descriptor is used. This practice will be reviewed.* The table shows the number of breeding events across all species, and the percentage of that behaviour of the total number of breeding observations for general surveys in 2017-18.

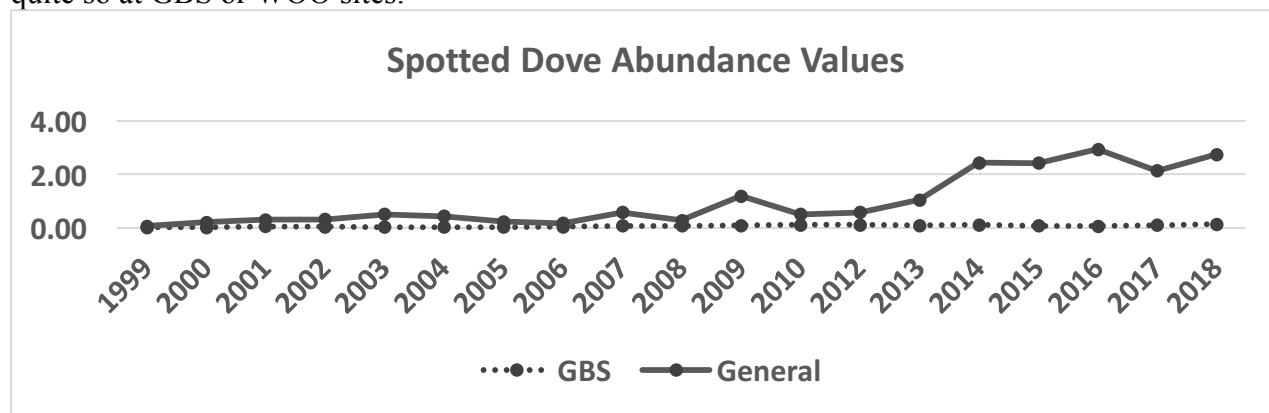
Breeding Code	Count	%
Dependent young	1657	46.9
Bird seen on or leaving nest	579	16.4
Inspecting hollow	345	9.8
Nest building	330	9.3
Nest with young	237	6.7
Carrying food	223	6.3
Display	130	3.7
Nest with eggs	17	0.5
Breeding	7	0.2
Copulation	5	0.1
Faecal sac	5	0.1

HIGHLIGHTS AND LOWLIGHTS

For many species this year there was a slight upturn in indices such as the reporting rate (RR) and abundance, e.g. Pallid Cuckoo and Laughing Kookaburra, treecreepers, most honeyeaters, both local pardalotes, gerygones, most thornbills, sittella, cuckoo-shrikes and trillers, whistlers and shrike-thrush, Crested Shrike-tit, fantails, flycatchers and robins.

RRs and abundance of inland duck species were higher than last year probably due to drier conditions inland, although Lake Bathurst dried up and for most of the year there was water only on Lake George East. These species included: Pink-eared Duck (2300 birds sighted on 28 Jan); Grey Teal (8500 on 28 Jan); Hardhead (223 at Fyshwick Sewage ponds) and Freckled Duck (197 Farm Dam Lake Rd). On the other hand, these indices were down for Black Swan, most other duck, grebe and wader species.

Spotted Dove is becoming more established although the difference in abundance values between the GBS and general surveys is of interest. They appear to be quite prevalent around the suburbs, but not quite so at GBS or WOO sites.

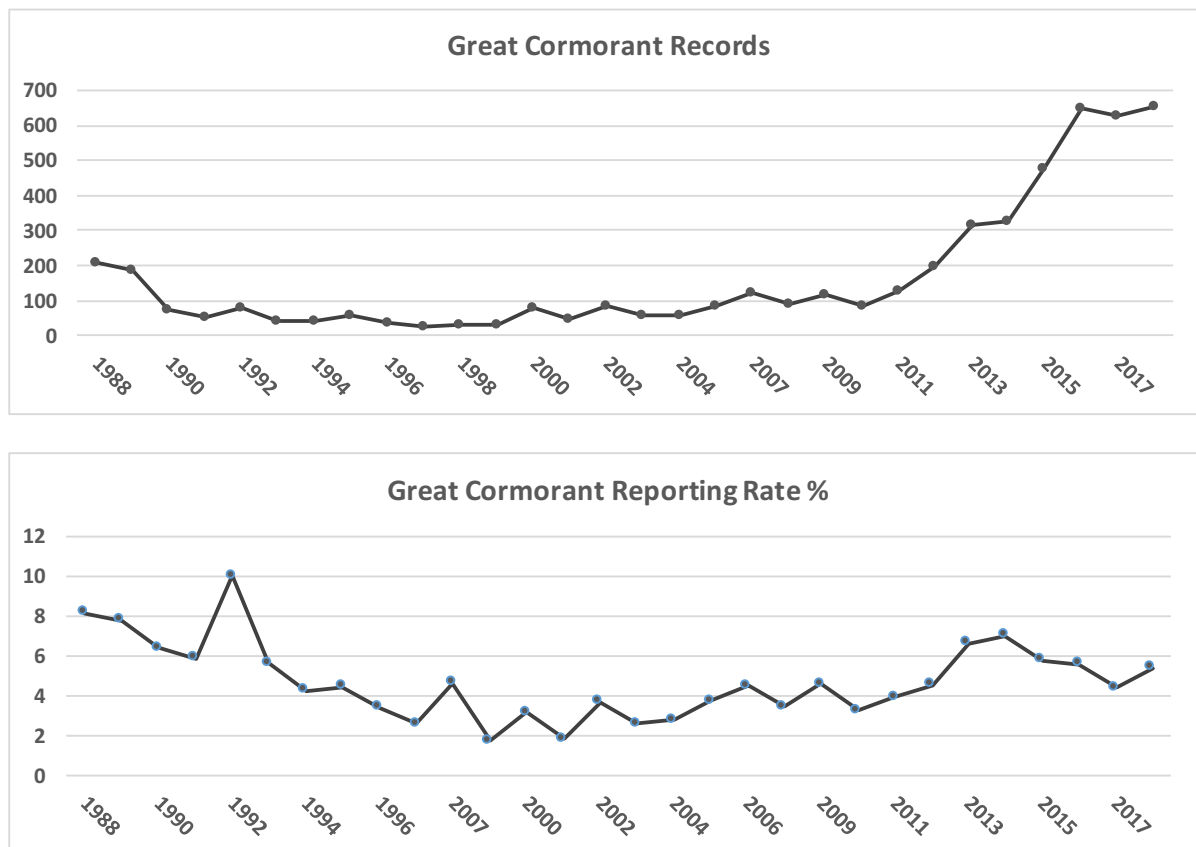


Most cuckoo species indices have recovered a little from the severe lows of last season, particularly the Pallid Cuckoo. Three Black-eared Cuckoos, each at a different site, raised enough interest among birders to generate 23 records in late Jan – early Feb.

The less common crakes and rails (Australian Spotted Crake, Spotless Crake Baillon's Crake and Buff-banded Rail) had a good year with abundance up considerably on last year, following some quieter years since the last peak in 2013. Eurasian Coot reporting rate has remained remarkably steady since 2013, while Purple Swamphen and Dusky Moorhen RRs have plateaued at comfortable levels.

Australian White Ibis, Straw-necked Ibis, and Royal Spoonbill indices are strong, with RRs and abundance at historically high levels, while Yellow-billed Spoonbill are much less numerous but on an upswing this year. Glossy Ibis numbers have fluctuated over the years, but this year records are down, with only one record of 4 birds being reported.

The two graphs below indicate that the Great Cormorant has maintained a healthy presence in the COG AoI for over 30 years. The top graph indicates the number of records, while the graph beneath it indicates the RR (reporting rate) for the species, that is, the percentage of survey sheets submitted which record the presence of Great Cormorant. The RR graph shows that, while there has been some movement in the presence of this species over time, the general trend is steady. On the other hand, the Great Cormorant Records graph shows a tremendous increase in the number of sightings recorded in the last 10 years. This great increase in observer effort indicates that a fairly stable population of birds is being recorded much more often than a few years ago.



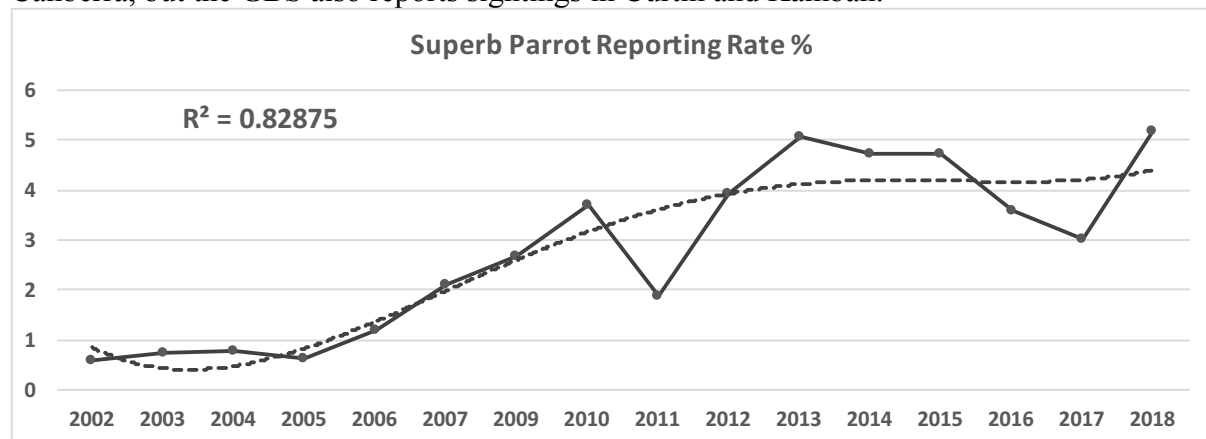
Raptors have had a relatively good year, with the RRs of Black-shouldered Kite, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Swamp Harrier, Collared Sparrowhawk and Whistling Kite approximating long-term averages, but Little Eagle and Brown Goshawk indices were down a little. Of the Falconidae, Nankeen Kestrel appear to be maintaining their presence and the Brown Falcon indices have improved slightly off a very low base, while the Australian Hobby and Peregrine Falcon RRs are well down on the long-term averages.

A Powerful Owl turned up in the ANBG during August, producing 24 records, but it did not prolong its stay, in contrast to the previous long-term visit near the Turner Bowling Club by a member of this species. Our most common owl, the Southern Boobook appears to be in decline with the GBS reporting rate falling quickly from a peak in 2015, while the general surveys reporting rate has been bumping along the bottom of the graph for many years.

Azure Kingfishers turned up again this year at 4 sites, including The Pinnacle NR and John Knight Park, but there was no Red-backed Kingfisher record. Sacred Kingfisher indices were positive, while the Laughing Kookaburra took a slight upturn.

Cockatoos have been going from strength to strength, with indices for nearly all species being above the long-term averages. An exception is the Glossy Black-Cockatoo which maintains a tentative presence over the years, with this year being only 2 records.

Parrots have been doing quite well too, particularly the Superb Parrot in Belconnen and North Canberra, but the GBS also reports sightings in Curtin and Kambah.



While the abundance value for Red-rumped Parrot had dropped a little this year, there has still been steady improvement in this index since a low point in 2002. The Australian King-parrot is increasing its presence, while the Crimson and Eastern Rosellas have RRs higher than the long-term averages. Like the Superb Parrot, the Rainbow Lorikeet RR has been increasing steadily over the last 5 years.

The lyrebird story is a little less dismal than last year. The reporting rate recovered a little after the 2003 fires until 2008, but has been in slow but continual decline since then, but with a slight upturn this season. On the other hand, the outlook for the Satin Bowerbird is more optimistic. Following a general upward trend, the reporting rate has reached a peak of 4.4%, a peak only exceeded in the 3 years of the COG atlas of the late 1980's. Now observed in 66 grid cells, far above the long-term average of 27.

Eastern Whipbird indices have been improving slowly since a low in 2005, oscillating around 0.05%, and increasing over the last three years to 0.77%. Ever since COG records began, the reporting rate of the Olive-backed Oriole has varied slightly around 5%, with a dip last year to 3.3%, but has recovered this year to 4.8%.

While Pied Currawong and Grey Butcherbird RRs are in a long continual upward trend, and Pied Butcherbird and Australian Magpie indices remain steady, those of the Grey Currawong are in long-term serious decline, although there was a slight upturn in the reporting rate this season from 1.3% to 2.4%. The Australian Magpie-lark continues its continual improvement in reporting rate to reach another all-time high of 48%.

The outlook for most species this year is a little brighter than last year, with the proviso that some species have indices that are historically and dangerously low.

GARDEN BIRD SURVEY (GBS) OVERVIEW

The Garden Bird Survey (GBS), which started in 1981, completed 37 years of continuous collection in 2017–18. We had records from 53 sites, down from 60 sites last year. The survey lost 10 sites, gained 1 new site and 2 sites resumed observations. Sites are widely, but unevenly, distributed across the region. Belconnen, with 14 sites, is well covered as is North Canberra with 7 sites and Woden with 10 sites and Weston Creek with 6 sites. There are 4 sites in Tuggeranong, 5 in South Canberra. There are only 2 sites in Gungahlin. There are 4 rural residential sites in NSW.

Despite its name, the GBS is not strictly a “garden” survey. GBS sites are about 3 hectares in area and actually cover a variety of urban and near urban habitats. In addition to the 4 rural sites, many of the suburban sites are near some kind of urban edge such as bushland, urban parks and waterways. Many species that are not usually associated with suburban gardens are recorded.

There are 11 sites (8 suburban, 3 rural) which frequently record water birds such the common ducks, rails and cormorants. For each of the last 10 years of the GBS there have been between 7 and 13 such water bird sites. This is in marked contrast with earlier years of the survey. In the first 10 years of the GBS there was at most one site per year frequently recording water birds, and those sites were all on the ANU campus. The increase in water bird rich sites probably reflects the increase in housing near water in Canberra in recent decades. Most of the suburban sites that record water birds are in locations where there was no housing 20 or 30 years ago.

The number of weeks observed per site averaged 42.9, about the same as last year. There were 9 sites which reported 50 or more weeks (down from 12 the previous year, and 22 the year before that). Overall, there were 2,275 weekly records, down from 2,612 last year and well down from the peak of 3,516 in 2009-10, when there were 88 active sites.

146 species were recorded in 2017-18, down from 150 species the previous year and well down from the survey record of 168 species, which has been achieved 3 times – in 2009-10, 2012-13 and 2013-14. The average number of species recorded per year since 2000-01 is 155. The average for earlier years, from 1981-82 to 1999-00 is a lot lower, at 138. The last couple of decades have seen an increase in habitat diversity of GBS sites, which may partly explain the increase in species, and the recent decline may be partly explained by the reduction in the number of sites.

Looking at the top ten species ranked by the Abundance Measure A, the top 7 species are unchanged from last year. House Sparrow (down from 8 to 12) and Yellow-faced Honeyeater (down from 9 to 13) have dropped out of the top ten, replaced by Rock Dove (up from 11 to 9) and Common Starling (up from 15 to 10). Silvereye has moved from number 10 to 8. The abundance measure for these species varies quite a bit from year to year as they are sometimes recorded in large numbers. The full list of species in the GBS, ranked by A, is in Table 2 p. 93.

Traditionally, GBS observers record their observations a large paper chart on which covers a whole year. The chart has a large grid with a row for each species and 52 columns, one for each week. For some years now electronic alternatives have been available, the most popular being using a spreadsheet which looks somewhat like the paper chart. It is also possible to use eBird, but it has the downside of requiring observers to put in a separate list each time they are actively birding. Of the 53 sites reporting this year, 34 were done on paper charts, 18 were done on spreadsheets and 1 site was done

via eBird. The increasing use of electronic reporting has significantly reduced the considerable effort spent on data entry.

The coming year will see the introduction of a new GBS chart. Despite the reduced use of the paper charts in favour of electronic alternatives supplies from the last print run have run out, so a new batch has been printed. The main change to the chart is the change in the 50 pre-printed species. The 50 species that are printed on the chart are the 50 most widespread species recorded in the survey. The old chart was based on 5 year average data from around 2005 to 2009; the new one is based on 2016-17 data. The new top 50 sees the addition of Rainbow Lorikeet (recorded in 66% of sites, ranked 31), Satin Bowerbird (recorded in 57% of sites, ranked 35), Wedge-tailed Eagle (recorded in 38% of sites, ranked 49), and Australian White Ibis (recorded in 36% of sites, ranked 50). The species that have dropped out of the top 50 are White-naped Honeyeater (just missing the cut-off at 36% of sites), Collared Sparrowhawk (at 30% of sites), White-plumed Honeyeater (down to 25% of sites) and Grey Currawong (down to 17% of sites).

Notable rarities recorded this year include a Swamp Harrier in Curtin (6 previous record in the survey); 2 records of Red-capped Robin in Carwoola (15 previous records in 9 of the previous 36 years); and 5 records of Scarlet Honeyeater at 3 sites in Wamboin, Curtin, Giralang (21 previous records in 10 of the last 36 years).

Many thanks to all GBS observers for their continued efforts and those who enter the data from the cumbersome forms into the database.

WOODLAND SURVEY OVERVIEW

In 1998, COG began systematic monitoring of bird species and abundance in several high conservation value Grassy Woodland locations in the ACT. Six locations were initially selected: Mulligans Flat, Mt Majura, Red Hill, Goorooyarroo (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 (2005); and Jerrabomberra West (Dec 2006).

One aim of the Woodland Survey is to monitor declining and threatened birds in Yellow Box/Red Gum grassy woodlands. The Project now has 142 monitoring 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, end November/early 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). The last major analysis was completed in 2010 (data from December 1998 to December 2008), and reported in *Canberra Bird Notes* in December 2010 (Vol 35/Number 3). This was supplemented by an analysis of habitat changes and bird abundance at the six foundation locations (66 sites), also reported in *Canberra Bird Notes* June 2012 (Vol 37/No 2). All project reports are available on the COG website, under the 'conservation' menu.

In 2017, four monitoring sites were set up in the Nelanglo TSR north of Gundaroo in NSW, according to the woodland survey protocols and methods. This high quality woodland bird habitat is surrounded by farming land. COG is contributing advice to its management. While not formally part of the ACT woodland project, the data collected will be of value for various purposes.

COG provides data to the ACT Government for the monitoring of threatened species, under MOU arrangements. Access to Woodland Project data has also been granted for some research projects. The data was important to underpin COG's successful nomination of the Scarlet Robin as a threatened (vulnerable) species in the ACT.

The Woodland Project data is now an important and valuable long-term data-set, with ten years or more of data at all project locations. Consideration of how major analyses of this data could be undertaken and how the professional services required can be funded, has recently commenced. This includes careful consideration and discussion with a range of stakeholders about relevant questions/issues which could be addressed/prioritised.

Many thanks to all Woodland observers for their continued efforts and those who enter the data.

WATERBIRD SURVEY OVERVIEW

Lake Bathurst

The lake had dried up by May 2017 and stayed dry throughout the reporting year. The Southern Morass held some water until November. Few birds of note were recorded, except for 6 Double-banded Plovers and 26 Black-fronted Dotterels in August.

Lake George

The lake was very shallow and held water in the eastern side until January. Australian Pelicans became a very common sight with a steady build-up to a max. 1400 by November and still 700 birds in December. Highest numbers for other species were: 760 Black Swans (November), 745 Pink-eared Ducks (August), 3500 Grey Teals (November), 500 Red-necked Avocets (October), 224 Black-winged Stilts (formerly Pied Stilts) and 300 Sharp-tailed Sandpipers (November).

Many thanks to Michael Lenz for his continued efforts and those who assist him.

COG Prefers Surveys

Information about locations and abundance of bird species are much more useful for research purposes if the data are collected in a standard organised way, so that any statistics derived from that data are usable, and not unduly biased. *Canberra Ornithologists Group strongly recommends that, whenever possible, observers complete surveys in accordance with Birdlife Australia protocols*, rather than reporting incidental sightings of one or two species. BLA survey methods are discussed at <http://birdlife.org.au/projects/atlas-and-birddata/become-an-atlasser-with-the-2-hectare/> 20 minute search being the preferred method.

People using the BLA Birddata app should not find this a problem. People using the eBird app for recording birds can now carry out 2 hectare / 20 min searches and record their data in a way compatible with the BLA protocols. See the instructions for use at <http://ebird.org/content/australia/news/birdlife-surveys/>. This is good news for everyone.

COMMENTS ON THE CONTENT AND WRITING STYLE OF THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

The description of most species includes a summary table with a considerable amount of information.

It is important to note that some of the values in the tables for each species in this year's report diverge from those reported last year. The number of records for last year in the current tables may differ from those printed in last year's ABR. This is because a significant number of records have been added to the COG databases after the printing of last year's ABR.

Seasonal variations in the number of records should be viewed with caution, owing to the variability of observer effort across the seasons. Apart from the tendency of observers to go out less in winter and more in spring and summer, the annual COG Bird Blitz in the last weekend in October brings in more records for the spring season. The authors have attempted to accommodate this by paying more attention to the RRs and abundance rather than simply quoting number of records.

The table provides a thumbnail sketch of the most relevant statistics normally reported in the Annual Bird Report. By including them in a table, we hope to provide the reader with essential information directly, and to provide authors an opportunity to discuss interesting highlights and trends.

For further explanation of the terms used in this report, see Data, Methodologies and Explanatory notes on page 96.

The diagram illustrates the components of the summary table for the Great Cormorant. Arrows indicate the following mappings:

- This year** points to the 17/18 column.
- Last year** points to the 16/17 column.
- % change between this year and last year** points to the %Δ column.
- 30 year average** points to the 30YA column.
- Number of records – general surveys** points to the R row.
- Number of Woodland records** points to the WR row.
- Number of grid cells general surveys** points to the G row.
- Number of breeding records - general** points to the BR row.
- GBS abundance** points to the GA row.
- GBS number of sites** points to the GS row.
- Number of GBS breeding records** points to the GBR row.

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	654	627	4	151.0
WR	0	0	-	0.4
G	46	39	18	23.5
BR	6	6	0	0.9
GA	0.1235	0.0356	247	0.0205
GS	10	7	43	4.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

SYSTEMATIC LIST

CASUARIIDAE: emu

Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

Rare, breeding resident

A small population resides adjacent to Tidbinbilla NR where there is a captive population.

General: 17 records this year from inside Tidbinbilla NR, 7 from near the Cotter Dam, with 2 near Sugarloaf Hill. Number of birds seen (65), and number of grid cells (6), the same as last year, seems to suggest a certain stability in the population.

ANATIDAE: ducks, swan

Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*

Non-breeding visitor

Once regarded as a rare vagrant in this area, this species now appears to be a regular visitor.

General: Reported from 2 grid cells with 94 records, down from 7 grid cells last year. All records from BuTYL apart from 11/4 Dec JWNR (A1A1). Maximum 41/1 Dec BuTYL GrS13 (McD1) down from the 65 reported last year. Reports throughout the year.

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*

Rare, breeding resident

A diving duck with a distinctive bill. Declared vulnerable in New South Wales.

General: All indices very similar to last season. Single birds reported from JWNR/FSP except for 1/17 Sep Yass River upstream of the weir GrG03 (SeB1). 10 of the 11 records from JWNR between 5-18 Dec and probably the same bird. No autumn records.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

A nomadic inland species, whose presence is dependent on water levels at lakes such as LGeo/LBath.

General: An increase in all indices from last year (abundance 1.14 cf 0.41, RR 3.6% cf 2.5%) but still nowhere near the numbers reported in 2013-14. Max 2300/28 Jan LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1), much higher than the largest number reported last year. Apart from LGeo the next largest concentration was at FSP 512/3 Jun, (MiP1). 40% of records from JWNR/FSP with sightings from 20 other locations. Reported throughout the year less during summer and autumn. No reports of breeding.

Pink-eared Duck

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	440	349	26	91.2
WR	2	4	-50	0.3
G	20	15	33	8.1
BR	0	4	-100	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0003
GS	0	0	-	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

Common, breeding resident

Regularly observed on bodies of water throughout the region.

General: A decrease in all indices from last year (abundance 0.64 cf 0.99, RR 9.0% cf 10.6%). Comparing previous years since 1985 RR has remained similar but the recent measures of abundance are significantly lower than the period 1990-1998. There has been a decrease in the number of grid cells reported (40 cf 56) when compared with last year. Max 762/10 Nov LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1) and the number of breeding cells has decreased from 27 last year to 12.

Black Swan

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1094	1511	-28	265.6
WR	1	1	0	0.3
G	40	56	-29	25.2
BR	84	235	-64	37.6
GA	0.1459	0.1401	4	0.0466
GS	7	8	-12	2.7
GBR	26	23	13	11.3

GBS: 82 records from 7 sites. 26 breeding records, all dy, from Giralang (McD4 and KaD1), Jerrabomberra (HaL2) and Greenway (HaA2). Max9/wk4 Oct Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides*

Often found grazing next to farm dams.

General: A large decrease in virtually all indices from last year and now returning to more normal levels (abundance 0.22 cf 0.87, RR 1.0% cf 1.8%). The Mean reported has dropped (22.5 cf 49.1). Max 530/28 Jan LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1) down from 1450 last season. Reported throughout the year with 75% of records from the Bungendore area. Unlike last year, no breeding observations.

Rare, breeding visitor

Australian Shelduck

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	123	255	-52	62.3
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	14	25	-44	11.6
BR	0	16	-100	2.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Hardhead *Aythya australis*

A diving duck often seen in deeper waters.

General: An increase in all indices from last year (abundance 0.65 cf 0.36, RR 7.7% cf 4.7%, median 5 cf 3). Despite this there was a reduction in the maximum number of birds from 870 to 223/25 Nov FSP (HoS1). The abundance is still below that reported in 2012-13 (abundance 3.5). Reported throughout the year but mainly during the spring. No confirmed breeding this year.

GBS: 40 records from 2 sites, similar to last year Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), Crace Wetlands GrK11 (LeF1). Maximum 19/2wk Oct, Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

Common, breeding visitor

Hardhead

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	934	669	40	179.9
WR	1	2	-50	1.2
G	52	47	11	21.5
BR	2	0	Inf	0.4
GA	0.0835	0.1225	-32	0.0660
GS	2	2	0	1.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

Can be seen throughout the year on larger bodies of water.

General: Very little change in distribution, abundance or RR from last season although max increased from 360 last year to 680/28 Jan LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1). The next highest concentration was 131/22 Apr FSP GrL14, (MiP1). Reported throughout the year. Apart from JWNR/FSP (32% of records) reported from 21 other sites; most frequently from the Bungendore area. No reports of breeding.

Uncommon, breeding visitor

Australasian Shoveler

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	463	546	-15	136.8
WR	0	1	-100	0.6
G	22	29	-24	14.6
BR	0	0	-	0.5
GA	0.0000	0.0008	-100	0.0003
GS	0	1	-100	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

A very familiar duck in the region.

General: Similar indices to last year (abundance, RR and distribution). RR has been oscillating around 20% since 1987. There was a reduction in the maximum number seen from 450 to 240/16 May BuTYL GrS13 (LeM1). The next largest concentration was of 150 birds from JWNR/FSP and 137 from LGeo. As with Grey Teal, there was a significant decrease in the number of breeding records (36 cf 210 last year), all dy apart from one record of di. Breeding from 11 sites (10 grid cells) recorded between Oct and Mar.

GBS: 299 records down from 327 last year, else all other indices similar. Reported from 14 sites with a maximum of 61/1wk Mar, Jerrabomberra (HaL2). 16 breeding records (co 2, dy 14). Records from 3 sites Red Hill (WaR4), Jerrabomberra, (HaL2), Giralang, (McD4).

Very common, breeding resident

Pacific Black Duck

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2719	3165	-14	622.8
WR	14	17	-18	8.1
G	128	121	6	71.6
BR	36	210	-83	31.7
GA	1.0813	0.8786	23	0.2816
GS	14	18	-22	9.6
GBR	16	29	-45	8.2

Northern Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

The status of this exotic feral species as a wild bird in this region is in doubt. This species has only been recorded a very few times in Australia and not in this region. However, COG has been reporting the occurrence of introduced feral domestic Mallards. This past practice will be continued this year, with a view to reviewing the situation soon. The status of Black Duck – Mallard hybrids will also be reviewed.

General: All records most likely to be of feral domestic Mallards. A large decrease in the number of records from last year (10 cf 42), all from West Belconnen Pond (GrI11) with a maximum of 10 birds reported on 11 Jul, 25 Jul, 12 Aug and 17 Aug. No breeding reported.

Pacific Black Duck-Domestic Mallard

General: All indices down from last year (12 records cf 27 last year, abundance 0.0049 cf 0.0076, RR 0.1% cf 0.2%). Reported from 6 sites: Queanbeyan River Corridor (GrN15), Queanbeyan (GrO15), WBPd (GrI11), LGin (GrJ12), JWNR (GrL14) and BuTYL (GrS13). Max 12/7 Jun Queanbeyan GrO15 (BuM1).

GBS: 2 records. 1/2wk Aug and 2wk Nov Curtin (AjR1).

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*

Commonly observed throughout the region.

General: Despite the same number of records and similar distribution from last year there was an increase in the population indices (abundance 3.7 cf 2.8, RR 13.3% cf 11.4%). Max increased from 4000 to 8500/28 Jan, LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1). Apart from the large numbers reported from LGeo and LBath (ranging from 222-8500) the next largest concentration was 201/14 Jul BuTYL GrS13 (McD1). 25 breeding records compared with 63 last year from 6 grid cells, all “dy” apart from 2 records of “di” – JWNR and Casey Pond.

GBS: 59 records from 6 sites, similar to last year. Maximum 12/1wk Jun, Giralang (McD4).

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*

Less frequently observed than Grey Teal.

General: A decrease in indices from last year (abundance 0.08 cf 0.12, RR 2.9% cf 3.1%, grid cells 20 cf 32 last year). Abundance still well down from the 1.14 reported in 2010-11. The maximum number reported was also well down from the 310 reported last year, 25/17 Aug BuTYL GrS13 (EbD1). Reported throughout the year with a maximum during the summer months. No breeding records.

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*

Declared vulnerable in New South Wales

General: Numbers still nowhere near the highs of 2013-14 but when compared with last reporting season all indices are up (abundance 0.22 cf 0.09, RR 2.5% cf 1.2%) from 10 grid cells, the same number as last year. 249 of the 306 records from JWNR/FSP. Maximum 197/17 Jul Farm Dam Lakes

Rare, breeding resident

Northern Mallard

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	10	42	-76	13.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	1	8	-88	4.6
BR	0	1	-100	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0015
GS	0	1	-100	0.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Very common, breeding resident

Grey Teal

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1615	1620	-0	334.1
WR	8	4	100	3.6
G	78	74	5	37.8
BR	25	63	-60	7.6
GA	0.0738	0.0731	1	0.0257
GS	6	5	20	2.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.3

Uncommon, breeding resident

Chestnut Teal

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	354	434	-18	89.8
WR	1	0	Inf	0.2
G	20	32	-38	12.4
BR	0	6	-100	2.4
GA	0.0000	0.0015	-100	0.0035
GS	0	1	-100	0.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Road GrR12 (LeM1). Reported throughout the year with very few autumn records (4.2%). As is often the case the hotspot for a large number of birds (11 records of 50+) is the Farm Dam Lakes Road.

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata*

Rare, breeding resident

A diving duck preferring deep water.

General: All indices down from previous year (53 records cf 79 last year, grid cells 10 cf 16 abundance 0.0047 cf 0.0101, RR 0.4% cf 0.6%). Maximum 3/25 Sep Rose Lagoon GrU04 (LaK1) 18 records of captive birds at TNR. Reported throughout the year, no breeding records.

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

Common, breeding resident

Commonly observed grazing around urban lakes and ponds.

General: Indices slightly lower than last season (abundance 2.78 cf 3.0, RR 22.1% cf 23.3%) from a reduced number of grid cells (134 cf 143). Generally, very little change in indices of abundance or RR since 1985. Reported throughout the year with a maximum 185/20 Jan Warrina Inlet LBG GrJ14 (NeG1). Breeding reports slightly down to 107 records from 34 grid cells; 95 records of dy. When compared with previous years a large increase in the number of breeding records from 2015 onwards. As usual, the most widely reported waterfowl but only just (Australian Wood Duck 134 grid cells cf Pacific Black Duck 128 grid cells).

GBS: 373 records (398 last year) from 23 sites with 30 reports of breeding (co 1, ih 2, dy 27). Max 125/4wk Oct Jerrabomberra GrM16, (HaL2).

Australian Wood Duck

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2681	3307	-19	645.2
WR	32	40	-20	27.2
G	134	143	-6	88.8
BR	107	139	-23	35.0
GA	1.5789	1.7240	-8	0.5126
GS	23	34	-32	21.0
GBR	30	31	-3	15.3

Domestic Goose and Domestic Greylag Goose

General: Reported from 9 sites. 50% of records from LGin and Molonglo Reach. Max 19/31 Oct Molonglo Reach GrL14 (HiC2). No breeding reported.

Muscovy Duck

General: 23 records from 9 locations including 3 locations in Queanbeyan. Maximum 10-14 birds all from various sites in Queanbeyan (GrN15 and GrO15).

PHASIANIDAE: peafowl, quail

Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

Rare, breeding resident/escapee

An introduced species. A long established feral flock in South Canberra.

General: All 12 records this year from Narrabundah / Red Hill except for 1 sighting of a probably domestic flock of 5 in in Pialligo. Peafowl are intermittently and irregularly recorded from an established feral flock that roams the Narrabundah/Griffith area, and at other sites where they may be domestic rather than wild birds. Max 18/28 Oct Brockman St Narrabundah (DaG2), mean 5.1 and median 3.5, both slightly up on last year.

Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Grassland residents, more prevalent after rain, when grass growth increases suitable cover.

General: Considerably fewer records this year, with RR (0.5%) down 45% on last year and about half the 10 and 30YA. Total number of birds seen was 126 cf 261 last year. Most records (12) as usual from around LBath and areas to the east of LGeo, with a few records from the grasslands around Canberra such as JWNR (only 1 sighting), WBPD (4) and Nicholls (4). Other locations in NSW included Hoskinstown (5) and Wallaroo (4). Records from mid-Sep through June, with the majority in summer (54% of records) and spring (37%). Max 10/20 Dec LGeo E (LeM1) with mean 2.3 and median 2. 1 breeding record: dy/3 Jan Briars Sharrow Rd (BuM1). No other breeding reported.

GBS: No records this year, after a single record 1/2wk Dec Curtin last year.

Stubble Quail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	57	121	-53	34.5
WR	2	1	100	0.6
G	25	33	-24	15.4
BR	1	1	0	0.2
GA	0.0000	0.0008	-100	0.0019
GS	0	1	-100	0.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Brown Quail *Synoicus ypsilophorus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Less frequently reported than Stubble Quail, preferring a damper habitat.

General: RR (1.0%) up 60% on last year but 28% below the 30YA and still well below the record high (2.3%) of 2011-12. Most records from JWNR (55), Ginninderra Creek Nicholls (15) and Percival Hill NR (8) but also farther afield in Goulburn Wetlands (5). Recorded evenly throughout the year with slightly more in spring this year (32%) and fewer in winter (15%). Max 12/5 May JWNR, mean 2.4 and median 2.

GBS: 1 record only of 7 birds from a site in Giralang (McD4) on 17 Feb. The A value (A=0.0027) and the number of records (1) is down considerably on last year (8 records from a site in Curtin), below the 10YA (14.6) and the 30YA (5.8).

Brown Quail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	123	80	54	24.6
WR	0	1	-100	0.2
G	24	20	20	9.6
BR	1	0	Inf	0.3
GA	0.0009	0.0027	-67	0.0050
GS	1	1	0	0.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Common, breeding resident

An attractive species often observed on bodies of water in the region.

General: A decrease in indices from last year but similar to 2015-16, (abundance 0.25 cf 0.44, RR 8.5% cf 10.1% last year). Reported throughout the year with max 30/22 Apr FSP (MiP1) down from max of 81 last year. Number of breeding records well down (33 cf 109 last year), with 22 records of “dy” and 11 of “on” or “nb”. Recorded nesting at JWNR/FSP (GrL14), Casey Pond (GrK11), Casey Wetland (GrK10), Bonner (GrL10), Hoskinstown (GrS16), Bibaringa (GrH14), the Valley Avenue Ponds (GrK11) and LGeo east (GrT09).

GBS: Reported from 5 sites Giralang, (KaD1, McD4), Murrumbateman (BlJ1), Jerrabomberra (HaL2) and Yarralumla (NeG1). Similar population indices to last year but average number of birds reported 1.9 cf 3.0 with a maximum of 6/2wk Jul Jerrabomberra (HaL2). No breeding records.

Australasian Grebe

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1032	1435	-28	267.8
WR	4	14	-71	5.6
G	82	78	5	43.6
BR	33	109	-70	19.7
GA	0.0453	0.0494	-8	0.0195
GS	5	6	-17	1.8
GBR	0	0	-	1.1

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

Prefers larger bodies of deeper water than the Australasian Grebe.

General: All indices very similar to last year with a slight decrease in the average number of birds seen (7.9 cf 10.2 last year). Max 203/22 Apr FSP (MiP1). Reported throughout the year. A single breeding record nb/1 Jan Stromlo Forest Park GrI14, (MiP1) well down from the 26 records last year. Numbers of 100 or over reported from FSP (GrL14) and Foxlow Lagoon (GrS18).

GBS: A single record 1/2wk Apr Giralang (McD4).

Common, breeding resident

Hoary-headed Grebe				
	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	420	383	10	120.7
WR	1	0	Inf	0.8
G	39	33	18	16.4
BR	1	26	-96	2.9
GA	0.0004	0.0000	Inf	0.0007
GS	1	0	Inf	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Great-crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Rare, breeding visitor



Julian Robinson

Very occasionally seen in the region.

General: Only 14 records this year cf 22 last year, but with more birds seen (34 this year cf 23 last year). An increase in abundance (0.0028 cf 0.0016 last year) with an increase in the median number of birds from 1 to 2.5. Max 5/10 Apr Cotter Dam GrG14 (BeC2). Also reported from JWNR (GrL14), LGin (GrJ12) and Yerrabi Pond (GrL11). A single breeding record dy/19 Mar Cotter Dam (HeS1). 86% of records during the summer and autumn.

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

This introduced species is generally restricted to urban areas. There are almost no WOO records.

General: 992 records compared with 1574 records last year. This may reflect dry conditions. Birds attempting to breed under solar panels died in extreme heat conditions. Abundance is down 20% on last year following a 19% decline on the previous year but still up 14% on the 30YA. RR is down 26% and is similar to the 30YA. Max 300/3 Jun Mt Ainslie NR – Campbell Park (EbD1), mean 9.2, median 4. 6 breeding records in 3 grid cells: earliest, on/23 Dec North Weston Ponds GrJ14 (BeS1); latest on/20 Feb North Weston Ponds (CaR3) with an early start to next season - nb/5 Jun Acton Peninsula GrK14 (EbD1).

GBS: There were 633 records compared with 687 last year. Abundance is up 19% on last year and up 116% on the 30YA. Average number sighted 10.6, median 6 with max 63/3wk Apr O'Connor GrL13 (DoM1). Breeding not recorded after a single record last year.

Very common, breeding resident

Rock Dove				
	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	992	1574	-37	252.2
WR	1	0	Inf	0.1
G	40	32	25	17.1
BR	6	4	50	1.9
GA	2.9516	2.4751	19	1.3678
GS	35	35	0	31.4
GBR	0	1	-100	1.5

White-headed Pigeon *Columba leucomela*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Visitors presumably come from populations on the coastal plains and ranges to the east.

General: The pattern of scattered records of one or two birds continues. 4 records: earliest, 1/28 Nov Flynn (DaC2); latest, 2/27 Jun Aranda (InC1). Breeding not recorded.

GBS: No records for the fourth year in a row.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

Uncommon, breeding resident

An introduced species. The preferred habitats remain urban – including house gardens, parklands, and the vicinity of urban and peri-urban wetlands. It is virtually absent from WOO sites. After a few years of falls or a steady state in some metrics, abundance and RRs for both General records and GBS records have been positive this year. There is a continuing absence of the larger flocks which occur elsewhere in their Australian range.

General: 333 records compared with 304 records last year from 29 grids compared with 24 last year. Abundance is up 27% on last year and up 121% on the 30YA. RR is up 28% on last year and up 115% on the 30YA. Max 6/17 Feb JWNR (EbD1), mean 1.4, median 1. 4 breeding records: earliest nb/20 Oct JWNR (HoS1); latest dy/15 Jan JWNR (HeS1).

GBS: 225 records up on 148 records last year from 16 sites up from 15 sites last year. Abundance is up 43% on last year and up 210% on the 30YA. Max 3/1wk Aug Campbell GrL13 (LjT1). 3 breeding records: earliest di/3wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1); latest, di/4wk Jun Curtin (AjR1).

Spotted Dove

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	333	304	10	39.7
WR	0	2	-100	0.1
G	29	24	21	6.3
BR	4	1	300	0.3
GA	0.1266	0.0888	43	0.0409
GS	16	15	7	9.6
GBR	3	1	200	0.5

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

Rare, breeding resident

This species is generally restricted to the wet forests of the Brindabellas, Tallaganda and the far south of the AoI.

General: 8 records of 1 to 3 birds from 7 grids. Earliest, 1/23 Sep TNR GrF17 (EbD1); latest, 3/28 Jan Brindabella Rd GrD15 (HeS1).

GBS: No records. Recorded only in 2013 and 1998.

Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

Common, breeding resident

This species is generally recorded in woodlands, on dry ridges of mountain forests and very occasionally in the suburbs.

General: 439 records up on 237 records last year from 73 grids up from 59 last year. There is an uptick in some metrics this year after a downward trend over the 10-year time frame. The Jan 2003 fires may have resulted in the spikes recorded for 2007 and the subsequent declines. Abundance is twice last year and up 16% on the 30YA. RR is up 117% on last year but down 7% on the 30YA. Max 35/29 Apr Campbell Park GrM13 (RaL1), mean 2.3, median 1. 5 breeding records: earliest, di/7 Nov MFNR GrL10 (BeC2), latest di/3 Feb Narrabundah Hill Nature Reserve GrI15 (CaJ4).

GBS: 69 records, similar to 66 last year, from 7 sites, the same as last year. RR is up 20% on last year and up 15% on the 30YA. Abundance is up 49% on last year and 10% on the 30YA. Max 4/5wk Oct Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2). Three breeding records after none last year: earliest, nb/4wk Oct Cook (TaN1), latest di/2wk Nov Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Common Bronzewing

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	439	237	85	121.8
WR	28	13	115	10.5
G	73	59	24	38.1
BR	5	3	67	1.9
GA	0.0475	0.0318	49	0.0432
GS	7	7	0	9.0
GBR	3	0	Inf	0.6

Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans*

Rare, breeding resident

Historical records restricted to well-watered habitats such those of the upper Cotter catchment.

General: 1 record: 2/7 Apr Bywong Newington Road GrP11 (EbD1).

Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*

Very common, breeding resident

Well-distributed in urban and rural areas and in woodlands, but largely absent from the wetter forests of the Cotter River catchment and surrounding NSW.

General: After a dip in some metrics last year, this species has resumed its long term upward trend. 3909 records up on 3443 last year. Abundance is up 41% on last year, up 46% on the 10YA and up 100% on the 30YA. RR is up 33% on last year, up 18% on the 10YA and up 52% on the 30YA. Max 60/6 May Cook (DrC1), mean 4.6, median 3. 38 breeding records compared with 37 last year: earliest di/12 Aug Fadden GrK16 (CaR3); latest dy/26 Mar Chifley GrJ13 (BuM4), with several “di” after that.

Crested Pigeon

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	3909	3443	14	661.8
WR	51	42	21	25.9
G	110	104	6	60.2
BR	38	37	3	8.3
GA	3.8804	3.8040	2	2.1650
GS	53	59	-10	49.4
GBR	85	70	21	52.5

GBS: 1828 records down on 2040 last year. Abundance has hardly shifted for the third year in a row but is up 11% on the 10YA and up 79% on the 30YA. Max 60/4wk Apr Kaleen (CIM1), mean 4.8, median 3. 85 breeding records, up on 70 last year: earliest di/4wk Jul Macgregor GrI12 (WIC1); latest is a little hard to determine, with the last “dy” being dy/12 Mar Jerrabomberra (HaL2), but later in the year, some reports of nb/19 Mar and on/4 June Page (AlB1), the latter probably an early start to the next season. With this species, “di” is recorded throughout the year.

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

Rare, non-breeding visitor/escapee

Visitors are from the dry interior or escapees from aviaries.

General: No records this year after 2 records last year.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida*

Rare, non-breeding resident

Over time this species has mostly been recorded at locations at or near the Murrumbidgee River.

General: 8 records compared with 20 last year, most from Bibaringa and JWNR. Abundance is down 82% on last year, down 87% on the 10YA and down 88% on the 30YA. All records were of single birds.

GBS: No records for the second year in a row.

Bar-shouldered Dove *Geopelia humeralis*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: One record this year following no records last year and 15 records the year before that: 1/29 Oct West Goulburn Bushland Reserve GrY01 (AnF1).

Brown-capped Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps longirostris*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year after the first ever record for the ACT 4 years ago.

CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel**Eastern Koel** *Eudynamys orientalis*

Common, breeding summer migrant

This species is now an established part of Canberra’s urban avifauna.

General: 477 records down from 586 records last year in 49 grids, up from 37 last year. Abundance up 1% on last year and up 115% on the 30YA. RR is down 5% on last year and up 86% on the 30YA. There were no WOO records indicating that this species still depends largely on urban habitats. Max 9/15 Dec Melba GrJ12 (KiB1), mean 1.3, median 1. Earliest record: 1/18 Sep Watson GrL12 (EbD1); latest, 1/17 Mar Cook GrJ13 (DrC1). Breeding: 22 records down from 38 last year, from 10 grids of 15 last year. Earliest, dy/7 Nov Giralang (RoM3); latest, dy/8 Mar Bungendore GrS13 (InC1).

Eastern Koel

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	477	586	-19	65.8
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	49	37	32	8.6
BR	22	38	-42	3.3
GA	0.3301	0.2542	30	0.0525
GS	46	50	-8	19.1
GBR	29	23	26	2.9

GBS: 481 records up from 462 last year from 46 sites down on 50 sites last year. Abundance is up 30% on last year and up 529% on the 30YA. RR is up 20% on last year and 390% on the 30YA. Max 6/2wk Oct Hughes GrK15 (Anl1). Earliest record: 1/4wk Sep Hughes (Anl1); latest, 1/4wk Mar Lyons GrJ15 (KoL1). 29 breeding records, up on 23 last year: earliest dy/2wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3); latest, dy/4wk Feb Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

Rare, non-breeding summer migrant

First reported in 1995 and in most years since then, with between 1 and 3 sightings each year, with 7 sightings in 2012 and 6 in 2011.

General: 5 records of 5 birds down on 14 records of 14 birds last year: earliest: 1/25 Sep ANBG GrK13 (InC1); latest, 1/9 Dec Bungendore GrS13 (InC1).

GBS: 1 record: 1/2wk Dec Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites basalis*

Common, Breeding summer migrant

Occurs in open forest mainly in spring and summer.

General: A very large turnaround in some General and GBS metrics compared with last year. 339 records, up from 110 last year from 87 grids, up from 46 grids last year with number of birds 504 this year cf 116 last year. Abundance is up 409% on last year and up 51% on the 30YA. RR is up 325% on last year and up 33% on the 30YA. Max 7/27 Sep Weston Park (NeG1), mean 1.3 median 1. Earliest 2/16 Aug London Bridge Homestead GrO19 (BuM1); latest, 1/25 Mar NNPVIC GrJ19 (HeS1). 5 breeding records: earliest di/16 Aug London Bridge Homestead GrO19 (BuM1); latest dy/18 Jan JWNR GrL14 (HeS1).

GBS: 36 records this year, up from 1 last year, with 17 from Giralang Pond (McD4 & KaD1), and others from Carwoola (BuM1), Curtin (AjR1) and Macgregor (WIC1), all sites adjacent to open spaces. Earliest, 1/2wk Aug Giralang GrK12 (KaD1); latest, 1/2wk Feb Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	399	110	263	77.3
WR	13	11	18	6.8
G	87	46	89	33.5
BR	5	1	400	1.0
GA	0.0167	0.0004	4263	0.0052
GS	9	1	800	4.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chalcites osculans*

Rare, non-breeding visitor.

Canberra is on the edge of this species' range from the dry inland.

General: 23 records this year up from 1 record last year – all single birds from 3 grids: earliest, 1/30 Jan Callum Brae NR GrL15 (MiP1); latest, 1/13 Feb Callum Brae NR (EbD1). 19 records of a single bird on LGin Pen 7-11 Feb, 3 from Callum Brae and 1 from Glendale Depot, making 3 birds altogether.

GBS: No record this year after 1 record 3 years ago, the first and only record in the GBS.

Shining Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus*

Common, Breeding summer migrant.

An inhabitant of woodlands and forests.

General: Reported mainly from nature reserves around the ACT. Abundance is up 11% on last year but down 49% on the 30YA. RR is up 9% on last year and down 53% on the 30YA. Earliest record: 1/22 Aug JWNR (LeM1); latest, 1/3 Apr MFNR GrL10 (BeC2). Breeding not recorded for the second year in a row.

GBS: The addition of rural sites in recent years has probably affected RR of this species. 23 records compared with 27 records last year, with 14 records from Carwoola (BuM1) and Wamboin (CoK2). Abundance is about the same as last year and up 39% on the 30YA. Earliest record 2/4wk Sep Deakin GrK14 (RoD2); latest, 1/4wk Feb Giralang (McD4).

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	132	142	-7	71.4
WR	8	10	-20	6.8
G	55	49	12	34.0
BR	0	0	-	0.8
GA	0.0105	0.0103	2	0.0076
GS	6	5	20	5.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Common and widespread throughout the region in spring and summer.

General: 292 records up on 196 last year. Abundance is up 80% on last year but down 21% on the 30YA. RR is up 75% on last year and down 35% on the 30YA. Earliest record 1/22 Aug CSIRO (Black Mountain) GrK13 (RoV1); latest, 1/27 Jun Mount Ainslie NR GrL13 (HoS1). One breeding record: dy/29 Oct Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (AIB1).

GBS: 5 records down from 17 records last year from 2 sites down from 6 sites last year. 11 records from Carwoola (BuM1). Abundance is down 73% on last year and down 75% on the 30YA. RR is down 66% on last year and down 73% on the 30YA. Earliest record: 1/1wk Aug Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1); latest, 1/3wk Mar Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). No breeding records after 3 last year.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	292	196	49	115.5
WR	5	6	-17	2.8
G	91	80	14	54.3
BR	1	0	Inf	0.8
GA	0.0022	0.0080	-73	0.0087
GS	2	6	-67	7.1
GBR	0	3	-100	0.4

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

There are widely distributed records of passage migrants as well as records from preferred summer habitats in the wet forests of the COG AoI.

General: 100 records up on 76 records last year from 43 grids up on 39 grids last year. The increased grid numbers possibly reflect observers picking up more birds in atypical habitats during migration passage. The abundance is up 49% on last year and up 23% on the 30YA. RR is up 54% on last year and up 23% on the 30YA. Earliest: 1/11 Oct TNR GrF18 (HoS1); latest, 1/12 Mar NNP – Nursery Swamp Track GrH22 (HeS1). 1 breeding record: di/3 Nov Hall TSR GrJ10 (BeC2).

GBS: 8 records after 12 last year, mainly from Giralang (KaD1), Carwoola (BuM1) and Wamboin (CoK2). Earliest record: 1/5wk Oct Giralang GrK12 (KaD1); latest, 1/3wk Mar Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Brush Cuckoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	100	76	32	20.9
WR	0	7	-100	2.1
G	43	39	10	13.8
BR	1	1	0	0.2
GA	0.0035	0.0046	-23	0.0011
GS	3	3	0	1.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Pallid Cuckoo *Heteroscenes pallidus*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Records tend to come from drier areas of the COG AoI in spring and summer.

General: A significant improvement over last year's results.

243 records up from 65 records last year from 72 grids up on 32 grids last year. Abundance is up 418% on last year, up 35% on the 10YA, but down 18% on the 30YA. RR is up 338% on last year but down 33% on the 30YA. Reported predominantly in spring 82% and summer 14%. Earliest record 1/1 Aug Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1); latest, 1/31 Mar Orroral Valley GrG22 (AlA1). 6 breeding records after 1 last year: earliest di/18 Sep Carwoola GrQ16; latest, dy/5 Glendale Depot GrI23 (HeS1).

GBS: 14 records down from 16 last year, from 4 sites, the same as last year. Abundance is up 51% on last year and down 48% on the 30YA. RR is the same as last year and down 62% on the 30YA. First record: 1/1wk Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1); latest, 1/3wk Jan Carwoola (Bum1).

Pallid Cuckoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	243	65	274	93.0
WR	16	7	129	15.8
G	72	32	125	38.9
BR	6	1	500	1.7
GA	0.0092	0.0061	51	0.0178
GS	4	4	0	11.6
GBR	2	0	Inf	0.4

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

Observed in suburbs and woodlands in the ACT and AoI.

General: 155 records up on 107 last year. Abundance is up 130% on the previous year and up 102% on the 30YA. RR is up 70% on the previous year and up 39% on the 30YA. Breeding: 62 records, up from 34 last year. Earliest, on/10 Sep Riordan St Park Fadden GrK16 (CaR3); latest ny/28 Dec Fisher GrJ15.

GBS: 64 records up from 53 last year. Abundance is up 30% on the previous year and up 70% on the 30YA. RR is up 39% on the previous year and up 83% on the 30YA. 13 breeding records: earliest, nb/1wk Sep and latest, dy/4wk Nov both at Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Common, breeding resident

Tawny Frogmouth

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	155	107	45	28.7
WR	0	1	-100	0.2
G	28	28	0	11.7
BR	62	34	82	8.5
GA	0.0497	0.0383	30	0.0293
GS	11	8	38	5.9
GBR	13	17	-24	9.5

EUROSTOPODIDAE: nightjars**Spotted Nightjar** *Eurostopodus argus*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year. One ACT record: a single bird at Goorooyarroo NR on 18 Sep 2011.

White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis*

Rare, breeding summer visitor

An occasional visitor from coastal area.

General: 2 records: 2/24 Oct Bibaringa GrH14 (CoC1) and 1/27 Feb N Hoskinstown GrT16 (KaJ1).

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

Sparsely but widely distributed in wooded areas.

General: 51 records, up from 29 records last year, mainly from ANBG and nature reserves around Canberra. Abundance up 122% on last year and down 22% on the 30YA. RR is 106% up on last year but down 20% on the 30YA. Breeding not recorded.

GBS: 23 records compared with 34 last year. Most records are from one rural site: Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2) and a few from Cook (TaN1) and a couple from Ainslie (HoS1). Breeding not recorded.

Common, breeding resident

Australian Owlet-nightjar

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	51	29	76	16.4
WR	0	0	-	1.0
G	16	16	0	7.6
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0101	0.0130	-22	0.0038
GS	3	5	-40	1.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

APODIDAE: swifts**White-throated Needletail** *Hirundapus caudacutus* 218

Uncommon, non-breeding summer migrant

Records are highly associated with weather fronts.

General: 26 records up on 16 records last year. Abundance is up 68% on last year but down 74% on the 30YA. RR is up 90% on last year but down 63% on the 30YA. Number of birds seen (310) is up by 44 on last year. Max 50/15 Mar New Baroona Rd GrL25 (LaS2), mean 11.9 and median 7.5. Earliest: 30/18 Jan New Chums Rd GrL25 (MiP1); latest, 8/1 Apr Paddys River Rd GrG15 (AlA1).

White-throated Needletail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	26	16	62	18.3
WR	1	0	Inf	0.1
G	20	11	82	12.6
BR	0	0	-	0.2
GA	0.0132	0.0352	-63	0.1351
GS	3	7	-57	12.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

GBS: 4 records down on 10 last year. Abundance is down 63% on last year and down 90% on the 30YA. Max 20/4wk Jan Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). Earliest record: 2/4wk Jan Macgregor GrI12 (WIC1); latest, 2/2wk Mar Campbell GrL13 (LjT1).

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

Rare, non-breeding summer migrant

This species is most often recorded in association with White-throated Needletails.

General: 11 records this year following 1 record last year. Max 15/24 Jan Wanniasa GrK16 (BeS1), mean 4.2 median 3. Earliest record: 1/24 Dec O'Connor (EbD1), latest, 3/18 Mar Campbell Park GrM13 (MaL2).

GBS: 2 records both in 4wk Jan. Max 8 Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and 5 Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

RALLIDAE: rails, crakes, swamphen, moorhen, coot

Lewin's Rail *Lewinia pectoralis*

Rare, breeding visitor

A very occasional visitor.

General: The number of reports of this species has fluctuated over the last 30 years on a very low base. Up until 2005 there were no records or very few, and since then there have only been records of 5 or more in 8 seasons. The trend was upwards until 2015 (41 records) but sharply downward since then to the 5 records this season. RR 0.0413%, down 58% on last year, and 72% down on 30YA. Abundance, 0.0005 down 56%, 76% and 69% on 2017, 10YA and 30YA. 3 records from JWNR, 2 from Forde Creek 1/31 May and 1/1 June (CIJ3). Possibly only 3 individual birds in total. Max 2/8 Jan JWNR (EbD1), mean 1.2, median 1. No breeding reported. One previous breeding record, 2016 dy.

GBS: No records. Only 2 previous GBS records, both in 2016.

Lewin's Rail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	5	14	-64	4.7
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	2	2	0	0.9
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*

Uncommon, breeding summer-migrant

A secretive bird, often difficult to observe.

General: Rarely seen before 2000 and only 1 or 2 records per year until 2012, highest ever levels of records and birds this year. Records up from 58 last year to 180, birds from 73 to 289. 89% records and 91% of birds from North Watson Ponds or close by. JWNR/FSP accounted for another 7% of the records. This is another example of an uncommon, relatively sedentary bird whose presence attracts large number of observers, each submitting records. A possible estimate of the total individual birds seen is 12, 4% of total recorded. RR (1.5) and abundance (0.0239) are around 300% above long-term averages. 7 grid cells, one outside ACT - Rose Lagoon, 2 records, 2/21 Oct (EbD1), 2/21 Dec (WyP1). Max 7/16 Nov North Watson (NaT1), mean 1.6, median 1. Recorded in 51 weeks, the longest period after a steady increase over many years: 30 YA, 5.6; 10YA, 12.5; and 2017, 31. Seasonal distribution was more even over the year, with spring and summer 50% of records compared with 80% in 30YA. 6 breeding records, all dy between 16 Nov and 1 Feb, all at North Watson Ponds, highest since 2015. Breeding recorded only in 7 years since 1984.

Australian Spotted Crane *Porzana fluminea*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Another furtive species, now seen in a variety of wetlands in and around Canberra.

General: Like most rails there has been a significant influx of this species over the last 5 years. Despite a decrease in grid cells from 6 to 4 (containing 6 locations) there is a big increase in records to the highest ever, 268% and 726% increase on 10YA and 30YA. Numbers increased from 21 to 166, 2nd highest ever and up 195% and 574% on 10YA and 30YA. RR is 1.1%, up 79% and 112% on 10YA and 30Y, and 3rd highest ever. Abundance is 0.0137, up considerably on the long-term indices. This is another example of an uncommon, relatively sedentary bird whose presence attracts large number of observers, each submitting records. 81% of the records are from JWNR, 1-3 birds regularly by many observers, sometimes on the same day, from September to May. 5 other locations, all in northern suburbs of the ACT, included Crace Pond (14 records, 1-2 birds), Casey Pond (8 records, 1-2 birds). Totalling the maximum number of birds from each site, gives a possible estimate of individual birds, 12, 7.2% of total reported. Historically, most sightings in summer, but this year records were spread more evenly between spring, summer and autumn, with no winter records. Max 3/27 Oct JWNR (MaL2), mean 1.3, median 1. No breeding reported. 1 previous year with breeding records, 4 in 2015.

Australian Spotted Crane

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	131	20	555	15.9
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	4	6	-33	2.4
BR	0	0	-	0.2
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Baillon's Crane *Porzana pusilla*

Rare, non-breeding summer migrant

Usually seen on mud around reed beds.

General A very substantial increase in sightings of this rare bird, similar to peaks in 2005, 2007, 2010, 2012 and 2013 – 280 birds reported (previous highest 96 in 2012), 165 records (previous highest 65 in 2013), 617% increase over 2017, 1065% increase over 30YA. 5 grid cells (up 2 from 2017 and 2.1 from 30YA). 2 from outside ACT (Bungendore Common and Rose Lagoon). 92% of records are from JWNR of 1-5 birds from 1/4 Sept (EbD1) to 2/19 Jan (BeS1), plus one late record on 15 April. No other site recorded more than 2 birds. This is another example of an uncommon, relatively sedentary bird whose presence attracts large number of observers, each submitting records. Totalling the maximum number recorded from each site gives a possible estimate of the total individual birds, 13, 4.6% of total reported. Abundance 0.0231, 218% and 271% above 10 and 30YAs. Max 5/11 Oct JWNR (EbD1), mean 1.7, median 1. As usual, most records in spring and summer. No breeding since 2010.

Spotless Crane *Porzana tabuensis*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Found occasionally in local wetlands, mainly this year JWNR and north Canberra suburbs.

General: After a drop in 2017, upward trends in indicators, apparent in 2016, returned in 2018. A big increase in records, 141 from 86 last year, highest ever, 300% and 828% up on 10YA and 30YA. Numbers increased from 166 to 190, highest ever. RR is 1.2% the 2nd highest ever. Abundance is 0.0157, up 109% and 140% on 10YA and 30YA, 2nd highest ever. This is another example of an uncommon, relatively sedentary bird whose presence attracts large number of observers, each submitting records. Totalling the maximum number of birds from each site, gives a possible total of individual birds of 14, 7.4% of total reported. Historically most sightings in summer, but this year records were spread more evenly between spring, summer and autumn, with fewer winter records. Earliest sighting was late, 1/2 Sept JWNR (W S1), 61 days after usual early July date. Max 4/3 Jun Forde Ck (EbD1), mean 1.4, median 1. 1 breeding record, dy/21 Jan JWNR (BuM4)

Spotless Crane

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	141	86	64	15.2
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	6	10	-40	2.4
BR	1	2	-50	0.5
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0001
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

GBS: No records this year. Other records only in 2013, 2015, 2016.

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*

Very common, breeding resident

This large, distinctive water bird can readily be seen all year at water-bodies across the region.

General: *Population possibly stabilising after apparent recent rapid growth.* Records, 1637, down by 11% on last year; total birds (12926), almost same as last year, grid cells 44, up from 37. RR, 13.5%, 4% up on last year, and higher than 10 & 30YAs. Abundance 1.0671 up from 0.9110 and well above the 30YA of 0.6835. Seen in all weeks, with *seasonal distribution similar to long term averages, after low spring sightings last year.* Max 73/2 July Rose Lagoon (AnF1), mean 8.1, median 6, all up on last year, but max and mean below long term averages, indicating trend towards smaller group sizes. *Less breeding activity recorded this year: 91 breeding records (82% dy), down from 159: first on/2 Sep WBPD (W S1), last dy/11 April Stranger Pond (HeS1) with an early start to the next season, on/30 June LGin Pen (AlB1).* Breeding grid cells, frequency and RRs are all down on 2017, but remain substantially higher than long-term averages. *Breeding recorded for 9 months, maintaining the trend to longer breeding seasons noted in 2017.* Most breeding records are from within ACT.

GBS: 108 records of 676 birds, up from 653, from 5 sites (6 in 2017) in 5 grid cells. A big fall in records from 151, but otherwise similar to 2017. Sites were in Crace (LeF1), Giralang (McD4), Greenway (HaA2), Jerrabomberra (HaL2) and Yarralumla (NeG1). Reports spread over 50 weeks with max 24/1wk April (HaL2), mean 6.3, median 3, all up on 2017 and no trend to smaller group sizes evident from max and mean records. Typical even seasonal distribution. Breeding at 3 sites, Crace, Greenway and Jerrabomberra, 2wk Sep to 1wk May, with 29 records, mostly dy.

Purple Swamphen

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1637	1838	-11	315.9
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	44	37	19	18.8
BR	91	159	-43	20.3
GA	0.2971	0.2500	19	0.0906
GS	5	6	-17	1.7
GBR	29	16	81	7.7

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa*

Common, breeding resident

One of the species regularly seen on the margins of suitable water bodies throughout the region.

General: *Most indicators are down on 2017, but remain considerably higher than 10 and 30YAs.* Months with the highest numbers of grid cells were Oct, with 29 and March with 25. Abundance 0.9798, down 8%, but 39% and 65% above 10 and 30YAs. By contrast, RR increased to 12.9%, up 3% on last year and 6% and 22% above 10 and 30 YAs. Reported every week from ACT's wetlands. *Seasonal distribution similar to long term patterns, with last year's spring low reverting to usual levels with more records in spring and summer.* Max 59/29 Oct Yerrabi Pond (ClJ3), mean 7.8, median 5. 61 breeding records, much fewer than in 2017, down 69%, but remaining 34% and 176% above 10 and 30 YAs. First record di/16 Aug Ginninderra Creek (KiB1), last dy/5 Mar LGin (EbD1).

GBS: Seen at 5 sites in 5 grid cells, with slightly fewer records (184, down 5%) and birds (789, down 2%). Abundance and RR both at highest ever levels, up 12% from 2017 and 352% on 30YAs. Seasonal distribution similar to historical patterns, with last season's low spring level reverting to usual levels, with slightly fewer records in winter. Max 11/5wk May Crace Wetlands (LeF1, mean 4.3 median 4. 10 breeding records, down 50%, from 3 sites, all dy, earliest dy/1wk Dec Giralang, (McD4), latest dy/3wk March Jerrabomberra (HaL2), a site with 6 breeding records.

Dusky Moorhen

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1559	1778	-12	329.1
WR	0	1	-100	0.1
G	48	50	-4	24.5
BR	61	199	-69	22.1
GA	0.3468	0.3097	12	0.0923
GS	5	8	-38	1.8
GBR	10	20	-50	6.2

Black-tailed Native-hen *Tribonyx ventralis*

Non-breeding vagrant

A very occasional visitor.

General: This is an irruptive species, not commonly recorded in the region. Last record 2014, a single bird at LBath. Previous years with records are: 2013 (75), 2012 (5), 2010 (63), 2008 (14), 2003 (32), 2002 (41) and 1996 (1).

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

Very common, breeding resident

Another regular inhabitant of Canberra water bodies, but sometimes seen also in very large numbers on LBath and LGeo.

General: 11% fall in records to 2384, but 2nd highest ever. Reflects the big rise in records since 2011, up 151% and 427% on 10 and 30YA. Numbers up 14% to 70 410, 4th ever highest and 159% above 30 YAs. *Seasonal distribution reverted to its typical pattern (slightly more in summer and slightly less in winter) after very low spring records in 2017.* Records predominately from the ACT with multiple records from JWNR area (29% of total), all major lakes and many smaller water bodies throughout the Territory.

The surrounding region produced numbers of records from major lakes and smaller water bodies, but no large groups from LBath or LGeo. The trend to smaller group sizes has continued with max 1022/26 Mar Googong (GrB1) down 21% on 2017 and 90% and 95% on 10 and 30 YAs). Mean 30.5, median 10 (up 67%). Trend to increased breeding records reversed with a 71% drop from 120 to 35 records in 13 grid cells (down from 20), but still 14% and 182% above 10 and 30YAs, predominantly dy. Earliest record, on/10 Sept Fadden Hills (CaN3). latest dy/8 Feb AIS (HeS1). *The breeding period this year of 6 months is short compared with typical pattern of starting in July/August and finishing in April/May. Breeding only reported from ACT.*

GBS: 2 sites fewer than 2017, but increase in records to 179, up 8% and numbers up 42% to 4111, both from relatively low figures in 2017. *Seasonal distribution reverted to its typical even pattern after low spring records in 2017.* Max 114/3wk Dec (Hal2), mean 23, median 12, up 100% on 2017. Only 2 breeding records, down from 18 in 2017, both from same site, on/4wk Oct and dy/1wk April Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

Eurasian Coot

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2384	2688	-11	452.3
WR	2	4	-50	1.7
G	77	64	20	33.0
BR	35	120	-71	12.4
GA	1.8070	1.1114	63	0.4675
GS	5	7	-29	2.0
GBR	2	18	-89	4.2

BURHINIDAE: stone-curlews**Bush Stone-curlew** *Burhinus grallarius*

Reintroduced, rare resident

This species has been reintroduced to the predator free sanctuary within Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve. Declared endangered in NSW.

General: 16 sightings at MFNR between Jul and Apr (BoJ1, GrB1, Bec2, W S1, DaC1 & ClJ3). 1 sighting from the adjoining suburb of Forde 1/7 Apr Forde (EbD1). Up from 11 sightings last year. 48 birds seen, up from 38 last year, with max 11/15 Jul (EbD1).

GBS: No records.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet**Red-necked Avocet** *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

Non-breeding vagrant

Mostly found on LBath and LGeo with sporadic sightings since 1988 in the ACT.

General: *Recorded in all months, first time since 1994.* Further increases this year: records 38, up 81% on last year; numbers 2218, up 554%: abundance, 0.1831, up 667% and RR, 0.3, up 112%. All these measures equal or are substantially above 10YA and 30YA. 5 grid cells, down 1 on 2017, but higher than 10YA and 30YA, 2 in ACT, 3 outside. *There are repeat/regular records of small numbers of birds from some locations. Examples include JWNR/FSW/KS, 17 records of 1-8 birds, mainly 2, between 13 May and 30 June; 6 records of 6 birds on the same day at LGeo. A possible estimate of individual birds, 536, 24.1% of total recorded.* Records mainly from JWNR/FSW/KS (total 14), LGeo E (7), Foxlow Lagoon (6), LGeo (6), but ACT records are of small numbers. Maximum group size and mean up on 2017, but well below 10 and 30YA. Max 500/19 Oct LGeo E (LeM1), where monthly sightings from June to Jan included groups from 28 -500, mean 58.4, median 6. No breeding, only 2 previous records, 2017 and 2008.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

Occasionally seen in small numbers in ACT, but sightings of larger groups confined to LBath and LGeo.

General: Reported every month, first time since 1996.

Number of records is up 67% on 2017, double 10YA and triple 30YA. Most other indicators are lower compared with both 2017 and long-term averages. RR, 0.7%, up 95% on 2017, but 6% and 24% lower on 10YA and 30YA; abundance (0.0605) similarly. Seasonal records unusual - 64% are spring records, substantially higher than last year and the long-term averages. Summer and autumn records are consequently somewhat lower than usual. Max 250/28 Feb 1 LGeo (LeM1), mean 8.3, median 1, (both down on 2017: 15.2, 4) perhaps lowered by the inclusion of large numbers of repeat records of mainly single birds at ACT sites. 24 records at 5 sites outside ACT produced the highest group sizes, highest number being LBath (12-93), LGeo (1-250) between July and January. JWNR/FSW produced 32 records, mainly of a single bird, 8 Oct to 12 Dec and Mulligans Flat had 22 records, all except one being a single bird, 15 Oct to 12 Nov. Totalling the maximum number of birds from each site, gives a possible estimate of individual birds, **370**, 50.5% of total recorded. No breeding records. Previous breeding reported only in 1994, 1997, 2006, 2012, 2015 and 2017.

Pied Stilt

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	90	54	67	30.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	9	9	0	5.6
BR	0	5	-100	0.7
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Non-breeding vagrant

Very few reports outside the LBath E basin. Reported in low numbers most years.

General: No records this year. Last year 4 records from LBath and JWNR.

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Prefers open mudflats and bare spaces in wetlands, rarely recorded in the ACT.

General: 4 records this year down from 14 last year. All sightings from LBath or LGeo from mid-Jul to mid-Dec: max 35/27 Jul LGeo "Silver Wattle" (LeM1), mean 20.5, median 18.5. A single breeding record "di" at the same date and location.

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

Rare, non-breeding vagrant

Migrates to Australia from New Zealand in the first half of the year, with virtually all sightings from LBath.

General: 3 records this year: 21/17 Jul LBath (LeM1) and 3/27 Jul LGeo "Silver Wattle" (LeM1), and 6/20 Aug LBath (LeM1).

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year. The first and only record for the COG AoI 5 years ago.

Black-fronted Dotterel *Elseyornis melanops*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Usually resident on the margins of bodies of water across the region.

General: RR (5.1%) is 47% up on last year, and up 22% on the 10YA and up 34% on the 30YA, while abundance is up 58% on last year and up 15% on the 10YA and, 33% on the 30YA. Records were from many widely-spread locations, largely from Canberra's suburban lakes and wetlands including JWNR/FSP, MFNR, Edgeworth Ponds (Coombs), Flemington Rd Ponds, Forde Pond, National Arboretum, Crace Pond, The Valley Av

Black-fronted Dotterel

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	621	494	26	118.9
WR	3	2	50	1.0
G	36	41	-12	18.6
BR	10	5	100	1.7
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0005
GS	0	0	-	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Ponds, and Uriarra Homestead Dam, as well as NSW sites - Goulburn Wetlands, BSP, Michelago, Lake Rd LGeo, and Rose Lagoon. Max 26/20 Aug LGeo (LeM1), mean 3.8 and median 2. Reported this year in even proportions in spring, summer, and autumn (around 30%), with a lower rate in winter (13%). 10 breeding records, a significant increase, given that the 30YA is 1.7: earliest di/11 Sep JWNR (McM4) and latest ny/4 Mar BSP (CaJ4).

GBS: No records this year. There are only 6 years in the previous 34 that have GBS records: 1982, 1995, 2002, 2012, 2015 and 2016. No breeding records ever in the GBS.

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*

Rare, breeding visitor

Occasionally sighted in the ACT in short grasses, but mostly around LBath.

General: Very few records this year, 4 records from Hoskinstown (BuM1), with 2 each from LBath and LGeo (LeM1). Max 6/8 Feb Hoskinstown (BuM1), mean 3.2, and median 4. In contrast to last year most records were evenly spread across the seasons, with slightly more (33%) in spring. 1 breeding record: dy/187 Dec Hoskinstown (BuM1).

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*

Common, breeding resident

Well distributed throughout the ACT in suitable grassy areas.

General: RR for this species declined gradually from 1984 (35.6%) to 2001 (6.1%) but since 2001 has risen gradually to 14.5%, indicating that the species continues to do well in the COG AoI. Max 58/3 Jun JWNR (MiP1), mean 3.5 and median 2. Most records from the wetlands and open grassy areas very widely spread throughout the COG AoI. Records were throughout the year: winter 19%, spring 31%, summer 27% and autumn 23%. Only 59 breeding records from 15 grid cells, down from last year: earliest on/3 Aug Belconnen (DaC2) and latest dy/17 Dec AIS (McI1).

GBS: 210 records from 23 sites is about the same as last year.

Max 6/5wk Aug Bonner (GrB1), mean and median both 2. Records spread evenly throughout the year, with a few more (31%) in summer. 16 breeding records (cf 11 last year and 17 the year before), from 3 sites: earliest on/4wk Jul Bonner (GrB1) and latest on/4wk Nov Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

Masked Lapwing

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1762	2019	-13	402.4
WR	10	12	-17	4.3
G	107	99	8	56.0
BR	59	131	-55	13.8
GA	0.1873	0.1528	23	0.1167
GS	23	22	5	24.1
GBR	16	11	45	4.5

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Occurs most frequently around vegetated shallow lakes and ponds.

General: Considerably more records than last year with RR of 3.7% being just below the peak of 2014 (4.0%), and 323% up on last year, and 174% up on the 10YA and 209% up on the 30YA. Number of birds seen is 1663 cf 248 last year. Most records (285) from JWNR/FSP, with a few from MFNR (32), Lake Rd LGeo (26), and Rose Lagoon (10). Max 18/17 Kellys swamp (AnI1), mean 3.7, median 3. Records mainly in summer (28%) and autumn (36%). No breeding records, only 7 previous breeding records: 2017, 2016, 2013, 2004 and 2002.

Red-kneed Dotterel

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	451	125	261	37.5
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	10	6	67	4.3
BR	0	1	-100	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Rare, non-breeding visitor

A very unusual sighting in our region. Declared endangered in New South Wales and vulnerable in the Commonwealth. This species was reported in 1964 when Lake Burley Griffin was filling, and subsequently sporadically through the seventies.

General: No records this year after about 40 last year, but none the two years before that.

SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies**Little Curlew** *Numenius minutus*

Non-breeding vagrant

A most unusual sighting from the COG AoI.

General: No records. 1 record last year, the first since 1998.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records. 1 or 2 birds seen every now and then, with 11 years with records since 1985.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year, last reported in 2014 and only 6 times before then.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

Uncommon, non-breeding summer migrant

The most common of the Scolopacidae. Can be seen between Aug and Apr on some wetlands.

General: While the number of records (25 cf 16 last year) is up, there is a very large decrease in the number of birds seen (615 cf 3314 last year). The 10 and 30YAs are near 2000 birds. So, while RR (0.2%) is up about 80% on last year, the abundance is down 80%. This is reflected in the maximum number - 300 cf 800 last year.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: A single observation 1/20 Aug LBath S. Morass, GrZ08 (LeM1). Possibly an overwintering first-year bird. Numbers down from the maximum of 56 reported last year from LBath.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

Non-breeding vagrant

Occasionally seen in summer at FSP, LBath and LGeo.

General: A reduction in all indices from last year with only 3 records compared with 8 last year. Median number of birds 4 cf 34 last year and the maximum number reported down from 160 last season to 17/28 Sep LBath S Morass GrZ08 (LeM1). 2 other records were 2/27 Jul LGeo Silver Wattle Gr09 and 4/20 Aug, LBath S Morass GrZ08 (LeM1).

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records. Approx. 40 records in 2003 and 2014 and 10 in 2015, with 1 or 2 records in some years and none in others.

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*

Common, non-breeding summer migrant

Also known as the Japanese snipe, is a medium-sized, long-billed, migratory snipe of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway.

General: Population indices similar to last season. Reported between 13 Aug and 8 Apr from 26 sites. Max 27/20 Jan Rose Lagoon GrU04 (BaI1), 71% of records from JWNR. Locations with numbers more than 18 requires enactment of the Federal Government Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) 1999 for any development approval. Two locations where more than 17 individuals reported are Rose Lagoon GrU04 and JWNR GrL14

GBS: 11 records from 2 sites in Giralang (McD4, KaD1). Recorded between 2wk Sep and 2wk Feb. Maximum 3/3wk Nov and 2wk Dec, (McD4).

Latham's Snipe

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	406	454	-11	65.8
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	20	28	-29	7.8
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0079	0.0042	88	0.0018
GS	2	3	-33	0.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year, reported in 20 of the previous 36 years.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year, last reported in 2014 and only 5 times before then.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year, reported in 22 of the previous 36 years.

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

Uncommon, breeding resident

Generally, inhabits the higher forests with leaf litter, but sometimes strays to lower altitudes in nature parks around Canberra.

General: 4 records single birds, slightly fewer than last year (6): 17 Oct Goorooyarroo NR (BoS2); 14 Mar Boboyan Rd GrI24 (HeS1); 8 Apr Michelago GrI24 (AlB1) and 29 Apr Bluetts Block (EbD1).

GBS: No records this year. 1 record 4 years ago, the 3rd time this species has been recorded in the GBS, from 2007, 2008 and 2014.

Little Button-quail *Turnix velox*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

An 'unusual' bird in the ACT. Only 16 records in the COG database, but from 9 widespread sites.

General: 2 records: 1/5 Dec MFNR (GoJ3) and 1/7 Dec Nelangelo TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

LARIDAE: gulls and terns**Silver Gull** *Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*

Common, breeding resident

A resident of larger bodies of water in the region.

General: A decrease in population indices from last year, (abundance 1.71 cf 3.01, RR 7.1% cf 10.2%). This is the first decrease since 2010-11. Max down from 911 last year to 720/20 Dec LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1). Numbers in excess of 400 reported from Spinnaker Island/ Black Mt Peninsula (GrK14), LGeo E (GrT09) and JWNR (GrL14). Five breeding records all from Spinnaker Island/Black Mt Peninsula and 2 records of dy at LTug (Gr16). A count of 1592 birds on Spinnaker Island from images taken by a drone on 25 October (C. Davey pers. obs.)

Silver Gull

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	859	1449	-41	200.7
WR	0	1	-100	0.1
G	26	33	-21	16.3
BR	5	11	-55	2.1
GA	0.6642	0.8878	-25	0.3320
GS	7	10	-30	4.2
GBR	10	25	-60	2.9

GBS: 84 records from 7 sites, a slight decrease from last year. A decrease in indices (abundance 0.66 cf 0.88, RR 3.7 cf 4, median number of birds 8 cf 13). Max 137/2wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). 10 breeding records (on 4, dy 6) from LBG GrK14, (NeG1) of birds breeding on moored boats.

Common Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No records this year. Most recent records 2013 and 2008.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

Non-breeding vagrant

A rare visitor in the period 2012 – 2016, but only 3 records before then in 2006, 2004 and 1987.

General: No records this year.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

Rare, Non-reeding visitor

A bird found on inland waterways and marshes. First seen in the ACT when LBG filled in 1964.

General: Only 25 records cf 40 last year. A large reduction from last season (abundance 0.0085 cf 0.067) with little change in RR. The median number of birds decreased from 8 to 4 and the average number reported decreased from 23.9 to 4.1. The maximum number seen was down from 110 last year 13/17 Sep JWNR GrL14 (EbD1). Reported from LGeo, LBath, LBG, JWNR/FSP and North Weston Ponds (GrJ14). 96% in spring.

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Non-breeding vagrant

A rare visitor, appeared in low numbers in 2014 – 2016, but only twice previously in 2009 and 1990.

General: No records this year.

PELECANIDAE: pelican

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

Common, non-breeding visitor

Seen on all wetlands but appears to favour JWNR.

General: 605 records, nearly double last year's number and RR of 5% again compared favourably with the 30YA of 3.9%. Numbers ranged from 1-1100, with the massive max 10 Nov LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1). Average 9.6, median 2. Recorded from 34 widespread grid cells, with JWNR accounting for 75% of the records. Recorded in every week of the year: winter 10%, spring 24%, summer 40% and autumn 26%. Pelican numbers fluctuate according to conditions inland. As expected, no breeding was recorded.

Australian Pelican				
	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	605	313	93	121.5
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	34	27	26	15.3
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.0505	0.0042	1100	0.0178
GS	4	4	0	6.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

GBS: 43 records from sites in Jerrabomberra, Giralang and Fadden. Range of 1-6 birds. Average 2.7. Winter 12%, spring 16%, summer 35% and autumn 37%. RR of 1.9% was up 178% on the 30YA.

ARDEIDAE: bitterns, herons and egrets

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

Non-breeding vagrant

Declared Endangered in NSW and under the *EPBC Act*. Rarely seen in our area of interest.

General: 7 records for the COG AoI (4 last year) and all from spring and summer at Rose Lagoon in NSW. Of these, 3 individual birds were reported on two occasions (ANF1). The other 4 records were of single birds (ANF1, LaK1, GrB1).

GBS: No records this year. There are only 2 GBS records of this species, in 2013 and 2014.

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Rarely seen in our area of interest.

General: 2 records of a single bird from Sep and Dec at JWNR (BuM4, DaC2). It cannot be determined whether this was two different birds or the same bird seen twice. No breeding has been recorded during the period 1982 to date. However, Steve Wilson in *Birds in the ACT: Two Centuries of Change* (1999) noted breeding activity in the past.

GBS: No records this year. Only 2 previous records in 2013 and 2015.

Nankeen Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Nocturnal feeding habits may lead to under-reporting.

General: 76 records (97 individual birds) this year, down from 119 records (167 birds) last year. 44 of the records (58%) are from JWNR with virtually all the other records being from the larger lakes and waterways in the suburbs. 1 record each from Bywong, Queanbeyan and Yass River. RR of 0.6% is below the rate of 0.8% last year, and below the 10YA of 0.9% and the 30YA of 0.8%, but suggests a relatively stable population. Max 5/28 Oct JWNR (MaR5), mean 1.3 and median 1. Reported in 29 weeks, with most records being in spring (30%) and summer (53%). Fewer records from autumn (12%) and winter (5.3%). No breeding records this year. Breeding previously recorded in 2012, 2013 and 2017.

GBS: 20 records, up from 10 last year. The increase is probably not a real increase in abundance but is more likely due to birds being recorded in all seasons (starting July) rather than only in summer and autumn as per last year. Also, 4 sites contributed records this year rather than the 3 of last year. Abundance is therefore consistent with the 10YA and remains up on the 30YA. There are no GBS breeding records for this species.

Uncommon, breeding visitor

Nankeen Night-Heron

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	76	119	-36	24.9
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	13	18	-28	6.2
BR	0	2	-100	0.2
GA	0.0110	0.0046	139	0.0025
GS	4	3	33	0.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis*

Occasionally seen in grassy surrounds of bodies of water, sometimes in flocks of 30 or more.

General: 75 records (431 birds) this year compared to 109 records (766 birds) last year. Reported for 12 grid cells (22 last year) from 12 ACT sites and 3 in NSW. 57 of the 75 records this year were from JWNR with the likelihood that the same birds were being recorded by multiple observers. Max 67/30 Oct at Fyshwick Canturf Farm (HiC2), mean 5.7 and median 3. Recorded in 23 weeks in all seasons, with 63% of records in autumn, 32% in spring and only 1.3% in winter. Last year this species was recorded in 27 weeks in all seasons but with greatest proportion of records being spring (45%). RR (0.6%) slightly below last year and also below the 10YA (1.1%) and 30YA (1.0%).

GBS: No records this year, following 1 record last year.

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Cattle Egret

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	75	109	-31	32.6
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	12	22	-45	7.0
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0036
GS	0	1	-100	1.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*

Occasionally seen in and around local bodies of water.

General: 174 records and 292 birds is marginally up on last year (160 records and 282 birds). This is above the 10YA (148) and the 30YA (67), but these figures are influenced by multiple reporting of the same birds at popular birding sites (notably JWNR where the majority of the reports for the species for the year were made in one 2 week period). Recorded from 30 sites in the suburbs, waterways and grasslands of the ACT, along with 14 sites in NSW. JWNR contributed 28% of all the records for the year. The 1.4% RR for the year is below the 10YA of 1.7%, but in line with the 30YA of 1.4%.

Uncommon, breeding visitor

White-necked Heron

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	174	160	9	44.8
WR	0	1	-100	0.7
G	39	52	-25	18.0
BR	0	0	-	0.4
GA	0.0040	0.0038	3	0.0015
GS	5	6	-17	2.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Max 9/21 Oct Rose Lagoon (WyP1), mean 1.7 and median 1. Reported in 42 weeks and all seasons of the year, with fewest records (8%) in winter and most in spring (35%) and summer (44%). This is somewhat unlike the long term seasonal figures where most sightings are in spring (44%). Breeding recorded only in 1996, 1997 and 2014.

GBS: 8 records from 2 suburban sites (Curtin and Reid) and 3 NSW sites (Burra, Jerrabomberra and Wamboin). All but one record, from Burra, were of single birds. This is similar to the number of records for last year and similar to the 10YA and 30YA. No breeding recorded in the GBS.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Seen in shallow waters across the region.

General: 207 records this year (284 last year) from 150 sites across 20 grid cells (27 cells last year). JWNR contributed 102 of those records (49%) with the bunched record dates indicating multiple observers reporting the same birds at this heavily surveyed site. Records were submitted in 46 weeks and all seasons, fewest in winter (7%), greatest in spring (41%), with summer (26%) and autumn (26%). Max 5/29 Mar Yarralumla Bay (BaD3) and 5/28 June Rose Lagoon (LaK1). Overall, most records were of 1 or 2 birds, mean 1.2 and median 1. This is virtually the same as last year. RR has fallen again this year to 1.7% (2.0% last year). This is down on the 10YA of 2.5% and on the 30YA of 2.0%.

GBS: 39 records, the majority from winter and spring, from 2 sites adjoining Giralang Pond, for 32 weeks spread throughout the year. A single record from Lyneham, 3 from Jerrabomberra and 3 from Crace. 2 records reported 3 birds. All other records were of single birds

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Great Egret

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	207	284	-27	62.2
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	20	27	-26	9.4
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0198	0.0096	107	0.0042
GS	5	3	67	1.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Occasionally seen in shallow bodies of water in the local area.

General: As shown in the attached table, both records and the number of birds reported this year have returned to a level closer to the 30YA, following last year's huge number of records and birds. Reported from only 3 sites this year: JWNR (8 records), North Weston Pond (1 record) and Rose Lagoon (13 records). Max 4/21 Oct Rose Lagoon (AlA1), mean 1.5 and median 1. It is likely the 13 Rose Lagoon records were for the same 1-4 birds since all records were over a 4-week period from mid-Oct to mid-Nov. RR has fallen to the very low level of 0.2% (2.1% last year), down on the 10YA of 1.0% and the 0.7% 30YA. Reports were made in 8 weeks only (25 weeks last year), in spring and summer only, with 68% of these records being in spring.

GBS: No records this year, following 1 record for each of the last 2 years. This is consistent with the changes in incidence in the general survey.

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Intermediate Egret

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	22	288	-92	22.3
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	3	16	-81	2.9
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0011	-100	0.0002
GS	0	1	-100	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*

Common, breeding resident

Often seen on margins of bodies of water of all sizes across the region.

General: 1234 records this year (1953 individual birds) which is down from 1488 records last year (3107 birds). However, unlike many other local species, RR has remained stable over time, being 10.2% this year, 10.5% last year and also consistent with the 10YA of 10.3% and 30YA of 10.1%. Records were from many sites scattered across 166 grid cells, in all weeks and all seasons of the year (winter 14%, spring 25%, summer 32%, autumn 29%). Max 11/15 Feb Foxlow Lagoon (BuM1), mean 2.1 and median 1. 6 breeding records this year, down from 17 last year. The first breeding record was nb/14 Aug Stranger Pond (HeS1) and the last dy/12 Mar Ginninderra Creek, Nicholls (HaJ7).

GBS: 120 records spread throughout the year and reported from 2 suburban sites adjoining Giralang Pond and 2 NSW sites at Jerrabomberra and Murrumbateman. Records this year were down on last year's 156 and down on the 10YA of 165, though still substantially above the 30YA of 92 records. Generally single birds were reported with some reports of 2 birds and one of 3 birds. No breeding records during the year. Breeding reported by the GBS in only 4 years.

White-faced Heron

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1234	1488	-17	314.5
WR	3	12	-75	4.0
G	116	122	-5	59.0
BR	6	17	-65	4.0
GA	0.0677	0.0819	-17	0.0462
GS	12	19	-37	12.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Very occasionally seen in the margins of water bodies

General: No records this year in our AoI, following 50 records last year. Occasionally recorded in this region over the last 30 years.

THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills**Australian White Ibis** *Threskiornis molucca*

A regular inhabitant of wetlands around the region.

General: Numbers possibly stabilising after rapid recent increases although RR has been increasing steadily since 2005. Current numbers down 9% on 2017, but remain historically high, 7x 30YA and 3x 10YA. Records up by 1% over last year; RR 9.5%, up from 8%; and abundance 1.4033, up by 7%, all well above long-term averages. Seasonal sightings reverted to long term patterns, with spring records increasing from last year's unusually low level. Max 800/25 Aug Fadden (CaR3), up 82% on last year, mean 14.9, median 3. 6 breeding records, up 2 from last year, all at Gungahlin Pond or close by: earliest on/25 Nov (RoM3); latest on/24 Feb (BuM1). Most breeding records were in February, compared with the long-term norm, October.

GBS: 217 records from 19 sites in 12 grid cells, all lower than last year. Recorded in all months. Numbers also down 4% from last year to 2749. Max 97/2wk Jun Fadden (CaR3) (227 in 2017), mean 12.7 (10 in 2017) and median 6 (4 in 2017). 42 records from Murrumbateman (BIJ1), 29 from Giralang (McD4, KaD1) and 27 from Jerrabomberra (HaL2). RR fell by 13%, though second highest GBS level. Abundance up 10%, to the 2nd highest ever GBS level. Both measures are well above 10YA and 30YA. Seasonal sightings were close to long term patterns. One breeding record on/3wk Nov Curtin (AjR1). Only 1 previous record, in 2010 (co).

Common, breeding resident

Australian White Ibis

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1152	1137	1	187.7
WR	6	6	0	2.0
G	56	60	-7	28.1
BR	6	4	50	1.8
GA	1.2084	1.0965	10	0.3067
GS	19	25	-24	11.5
GBR	1	0	Inf	0.0

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Often seen on well-watered grasslands, including playing fields and golf courses.

General: Continuing a trend from 2011, numbers increased to 5366, 56% up on 2017 and records 41% to 617. Range expanded to 68 grid cells, from 49 in 2017. At 0.4430, abundance is similar to its long-term level (10YA= 0.4366, 30YA= 0.4171), after substantial drop to 0.2419 in 2017. RR jumped by 65% to 5.1%, substantially above long-term averages of 3.2%. Seasonal sightings are unusual, winter up 74% and summer down by about 50%. Max 150/23 Aug, Rose Lagoon (AnF1), mean 8.8, median 4. Only 2 other records were for 100 or more birds: 122/20 Jan Wet Lagoon (AnF1) and 100/20 Jan Rose Lagoon (BaI1). Despite the increase in grid cells, over a third of records still from JWNR & FSP, others are from widespread sites throughout COG's area of interest. Present throughout the year.

Common, non-breeding visitor

Straw-necked Ibis

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	617	438	41	99.2
WR	1	2	-50	0.8
G	68	49	39	22.7
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.3468	0.1914	81	0.3270
GS	22	16	38	14.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

GBS: Follows a similar pattern to the general records with increases from 2017. 22 sites, up from 16, produced 95 records, up 83% on last year, numbers 789, up 58%. RR (4.2%) up substantially over 10YA (223%) and 30YA (97%). Abundance (0.3468), up 81% on last year, but close to 30YA (0.3270). Seen in 45 weeks, up substantially on long-term averages. Seasonal sightings have reverted to more typical patterns with winter and autumn providing 65% of records, similar to 10 & 30YAs. Group sizes in decline: max, 56/16 April Campbell (RoS1) down by 88% on 30 YA. Mean 8.3 and median 4. Sites were widely dispersed across ACT suburbs, but only one outside ACT.

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes*

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Occasionally seen in small groups in wetlands, including small bodies of water.

General: Recent decline apparently reversed. Records up), numbers 144 (92%), and grid cells 14 (up 56%) amongst the highest ever, well above the 10 & 30YAs. Abundance (0.0119) 44% below the 30YA. RR (0.7%) same as 30YA. All records but 1 in 2017 were from water bodies north of ACT. In 2018, 4 ACT grid cells accounted for 74% of the records and 72% of birds, with repeat sightings, over a short period, at JWNR, Mulligans Flat and sites outside the ACT. Another example of an uncommon, relatively sedentary bird whose presence attracts large numbers of observers, each submitting records. A possible estimate of the total individual birds seen, 34, 24% of total numbers. Group sizes in decline: Max 6/22 Feb JWNR (BeC2), mean 1.6, and median 1. Most records are single birds, but multiple sightings included 4 at each of L Bath 9 July (LeM1), Wet Lagoon 24/Sept (AnF1) and 15 Oct (COF1), Ginninderra Creek 23 Feb (HaJ7). Seasonal patterns reversed from last year: 88% of records in spring (33%) and summer (55%), while 80% were in winter and autumn last year.

GBS: No records this year. Recorded only 14 times in the GBS.

Yellow-billed Spoonbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	88	15	487	21.8
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	14	9	56	6.7
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0004
GS	0	0	-	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

An irruptive species, sometimes appearing in small groups in wetlands across the region.

General: Declining trends from 2013 appeared to reverse: number of records, birds (347) and grid cells at highest ever levels. All indices above 10YA and 30YA. Abundance (0.0286), higher than 2017 and 10YA, but lower than 30YA (0.0303). RR (1.9%) considerably higher than 10 & 30YA (1.2%). 80% of the records (1-5 birds) and 82% of birds were from JWNR from 22 Oct to 8 May, reported by many observers. Another example of multiple reporting of an uncommon, sedentary bird. A possible estimate of the total individual birds seen, 38, 11% of total recorded. Seasonal patterns differ from long term averages with 82.6% of the records being in Summer and Autumn. Max 5/17 April JWNR (DaC1), mean 1.5, median 1, Locations evenly split between ACT and surrounding areas. 10 sites had only single birds. 1 breeding record, first since 2010, ny/21 Feb Gungahlin Pond (COF1).

GBS: 5 records of 1-2 birds from 2 locations in Giralang overlooking the wetland – earliest 1/3wk Oct (KaD1), latest 1/4wk April (McD4). Recorded only 11 times previously in the GBS.

Royal Spoonbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	235	53	343	38.0
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	15	9	67	6.3
BR	1	0	Inf	1.1
GA	0.0026	0.0004	589	0.0008
GS	2	1	100	0.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

An occasional visitor to marshy areas across the region

General: Records and numbers have fluctuated markedly over the years. This year was a poor one with only 4 birds from a single record, 12 Nov Crace Pond (HaJ7), compared with last year's 150 birds from 34 records in 8 grid cells and the lowest since 2011.

GBS: No records. Only 2 previous records, one from last year.

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

Common breeding resident

Can be regularly found on the various bodies of water in and around Canberra.

General: The most commonly recorded cormorant and the most widespread (from 87 grid cells). 1541 records this year, incl 7 WOO, and the RR of 12.7% is well up on the 30 YA of 9.1%. Numbers ranged from 1-51: 51/4 Feb Molonglo R GrJ14 (CaJ4). Recorded in every week of the year, with 18% in winter, 25% spring, 26% summer and 32% autumn – a normal seasonal pattern. 2 breeding events: dy/20 Jan Gungahlin Pond GrK11 (RoM3) and on/27 Jan Molonglo R GrJ14 (CaJ4).

GBS: 182 records, slightly down on last year's 203 but well up on the 30YA of 66.8. RR of 8% was also well up on the 30YA of 2.5%. Recorded fairly evenly over the year. Numbers ranged from 1 to 7 birds, with max 7/14 May Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). Recorded from 12 sites, mostly adjacent to water.

Little Pied Cormorant

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1541	1573	-2	283.3
WR	7	3	133	2.7
G	87	84	4	41.5
BR	2	2	0	2.8
GA	0.1574	0.1742	-10	0.0568
GS	12	14	-14	5.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Common, breeding resident

Commonly found on the urban lakes and wetlands.

General: As with all the cormorants, the number of records and RR of the Great Cormorant have soared over the last 30 years, with the new urban wetlands a major contributing factor. Recorded in every week of the year, with fewer winter records (14%), spring 27%, summer 35% and autumn (24%). Max 21/7 Jan FSP GrL14 (MiP1), average 2.9. From 46 widespread grid cells. 6 breeding records from 3 sites, from on/25 Nov Giralang Pond (RoM3) to ny/2 Apr QSP (BuM1). The other site was the Molonglo R. Unsurprisingly 41% of the 654 records came from JWNR.

GBS: 74 records, at a RR of 3.3% as against the 30YA of 0.8%. Recorded in 40 weeks. Range 1-30 birds. From 10 sites, LBG, Curtin, Jerrabomberra, Giralang, Lyneham, Yarralumla, Kambah, Crace and Fadden, generally near bodies of water.

Great Cormorant

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	654	627	4	151.0
WR	0	0	-	0.4
G	46	39	18	23.5
BR	6	6	0	0.9
GA	0.1235	0.0356	247	0.0205
GS	10	7	43	4.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Very common, breeding resident

This species flocks in larger numbers in this region than other cormorants.

General: Total number of birds seen 8821, from 816 records, at a RR of 6.7%, up on the 30YA of 4.6%. Max 253/15 Oct JWNR (MiP1), average 11. Recorded in every week of the year: winter 9%, spring 21%, summer 41% and autumn 28% - a quite normal pattern. From 47 widespread grid cells, with 41% of records from JWNR & FSP. 5 breeding records between 20 Jan and 21 Feb from 3 sites, Gungahlin Pond, Molonglo R, and Nicholls.

GBS: 66 records, down on last year's 85 but up on the 30YA of 24. RR of 2.9% remains well up on the 30YA of 0.9%. From 36 weeks spread throughout the year, but with only 9% winter and 15% spring. From 6 sites including Giralang (2 sites overlooking Giralang Pond), Jerrabomberra, Crace, Lyneham and Fadden.

Little Black Cormorant

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	816	863	-5	142.1
WR	3	1	200	0.5
G	47	43	9	20.8
BR	5	3	67	1.7
GA	0.2092	0.3162	-34	0.0559
GS	6	8	-25	2.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

The least common of the locally occurring cormorants.

General: 61 records, at a RR of 0.5%, the same as the 30YA. From 13 widespread grid cells. Numbers ranged from 1-8 birds, max 8/25 Nov JWNR (HoS1), average 2.7. Recorded in 29 weeks, between Aug and Apr, again mainly in spring with 39% and summer 44%, with about half from JWNR, and the rest mostly from peri-urban wetlands, but also including Murrumbateman and Yass. This species has never been recorded breeding in our AoI.
GBS: No records. Reported in only 7 years of the GBS.

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Pied Cormorant

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	61	61	0	15.1
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	13	8	62	4.1
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0002
GS	0	0	-	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

ANHINGIDAE: darter**Australian Darter** *Anhinga novaehollandiae*

Seen foraging in local water-bodies with only its snake-like head and neck exposed, or drying itself in trees on the margins.

General: 759 records, at a RR of 6.3%, up on the long-term average of 4.3%. An unsurprising 60% of records came from JWNR and environs. Numbers ranged from 1-53, the latter recorded 4 Feb Molonglo R GrJ14 (CaJ1). Recorded in every week, winter 15%, spring 21%, summer 31% and autumn 33%, from 36 grid cells, both urban and rural. 4 breeding records from 3 grid cells: earliest, on/29 Oct Molonglo Reach GrL14 (MaR5); on/ 27 Jan and 4 Feb Molonglo R GrJ14 (CaJ4), and the latest

Uncommon, breeding resident

Australasian Darter

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	759	997	-24	133.8
WR	0	0	-	0.4
G	36	30	20	12.3
BR	4	6	-33	3.4
GA	0.0444	0.0222	100	0.0067
GS	6	6	0	2.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

dy/19 May Gungahlin Pond GrK11 (HaJ7). It seems that darters are adapting to alternative territories following the clearing of willows and increased human traffic along their traditional haunt of Molonglo Reach. Since 2003, darters have been recorded as breeding every year in our region.

GBS: 40 records this year, at a RR of 1.8% up against the long-term average of 0.4%. Numbers ranged from 1-9, average 2.5. They were recorded from 6 urban sites, commonly from Jerrabomberra, but also occasionally from LBG, Giralang, Curtin, and Kambah. Records came in 30 weeks throughout the whole year, more commonly in summer 38% and autumn 48%.

ACCIPITRIDAE: kites, harriers, goshawks, eagles**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

Non-breeding vagrant

Declared vulnerable in NSW. There have been only 3 sightings of this species, possibly of dispersing young, since the first endorsed record in 2011.

General: No records this year. Last record from Googong Dam in 2013.

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Numbers fluctuate according to the availability of suitable food, such as mice, small mammals and grasshoppers.

General: Compared with the previous year, 2017-18 was a much better year for this species, with 316 records, treble the number of the previous year. RR of 2.6% approximates that of the 10YA, though fluctuating numbers are common for this species, with RR having varied from 0.4% to 8.5% over the last 30 years. Numbers ranged from 1-4, with an average of 1.3. Recorded in 45 weeks. Their seasonal distribution was again somewhat unusual, with a higher autumn peak of 43% of records. These kites were recorded in 45 widespread urban and rural grid cells, though the hotspot for the species was again the ever-popular JWNR, with

Black-shouldered Kite

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	316	104	204	88.9
WR	0	0	-	0.6
G	45	25	80	22.8
BR	3	1	200	1.4
GA	0.0044	0.0015	187	0.0153
GS	3	2	50	6.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.6

grid L14 accounting for half the records. It was also the site of 3 possible breeding records, “ih” and “di”, in May, with breeding records in 14 of the previous 30 years.

GBS: 10 records, all single birds, from three sites near open grassland in Curtin, Bonner and Giralang. RR of 0.4% was well down on the 10YA of 1.2% and the 30YA of 1.3%. Seven records came in autumn, 2 in winter and 1 in spring.

Square-tailed Kite *Lophoictinia isura*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

January 2016 saw the first endorsed record of this species in the ACT. It is a regular summer visitor to the south coast.

General: No records this year, with records in 2009 and 2015-2017.

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*

Common, breeding resident

A large conspicuous raptor regularly seen soaring over woodlands and open country, and sometimes over the suburbs.

General: The iconic “wedgie” is one of the very few raptor success stories in our region, with 574 records this year, from 136 widespread grid cells. The relatively healthy RR of 4.7% is nevertheless somewhat below the 30YA of 5.1%. Numbers ranged from 1-7 birds (7/21 May LGeo GrT09 (LeM1), average 1.5. Recorded in every week, with winter 19% of records, spring 25%, summer 24% and a slight peak in autumn, 32%. It is worth noting that autumn saw the highest proportion of datasheets, 28.9%. There were 3 breeding records di/8 Dec Mt Majura GrM12 (HuC2); di/24 Apr Paddys R Rd GI18 (NeG1); and nb/30 May McQuoids Hill (HeS1). Additional breeding reported on the COG chat line and elsewhere was not reflected in the formal record.

GBS: 71 records this year, but RR of 3.1% compared more than favourably with the 30YA of 1.7%. Range 1-3 birds, average 1.4. Records from 20 widespread sites, both urban and rural, over 40 weeks, with a slight peak in spring with 31% of records. No breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

Wedge-tailed Eagle

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	574	420	37	157.1
WR	5	2	150	3.0
G	136	124	10	64.6
BR	3	5	-40	2.5
GA	0.0426	0.0333	28	0.0231
GS	20	22	-9	15.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Irregularly observed across the region, and over the suburbs. Declared vulnerable in NSW and the ACT.

General: Once again, a surprising number of records (173, including 2 WOO) for a vulnerable species, but RR of 1.4% is well below the 30YA of 2.3%. Range 1-3 birds, average 1.1. Recorded over 50 weeks, with 17% winter records, 27% spring, 22% summer, and 34% autumn, and from 38 widespread grid cells. Unsurprisingly JWNR again accounted for a large proportion of the records (36%). 5 breeding records: di/31 Aug Barooka Rd GrL25 (LaS2); on/3 and 15 Dec, and dy/28 Dec and 26 Jan/ all Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1). Further records of successful breeding did not reach our databases. We note that the Little Eagle Research Group, a joint research project between the ANU, the ACT Government, CSIRO and Ginninderry Joint Venture, claimed that 9 pairs were confirmed with nests, 6 laid eggs and 4 chicks were raised from 3 nests (Rae S et al, 2018).

GBS: 11 records, all of single birds, from 4 urban sites – Ainslie, Giralang, Jerrabomberra and Curtin – and one rural – Carwoola. Common in none. RR of 0.5% was nearly 10% down on the 10YA. 4 records in spring, 3 in winter and 2 each in summer and autumn.

Little Eagle

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	173	161	7	70.3
WR	2	2	0	1.2
G	38	41	-7	24.0
BR	5	3	67	2.1
GA	0.0048	0.0054	-10	0.0065
GS	5	7	-29	7.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*

Infrequently observed over grasslands, wetlands and streams.

General: 69 records, of 1-5 birds, average 1.5, from 18 largely rural grid cells, at a RR of 0.6% comparable with the 30YA. Recorded in 25 weeks, primarily in spring (55%) and summer (23%). The hotspot for this species is Rose Lagoon GrU04, which accounted for 38% of records. No breeding recorded.

GBS: One record, 1/5wk May Curtin GrK14 (AjR1), a rare occurrence, the first GB record since 2000.

Uncommon, breeding resident

Swamp Harrier

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	69	60	15	19.4
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	12	18	-33	7.4
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0004	0.0000	Inf	0.0000
GS	1	0	Inf	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Declared vulnerable in NSW. This handsome harrier's stronghold is the arid and semi-arid zones so its presence in the ACT is irregular.

General: 7 records this year, all single birds, from 6 grid cells, covering JWNR, Jarramlee NR, Parkwood, LGeo and Michelago. Recorded between 29 Sep and 10 Jun, with 1 in winter, 5 in spring and 1 in autumn. Over the last 30 years, numbers for this species have varied from one to 91 (in 2013). **GBS:** No records this year. There have been harrier GBS records in only 4 of the previous 30 years.

Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

A bird of the wet forests, very occasionally observed in the region.

General: Only 5 records again this year, all single birds from 3 grid cells covering ANBG, Aranda, Ainslie and Captains Flat between Sep and May. Two were recorded in spring and 3 in autumn.

GBS: One record of a single bird, 3wk May Ainslie (HoS1).

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

Common, breeding resident

Regularly observed throughout the region, including Canberra suburbs.

General: 276 records, incl 11 WOO, from 64 widespread grid cells. Numbers ranged from 1-4, with 4/1 Aug MFNR (CIJ3). RR of 2.3% was down on the 30YA of 3.0%. Recorded in 49 weeks, with a typical seasonal distribution: 13% records in winter, 34% spring, 32% summer and 21% autumn. 14 breeding records, ranging from ny/10 Sep Cotter Rd GrI15 (CaJ4), to dy/26 Jan TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1). It seems likely that 6 separate breeding events were involved, with the others at the ANBG, MFNR, Gilmore horse paddocks and Stony Ck NR. Goshawks have been recorded breeding in all but 3 of the previous 30 years – unsurprising, given their conspicuous breeding behaviour around observers.

GBS: 27 records from 12 sites, all single birds. RR of 1.2% was slightly above the 10YA of 0.9%. Goshawks were recorded in 23 weeks between Aug and Jun. No breeding recorded.

Brown Goshawk

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	276	197	40	92.0
WR	11	7	57	6.1
G	64	55	16	37.5
BR	14	6	133	4.1
GA	0.0119	0.0092	29	0.0102
GS	12	10	20	12.9
GBR	0	1	-100	0.0

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus*

Common, breeding resident/sum. migrant

Regularly observed throughout the region, especially in the warmer months.

General: 164 records, from 57 widespread urban and rural grid cells, and with a RR of 1.4%, just above the long-term average. Numbers ranged from 1-5 birds, average 1.2. Recorded in 47 weeks of the year, 17% in winter, 27% spring, 29% summer and 27% autumn. 8 breeding records between nb/2 Oct Bluetts Block (WiS1) and on/14 Jan ANBG (NaT1). Other breeding sites were Uriarra E Reserve and Stirling Park. Breeding has been recorded for sparrowhawks in 16 of the previous 30 years.

Collared Sparrowhawk

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	164	117	40	41.8
WR	0	3	-100	1.9
G	57	46	24	20.2
BR	8	3	167	1.0
GA	0.0330	0.0391	-16	0.0230
GS	16	20	-20	17.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.7

GBS: 72 records, from 16 sites across 14 grid cells. Common in none. RR of 3.2% is up on the 10YA of 2.2%. Its seasonal pattern was similar to the general records, above. Mostly single birds, with some twos.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Occasionally seen over our area's lakes and rivers, or travelling between them.



White-bellied Sea-Eagle

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	27	35	-23	21.8
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	14	17	-18	9.9
BR	0	1	-100	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0004
GS	0	1	-100	0.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

General: 27 records, at a RR of 0.2% against the long-term average of 0.7%. Mostly single birds, from 14 widespread grid cells, nearly always over bodies of water and along rivers, such as Yass Gorge, Casuarina Sands or

Shepherds Lookout. 10 records from JWNR. Recorded throughout the year, though with more spring (33%) and fewer autumn (30%) records than usual. No breeding recorded.

GBS: No records. Self-evidently, the sea-eagle is not a garden bird but a few manage to overfly suburbia from time to time.

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Seen throughout the region, often near bodies of water or wetlands.

General: 166 records, from 35 widespread grid cells, though almost half of them came from JWNR. Numbers ranged from 1-2 birds, with most sightings of single birds. Recorded throughout the year, with most records falling in summer 25% and autumn 31%. RR of 1.4% was just below the long-term average of 1.5%. No breeding records; the species has only been recorded breeding 3 times in last previous 10 years.

GBS: 2 records, similar to the long-term average: 1/1wk Jan Fadden GrK16 (CaR3); and 1/2wk May Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). The species has never been a common garden bird, with the highest number of records 5, in 2004.

Whistling Kite

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	166	153	8	48.0
WR	0	0	-	0.7
G	35	35	0	11.1
BR	0	2	-100	0.6
GA	0.0009	0.0004	130	0.0007
GS	2	1	100	1.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

This large and distinctively fork-tailed inland raptor is an occasional visitor.

General: 16 records, compared with an average of 4.3 in the previous 10 years. RR is stable at 0.1%, continuing the pattern of regular low-level reporting of this inland species. All single birds, recorded between Jul and Apr from 12 grid cells, many in the northern extremities of our AoI.

GBS: No records this year, but occasionally reported in the GBS.

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

Rare, non-breeding visitor

The local population fluctuates according to the availability of suitable food, such as mice.

General: Barn Owls tend to occur when there are mice plagues and this year was not sufficiently rodent rich in to attract the birds in good numbers. Only 9 records, all single birds and 4 were of presumably the same bird at LTug on 27-28 Sep. 2 others were winter records and 3 autumn. Not having been recorded as breeding in our area display record from GrK15 in Aug may have been a misinterpretation. Barn Owls have only been recorded in high numbers in our area in 1991, 1995 and 2012.

GBS: No records. Barn Owls have been reported in very low numbers in 19 years.

Barn Owl

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	9	6	50	4.0
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	6	2	200	2.4
BR	1	0	Inf	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0004
GS	0	1	-100	0.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

STRIGIDAE: hawk owls**Powerful Owl** *Ninox strenua*

Rare, breeding resident

A seldom-observed inhabitant that breeds in old-growth forests. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: 27 records, 24 of which came in Aug from the ANBG, of presumably the same bird. Three autumn records came from Wamboin and Carwoola. RR of 0.2% was the same as the long-term average. Powerful Owls have been recorded in 19 of the previous 30 years, most commonly in years in which a bird chooses to roost in a central Canberra location such as the ANBG or Turner.

GBS: None. 1 record only in 2005.

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*

Non-breeding vagrant

Declared vulnerable in NSW. A very occasional visitor to woodlands and suburbs.

General: No records this year. The most recent endorsed record is at Shepherds Lookout in Apr 2011.

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

Common, breeding resident

The most numerous of our local owls, heard more often than seen in the suburbs. In serious decline nationally, according to BirdLife Australia (2015).

General: 43 records, mostly single birds except for 3/18 Jan Cotter Rd GrH14 (MiP1). From 20 mainly urban grid cells. RR of 0.4% is well below the 30YA of 1.0%. Recorded in 27 weeks: winter 9%; spring 35%; summer 23% and autumn 33%. Again, no breeding recorded. Boobooks have been recorded breeding only twice in the previous 10 years.

GBS: 66 records, 29% down on the 30YA, at a RR of 2.9% compared with a long-term average of 3.4%. The abundance value of A=0.0290 is 23% down against the long-term average of A=0.0376. All single birds. Recorded over 35 weeks between Jul and May with 14% of records in winter, 41% spring, a surprisingly low 15% in summer and 30% autumn. From 14 sites; relatively common only in Cook and Aranda. No breeding recorded.

Southern Boobook

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	43	41	5	29.9
WR	0	1	-100	0.4
G	20	22	-9	14.6
BR	0	1	-100	0.9
GA	0.0290	0.0322	-10	0.0376
GS	14	22	-36	22.7
GBR	0	1	-100	1.1

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

Common, breeding summer migrant

Found near sandy banks of rivers and creeks.

General: RR 1.1% is down 11% on the 10YA and 27% on the 30YA. Max 30/26 Jan Stockdill Dr Holt GrH12 (DaC2), average 3.5 and median 2. Earliest 4/13 Sept ANBG GrK13 (EmL1) and latest 2/20 Mar Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1). 5 breeding records from 4 sites: earliest nb/28 Oct Woodstock Reserve GrH12 (W S1) and latest dy/26 Jan Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1).

GBS: After a significant peak last year, reports are back to a more normal level. 11 records from 7 sites Max: 3/2wk Mar Whiskers Ck Rd, Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Earliest 2/3wk Sept Waramanga GrJ13 (LaD3) and latest 2/3wk Mar Watson GrL12 (Wak1).

Rainbow Bee-eater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	132	121	9	46.2
WR	2	0	Inf	0.7
G	44	44	0	22.5
BR	5	4	25	2.1
GA	0.0092	0.0532	-83	0.0116
GS	7	2	250	4.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Hawks for insects from power lines or dead trees on the edges of woodland or suburbs.

General: Indices for this species have remained steady since 1990. RR 2.8% is 25% up on last year but down 5% on the 10YA and the same as the 30YA. Observed from Oct to Apr with nearly all records from spring 31%, and summer 66%. Max 10/25 Feb JWNR (MiP1), mean 1.8, median 1. Breeding: earliest di/19 Oct Newline GrN14 (LaK1) and latest dy/20 Feb Molonglo Reach Park GrL14 (BuM1).

GBS: 53 records this year, down from 61 last year, and slightly below the 10 and 30YAs (approx. 70). RR 2.3% is the same as last year, and close to the 10 & 30YAs. Earliest: 1/2wk Oct Watson GrL12 (WaK1), and max 6/1wk Jan and latest 1/1wk Mar both Campbell (LjT1). Breeding, 5 records from 2 sites: earliest dy/2wk Jan Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) and latest dy/5wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

Dollarbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	338	317	7	86.4
WR	4	14	-71	5.1
G	42	49	-14	24.8
BR	5	13	-62	3.0
GA	0.0418	0.0391	7	0.0424
GS	11	15	-27	17.7
GBR	5	0	Inf	2.4

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

Non-breeding vagrant

Occasionally found perching over water.

General: 11 records of single birds from 4 sites of 5 last year with multiple records of the same bird. Earliest was 1/30 Oct the Pinnacle NR GrJ13 (InC1) and latest 1/1 May Point Hut Crossing J17 (EbD1). Other records include Glenbower GrG07 and John Knight Park GrJ12. They have only been reported in 13 of the previous 34 years, being reported in all seasons.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Sparsely distributed but widespread in the woodlands of the ACT.

General: The indices for this species remain positive. RR 5.2% is up 7% on the 10YA and 10% on the 30YA. The abundance (0.0829) is 9% above the 10YA and up 24% on the 30YA. The number of birds reported (1004) is the same as last year, twice the 10YA and almost 5 times the 30YA. Max 8/28 Oct MFNR GrL10 (CIJ3), average 1.1 and median 1. Most records were in spring (49%). and summer (44%). Breeding: earliest ih/5 Oct Bluetts Block GrK11 (LaS1) and latest dy/2 Feb MFNR GrL10 (BuM4).

GBS: 24 records this year cf 17 last year. Abundance 0.0119 is up 72% on last year, similar to the 10YA and up 16% on 30YA. Max 2/2wk Oct Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2), mean 1.1, median 1. Earliest 1/4wk Sept and latest 1/1wk Mar both Murrumbateman (BlJ1). Breeding: earliest di/2wk Nov and latest nb/3wk Nov both Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM4). Only 6 years in the last 36 years had breeding records.

Sacred Kingfisher

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	627	624	0	147.0
WR	23	22	5	9.8
G	112	101	11	45.5
BR	19	25	-24	4.9
GA	0.0119	0.0069	72	0.0102
GS	7	12	-42	10.7
GBR	2	0	Inf	0.1

Red-backed Kingfisher *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius*

This inland species appears here occasionally.

Breeding vagrant

General: No records this year. 8 records, all a single bird in the previous year. In the last 34 years, this species has been reported in 2001, 2003 and 2008 onwards.

Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*

This species is showing a slow, slight but steady decline in the region over the last 18 years.

Common, breeding resident

General: RR 15.4% is up 11.6% on last year, 10% on the 10YA and 13% the 30YA. In 1999, RR was 20% and since then there has been a slow and steady decline to the current value, although the slight upturn this year is the first in twelve seasons. More records in spring (33%), with summer 24%, autumn, 26% and winter 17%. Max 9/19 Mar Casuarina Sands NR GrG14, (HeS1), average 1.7 and median 1. Breeding: earliest ih/26 Aug Greenway to Red Rocks Gorge GrJ16 (HeS1); latest dy/8 Feb Narrabundah Lane, Symonston GrL15 (W S1).

Laughing Kookaburra

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1866	1651	13	552.0
WR	61	64	-5	40.4
G	193	166	16	116.0
BR	10	16	-38	5.5
GA	0.3143	0.3614	-13	0.3229
GS	37	43	-14	44.0
GBR	6	2	200	4.1

GBS: Recorded evenly in all seasons, with slightly more records in summer (28%). The A value has varied from approx. A=0.6 at the beginning of the survey, down to A=0.2 in the mid-nineties, back up to about A=0.3 now. Average 1.7, median 2 with max 7/2wk Jan Bonner GrL10 (GrB1). Earliest breeding di/3wk Sep Garran (QuA1) and latest dy/2wk Dec Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

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

Uncommon, breeding resident

A common resident and breeding species, the most commonly reported raptor in the region.

General: 700 records, including 15 WOO, making the kestrel the most recorded, numerous and widespread raptor in our region. RR of 5.8% is the same as the 10YA but remains below the 30YA of 6.3%. Numbers ranged from 1-5, average 1.3. Recorded in every week, from 149 widespread grid cells: winter 10%; spring 43%; summer 23%; and autumn 24%. As in most years, breeding records (12) from on/24 Sep Royalla GrL19 (McI1) to dy/24 Jan MFNR (HeS1).

Nankeen Kestrel

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	700	582	20	196.6
WR	15	9	67	6.9
G	149	120	24	63.5
BR	12	11	9	4.8
GA	0.0180	0.0195	-8	0.0159
GS	10	12	-17	11.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

GBS: 40 records this year, of 1-2 birds, from 10 sites in 9 grid cells. Common in none. RR was 1.8%, up on the 30YA of 1.5%. Kestrels were recorded in 30 weeks, with a seasonal distribution similar to that of the general records. No breeding recorded.

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis*

Common, breeding resident/summer migrant

A distinctive small raptor often observed when the next generation takes flight around February.

General: 163 records this year, but as usual RR of 1.3% is significantly down on the 30YA of 1.9%. Recorded in 47 weeks, 16% in winter, 27% spring, summer 30% and autumn 27%. Range 1-2 birds, average 1. Max 2/2 Aug JWNR GrL14 (BeS1); this grid cell accounted for 27.5% of the records. Recorded in 51 widespread but largely urban grid cells. There were no breeding records for the first time since 2002.

GBS: 38 records. The A value (0.0180) and RR (1.7%) are both down on the 30YA of A=0.0253 and 2.2%, respectively. Hobbies were recorded in 28 weeks with winter records 13%, spring 34%, summer 21% and autumn 32% - a return to a "normal" pattern. Most records were of single birds, from 16 largely urban sites. No breeding recorded since 2012.

Australian Hobby

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	163	158	3	58.5
WR	0	2	-100	1.6
G	51	50	2	24.8
BR	0	2	-100	1.7
GA	0.0180	0.0119	52	0.0253
GS	16	15	7	19.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.9

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A resident of grasslands and open woodlands.

General: More records than usual, 225, including 7 WOO, though RR of 1.9% against the 30YA of 2.9% is less positive. Recorded from 94 widespread grid cells over 49 weeks in numbers ranging from 1-7, average 1.3. Max 7/28 Jan LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1). Winter 18%, spring 26%, summer 28% and autumn 28%. A somewhat lower figure for spring and winter than usual. 2 breeding records: ih/26 Aug Barooka Rd GrL25 (LaS2); and on/14 Oct Macarthur horse paddocks GrL16 (MaL2). This species appears to be affected more than most by Canberra's suburban growth.

GBS: 7 records, against the 30YA of 10.3. Recorded from 4 sites in Curtin, Wamboin, Ainslie and Lyneham, with 5 records in spring and 2 in summer.

Brown Falcon

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	225	158	42	91.6
WR	7	3	133	2.3
G	94	74	27	43.2
BR	2	0	Inf	1.2
GA	0.0031	0.0004	704	0.0044
GS	4	1	300	4.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

An inland species favouring eucalypt woodland.

General: 4 records, single birds, from 3 grid cells, all to the east of our AoI. 2 autumn records, 1 each in winter and summer. Continues the pattern of regular but low level reporting of this inland raptor.

GBS: No records this year, after one last year in Curtin, the first since 2010.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A small resident population, possibly limited by lack of suitable breeding sites.

General: 61 records, of 1-6 birds, average 1.4. Max 6/23 Oct Red Rocks GrJ16 (HeS1). RR of 0.5% is 51% down on the 30YA, reflecting the situation in which many raptors in our region find themselves. Recorded widely from 34 grid cells across urban and peri-urban areas and in 34 weeks, seasonally: winter 12%, spring 36%, summer 35% and autumn 28%, a pattern showing fewer winter and more spring and autumn records than usual. 7 breeding records from 4 grid cells, at Conder, Red Rocks, Woodstock and Isabella Plains, from 20 Oct.

Oddly there have been no records for many years of peregrines breeding on ledges of city buildings, despite the healthy feral pigeon population.

Peregrine Falcon

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	61	74	-18	32.0
WR	0	0	-	0.6
G	34	30	13	18.1
BR	7	3	133	1.4
GA	0.0053	0.0057	-8	0.0065
GS	8	6	33	6.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

GBS: 12 records, all of single birds, from 8 sites in Curtin, Ainslie, Carwoola, Wamboin, Melba, Cook, Jerrabomberra and Kambah, over 9 weeks, with 2 records in winter, 2 in spring, 1 in summer and 7 in autumn. A fairly typical result for this survey, RR at 0.5% a little below the 10YA of 0.7%.

CACATUIDAE: cockatoos

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

Rare, non-breeding visitor/escapee

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

General: 3 records (8 last year) of 1-2 birds: 1/30 Apr Fadden GrK16 (MaL2), 2/2 Jun Kambah GrJ16 (MiP1), 1/10 Jun Kaleen GrK12 (EbD1)

GBS: No records this year (recorded from 3 sites in 2015-16).

Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

Rare, breeding visitor.

Occasionally seen in casuarina food source trees on Mts Ainslie and Majura. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

General: Two records this year (none last year): 3/22 Feb Stromlo Canberra Equestrian Centre GrI15 (InC1), x/24 Apr McColl-Munday Control Site GrZ18 (BlA2). Earlier records in 2016, 2015 and 1992-2013. No breeding records (1 in 2010-11 and recorded in 4 earlier years).

GBS: No records (recorded from 1 rural site in 2014-15).

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Zanda funereus*

Common, breeding resident

Found mainly in the ranges to the west and south of Canberra.

General: RR (5.3%) is 14% up from last year (4.7%) and 27% above the 30YA average of 4.2%, having increased from 2012-13 (2.2%) but below the after-fire peak of 2004-05 (6.9%). Reported all year but more frequently in autumn (36%) and summer (27%). Average 6.5, median 3 with max 115/5 Jun LGin Gr J12 (KiB1). 6 breeding records (12 last year): earliest dy/28 Jan Warks/Blundells Creek Roads GrE15 (GoJ3), latest dy/18 May Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4).

GBS: 257 records from 42 sites (79%) from 52 weeks in groups of varying sizes averaging 8.4, median 4 with max 130/1wk May Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). Abundance was 37% higher than last year and 119% higher than the 30YA but much lower than the peak abundance after the 2003 bushfires (A=2.2998 in 2003-04). 28% of records in winter and 38% in autumn. 6 breeding records from 4 sites (11 last year): earliest dy/3wk Jul MacGregor GrI12 (WIC1) and latest dy/3wk May Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1).

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	644	664	-3	130.7
WR	2	5	-60	2.4
G	117	103	14	45.4
BR	6	12	-50	2.8
GA	0.9481	0.6926	37	0.4337
GS	42	45	-7	27.7
GBR	6	11	-45	3.9

Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum*

Common, breeding resident/alt. migrant

Often found in the older areas of Canberra. Declared Vulnerable in NSW.

General: RR (7.8%) 16% higher than last year and 15% above the 30YA of 6.8%. Average 3.1, median 2 with max 36/1 Aug ANU GrL13 (MiP1). Recorded all year but fewer records in summer (20%) and more in spring and autumn (30%). 19 breeding records (22 last year): earliest dy/3 Aug Ginninderra Creek Nicholls GrK11 (HaJ7), latest dy/18 Jun Chifley Gr J15 (BuM4).

GBS: 743 records from 41 sites (77%) from all weeks of up to 21 individuals. Average 3.1, median 2 with max 21/4wk Jul Garran GrK15 (QuA1), with little seasonal variation although slightly fewer records in winter (23%) and more records in autumn (29%). Abundance was 5% lower

Gang-gang Cockatoo

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	944	950	-1	210.0
WR	13	16	-19	7.2
G	83	72	15	48.2
BR	19	22	-14	5.3
GA	1.0084	1.0643	-5	0.7874
GS	41	46	-11	43.8
GBR	16	37	-57	10.7

than last year, well below the peak of 2012-13 ($A=1.27$) but 28% above the 30YA. Records from throughout Canberra. 16 breeding records (37 last year) from 6 sites with first breeding record dy/2wk Jul Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1) and last dy/4wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

Galah *Eolophus roseicapillus*

Widespread throughout the region.

General: Ranks 8th in RR this year. RR (40.5%) was 15% higher than last year and 9% above the 30YA, representing slight upturn following a downward trend from 2012-2013 (46.5%). Recorded all year but fewer records in winter (19%) and more in spring and autumn (29%). Average 9, median 4, with max 700/5 Jul Bungendore GrS13 (McD1). 106 breeding records (101 last year): first ih/17 Jul Wanniasa Hills Primary School GrK16 (HeS1), last dy/8 Mar Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1), with a few early starts for the next season later in the year.

GBS: 2nd most abundant species in the GBS. Records from 100% of sites in all weeks of up to 150 individuals with little seasonal variation. Average 7.3, median 4, max 150/3wk Feb Kaleen GrK12 (CIM1). Abundance 4% above last year, 19% below the 30YA and well below the 2002-03 peak of 9.56. Breeding recorded from 19 sites (19 last year): earliest dy/1wk Jul Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and last dy/4wk Mar Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1), with a few early starts for the next season later in the year.

Very common, breeding resident

Galah

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	4910	5007	-2	1155.0
WR	232	225	3	129.4
G	194	181	7	111.8
BR	106	101	5	25.7
GA	5.7459	5.5161	4	7.0914
GS	53	60	-12	63.9
GBR	64	57	12	58.8

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Cacatua leadbeateri*

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: No records. Last record 2007-2008.

GBS: No records. Last record 2007-2008.

Non-breeding escapee

Long-billed Corella *Cacatua tenuirostris*

Uncommon, breeding resident/escapee

Small groups occasionally seen around Callum Brae NR and Campbell Park NR and central Canberra.

General: RR 0.5%, 13% less than last year but 3% above the 30YA (0.5%). Seen in small groups of 1-14, average 2.5, median 1 with max 14/27 Jan Goulburn GrZ01 (AnF1). More records in spring (34%) with fewer (12%) in autumn. 1 breeding record (5 last year): on/21 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (CaR3).

GBS: 1 record (6 last year) of a single bird: 1/3 wk Sep Chapman GrI15 (HaJ1). Abundance of this species throughout the survey has been very low, except for a spike in 2013-14 ($A=0.08$). This year's A value is 81% lower than last year and 93% lower than the 30YA. No breeding records ever in the GBS.

Long-billed Corella

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	64	86	-26	16.0
WR	0	0	-	0.5
G	20	13	54	4.4
BR	1	5	-80	1.0
GA	0.0004	0.0023	-81	0.0066
GS	1	4	-75	2.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea*

Once confined to the southern suburbs, now reported from the northern suburbs, surrounding nature reserves and farther afield.

General: RR (8.3%) is 2% down on last year (8.6%) representing a further decline from the 2015 peak (12.4%) but up 53% on the 30YA (3.9). 27 groups of 200+. Recorded from all seasons with 30% of records in summer and 15% in winter. Average 21.7, median 3 and max 867/22 Jul Fadden GrK16 (CaR3). 10 breeding records (18 last year): earliest ih/9 Aug Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1), latest dy/2 Apr Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4).

Very common, breeding resident

Little Corella

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1005	1206	-17	168.2
WR	31	24	29	8.5
G	74	72	3	20.0
BR	10	18	-44	3.1
GA	3.5345	3.1007	14	0.7049
GS	44	47	-6	21.6
GBR	10	10	0	1.4

GBS: The abundance was 14% higher than last year and 4 times the 30YA to *the highest A value recorded for this species since the GBS began*. Records from 44 sites from all weeks with 30% of records in summer. Average 12.8, median 3, with max 200/1wk Jul Murrumbateman GrI06 (BIJ1). Breeding recorded from 4 sites: Chapman, Greenway, Gleneagles and Watson; earliest ih/1wk Aug Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and last dy/1wk Apr Greenway Gr J16 (HaA2) and an early start for the next season later in the year.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

A common bird of the ACT and surrounding region.

General: RR 44.1% is 12% higher than last year (39.4%) and 12% higher than 30YA of 39.3%. Like the Galah, RR has gradually been tending upwards since 1998, however, there had been a slight downward trend since 2012-2013 which has been reversed this year. Recorded in all months with fewer in winter (19%) and more in autumn (30%). Average 9.3, median 3 with max 620/6 Jul Parkes GrL14 (NaT1). 85 breeding records (76 last year): first ih/4 Aug Conder GrK18 (EbD1) and latest dy/18 Jun Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4).

GBS: Most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Records from all sites and all weeks with little seasonal variation. Average number seen 11.2, median 5 with max 1100/4wk Jul Pearce GrK15 (KrS1). Abundance 26% higher than last year and 45% higher than the 30YA. *Abundance at the highest level ever reported in the GBS, 11% higher than the previously reported high of A=9.0 in 2003*. Breeding recorded from 11 sites (11 last year): earliest dy/3wk Jul MacGregor GrI12 (WIC1) and latest dy/4wk Jun Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

Very common, breeding resident

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo				
	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	5345	5599	-5	1222.6
WR	243	257	-5	131.4
G	214	183	17	125.7
BR	85	76	12	19.0
GA	10.0462	7.9835	26	6.9403
GS	53	60	-12	63.4
GBR	35	48	-27	24.7

PSITTACULIDAE: lorikeets, Australian parrots

Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii*

Gradually extending its range into the ACT from western woodlands. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW and under the EPBC Act.

General: Movement continues across Canberra following the initial movement into Belconnen from 2005-06. Records from 37 grid cells this year compared with 34 last year. RR, 5.2%, is 70% higher than last year (3%) *representing the highest rate ever recorded (previous highest 5.1% in 2012-13)* and 90% above the 30YA (2.7%). Most records in summer (32%) and autumn (38%) with few records in winter (5.7%). Average 5.5, median 3 with max 100/14 Mar AIS GrK12 (DeD2). 8 breeding records (10 last year) from di/3 Dec Watson GrL12 (BlA2) to dy/18 Jan Hawker GrI12 (AlB1).

GBS: Records from 15 sites (17 last year) from 40 weeks (26% spring, 41% summer and 31% autumn with only 2% of records in winter). Max 35/1wk Feb Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), average 3.7, median 2. Abundance 15% higher than last year, continuing the increases since movement of birds into suburban Canberra commenced in 2005-06 and 1.9 times the 30YA. Breeding recorded from 2 sites (4 last year) in Cook and Ainslie: earliest dy/1wk Jan Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and last dy/1wk Feb Cook (TaN1).

Common, breeding summer migrant

Superb Parrot				
	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	628	432	45	84.8
WR	18	14	29	4.2
G	37	34	9	12.2
BR	8	10	-20	5.2
GA	0.2444	0.2221	10	0.0831
GS	15	17	-12	7.4
GBR	7	22	-68	4.0

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis* 861

Common, breeding resident

A bird of the Brindabellas that has gradually spread through Canberra suburbs and nature parks.

General: 1804 records from all months reaching a peak in autumn (37%). RR (14.9%) is 12% higher than last year and lower than a peak in 2014-15 (17%) but 44% higher than the 30YA. Average 4.4, median 2 with max 264/12 Aug Yarralumla J14 (CaR3). Significant growth in numbers (7902 birds this year) since 2010. 23 breeding records (17 last year): first dy/28 Jul Cook GrJ13 (DrC1) and last dy/2 Mar Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4).

GBS: Records from 50 sites (94%) from all weeks of up to 81 individuals with 28% in winter, 27% in autumn and 19% in summer. Abundance 3% higher than last year and 32% higher than the 30YA. Max 81/1wk May Curtin GrK14 (AjR1), average 4.1, median 2. The A value increased steadily from A=0.3187 in 1982 to A=2.5949 in 2003, but declined gradually to A=1.5666 in 2012-13, but has again risen to its current value. Breeding recorded from 9 sites (19 last year): earliest dy/4wk Jul Cook GrJ13 (DcA1) and last dy/2wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

Australian King-Parrot

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1804	1892	-5	320.7
WR	30	33	-9	14.8
G	78	76	3	36.4
BR	23	17	35	3.6
GA	2.4211	2.3415	3	1.8317
GS	50	54	-7	55.1
GBR	28	49	-43	22.5

Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus*

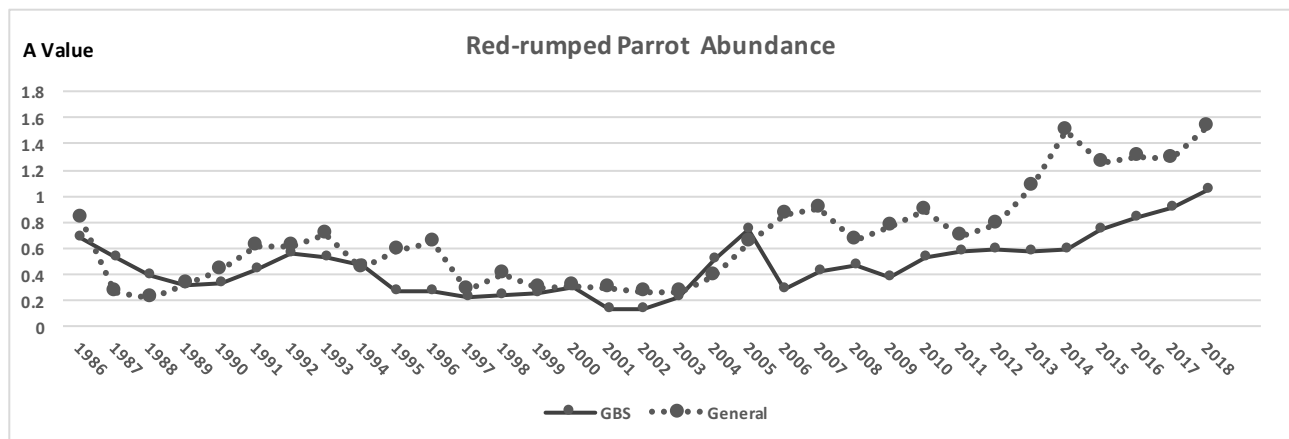
Common, breeding resident

Often seen on the short grasses of Canberra's playing fields and nature reserves.

General: Reported in all months (25% in spring, 31% in summer, 28% autumn, 17% winter) with a RR of 21.4%, 32% above last year and 44% above the 30YA. RR increased steadily from 2002 to 2014 then declined to 2016-7 (16.2%) before rebounding this year but below the 2013-4 peak of 22.3%. Average 7.3, median 4 with max 190/17 Jul Hume Wetland GrK11 (HeS1). 50 breeding records (47 last year): first dy/21 Jul Nicholls GrK11 (HaJ7) and last dy/21 Feb Yerrabi Pond GrK11 (COF1) with many "ih" records to the end of the year.

Red-rumped Parrot

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2591	2298	13	461.3
WR	56	43	30	27.5
G	102	90	13	57.5
BR	50	47	6	10.5
GA	1.0510	0.9139	15	0.4603
GS	38	37	3	26.2
GBR	0	4	-100	2.3



GBS: Records of up to 55 individuals from 38 sites from all weeks. Highest numbers (28%) in winter, slightly fewer (21%) in spring). Average 5.3, median 3 with max 55/2wk Jul Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). Abundance 15% higher than last year and 128% higher than the 30YA, steadily increasing from 2006. No Breeding records (recorded from 2 sites last year).

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*

An attractive common resident of the COG area of interest.

General: RR (47.6%) is 27% higher than last year and 4% above the 30YA. From 1991 to 1998, RR was steady between 20% and 40%. In 2001, it rose to 56% and then declined to 37.4% last year, but taking a significant upturn this year. Average 4.9, median 3 with max 70/17 Oct Spring Valley Farm GrI13 (DaC1). Recorded in all seasons but highest in autumn (31%). Breeding: 71 records (92 last year) first ih/27 Jul TUGH GrK18 (EbD1) and last dy/18 Jan Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1) followed by several 'ih' records to the end of the year. Crimson Rosella/Eastern Rosella hybrid reported last year. Yellow Rosella last reported 2014-15.

GBS: 7th most abundant species recorded in GBS (8th last year). Records from 53 sites from all weeks with almost no seasonal variation: Average 3.6, median 3 with max 45/1wk Aug Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). Abundance 4% higher than last year but 7% lower than the 30YA. The A value for this species climbed steadily from A=2.0069 in 1982 to A=3.9689 in 1998. It remained around that value until 2006, and from then declined to A=2.9942 in 2016-17, rising to A=3.1134 this year. Breeding recorded from 13 sites: earliest ih/5wk Jul Macgregor GrI12 (WIC1) and latest dy/5wk Jan Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), with regular reports of "ih" at that site until the end of the year. Crimson Rosella/Eastern Rosella hybrid reported from 3 sites in Isaacs, Holder and Carwoola in Jul-Apr. Yellow Rosella last reported 2010-11.

Very common, breeding resident

Crimson Rosella

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	5767	5310	9	1427.7
WR	343	373	-8	197.9
G	232	203	14	156.6
BR	71	92	-23	28.7
GA	3.1134	2.9954	4	3.3468
GS	53	60	-12	63.8
GBR	72	81	-11	36.2

Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius*

A resident of the grassy woodlands in and around the ACT.

General: RR 27.9%, 26% higher than last year and 2% higher than the 30YA but below RR in 2013-14 (31.1%). Recorded in all seasons (highest numbers in autumn 31% and fewer in winter 18%). Average 5.6, median 3 with max 52/13 Feb Callum Brae NR GrL15 (EbD1). Breeding: 57 records (65 last year): first ih/12 Aug TUGH GrK18 (EbD1) and last dy/10 Jan NNP GrJ19 (EbD1) with many 'ih' records to the end of the year.

GBS: Records from 51 sites from all weeks with little seasonal variation (spring 28% and summer 21%). Abundance 2% lower than last year and 5% lower than the 30YA and below the peak in 2005-06 (A=1.78). Average 2.8, median 2 with max 32/1wk Mar Cook (DcA1). 32 breeding records from 6 sites (11 last year).

Very common, breeding resident

Eastern Rosella

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	3382	3137	8	851.0
WR	212	214	-1	117.1
G	163	153	7	101.3
BR	57	65	-12	19.1
GA	1.4136	1.4380	-2	1.4880
GS	51	57	-11	61.7
GBR	34	30	13	21.2

Australian Ringneck *Barnardius zonarius*

A bird of central and western New South Wales west of the Southern Tablelands.

General: No records (one last year).

Escapee

Blue-winged Parrot *Neophema chrysostoma*

A rare visitor from the west.

General: No records. Recorded in 2015-2016, 2014-15 and 2012-13 and none before that.

Non-breeding vagrant

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella*

An occasional nomadic visitor from the eastern coastal areas. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: No records (3 last year)

Non-breeding vagrant/escapee

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*

Rare, non-breeding winter migrant

An occasional nomadic winter migrant from Tasmania. Declared Vulnerable in the ACT, Endangered in NSW and under the EPBC Act.

General: 24 records (2 last year, 23 the previous year) of 1-15 birds in Mar and Apr with most from Mt Majura NR and other records from Cook and Hall TSR. Max 15/22 Mar Mt Majura NR GrM12 (AlA1). Seen previously in any number in 2005, 2008, 2011, 2015 and 2016.

GBS: One record (none last year, 3 in 2015-16): 2/3wk Apr Cook GrJ13 (TaN1)

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Occasionally strays from eastern ranges.

General: 19 records (25 last year) of 1-4 birds, mostly south of LBG. Max 4/1 Feb Watson (AlA1). Earliest record 1/20 Jul Fadden GrK16 (MaL2) and latest 1/28 May Gold Creek GrK11 (MiP1).

GBS: No records (11 last year).

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

A nomadic species feeding mainly on flowering eucalypts. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: 2 records (none last year) with earlier records from 2012-13 and with records in most years before then: 2/4 Dec Fadden GrK16 (MaL2), 2/23 Jan Wanniasa GrK16 (HeS1).

GBS: No records (one 2014-15, three in 2008-09 and records in most years before then).

Purple-crowned Lorikeet *Glossopsitta porphyrocephala*

Non-breeding vagrant

A nomadic species feeding mainly on flowering eucalypts. The ACT is a considerable distance from its normal range. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: No records (6 in 2013-2014, 5 in 2012-2013 and only 1 record before then, in 1967-1968).

GBS: No records (2 in 2012-2013 and 1 in 1984-1985).

Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus moluccanus*

Common, breeding resident

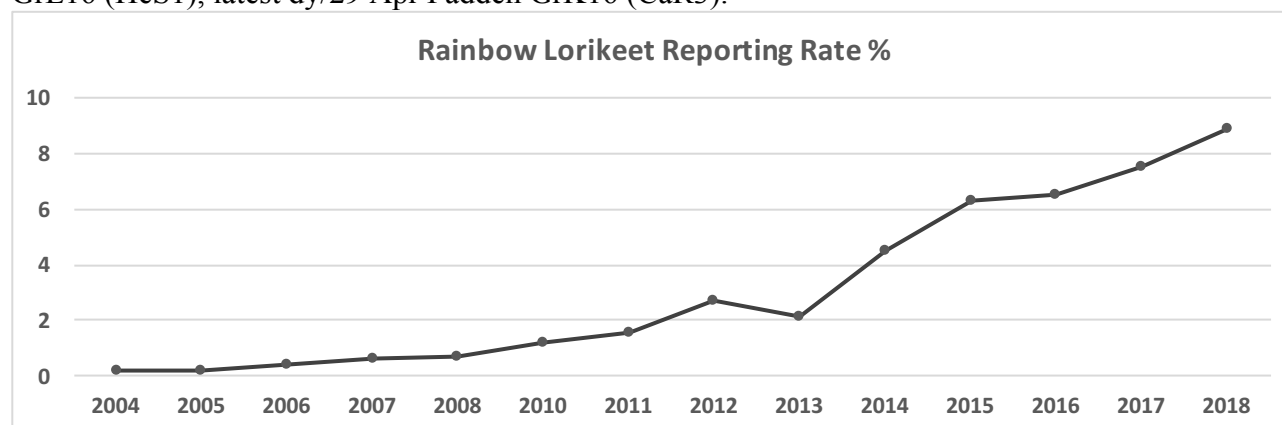
A resident population in Belconnen region gradually spreading south.

General: 1079 records from 39 grids (1073 records from 40 last year). As in previous years many records from Belconnen and N Canberra suburbs, however, there are now records throughout Canberra and from Goulburn. RR 8.9%, 18% higher than last year and almost 1.7 times the 30YA. Since 2007-2008, RR has risen steadily from 1.0% to the current value, a significant increase over the 10-year period. Records from all months, larger numbers in autumn (33%) and fewer in spring (21%). Mean 3.5, median 2 with max 32/11 Nov Scullin GrI12 (RoV1).

10 breeding records from 5 grid cells (18 last year from 5 grid cells): earliest on/8 Sep Hume Wetland GrL16 (HeS1), latest dy/29 Apr Fadden GrK16 (CaR3).

Rainbow Lorikeet

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1079	1073	1	103.6
WR	21	24	-12	2.7
G	39	40	-3	8.2
BR	10	18	-44	2.2
GA	1.1974	1.0704	12	0.1804
GS	35	37	-5	11.6
GBR	7	3	133	1.0



GBS: Abundance was 12% higher than last year and about 5.6 times the 30YA, continuing the increase in abundance since 2006. 759 records from 35 sites (66%), including many on the south side. Max 30/3wk Mar Page GrJ12 (AlB1) with average 3.6, median 2. Observed in 52 weeks with more sightings in summer (29%). 7 breeding records (3 last year) from Page and Ainslie: earliest ih/2wk Feb Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), last dy/3wk Apr Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus* Non-breeding vagrant/escapee
Occasionally strays from coastal areas in the Illawarra region, or escapes from local aviaries.

General: 23 records (7 last year) of 1-4 birds by multiple observers during the month of June from the National Gallery and High Court area in Parkes, plus 1 record of a single bird from Ainslie. No breeding records.

GBS: No records this year. Earlier records from 2012-13 and 1992-93.

Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus* Rare, non-breeding visitor/escapee
Records of single birds are most probably of escapees; wild flocks are sometimes recorded in the COG area, however.

General: 1 record (4 last year): 2/1 Aug ANU GrK13 (EbD1)

PSITTACIDAE: Afro-tropical parrots

Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* Escapee
A common caged bird.

General: No records (4 in 2014-15, 1 in 2005-06).

GBS: One record (1 last year, 1 record in 2015-16 and in 2014-15): 1/31 Jul Giralang GrK12 (KaD1).

Peach faced Lovebird *Agapornis roseicollis* Escapee
A common caged bird.

GBS: Last recorded 2010-11.

MENURIDAE: lyrebird

Superb Lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae* Uncommon, breeding resident
Occurs in the wetter forests of the ranges. Traditionally 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: RR 0.9% is 12% above the 10 YA but down 48% on the 30YA. The current RR is above the 0.61% of 2004, the season following the devastating fires of Jan 2003. *RR recovered a little until 2008, but has been in slow but continual decline since then, but with a slight upturn this season.* Most records were from the mountainous country in the ACT and were generally of a single bird. Max 16/23 Jun TNR Camel Back Trail GrF17 (DaC1), mean 1.9 and median 1. Recorded in all seasons with a summer maximum of 44%. No breeding records. There have only been 4 years in the past 33 years with breeding records.

Superb Lyrebird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	115	81	42	56.3
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	36	32	12	26.6
BR	0	1	-100	0.2
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Common, breeding resident

An inhabitant of wet forests, regularly observed in Canberra suburbs.

General: All measures for this species were up this year and long term trends show that the range of this species is extending. This year's 531 records (1002 individual birds) is a 27% increase over last year. Observed in 66 grid cells, up from 61 last year and well above the 10YA of 43 and 30YA of 27. 64% of records came from the suburbs, 30% from Namadgi and Tidbinbilla, and 6% from NSW. RR this year was 4.4%, up from 3.1% last year and greater than both the 10YA (3.1%) and the 30YA (3.0%). Abundance is up to 0.0827, above the 10YA of 0.0557 and the 30YA of 0.0481. Reported in all weeks. The 10YA for weeks reported is 31 and the 30YA is 27 weeks only. Max 20/2 July Weston Park (BuM4), mean 1.9 and median 1. 14 breeding records, down from 22 last year and 27 the year before (which was the largest number recorded): first di/2 July Weston Park (BuM4) and an early start to the next season, di/6 May ANBG (BuM4).

GBS: 480 records (448 last year) from 29 sites in the suburbs and one site at Murrumbateman. Reported in all seasons of the year, but slightly more (30%) in winter. The abundance of this species continues to increase, being more than 77% above the GBS 10YA and 136% above the GBS 30YA. 5 breeding records reported from 4 sites, down from 16 last year, in Yarralumla, Cook, Red Hill and Chapman.

Satin Bowerbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	531	445	19	92.3
WR	1	7	-86	1.2
G	66	61	8	27.3
BR	14	21	-33	2.9
GA	0.4374	0.3618	21	0.1855
GS	30	30	0	17.8
GBR	5	16	-69	3.9

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

Common, breeding resident

Prefers more mature open forests especially at higher altitudes.

General: 1766 records (3488 individual birds), an increase of 19% over the 1483 records (2883 birds) last year and well above the 30YA of 953 birds. Seen in 181 grid cells (150 last year). Recorded in all weeks, spread evenly across the seasons though with slightly fewer birds in winter (18%). RR of 14.6% is up from 10.4% last year, and slightly up on the 10YA of 14.2%. It is however well down on the 30YA of 18.9%. Abundance (0.2880) is below the 30YA value of 0.3064. *Abundance has declined since 2003 to its lowest level last year, but has rebounded slightly this season.* Max 12/29 Oct Mt Ainslie (LeM1), mean and median both 2.0. 8 breeding records, down from 11 last year: first ih/25 Aug ANBG (CIJ3); last dy/1 Jan Aranda Bushland NR (LaS1).

GBS: Over the last few years there has been a very volatile incidence of this species in the GBS, with 101 records this year, 81 records last year and 204 the year before. This volatility is likely due to the small number of GBS sites reporting this species (4 suburban [only 1 record each, apart from Cook 19 records] and 2 rural). Records were spread fairly evenly through the year with slightly fewer in winter. Abundance remains less than half the 10YA and only 62% of the 30YA. All sightings but one were of single birds. One "di", indicative of breeding on 18 Sept at Wamboin (CoK2), only the 4th breeding report for the GBS.

White-throated Treecreeper

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1766	1483	19	586.5
WR	90	106	-15	75.4
G	181	150	21	122.0
BR	8	11	-27	3.1
GA	0.0470	0.0325	45	0.0640
GS	6	4	50	9.7
GBR	1	0	Inf	0.1

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythrops*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Found mostly in the forests in the ranges west of the Murrumbidgee.

General: 29 records this year (19 last year) reporting 52 individual birds (31 last year). This was from 15 sites: NNP (10 sites), Tallaganda (4 sites) and from the ANBG. Just over half the records were in January but the species is reported in all seasons of the year. RR is a little higher than last year but despite this, RR for this species is, and always has been, low. Confined to the high ranges in the COG AoI and this, coupled with its quiet calls and habit of keeping to the higher parts of tall trees may be resulting in under reporting. As with many species, the COG Atlas period saw a peak in observations way above the underlying RR. For this species in particular this peak has produced a misleadingly high value to the 30YA. 1 breeding record this year: dy/10 Jan Lowden Forest Park (DaC2). In 35 years, breeding recorded in only 8 years.

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

Rare, breeding resident

A resident of relatively dry woodlands. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

General: A small increase in records and RR this year does not reverse the overall picture of slow decline of this species in the COG AoI. 81 records this year of 219 birds (73 records of 258 birds last year) is well below the 2012 peak of 137, and below the 10YA of 89.3 but not too far off the 30YA of 81.3 records. Recorded in 39 weeks, in all seasons with peaks in spring (36%) and autumn (31%). However, the species was reported from only 6.4% of grid cells compared to the 30YA of 11.4% of grid cells.

A small increase in RR this year (0.7 up from 0.5 last year), is well below the 10YA of 1.5 and the 30YA of 2.6. Abundance is also falling over time with a value this year of 0.0181, much lower than the 10YA 0.0455 and the 30YA of 0.0604. Max 8/7 June Nelanglo TSR (EbD1, BlA2), mean 2.8, median 2. Only 4 breeding records (6 last year). The first ih/8 Oct Williamsdale (HoJ1), last was unspecified breeding activity on 2 Feb at Kambah Pool (SlA1).

Brown Treecreeper

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	81	73	11	81.3
WR	7	3	133	9.0
G	21	15	40	25.7
BR	4	6	-33	3.3
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0001
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Common, breeding resident

Found where dense cover for nesting is adjacent to open spaces for foraging.

General: This year the number of records is up just 1% over last year (4118 records up from 4083). The number of birds reported in these records increased by 8% to 28533 from 26321. Continuing strong observer effort since 2016 has resulted in a tripling of records and a huge 378% increase in the number of birds over the 30YA, but, significantly, abundance remains reasonably stable over the same period 2.3356 this year, 2.1003 10YA and 1.9178 30YA. RR (34%) is above last year (29%) but still below the 10YA (34.7%) and 30YA (36.3%). Records from

Superb Fairy-wren

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	4118	4083	1	1129.8
WR	79	94	-16	73.5
G	212	196	8	140.3
BR	24	37	-35	14.3
GA	1.3565	1.2714	7	1.1858
GS	46	48	-4	50.9
GBR	20	21	-5	12.3

all weeks with marginally higher proportions of records in spring. Max 75/1 Jan JWNR (EbD1), mean 7.1 and median 5. 24 breeding records this year is lower than last year (37 records): earliest di/2 Sept (July last year) JWNR (W S1) and last dy/17 Feb WBPD (BuM4). This first breeding observation was over 2 months later than last year's. It is unknown whether breeding commenced later this year or whether this is due to variation in observer effort.

GBS: 985 records (996 last year) from 46 sites from all weeks of the year. Abundance and number of birds consistent with last year and up on long-term averages. Mean 3.1, median 3 and max 21/2wk May Curtin (AjR1). 20 breeding records (21 last year): first nb/3wk Oct Carwoola (BuM1) and last dy/3wk Mar Page (AlB1).

MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters and chats**Black Honeyeater** *Sugomel niger*

Non-breeding vagrant

Vagrant from inland.

General: 3 records, all from Nelanglo TSR GrO05 3/21 Feb (LeM1), 2/23 Feb DaC2, 1/7 Mar (LeM1). Recorded only 5 times since 1982: 1991 (Wilson 1999) 15 records in 2006-07, 1 at West Macgregor in Oct 2009 and 12 records in 2013-14, and a single record last year.

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

Rare, non-breeding visitor.

Visitor from coastal districts.

General: 45 records this year from 14 different locations, a huge increase on any other year. 20 records from ANBG of up to 5 birds between 25 Sep and 29 Oct. 8 records from JWNr GrL14 of up to 3 birds between 25 Sep and 17 Dec. Other records from sites far afield: Amaroo, Casuarina Sands, Hulong, Campbell Park, NNPVIC, Nelanglo, Tallaganda SF and Goulburn.

GBS: Rarely recorded in GBS. This year 5 records from 3 sites; 1/3wk Oct, 1wk Nov and 3wk Jan Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2), 1/3wk Nov Curtin GrK14 AjR1, 1/1wk Jan Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta*

Rare, breeding visitor

Major influx to the region in 2002-3. A few records in 2006-07, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2012-13. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

General: No records this year. Has turned up in most years since 2003 with peaks of about 40 records in 2003 and 2014.

Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A species mostly of lowland woodland regions.

General: Number of records and number of birds (5555) significantly higher than last year (2942). RR 12.9% nearly double last year's (7.2%) and higher than the 30YA (12.6%). Since 1990, RR has remained steady around 10%, with high points in 1999 and 2000. 47% records in spring, 34% in summer. No records in winter. Earliest record was relatively late 1/9 Sep Mt Rogers GrJ11 (ReS1), last 1/23 Apr MFNR GrL10 (BeC2). Max was a huge roost flight of 267/13 Oct N Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1), mean 3.6, median 2. 68 breeding records, similar to the peak of 71 last year: the first dy/15 Oct Tuggeranong GrJ16 (BIG1), last dy/21 Feb Cotter Reserve GrG14 (BeS1).

GBS: Number of records and number of birds significantly higher than the lows of last year.

Recorded at 77% of sites. Earliest record was much earlier than general records: 1/3-4wk Jul Weetangera GrJ12 (WoD1), then no more records until the more usual time of 4wk Aug. Latest record 2/3wk Jun Chifley GrK15 (KrS1). Abundance ($A=0.3952$) more than doubled from last year's record low but was still below the 30YA. From a peak of $A=1.23$ in 2000, the species has recorded a steady decline in the GBS, with a slight upturn this season. 8 breeding records, a big decline from last year's 21: first nb/2wk Oct Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), last dy/2wk Jan Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

More commonly found to the north and west of the ACT.

General: 1 record after 5 records last year and none the year before; a late record 1/ 5 May JWNr GrL14 (MiP1). No breeding records.

New Holland Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	594	583	2	121.2
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	22	24	-8	13.4
BR	7	12	-42	1.4
GA	0.0040	0.0299	-87	0.0329
GS	3	5	-40	6.2
GBR	0	1	-100	0.3

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*

Uncommon, breeding resident/alt. migrant

Reported mostly during the winter months.

General: 57 records this year, 48 last year but RR of 0.5% is still only half of the 1.0% 30YA. Records more evenly spread through the seasons than usual with fewer in winter (19%) and more in summer (35%) reflecting the high number of records from NNP (30). Also at TNR (7) and Tallaganda (8) with others from nature parks and ANU/ANBG during winter. Max 10/15 Apr Honeysuckle Ck NNP GrH20 (ReS1). No breeding records. The only breeding records are 1 in 2014 and 3 in 1990.

GBS: Only 1 record from a regular site in Chapman (HaJ1), 1/4wk Jun, the lowest number in the GBS. Abundance dropped sharply in 2003 and has very low.

Crescent Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	57	48	19	29.8
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	22	14	57	12.7
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.0004	0.0031	-86	0.0161
GS	1	1	0	5.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Uncommon but reported regularly from a few locations where grevilleas or banksias are abundant.

General: Number of records like last year but the number of birds (2266) and RR (4.9%) increased slightly. Main sites: ANBG (38%) and JWNR (47%), but also LGin and other peri-urban wetlands. Seasonal pattern typical for this species with most records in spring (34%) and fewest in summer (20%). Max 21/22 Jan ANBG (CIJ3), mean 3.9 and median 3. 7 breeding records; first nb/9 Aug ANBG (DaC2) last dy/17 Nov ANBG (MiP1), with a very early start nb/6 Apr JWNR (W S1).

GBS: Only 5 records this year (35 last year and 54 the year before), at 3 sites: 1-2 birds in 1-3wks Jul and 1/3wk Oct in Duffy GrI15 (CaJ4), 4/3wk Feb Chapman GrI15 (HaJ1), 1/3wk May Cook GrJ13 (TaN1). Abundance has fluctuated greatly over the years. Following a period of low abundance from 2002 to 2009, the A value steadily increased until 2012 and remained fairly stable around A=0.03, close to the 30YA, until dropping to a record low level again. No breeding recorded this year. There are only 8 years where breeding has been recorded.

New Holland Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	594	583	2	121.2
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	22	24	-8	13.4
BR	7	12	-42	1.4
GA	0.0040	0.0299	-87	0.0329
GS	3	5	-40	6.2
GBR	0	1	-100	0.3

White-cheeked Honeyeater *Phylidonyris niger*

Rare, breeding vagrant

Common on the coast but one vagrant bird resident for 2 years and reported cross-breeding with a New Holland Honeyeater.

General: 13 records this year of one bird at JWNR; earliest 30 Jul (MiP1), latest 30 June (BeS1). 2 breeding records: nb/8 Aug (DaC2), last on/17 Aug (DaC2).

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis*

Common, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Generally uncommon in the suburbs.

General: Number of records increased by 48% from last year and RR increased from 4.2% to 7.3%, although still below the long term average of 9.8%. WOO records were however lower than last year. Highest in autumn (45%) then winter (24% each). Max 20/26 Sept Nursery Swamp GrH22 (BeS1), mean 2.1, median 2. 2 breeding records: dy/29 Oct NNP Boboyan Pines GrH25 (DeD2), dy/6 Jan Cuumbeun NR GrO15 (LaK1).

GBS: Recorded at 38% sites, similar to last year. 42% of records in autumn, 27% in winter. More than half of all records were from 3 rural sites in Wamboin GrQ12, Carwoola Gr Q16 and Burra GrM20, with records virtually absent (as usual) from suburban sites between Aug and March. The A-value (0.0580) was similar to last year but 40% below the 30YA.

White-eared Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	882	597	48	304.1
WR	18	28	-36	21.1
G	147	126	17	97.3
BR	2	3	-33	2.8
GA	0.0580	0.0624	-7	0.0973
GS	20	22	-9	28.4
GBR	0	1	-100	0.6

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*

Rare vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. Records from 2006-07.

General: 2 records, both from Yass GrG03 (SeB1), 2/10 Jul and 3/11 Jul.

Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris*

Common, breeding resident

A species of drier forests at all altitudes.

General: Number of records, number of birds and RR of 3.2% all higher than last year, but RR still lower than the 30YA. WOO records slightly lower than last year. Records evenly spread across the seasons. Max 35/20 Jun Mt Majura GrM12 (AIA1), mean 3.8, median 2. 7 breeding records: first cf/29 Oct Nursery Swamp GrG23 (BeS1), last dy/22 Feb TNR GrF18 (BeS1).

GBS: 31 records, 36 last year, from 4 sites. Records from 2 rural sites: 21 records from Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2), 6 from Carwoola (BuM1); and 2 suburban sites: 2/4wk Jul Chapman GrI15 (HaJ1), 2/4wk Mar-3wk Apr Cook GrJ13 (TaN1). Observed in groups of 2-13. Abundance A=0.0554 was higher than last year and still above the 30YA. 2 breeding records from the one site, dy/2-3wk Feb Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Brown-headed Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	384	345	11	126.7
WR	27	33	-18	18.9
G	85	67	27	44.0
BR	7	12	-42	2.9
GA	0.0554	0.0490	13	0.0419
GS	4	6	-33	4.9
GBR	2	0	Inf	0.1

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*

Common, breeding resident/summer migrant

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

General: Number of records, birds and RR slightly higher than last year but still lower than the 30YA. Fewer records in winter (12%) than last year (19%) with most records in autumn (39%). Return migration in spring first noted 100/1 Sep Nursery Swamp GrG23 (MaM4), also the largest number observed. Autumn migration flocks of up to 20 in the 1st week of Apr. Mean 6.3, median 3. 11 breeding records, 6 last year: first dy/28 Oct Cotter Hut Rd GrE21 (AlB1), last dy/13 Feb TNR (EbD1).

GBS: 73 records, like last year. No records in July, 3 in Aug, but strong increase in Sep and early Oct. Then only 1 record until autumn migration started with 2 records 4wk Mar and 1wk Apr. Max 230/3wk Apr Jerrabomberra (HaL2). Abundance (A=0.4189) almost double last year's and 25% above the 30YA. Since the last peak of A=1 in 1999, A values usually between 0.1 and 0.2.

White-naped Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	467	402	16	173.8
WR	8	7	14	5.5
G	99	99	0	66.2
BR	11	6	83	4.2
GA	0.4189	0.2140	96	0.3358
GS	19	17	12	26.9
GBR	0	1	-100	0.0

Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

Common, breeding resident

A common bird of gardens, particularly in autumn and winter.

General: The number of records increased from last year and RR climbed back up from 8.0% to 10.4% where it was two years ago, comparable to the long-term average. Observed throughout the year but a higher proportion of sightings in autumn (39%). Breeding records typically rare, 6 this year, first dy/9 Nov ANBG (MiP1), last dy/1 Mar Cook, GrJ13 (DrC1). An early breeding record for 2018-19 on/15 May Murrumbateman GrI06 (BIA2).

GBS: Recorded from 83% of sites, slightly higher than last year's 80% but less than the long term average (89%). Abundance was also higher than last year and close to the 30YA. More birds seen in autumn (33%) and winter (35%). 4 breeding records, (2 of these were also reported under general records), first

Eastern Spinebill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1262	1137	11	319.0
WR	15	12	25	10.9
G	119	125	-5	66.6
BR	6	5	20	1.5
GA	0.5895	0.4644	27	0.6000
GS	44	48	-8	56.9
GBR	5	4	25	3.4

nb/3wk Oct Isaacs GrK15 (HoA1), last dy/4wk Feb Cook GrJ13 (DrC1). 1 early breeding record for 2018-19 nb/3wk May Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Crimson Chat *Epthianura tricolor*

Non-breeding vagrant

Very rare vagrant to the region from inland districts. First definite record for the ACT in 2004 from Yerrabi Pond GrL11. No other records until this year.

General: 28 records of the same bird from Campbell Park GrM13 between 19-24 Nov.

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albifrons*

Rare, breeding resident

Not often reported, except from LGeo and LBath and Stromlo Forest Park. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: 74 records, slightly fewer than the peak of 88 last year, but a significantly higher number of birds recorded, 531 compared to 365 last year. 24 records from the Stromlo Forest Park – Coombs ponds area, 35 records from NatArbor, and only 6 from LGeo & LBath. Most records in spring (47%). Max 55/16 Jul LGeo E (LeM1), mean 7.3, median 5. 7 breeding records from 4 locations: first nb/8 Oct Argus Park Wright GrI14 (InC1), last dy/12 Nov Link Park GrI14 (DeD2).

GBS: No records this year after 3 last year from a site in Wright GrJ14.

White-fronted Chat

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	74	87	-15	26.2
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	12	14	-14	7.5
BR	7	8	-12	1.4
GA	0.0000	0.0019	-100	0.0002
GS	0	1	-100	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*

Non-breeding vagrant

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

General: 8 records this year, 6 in each of the last 2 years. 5 records from Tallaganda State Forest and National Park GrsU21, V19, W19 in Aug, Oct and Jan; 3 records from Namadgi NP Bendora Rd GrD16 on 18 and 21 Jan, and Warks/Blundells Ck Rds Gr E15 on 12 Feb (DaC2). *RR for this species has remained at less than 0.1% except for one peak of 0.388% in 2014.*

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

Non-breeding vagrant

Vagrant from inland districts.

General: No records this year. Previous: 2011 Gundaroo, 2010 Michelago and Mt Ainslie.

Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera*

Non-breeding vagrant

Vagrant from coastal districts.

General: No endorsed records this year. A few records occasionally over the years.

Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia*

Rare, breeding visitor

Rare summer visitor to the region. Declared endangered in the ACT, and critically endangered in NSW and the Commonwealth.

General: No records this year, 1 last year, recorded in about half the years since 1983.

Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*

Very common, breeding resident/ autumn migrant

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

General: Number of records, number of birds and RR all significantly higher than last year. Number of birds (18902) second highest on record (highest 2 years ago), and RR (42%) also second highest on record (highest in 2015). continuing the dramatic increase of the last 4 years. This appears to be due to increased observer effort and large groups (20+) being regularly reported from several locations around urban Canberra. Records

Red Wattlebird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	5151	4736	9	1058.0
WR	103	109	-6	61.0
G	182	169	8	115.0
BR	144	130	11	30.8
GA	2.6501	2.2975	15	2.5041
GS	52	59	-12	63.2
GBR	168	191	-12	133.2

fairly even throughout seasons with a slight peak in spring (28%). Max 190/17 April JWNR (CaR3), mean 3.7, median 2. 144 breeding records, the highest number ever: first di/6 Aug ANBG (DaC2), last dy/27 Feb Chifley GrK13 (BuM4).

GBS: Recorded at all but one site in all weeks, with observations distributed evenly throughout the four seasons. Abundance ($A = 2.6501$) increased from a slight dip over the last few years, and is again above the 30YA, but a little below the 10YA. Like last year, the Red Wattlebird is the most abundant honeyeater species in the GBS. Breeding records slightly fewer than last year, recorded at almost half of the 53 sites: first on/5wk Jul Page GrJ12 (AlB1), last dy/4wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens*

Non-breeding vagrant

Usual distribution is well inland of the ACT. Previous records from only 4 years, with 1 in Wilson (1999) and the most recent being in 2006-07, 2009-10, then 22 records in 2013-4 of probably only 1 or 2 birds.

General: 10 records of the one bird seen at Macfarlane Burnet Avenue Pond Macgregor GrI11, first seen 22 Apr (DaC2), last seen 25 Apr (EdD1).

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*

Uncommon, breeding resident/ autumn migrant

Uncommon in the suburbs but sometimes overwinters.

General: Number of records (148) slightly higher than last year, and RR higher than last year, but still 40% below the 30YA. Few birds overwintered in 2017 (8 records from Jul-Aug) but many more in 2018 with 21 records in Jun 2018. Max 40/17 Jan Glendale GrI23 (CoF1), mean 5.5 and median 4. 9 breeding records (5 last year), all from NNP; first on/28 Oct Smokers Trail GrF21 (HaL2), last dy/22 Feb Yankee Hat GrH25 (NeG1).

Fuscous Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	148	122	21	63.6
WR	0	1	-100	2.3
G	43	45	-4	28.9
BR	9	5	80	2.7
GA	0.0167	0.0011	1354	0.0709
GS	1	3	-67	14.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

GBS: 11 records (only 3 last year, 10 the previous year, and 32 the year before that), but all records from one site in Cook GrJ13 between 3wk Apr and 4wk June. The A-value consequently rebounded from the record low of last year but was still 76% down on the 30YA. No breeding records. Only 1 breeding record in the 34 years of the GBS, in 2002.

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

Common, breeding resident

Most common in woodlands in lowland areas.

General: More records, double the number of WOO records, higher number of birds and higher RR than last year, reversing the dip in all values last year. Records spread fairly evenly across the season, lowest in winter (19%). Max 39/26 Jan Nelangelo TSR 48 GRO05 (LeM1), mean 3.7, median 2. Similar large numbers recorded consistently from LGin and Nelangelo TSR 48. 28 breeding records (19 last year): first co/18 Oct Nelangelo TSR 48 (LeM1) and last dy/2 Feb Cooma Cottage Yass GrG02 (GrB1).

White-plumed Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1244	879	42	315.7
WR	58	27	115	29.6
G	101	85	19	56.2
BR	28	19	47	11.6
GA	0.0699	0.0505	38	0.1109
GS	13	14	-7	24.7
GBR	4	1	300	0.8

GBS: Recorded at 25% of sites, similar to last year. Abundance ($A=0.0699$) higher than last year but still 37% below the 30YA. 4 breeding records all from the same site in Giralang GrK12 (McD4), dy in wks 3-5 Jan and wk1 Mar.

White-fronted Honeyeater *Purnella albifrons* 1249

Rare, non-breeding vagrant

A rare visitor from the west.

General: No records this year. First recorded in 2007 at JWNR, and sporadic sightings subsequently in 2010, 2011 (all in the ACT) and 2013 at LGeo.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops*

Very common, breeding resident/summer migrant

Migratory species with spectacular autumn departure in large flocks, some overwintering birds, but the majority returning in spring to breed, mainly in the mountains.

General: RR of 15.3% slightly higher than last year (13.6%) and not far below the 30YA (17.8%) despite the number of records and the number of birds being lower than last year. The 2nd most commonly reported honeyeater, spring 42% and autumn 29%. Records of overwintering birds in the suburbs during July and August similar to last year with the first large group of returning birds 46/10 Sep near Michelago GrL25 (LaS2) and 115/14 Sept Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Autumn movement was first noted at the usual time in late March; 200/24 Mar at Yankee Hat, Namadgi NP GrH25 (MaL2). Max during autumn migration 1000/4 Apr Duffy GrI15 (CaJ4), mean 10.6 median 3. 8 breeding records, first nb/31 Oct Stony Ck NR GrG13 (BeS1), last dy/6 Feb Tidbinbilla NR (HeS1).

GBS: Recorded at 72% of sites (slightly lower than last year) in all but 2 weeks. Abundance (A=2.5147) was slightly lower than last year, but still higher than the 30YA. 5 overwintering records in July and 14 in Aug from 9 sites. Spring return movement first noted in 1wk Sept with flocks of 10-12 in Pearce GrK15, Weston GrJ15 and Kambah GrJ16, then flocks of 10-40 in 2wk Sept from 6 sites. Autumn movement had a very pronounced start in 4wk Mar with flocks of 10-140 recorded from 17 sites. During Autumn migration 13 flocks of 100+ birds with largest flock 500 in 1wk and 2wk Apr from Pearce GrK15 (KrS1). Only 1 breeding record on/2 wk Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Yellow-faced Honeyeater

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1850	1934	-4	555.0
WR	46	59	-22	37.4
G	201	200	0	125.9
BR	8	9	-11	3.7
GA	2.5147	2.7201	-8	2.1228
GS	38	46	-17	51.7
GBR	1	7	-86	1.3

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops*

Rare, breeding resident

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

General: 10 records, (10 last year), of 14 birds from 5 locations, although the number of birds is down from 14 last year. 3 records from Gigerline NR GrK20 of 1-3 birds between 17-22 Sep; 3 records from Greenleigh GrN15 1/4-6 June (BiJ1); 1/15 May Bredbo GrL29 (BIA2), 1/17 May Point Hut GrJ17 (CaJ4), 1/11 Jun Tidbinbilla GrG17 (NiJ2). The number of records has declined from a peak in 2009, but this is largely due to an absence of reports from a stronghold of the species along the Queanbeyan River. No breeding records.

GBS: 1 record this year. 1/3wk May Cook (TaN1). Other records 5 & 6 years ago from Hoskinstown.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

Non-breeding vagrant

Usual distribution is coastal forests of south-eastern Australia. Records for the region usually come from the upper Queanbeyan River.

General: No records this year. 1 record in 2006 and 3 records 2014.

Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala*

Very common, breeding resident

Woodland species commonly observed in Canberra suburbs and surrounding nature parks.

General: Number of records slightly lower than last year but number of birds and RR were marginally higher and both well above the 30YA. *Since 1991, RR has increased dramatically from 4.3% to a peak of 25.3% this year.* The number of WOO records was slightly lower than last year. Max 55/29 Oct Red Hill NR GrK14 (RoD2), the mean increased to 6.0, median 4. Highest proportion of records in autumn (35%). 66 breeding records, the highest number recorded, and nearly 4 times the 30YA: first nb/2 Jul Campbell Park GrM13 (WyP1); last

Noisy Miner

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	3067	3550	-14	591.5
WR	209	237	-12	103.4
G	106	95	12	59.2
BR	66	50	32	15.4
GA	1.4932	1.4655	2	0.5172
GS	37	35	6	20.4
GBR	37	63	-41	13.2

br/12 Mar Fadden Ponds (SlA1). An early record for 2018-19: nb/10 Jun North Watson (BuM4).

GBS: Recorded at 70% of sites, higher than last year, but in decreased numbers. Between 1982 and 2004 the abundance hovered around $A=0.2$. *Since then the abundance has dramatically increased year after year to its highest level of $A=1.5186$ in 2016-17. This year it is only slightly lower $A=1.4932$.* Max 30/3wk May Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), mean 4.6, median 4. 37 breeding records from 5 sites, a big decrease from last year (63): first nb/1wk Jul Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1); last dy/3wk Feb Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

PARDALOTIDAE: pardalotes

Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*

Very common, breeding resident/migrant

Easily recognised from its call, foraging in larger eucalypts.

General: RR 18.1% is up by 49% on last year, it is very close to the 10YA but remains 12% below the 30YA. Abundance 55% above last year and just above the 10 & 30YAs. Mean 3.1 median 2, max 190/28 Feb N Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1). The seasonal distribution shows a low in winter (18%) with more records in autumn (36%). 9 breeding records from 7 grid cells: first di/8 Oct Umbagog Park GrI12 (ChD2), last ih/13 Feb Moonlight Hollow Rd GrD16 (HeS1).

GBS: A small increase (6%) in the number of records, from 36 sites compared with 39 last year. RR 30.1% was up by 22% on last year and close to both the 10 and 30YAs. Abundance (0.6413) was up by 37% but remains below the 10 and 30YAs. Average number of birds 2.1, median 2, with max 20/1wk Mar & 20/1wk Apr both Wybalena Grove, Cook (TaN1). No breeding records this year.

Spotted Pardalote

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2187	1722	27	636.5
WR	102	80	27	77.9
G	160	140	14	109.3
BR	9	10	-10	7.2
GA	0.6413	0.4682	37	0.6705
GS	36	39	-8	50.2
GBR	0	1	-100	9.3

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*

Very common, breeding resident/migrant

Common in the tablelands and often heard in the suburbs.

General: The abundance and RR which fell markedly last year recovered by more than 70%, bringing both up closer to the 10YA and 30YAs. The number of records increased by 46% (2465 cf 1683 last year) and the number of birds seen by 50% (7213 cf 4817 last year). WOO records again up (264 cf 205 last year). Average number of birds 3.0, median 2, with max 55/7 Mar Nelanglo TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1). 30 breeding records from 18 grid cells, first nb/26 Aug Narrabundah Hill NR GrI15 (ReS1), last ih/4 Feb Yerrabi Walking Track GrH26 (GoJ3).

GBS: There were 554 records (528 last year) from 33 sites (36 last year). Abundance (0.4053) was very slightly up, RR rose from 20.2% last year to 24.4% this year. Average number of birds 1.7, median 1, with max 12/3wk Mar Florey (BrJ3). 11 breeding records from 1 rural and 2 suburban sites: first ih/3wk Aug Watson (WaK1) and last nb/3wk Nov Carwoola (BuM1).

Striated Pardalote

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2465	1683	46	735.4
WR	264	205	29	150.4
G	189	155	22	122.4
BR	30	31	-3	18.0
GA	0.4053	0.3982	2	0.5519
GS	33	36	-8	47.6
GBR	11	7	57	15.1

ACANTHIZIDAE: scrubwrens, thornbills and allies

Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki*

Rare, winter visitor

A bird of the coastal forest, occasionally seen in the COG AoI.

General: 22 records this year, 6 last year. 18 of the records from ANBG of 1 to 4 birds between 26 Apr and 28 Jun. Other sightings: 1/25 Jul West Goulburn Bushland Reserve GrY01 (AnF1), 1/6 Dec Nelanglo TSR48 GrO05 (EbD1), 2/21 Feb Lowden Forest Rd GrV19 (GoJ3), 1/11 Jun JWNR (EbD1). No breeding records ever in the COG AoI.

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone olivacea*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Prefers fairly well watered woodlands, including Canberra gardens.

General: RR 4.9% up 46% on last year and close to the 10YA but well below the 30YA (6.2%). Abundance (0.1032) up by 55% on last year and now close to the long-term averages. Pattern of records by season remains close to the long-term averages, with none this year in winter, 55% in spring, 30% in summer and 15% in autumn. Earliest record 2/3 Sep Nicholls GrK11 (HaJ7) and latest 2/3 May Percival Hill NR GrK11 (HaJ7). Mean 2.1, median 1, max 12/19 Oct MFNR (HoS1) and 12/23 Nov Campbell Pk (HeJ2). 12 breeding records: first nb/8 Oct "Cockatoo" Michelago GrN25 (AlB1) and last dy/31 Dec MFNR (McD4).

GBS: 21 records (12 last year) from 4 sites (8%), from 16 weeks. No winter records, 62% in spring, 33% in summer and 5% in autumn. Total number of birds 23 (12 last year). This is still down by approx. 50% on the long-term averages. Abundance (0.0101) up on last year (0.0046), but below the 10&30YA (0.0154). No breeding records this year, breeding reported only in 2011 and 2012.

White-throated Gerygone

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	591	474	25	194.4
WR	74	69	7	51.9
G	81	77	5	45.9
BR	12	12	0	4.3
GA	0.0101	0.0046	120	0.0154
GS	4	4	0	9.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Found in drier woodland with a scrubby understory.

General: RR 2.2% increased from 1.6% last year, but still lower than the 10YA (2.4%) and the 30YA (3.0%). Abundance (0.0385) rose by 40%, but remains a little below the 10YA and the 30YA by 8% and 16% respectively. Mean 1.8, median 1, max 9/7 Oct GOO GrM11 (GoJ3). 7 breeding records from 6 grid cells: first nb/8 Oct "Stonehouse" Williamsdale GrL21 (HoJ1), last ne/3 Dec Jerrabomberra Grasslands NR GrL16 (CoF1) and on the same day, a woodland record, dy Gooroo (TaN1).

GBS: No records again this year. *Generally, there are a few records each year, but there were no records last year and this year for the first time in the GBS Survey.* There have never been any breeding records in GBS.

Western Gerygone

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	269	229	17	92.0
WR	34	39	-13	27.7
G	44	39	13	23.2
BR	7	8	-12	1.5
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0028
GS	0	0	-	2.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Weebill *Sericornis brevirostris*

Common, breeding resident

Forages mainly for lerps in eucalypts in most areas.

General: Number of birds (6613) up by 15% on last year and up 71% on the 10YA and 250% on the 30YA. RR 14.9% is an increase over last year (11.3%) but remains below the 10YA (18%) and the 30YA (19%). Abundance (0.5459) up by 35% on last year, but remains below the 10YA and 30YA by 17% and 10% respectively. Mean 3.7, median 2, max 35/20 Jun Mt Majura NR GrM12 (AlA1). 17 breeding records (24 last year) from 10 grid cells: first nb/2 Sep JWNR (W S1) to last on/5 Feb Callum Brae GrL15 (EbD1).

GBS: 448 records from 27 sites from all weeks (447 last year). Number of birds 1146, a little below last year, half the 10YA and 27% below the 30YA. Mean 2.6, median 2, max 25/2wk Jun Waramanga (LaD3). 10 breeding records (7 last year) from 3 sites: first co/4wk Jul Page (AlB1), last dy/1wk May Page (AlB1).

Weebill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1806	1604	13	596.7
WR	156	164	-5	145.2
G	108	99	9	67.2
BR	17	24	-29	6.7
GA	0.5037	0.4701	7	0.5819
GS	27	27	0	35.1
GBR	10	7	43	3.9

Pilotbird *Pycnoptilus floccosus*

Rare, breeding resident

An elusive species, more often heard than seen.

General: All records from the Brindabella, Tidbinbilla and Tallaganda ranges. An increase of 42% in records this year to 27 (19 last year). Observed in 10 grid cells, up from 10YA of 6.3 and 30YA of 5.7. Number of birds 33 (27 last year). Despite these increases RR and abundance has declined from both the 10YA and 30YA. Records from 12 weeks, with most from summer (74%) and spring (22%), winter (4%), and zero in autumn. Max 2/12 Nov NNP (AIA1), mean 1.2, median 1.0. No breeding records this year. There are only 4 breeding records previously: 1989, 1996, 2011 and 2017.

Pilotbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	27	19	42	10.7
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	10	10	0	5.7
BR	0	2	-100	0.2
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittata*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Prefers undisturbed dry open woodland. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: Observed in every week. *A small increase in the number of birds (890) compared with last year (860). RR (3.6%) rose, but is still down on the 10YA (4.6%) and the 30YA (5.1%), being at the 2nd lowest level since 1999.* The abundance (0.0735) is up on last year (0.0606) but is still about 20% down compared with the 10 and 30YAs. Mean 2.0, median 2, max 15/20 Jun Mt Majura NR GrM12 (AIA1). 8 breeding records, same as last year, from 7 grid cells: first nb/8 Sep Mt Rogers GrJ11 (ReS1) to last cf/4 Nov MFNR (CIJ3).

Speckled Warbler

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	441	403	9	158.5
WR	31	26	19	20.2
G	60	55	9	36.1
BR	8	8	0	3.0
GA	0.0009	0.0038	-77	0.0085
GS	1	1	0	2.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

GBS: 2 records (5 last year) each of 1 bird from Carwoola

GrQ16 (BuM1) in Oct and Nov. No breeding, only 2 breeding records in the GBS, in 1987 and 1993.

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren *Calamanthus pyrrhopygia*

Rare breeding resident

Prefers heathlands but can be found occasionally in the COG AOI in similar habitats.

General: 21 records, up from 12 last year – the largest number since records commenced in 1983. However, it is most likely these records represent only 6 individual birds reported by multiple observers. Notably, Bluetts Block attracted 16 observers after reports in October of 3 birds including a fledgling. A single bird was recorded at Boboyan Rd woodland on 4 Feb (DaC2) and 2 birds at Cuumbeun NR on 6 Jan (LaK1). Most records were from spring and summer but records occurred through the year. The recording rate of 0.2% is double the 30YA but probably reflects greater recent observer effort. 2 breeding records this year, both at Bluetts Block, cf 22/Oct (W S1) and dy/30 Oct (LaK1). Prior to this there have been only 3 breeding records: 1995, 2011 and 2013.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*

Very common, breeding resident

Found in most areas where there is suitable cover.

General: The number of records (1570) has again surpassed the 30YA of 415.4. The number of birds sighted also increased to 4988, the highest ever. Records were from all weeks of the year across 131 grid cells, representing 40% of all grid cells. RR of 13% is slightly higher than last year's rate of 10.8%, higher than the 10YA of 12.2% but marginally below the 30YA of 13.4%. Abundance increased to 0.4118 (0.3180 last year) and is above both the 10YA (0.3427) and the 30YA (0.3164). Max 30/13 Aug ANBG (EbD1), mean 3.2 and median 2. 16 breeding records in 9 grid cells (28 records from 14 grid cells last year). Earliest:

White-browed Scrubwren

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1570	1536	2	415.4
WR	6	7	-14	4.6
G	131	116	13	87.4
BR	16	28	-43	7.1
GA	0.2932	0.2833	3	0.2043
GS	29	33	-12	24.5
GBR	25	8	212	5.4

nb/23 July JWNR (MiP1) and latest dy/2 Jan Bluetts Block (HeS1).

GBS: 381 records (400 last year) from 29 sites (26 suburban and 3 in NSW). Recorded throughout the year, with the fewest records being in winter. Abundance like last year and the 10YA but remains up on the 30YA, continuing a general upward trend starting in about 2000. Max 6/1wk Dec Macgregor (WIC1), mean 1.8, median 2. Breeding records are up this year to 25 (8 last year) from 6 suburban and 1 rural site (4 last year). There are fewer GBS sites for this species this year, but the breeding period has returned to the more usual Sep-Mar span, rather than the late start (Dec) last year.

Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

A ground-feeder in drier scrub and grassland margins.

General: RR 0.8% (0.7% last year), well below 10 YA (1.5%) and 30YA (1.9%). Abundance has remained below 0.02. The number of records 91, down from 100 last year, from 30 grid cells, the same as last year. The number of birds seen (213), down from 254 and below the 10YA (235) but still above the 30YA (148). Recorded in 42 weeks with 18% in winter and spread fairly evenly during the rest of the year. Mean 2.4, median 2, max 7/14 May MFNR (BeC2). Just 1 breeding record nb/13 Nov MFNR (BeC2).

GBS: No records since 2010, and only 6 records prior to that.

Uncommon, breeding resident

Southern Whiteface

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	91	100	-9	59.0
WR	4	2	100	3.6
G	30	30	0	24.6
BR	1	8	-88	2.4
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0002
GS	0	0	-	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

An easily recognised ground feeding bird of open forests, urban parks and suburban streets and gardens.

General: 16% more records (2384) than last year from 167 grid cells (151 last year) covering all weeks. 13418 birds recorded 26% up on last year. RR rose to 19.7% equalling the 10YA but 9% below the 30YA. Abundance rose 47% to 1.1077 to be above the 10YA and 30YA by 10% and 14% respectively. Mean 5.7, and median 4, max 45/27 May Birrigai Time Trail GrG17 (BuM4). Records distributed evenly throughout the year, with slightly fewer in winter. 65 breeding records from 33 grid cells: first nb/23 Jul Tuggeranong Hill NR GrK18 (HeS1) and last dy/15 Feb Pine Island GrJ17 (HeS1).

GBS: 357 records from 29 sites (55%) in all weeks. Abundance (0.6180) was higher than last year, but continues to be significantly lower than the 10YA (1.2) and 30YA (1.3). RR 15.7% rose but also remains well below the 10YA (25.3%) and 30YA (30.9%). Mean 3.9, median 3 and max 25/2wk Jan Wamboin (CoK2) and 4wk May Kambah (VeP1). 18 breeding records from 6 sites with first nb/5wk Jul Curtin (AjR1) and Kambah (VeP1), and last dy/1wk Dec Giralang (McD4).

Very common, breeding resident

Yellow-rumped Thornbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2384	2064	16	675.4
WR	59	54	9	45.8
G	167	151	11	111.1
BR	65	55	18	23.7
GA	0.6180	0.5490	13	1.3033
GS	29	36	-19	51.2
GBR	18	16	12	20.3

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana*

Least common resident thornbill, generally found in densely branching undergrowth such as wattle trees.

General: The year shows another increase in records (9%) and bird numbers (11%). RR (1.9%) is up on last year, and now above both the 10YA (1.4%) and the 30YA (1.8%). The abundance (0.0457) is also up by 30% and is close to both the 10YA (0.0423) and 30YA (0.0478). Mean 2.4 and median 2, max 10/17 May Coolalie TSR GrH02 (SeB1) and 10/11 Jun Illilanga GrL25 (LaS2). Only 1 breeding record dy/29 Dec Turner (BoC4).

GBS: 66 records from 7 suburban and 2 rural sites. Covering 40 weeks, essentially the same as last year. Fewest records in spring, most in summer (33%) with 26% in autumn and 31% in winter.

Uncommon, breeding resident

Yellow Thornbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	234	214	9	54.7
WR	1	1	0	1.8
G	55	51	8	25.7
BR	1	6	-83	1.3
GA	0.0642	0.0387	66	0.0264
GS	9	5	80	5.5
GBR	0	1	-100	0.4

Abundance rose to 0.0642 (0.0387 last year) and is double the 10YA value, and 143% above the 30YA. Mean 2.2, median 2, max 10/4wk Jan Kambah (VeP1). No breeding records this year.

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata*

Forages in groups in the upper foliage of forests and woodlands.

General: Abundance and RRs are up by 45% and 34% respectively on last year. Both are marginally below the 10YA but remain 20 and 30% lower than the 30YA. Number of birds (4249) is 23% more than last year and still significantly higher than the 10YA and 30YA figures. Mean 4.9, median 4, max 70/23 Jun Ashbrook Fire Trail GrF18 (DaC1, CaR3). 13 breeding records from 9 grid cells: first nb/2 Oct Black Mountain NR GrK13 (EdB1) and last dy/1 Jan Aranda Bushland GrJ13 (LaS1).

GBS: 124 records from 2 rural and 7 suburban sites over 51 weeks. Seasonal distribution again quite even this year. Abundance (0.2303) gained 26% on last year, but it remains below the 10YA and 30YAs by 31% and 10% respectively. Mean 4.2, median 4, max 10/4wk Apr Duffy (CaJ4), 5wk Apr & 1wk May Wamboin (CoK2). 3 breeding records: Nov/Dec in Curtin (AjR1).

Very common, breeding resident

Striated Thornbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	883	771	15	326.4
WR	24	30	-20	34.4
G	141	119	18	91.4
BR	13	10	30	7.8
GA	0.2303	0.1830	26	0.2557
GS	9	11	-18	21.7
GBR	3	2	50	0.9

Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*

Found everywhere in the region except open grasslands.

General: RR (13.5%) is up on last year (11.2%), above the 10YA (12.2%) but below the 30YA (14.7%). Abundance (0.3890) is 48% above last year and above the 10 and 30YAs. Mean 2.9, median 2, max 24/2 Oct Warks/Blundells Ck Rd (DrC1). 15 scattered breeding records in 10 grid cells, the first on/13 Aug JWNr (MiP1), last dy/24 Jan The Pinnacle NR (AIB1).

GBS: 589 records from 29 sites (55%), from all weeks. Number of birds (1129) is up on last year, is above 30YA (923) but below 10YA (1294). Abundance (0.4963) also up on last year and above the 10YA and 30YA. Mean 1.9, median 2, max 15/3wk Jun Kambah (VeP1). 6 breeding records from 4 sites, first dy/1wk Oct Cook (TaN1), last dy/1wk Dec Macgregor (WIC1).

Very common, breeding resident

Brown Thornbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1635	1595	3	456.6
WR	33	23	43	17.9
G	163	147	11	107.2
BR	15	11	36	5.1
GA	0.4963	0.3794	31	0.3417
GS	29	34	-15	35.2
GBR	6	2	200	2.7

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*

Forages in the middle levels of foliage in drier grassy woodlands.

General: Number of birds (6446) up by 17% on last year and much higher than 10YA (3426) and 30YA (1929). RR 9.8% is 38% up on last year, but still well under the 10YA (11.2%) and 30YA (13.2%). Abundance also rose by 37% to 0.5322 but it too remains below the 10 and 30YAs by 9% and 14% respectively. Mean 5.5, median 4, max 32/3 May MFNR (McD4). 36 breeding records from 18 grid cell: first ih/25 Aug Narrabundah Hill NR (CaJ4), and last dy/12 Mar The Pinnacle NR (AIB1).

GBS: 37 records, up from 19 last year, from 2 rural and 4 suburban sites. Abundance (0.0514) is more than double last year (0.0234) but is still down by 73% on the 10YA and 63% on the 30YA. Mean 3.2, median 3, with max 10/4wk May Wamboin (CoK2) and 10/3wk Jun Carwoola (BuM1). No breeding records.

Common, breeding resident

Buff-rumped Thornbill

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1186	1004	18	410.8
WR	81	93	-13	72.1
G	116	98	18	81.2
BR	36	51	-29	14.6
GA	0.0514	0.0234	120	0.1380
GS	6	3	100	10.3
GBR	0	0	-	1.6

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

Non-breeding vagrant

The ACT is on the south-eastern edge of the range of this species. Eastern subspecies declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: No records this year, most recent records in 2012 (Gundaroo Common) and in 2004-07 (Duntroon Golf Course).

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: RR this year remains low, continuing its 4 decade-long decline from 8% in 1989 to its present value of 2%. Despite the low RR, high observer effort recorded 1,045 birds, like last year (996) though many more than the 10YA (445) and the 30YA (282). Recorded in every week, with more records in spring (38%) than in summer (16%), autumn (20%) and winter (26%). RR (2.0%) higher than last year (1.4%), similar to the 10YA (1.9%), but lower than the 30YA (2.8%). Recorded from 14% of grid cells, the same as last year and about the same as the 10YA (12%) and the 30YA (14%). Max 22/20 Jun Mt Majura NR GrM12 (AlA1), mean 4.4, median 4. 9 breeding records (7 last year): first di/31 Aug Callum Brae NR GrL15 (BeS1) and last ny/5 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (DaC2).

GBS: 93 birds recorded (27 last year), more than the 10YA (45) and the 30YA (60). 22 records (10 last year), 17 from a single site at Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2), the others being from Carwoola and Cook (the only urban site). No breeding records (none last year; recorded in only 7 years of the GBS).

Varied Sittella

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	242	198	22	87.1
WR	11	15	-27	7.2
G	46	45	2	31.3
BR	9	7	29	5.5
GA	0.0409	0.0103	295	0.0224
GS	3	3	0	4.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

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

Common, breeding resident/summer migrant

A widespread, easily identified, largely summer migrant. Some of the population over-winters here.

General: 4,258 birds recorded (last year 3,829), far more than the 10YA (2,035) and the 30YA (1,018). Recorded in every week, with a marked spring (44%) and summer (35%) peak, cf autumn (19%) and winter (3%). RR (17.3%) higher than last year (12.8%) and like the 10YA (17.4%) and the 30YA (18.4%). Recorded from 49% of grid cells surveyed, similar to last year's 50%, the 10YA (46%) and the 30YA (43%). Max 22/23 Sep NLN GrM14 (LaS1), (20 last year), mean 2.1, median 1. 39 breeding records (53 last year), from di/2 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) to dy/28 Feb same location and observer.

GBS: 683 birds recorded (679 last year), fewer than the 10YA (926) and the 30YA (1,045). 407 records (468 last year), fewer than the 10YA (624) and the 30YA (697). Recorded in all but 3 weeks with higher proportions in spring (42%) and summer (40%) than in autumn (14%) and winter (4%). Records from 77% of sites, a similar proportion to last year (78%), the 10YA (81%) and the 30YA (87%). Abundance higher than last year, similar to the 10YA (0.2927) though lower than the 30YA (0.3867). Max 26/1wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) (7 last year), mean 1.7, median 1. 11 breeding records (9 last year) from just 3 sites: first di/3wk Sep Curtin (AjR1) and last dy/4wk Feb Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2091	1820	15	572.5
WR	64	100	-36	59.7
G	162	157	3	97.0
BR	39	53	-26	15.3
GA	0.3002	0.2600	15	0.3867
GS	41	47	-13	55.7
GBR	11	9	22	7.6

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*

Rare, non-breeding autumn migrant

The patchy continental distribution of this nomadic species means that it is only occasionally recorded in the Canberra region.

General: 8 records, more than the long-term trends after the 2013-14 year's surge to 20, from 3 grid cells. RR (0.1%) is the same as the long-term averages. Observed in Jul, Sep, Dec & May, 3 records of 2 birds, the rest only 1. Earliest sighting 1/17 Sep O'Connor Ridge NR GrK13 (EbD1) and last 1/31 May LGin GrJ12 (BoC4). No breeding recorded (1 last year).

GBS: 1 record: 1/5wk Apr Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). Recorded in small numbers irregularly over the years.

Cicadabird *Edolisoma tenuirostris*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

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

General: 8 records (6 last year), more than the 10YA (5.5) and the 30YA (4.4), 4 from the Namadgi area and 3 from Tallaganda, all a single bird. First 1/11 Nov NNP GrD16 (W S1) and last 1/18 Jan Bendora Road GrE16 (MiP1). No breeding recorded; one breeding record only, from 1990.

White-winged Triller *Lalage tricolor*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Declared vulnerable in the ACT.

General: The number of records annually has increased markedly since the time of the declaration of vulnerability. RR has fluctuated but is around the long-term averages this year. 849 birds recorded, far more than last year (369), and many more than the 10YA (426) and the 30YA (212). Recorded in every month from Sep to Apr: first 1/11 Sep MFNR GrL10 (BeC2) and last 1/6 Apr NNPVIC GrJ19 (EbD1). RR (2.7%) double that of last year (1.2%) and similar to the 10YA (2.9%) and the 30YA (3.2%). Recorded from 19% of grid cells surveyed (12% last year). Max 12/ 9 Dec Campbell Park (ReS1), mean 2.6, median 2. 21 breeding records (14 last year), more than the 10YA (15) and the 30YA (9): from di/15 Oct JWNr GrL14 (MiP1) to dy/18Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (BeS1).

GBS: 14 records (just 3 last year), similar to the 10YA (13) and the 30YA (12). 11 of the 14 were from a single rural site at Carwoola. First 3/3wk Sep Bonner GrL10 (GtB1) and last 1/5wk Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). No breeding records (and none last year).

CINCLOSOMATIDAE: quail-thrush**Spotted Quail-thrush** *Cinclosoma punctatum*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A resident of the dry forests of the ACT.

General: 29 birds recorded, fewer than last year (41) though similar to the 10YA (28) and the 30YA (24). Recorded in 11 weeks. RR (0.1%) lower than last year (0.2%), the 10YA (0.3%) and well below the 30YA (0.6%). Recorded from 3% of grid cells surveyed (5% last year). All records of 1, 2 or 3 birds, plus 5/18 May Tinkers Creek TSR Mountain Ck Rd GrF11 (SeB1). Most records from NNP and Tallaganda.

White-winged Triller

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	327	166	97	98.5
WR	16	15	7	9.5
G	64	39	64	30.9
BR	21	14	50	9.1
GA	0.0084	0.0011	627	0.0079
GS	3	2	50	3.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.9

Spotted Quail-thrush

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	16	28	-43	18.6
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	10	15	-33	13.0
BR	0	2	-100	0.1
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

PACHYCEPHALIDAE: whistlers and allies**Olive Whistler** *Pachycephala olivacea*

Uncommon, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

A bird of the ranges, though altitudinal migration occurs. Declared Vulnerable in NSW.

General: 22 records of 28 birds (more than last year's 12 records of 16 birds), many more than the 10YA of 6.6 and the 30YA of 7.8, from NNP, Tallaganda and the ANBG. Recorded in all months but May and Jun. 6 records of 2 birds, the rest of 1. 1 breeding record, the third ever recorded, the previous records being in 1987 and Jan 2018; this year's record was cf/3 Jan Tallaganda NP, Rocky Pic GrU21 (LaK1).

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A summer migrant found mostly in open woodlands.

General: 3,213 birds recorded, more than last year (2,514), the 10YA (1,453) and the 30YA (836). Recorded in every month, with a far higher proportion of records in spring (48%) and summer (36%) than in autumn (16%) and winter (0.5%). RR (11.4%) higher than last year (8.3%), similar to the 10YA (12.3%) but lower than the 30YA (15.0%). Recorded from 53% of grid cells surveyed (55% last year), close to the 10YA (55%) and the 30YA (49%). Max 15 (20 last year), mean 2.4, median 2. 15 breeding records (23 last year) from cf/23 Oct MFNR GrL10 (BeC2) to dy/8 Feb Glendale Depot GrI23 (BeS1).

GBS: 120 birds recorded, more than last year (105) though fewer than the 10YA (169) and the 30YA (184). 90 records cf 76 last year, fewer than the 10YA (120) and the 30YA (145). Recorded in every month except for Jul and Aug, with a much higher proportion of records in spring (40%) and summer (42%) than in autumn (16%) and winter (2%). The apparent contraction in the length of stay commented upon last year has continued, with birds recorded from 18 Sep to 25 Jun. Records from 19% of sites, similar to last year (15%) though lower than the 10YA (24%) and half the 30YA (40%). Abundance (0.0527) higher than last year (0.0402), similar to the 10YA (0.0536) but lower than the 30YA (0.0680). 3 breeding records (none last year), all from the rural part of the AoI: first di/3wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and last dy/3wk Feb Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK1).

Rufous Whistler

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1377	1176	17	467.9
WR	92	102	-10	71.9
G	174	175	-1	110.9
BR	15	23	-35	7.2
GA	0.0527	0.0402	31	0.0680
GS	10	9	11	25.4
GBR	3	0	Inf	0.7

Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis*

Common, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Most of the birds of this species in the Canberra region are altitudinal migrants. Breeding seldom reported here.

General: 1,450 birds recorded (last year 1,316), many more than the 10YA (694) and the 30YA (381). Recorded from 27% of grid cells (26% last year), in every week, with a lower proportion in summer (9%) than in autumn (35%), winter (29%) and spring (27%). RR (6.7%) is at one of the lowest levels since systematic recording began, though higher than last year (5.2%) but lower than the 10YA (7.0%) and the 30YA (8.4%). Max 20 (18 last year), mean 1.8, median 1. Abundance (0.1197) like last year (0.0927), though lower than the 10YA (0.1181) and the 30YA (0.1224). 1 breeding record (2 last year): cf/25 Nov Gungahlin Pond GrK11 (RoM3).

GBS: 240 birds recorded, similar to last year (263) though fewer than the 10YA (339), and the 30YA (374). 208 records, fewer than last year (237), the 10YA (304) and the 30YA (321). Only 1 record between Oct and Mar: autumn 45%, winter 39%, spring 15% and summer 0.5%. Records from 51% of sites (42% last year), like the 10YA (57%) and the 30YA (62%). Abundance about the same as last year and the 10YA (0.1073) though lower than the 30YA (0.1383). Max 4 (4 last year as well), mean 1.2, median 1. No breeding records (and only 3 during the length of the survey).

Golden Whistler

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	814	740	10	260.5
WR	27	31	-13	17.5
G	88	82	7	67.6
BR	1	2	-50	0.9
GA	0.1055	0.1007	5	0.1383
GS	27	25	8	39.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

Occurs in a wide variety of habitats in the COG area of interest.

General: 2,297 birds recorded (last year 1,777), many more than the 10YA (953) and the 30YA (627). Recorded in every week, with a higher proportion in spring (34%) than in summer (19%), autumn (27%) and winter (20%). RR (12.1%) higher than last year (7.7%) and the 10YA (10.5%), but lower than the 30YA (14.5%). *Since 1992 there has been a steady decline in RR from over 20% to the current much lower level. This year represents the first slight upturn since 2012.* Recorded from 58% of grid cells surveyed, similar to last year (56%), the 10YA (56%) and the 30YA (53%). Max 12, mean 1.6, median 1. 7 widely-distributed breeding records (6 last year), from nb/13 Oct Hall TSR GrJ10 (BeC2) to dy/12 Mar New Chums Road GrD16 (ReS1).

Common, breeding resident

Grey Shrike-thrush

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1461	1091	34	451.8
WR	36	45	-20	28.8
G	190	176	8	120.9
BR	7	6	17	3.8
GA	0.0541	0.0444	22	0.0742
GS	13	11	18	19.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.5



GBS: 123 birds recorded, like last year (116) though much fewer than the 10YA (250) and the 30YA (200). 115 records, similar to last year (108) though fewer than the 10YA (201) and the 30YA (171). Recorded in all but one week with a slightly higher proportion of records in autumn (27%) and winter (30%) than in spring (21%) and summer (23%). Records from 24% of sites (last year 18%), similar to the 10YA (21%) though lower than the 30YA (30%). Abundance higher than last year but lower than the 10YA (0.0790) and the 30YA (0.0742). Max 2 (3 last year), mean 1.1, median 1. No breeding records (and none last year).

FALCUNCULULIDAE: shriketit**Crested Shrike-tit** *Falcunculus frontatus*

A sparsely, but widely distributed species. Its RR has fallen significantly since its 1990s peak.

General: 104 birds recorded, more than last year (77), the 10YA (56) and the 30YA (48). RR (0.5%) higher than last year (0.3%), similar to the 10YA (0.6%) but well below the 30YA (1.0%).



The current RR is at a low level, and is the result of continuous decline since 1996, although there was

some recovery in the period 2004-07. Recorded in all months, with a higher proportion of records in spring (32%), summer (22%) and autumn (29%) than in winter (17%). Recorded from just 5% of grid cells surveyed (3% last year). Max 6 (the same as last year), mean 1.7, median 1. 5 breeding records (3 last year) from di/28 Oct Naas Valley Fire Trail GrK23 (LaS1) to dy/1 Mar Boboyan Road woodland GrH24 (BeC2).

Rare, breeding resident

Crested Shrike-tit

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	63	48	31	32.5
WR	2	0	Inf	1.6
G	16	9	78	15.4
BR	5	3	67	1.9
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0015
GS	0	0	-	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

PSOPHODIDAE: whipbird**Eastern Whipbird** *Psophodes olivaceus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Found in wet temperate forests, generally near water. The COG AoI is on the western edge of its range

General: 174 birds recorded, more than last year (112) and far more than the 10YA (56) and the 30YA (30). Recorded in all months except May and Jun, with 31% spring, 56% summer, 10% autumn and 3% winter. RR (0.8%) twice last year (0.4%) and more than the 10& 30YA (0.6%). Recorded from 7% of grid cells surveyed (6% last year), more than the 10& 30YA (both 4%), mostly from NNP, Tallaganda, Tharwa Sandwash and Tidbinbilla. Max 7/4 Apr Old Mill Rd GrD15 (BeC2), mean 1.9, median 1. No breeding records (2 last year, the first since 1994).

Eastern Whipbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	94	62	52	18.3
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	22	20	10	8.8
BR	0	2	-100	0.1
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Common, breeding summer migrant

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

General: 676 birds recorded (last year 700) many more than the 10YA (374) and the 30YA (194). Recorded in every month with marked spring (54%) and summer (32%) peaks, compared with autumn (11%) and winter (2%). RR (4.3%) remains relatively low, higher than last year (3.3%) though similar to the 10YA (4.6%) and the 30YA (5.0%). Recorded from 23% of grid cells surveyed (20% last year), more the 10YA (20%) and the 30YA (17%). Max 5 (15 last year), mean 1.3, median 1. 14 breeding records, (the same as last year, an unusually high number), more than the 10YA (8.0) and the 30YA (4.6), 10 of the 14 from Canberra suburbs or nature reserves, from on/22 Oct Hall woodland (GrB1) to on/20 Jan Glendale Depot GrI23 (GoJ3).

Olive-backed Oriole

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	517	463	12	155.0
WR	38	49	-22	23.8
G	76	63	21	39.3
BR	14	14	0	4.6
GA	0.0611	0.0452	35	0.0621
GS	29	23	26	27.4
GBR	0	0	-	2.5

GBS: 139 birds recorded, more than last year (118) though fewer than the 10YA (201) and the 30YA (168). Number of records (138) more than last year (109) though fewer than the 10YA (179) and the 30YA (152). Recorded in every month bar Jul, with marked spring (36%) and summer (48%) peaks cf. autumn (14%) and winter (2%). Records from 55% of sites (38% last year), more than the 10YA (41%) and the 30YA (43%). Abundance (0.0611) higher than last year (0.0452) though similar to the 10YA (0.0637) and 30YA (0.0621). Max 2, mean and median 1. No breeding records and none last year. Breeding has occurred in 19 years of the survey.

ARTAMIDAE: woodswallows, butcherbirds, magpie, currawongs**Pied Currawong** *Strepera graculina*

Very common, breeding resident

5th most commonly reported species in the general records and 3rd most commonly reported in the Garden Bird Survey.

General: Number of birds (16,778) similar to last year (16,349) and very many more reported than the 10YA (7,189) and the 30YA (3,195). Recorded in every week with a higher proportion of records in autumn (31%) and spring (27%) than in summer (22%) and winter (19%). RR (43%) higher than last year (36%), the 10YA (38%) and the 30YA (36%). RR was the highest since 1990. Recorded from 63% of grid cells, similar to last year

Pied Currawong

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	5231	5072	3	1120.4
WR	110	137	-20	64.8
G	208	180	16	128.2
BR	141	154	-8	35.2
GA	3.7073	3.3109	12	3.9047
GS	53	60	-12	63.6
GBR	186	169	10	156.4

(57%), the 10YA (59%) and the 30YA (56%). Max 104 (107 last year), well below the 10YA (521) and the 30YA (521), mean 3.2, median 2. 141 breeding records (154 last year), many more than the 10YA (59) and the 30YA (35), each month Aug to Feb, peaking in Oct.

GBS: Number of birds (8,434) similar to last year (8,648) though fewer than the 10YA (12,080) and the 30YA (10,549). Number of records (1,985) like last year (2,201), fewer than the 10YA (2,752) and the 30YA (2,308). Recorded in all weeks, similar proportions of records in each season. Records from all sites. Abundance similar to last year, the 10YA (3.8205) and the 30YA (3.9047). *The abundance has been remarkably steady around $A=4.0000$ since 1996.* Max 53 (55 last year), mean 4.2, median 3. 186 breeding records (169 last year) from 55% of sites, in each month Jul to Feb.

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Seen in small numbers in forests and woodlands, with some Canberra GBS records as well.

General: Number of birds (385) higher than last year (296), the 10YA (239) and the 30YA (192). Recorded in all weeks of the year, with higher proportions of records in spring (34%) and autumn (31%) than in summer (14%) and winter (21%). RR (2.4%) higher than last year (1.5%) but well below the 10YA (3.3%) and the 30YA (5.1%). *RR has undergone a long, continuous, ever-so-gentle decline from 1991's 6.2% to last year's 1.5% (the lowest ever). RR was 5% or higher for every year between 1991 and 2008, and below 5% every year since then.* Recorded from 21% of grid cells surveyed (18% last year), similar to the 10YA (21%) and 30YA (22%). Max 5 (8 last year), mean 1.3, median 1. 11 breeding records (7 last year), more than the 10YA (5.6) and the 30YA (4.4), 9 of the 11 being "dy". Earliest on/6 Sep Casuarina Sands NR GrG14 (HeS1) and latest dy/5 Feb MFNR (WyP1).

GBS: Number of birds (114) more than last year (96) though fewer than the 10YA (181) and the 30YA (189). Number of records (99) more than last year (88) though fewer than the 10YA (158) and the 30YA (162). Recorded in 49 weeks (the same as last year), with higher proportions of records in spring (34%) than in summer (18%), autumn (24%) and winter (23%). RR (4.4%) higher than last year (3.4%), though lower than the 10YA (5.0%) and the 30YA (6.0%). *As with the general records, RR has fallen steadily over the last two decades.* Records from 17% of sites (20% last year), a lower proportion than the 10YA (27%) and the 30YA (32%). Abundance higher than last year, similar to the 10YA (0.0572) though lower than the 30YA (0.0700). Max 2 (5 last year), mean 1.2, median 1. 1 breeding record (none last year): dy/1wk Nov Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Grey Currawong

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	288	217	33	159.2
WR	11	13	-15	14.6
G	70	56	25	50.3
BR	11	7	57	4.4
GA	0.0501	0.0368	36	0.0700
GS	9	12	-25	20.3
GBR	1	0	Inf	2.0

Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*

Very common, breeding resident

An iconic native species. Continues recent history of being well above the long-term figures on key parameters. The most reported species.

General: Number of birds (38,440) similar to last year's figure (39,320), though many more than the 10YA (15,258) and the 30YA (6,969). Recorded in all weeks, with a slightly lower proportion in winter (20%) than in spring (27%), summer (24%) and autumn (30%). Records from 76% of grid cells surveyed, similar to last year (71%), the 10YA (72%) and the 30YA (72%). RR (64%) like last year (60%), the 10YA (60%) and the 30YA (57%). 7th most abundant species (3.1735), abundance higher than last year (2.7694), the 10YA (2.5937) and the 30YA (2.2401). Max 91 (135 last year), mean 5.0, median 3. 373 breeding records (371 last year) in every month, with a marked Oct/Nov peak, mostly "dy".

GBS: Number of birds (8,766) like last year (9,054), fewer than the 10YA (10,991) though similar to the 30YA (8,626). Number of records (2,128) fewer than last year (2,432), the 10YA (2,911) and the

Australian Magpie

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	7774	8493	-8	1780.4
WR	343	389	-12	216.2
G	250	223	12	161.3
BR	373	371	1	95.9
GA	3.8532	3.4663	11	3.1931
GS	53	60	-12	63.9
GBR	211	257	-18	217.2

30YA (2,416). Recorded in all weeks, with similar numbers of records in each season. Records from all sites. Most recorded and 4th most abundant species, abundance slightly higher last year, the 10YA (3.4762) and the 30YA (3.1931). Max 42 (46 last year), mean 4.1, median 3. 211 breeding records (257 last year) from 57% of sites in all months Jul-Feb, with a strong peak in Oct/Nov.

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

COG's area of interest is near the south-eastern limit of the range of this species. RRs have fluctuated markedly over the last two decades, with rates now higher than in the past, and abundance also higher than before.

General: Number of birds (44) fewer than last year (58) though far more than the 10YA (24) and the 30YA (9). RR (0.3%) the same as last year and the 10YA but higher than the 30YA (0.2%). Abundance (0.0036) similar to last year and the 10YA (both 0.0041) and higher than the 30YA (0.0030). From 20 widely-spread sites, including 8 reports from the Uriarra area. Records in all months except Nov, 3 separate records of 3 birds with the rest being of 1 or 2 birds. 1 breeding record (1 last year) which was just the 5th in the COG AoI (3 of the 5 were "cf", indicative, but not confirmatory, of breeding): cf/28 Dec FisherGrJ15 (BoC5).

GBS: No records, reported in 2005, 2007 and 2013 only.

Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus*

Common, breeding resident

A woodland species, also found in the suburbs, with number of birds, records, and RR far higher in recent years than in the past.

General: Number of birds (2,091) similar to last year (1,958) though many more than the 10YA (806) and the 30YA (353). Recorded in every week of the year, with an autumn peak (40%) cf. winter (15%), spring (23%) and summer (22%). RR (13.7%) the highest on record, higher than last year (10.7%), the 10YA (10.8%) and the 30YA (9.3%). From 44% of grid cells (42% last year), like the 10YA (36%) though more than the 30YA (27%). Abundance (0.1726) higher than last year (0.1379), the 10YA (0.1371) and the 30YA (0.1134). Max 11 (6 last year), mean 1.3, median 1. 29 breeding records (15 last year): earliest on/16 Sep Ginninderra Creek Evatt GrJ12 (KiB1) and latest dy/1 Jan Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1).

Grey Butcherbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1662	1522	9	288.0
WR	75	114	-34	37.3
G	144	131	10	62.5
BR	29	15	93	3.1
GA	0.3442	0.3277	5	0.0833
GS	45	47	-4	19.4
GBR	7	1	600	0.4

GBS: Number of birds (783) similar to last year (856), though more than the 10YA (624) and far more than the 30YA (225). Number of records (649) fewer than last year (727) though higher than the 10YA (545) and far higher than the 30YA (198). Recorded in all weeks, with higher proportions of records in autumn (38%) than in winter (19%), spring (16%) and summer (27%). RR (28%) the same as last year though higher than the 10YA (17%) and far higher than the 30YA (7%). Records from 85% of sites, a similar proportion to last year (78%) though higher than the 10YA (59%) and far higher than the 30YA (30%). Abundance similar to last year though much higher than the 10YA (0.1975) and the 30YA (0.0833). Max 3, mean 1.2, median 1. 7 breeding records (1 last year): earliest cf/1wk Oct Garran GrK15 (QuA1) and latest dy/4wk Campbell GrL13 (LiT1).

Masked Woodswallow *Artamus personatus*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

Usually seen in company with the White-browed Woodswallow.

General: 122 birds recorded, the same as last year, fewer than the 10YA (160), but more than the 30YA (64). 13 records, just 2 last year, more than the 10YA (10.1) and the 30YA (5.3), from 1/26 Sep North Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1) to 1/4 Dec Page GrL14 (DoD1). No breeding records this year and none since 3 in 2013-14 which were the first since 2004-05.

GBS: No records this year, last recorded 2015.

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

An occasional visitor from the north and west.

General: 1,030 birds recorded, far more than last year (just 57) the 10YA (741) and the 30YA (353), the 4th highest number of birds in the time series. Number of records (40) well above last year (2) the 10YA (36) and the 30YA (22). Recorded in Sep-Dec, Feb and Mar. Max 360/25 Oct Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1), mean 26, median 5.5. 5 breeding records from di/25 Oct Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1) to dy/16 Mar Yankee Hat GrH25 (DaC2).

GBS: 130 birds, none last year, cf. the 10YA of 140 and the 30YA of 99. Just 3 records from 3 sites in Sep and Oct, max 70, mean 43, median 50. No breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A migrant woodland species, some over-winter.

General: 5,053 birds recorded, many more than last year (2,924), the 10YA (1,972) and the 30YA (1,101). Recorded in every month except Jul, with a far higher proportion of records in spring (43%) than in summer (29%), autumn (27%) and winter (1%). RR (7.4%) far higher than last year (4.1%) and like the 10YA (6.4%) and the 30YA (7.5%). Recorded from 38% of grid cells surveyed, like last year (34%), the 10YA (32%) and the 30YA (29%). Max 200 (45 last year), mean 5.7, median 4. Abundance (0.4172) double last year's figure (0.2059) and higher than the 10YA (0.3352) and the 30YA (0.3539). 76 breeding records (56 last year): earliest nb/10 Sep Narrabundah Hill NR GrI15 (CaJ4), latest dy/24 Feb Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (BuM4).



Julian Robertson

Dusky Woodswallow

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	894	584	53	232.4
WR	50	20	150	13.1
G	124	109	14	66.0
BR	76	56	36	26.3
GA	0.0426	0.0230	86	0.0777
GS	7	11	-36	10.7
GBR	1	0	Inf	0.8

GBS: 97 birds recorded, more than last year (60) though fewer than the 10YA (197) and the 30YA (210). Number of records (33) more than last year (16) though similar to the 10YA (39) and the 30YA (35). Recorded in each month Sep to Apr, with a marked spring peak (42%) and lower proportions in summer (27%), autumn (30%) and winter (0%). Records from 13% of sites (18% last year), similar to the 10YA (18%) and the 30YA (17%). Abundance higher than last year (0.0230), though lower than the 10YA (0.0622) and the 30YA (0.0777). Max 10, mean 2.9, median 2. 1 breeding record (none last year): dy/3wk Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

DICRURIDAE: drongo**Spangled Drongo** *Dicrurus bracteatus*

Non-breeding vagrant

A coastal species not often recorded in the ACT.

General: 3 records this year (2 of which were from the same place at the same time), the first since 9 in 2013. Follows a period of 15 years where there were records every year except 3 and a decade of increasing records. Prior to 2000 there was only one year where the species was recorded, in 1990. Recorded: 1/27 Jul Griffith GrL14 (InC1) and 1/8 May Narrabundah Hill NR GrI15 (CaJ4 & DaC2).

GBS: No records. Previously recorded in GBS in 2005, 2012 and 2014.

RHIPIDURIDAE: fantails**Willie Wagtail** *Rhipidura leucophrys*

Very common, breeding resident

A conspicuous resident of ACT woodlands, although the much lower number of sightings in winter may suggest some altitudinal migration.

General: *Indices have improved steadily for this species, with a steady increase in abundance and RR since 2003. RR 25.5% up 39% on last year, up 13% on the 10YA and 14% on the 30YA. Recorded in all seasons with peaks in spring and summer (both 33%). Max 22/8 Dec Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (GrB1), average 2.2, median 2. The earliest breeding report was nb/5 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrJ13 and latest dy/10 Feb LGin Peninsula GrJ12, both (AlB2).*

Willie Wagtail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	3094	2600	19	694.1
WR	56	44	27	31.0
G	179	175	2	108.2
BR	73	106	-31	25.5
GA	0.2255	0.2366	-5	0.2474
GS	39	38	3	45.2
GBR	15	27	-44	8.9

GBS: Fewer records this year (381) than last year (425), and well down on the 10 & 30YAs. Abundance 0.2255 is down 5% on last year and the 10YA and down 9% on the 30YA. Recorded in all seasons, but more in spring (33%) and summer and autumn (both 27%). Average 1.3 and median 1, max 5/2wk Sept and earliest breeding record nb/1wk Oct, both Curtin GrK14 (AjR1), and latest dy/2wk Jan McGregor GrI12 (WIC1).

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

A summer migrant to the ranges in the ACT, sometimes observed passing through the suburbs.

General: RR of 0.5% is up 2% on the 10YA but down 29% on the 30YA. RR has varied over the years, but the trend has been downward from 1993 to 2016, but with a slight improvement in the last two seasons. Nearly all records were in summer 71% and autumn 21%, with none in winter. Max 9/3 Jan Tallaganda SF GrU21 (LaK1). Earliest record: 1/29 Oct NNP GrH22 (BeS1) and latest 2/27 Mar ANBG GrK13 (McI1). No breeding records this year. There have only been breeding records in 9 of the last 32 years (last in 2005).

Rufous Fantail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	61	53	15	22.1
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	23	19	21	13.0
BR	0	2	-100	0.3
GA	0.0009	0.0004	130	0.0028
GS	2	1	100	4.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

GBS: 2 records 1/1wk Mar Cook (TaN1) and 1/1wk Mar Aranda (MeP1) – possibly the same bird.

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura fuliginosa*

Common, breeding resident/summer migrant

A summer migrant to ACT woodlands

General: RR 24.8% is down 28% on last year, down 5% on the 10YA and 14% on the 30YA. RR is still at a reasonable level, although it is at its third lowest level since records began. 6 records are from winter, which indicates that some of the birds do not migrate. 39% of the records from spring. Max 35/24 Sep Goorooyarroo NP GrM11 (HoS1) average 3.5 median 2. Breeding: earliest nb/20 Oct Bluetts Block (Uriarra) GrI14 (HiC2) and latest dy/2 Feb ANBG (CIJ3).

Grey Fantail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	3002	2743	9	901.3
WR	169	148	14	120.9
G	209	199	5	138.6
BR	13	29	-55	13.9
GA	0.2699	0.2140	26	0.3360
GS	29	33	-12	48.9
GBR	19	3	533	2.9

GBS: 380 records this year, slightly up on last year (362). RR 16.7% is up 21% on last year, but down 6% on the 10YA and down 20% on 30YA. Max 10/2wk Feb Cook (TaN1), average 1.6 and median 1. Earliest breeding nb/3wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and latest dy/2wk Feb Wamboin Gr 2 (CoK2).

CORVIDAE: ravens**Little Raven** *Corvus mellori*

Uncommon, breeding resident/winter migrant

This species is generally considered a flocking species in this region.

General: RR 7.6% is up 49% on last year, and up 41% on the 10YA and up 52% on the 30YA. *RR has been trending upwards since 2005. Widely reported from more grid cells than last year, up 71% on the 10YA and 157% on the 30YA.* Max 146/23 Oct and first breeding record on/17 July both Briars Sharrow Rd, Hoskinstown GrR16 (BuM1), mean 8.4. median 4. Recorded in all seasons with a spring max 38%. Latest breeding dy/23 Nov Boboyan Rd GrH24 (BeS1).

GBS: 37 of the 53 records from 3 rural sites. and 7 suburban sites were of small numbers (1-10) with max of 40/3wk Jan Campbell GrL13 (R0S1). Most records were in summer (33%). A first breeding record for the GBS dy/4wk Nov Wamboin Gr Q12 (CoK2).

Little Raven

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	925	727	27	156.6
WR	5	1	400	3.2
G	136	112	21	52.9
BR	11	9	22	1.7
GA	0.1429	0.2446	-42	0.1313
GS	8	9	-11	8.0
GBR	2	0	Inf	0.0

Australian Raven *Corvus coronoides* 1664

At home in urban and rural sites, calling from high vantage points and scavenging by shops, schools, parks and roads.

General: RR 40.5% is up 25% on last year and 8% on the 10YA and 9% on the 30YA. *RR has stayed around this level since 1999, with a slight dip last year.* Recorded in all seasons with an autumn peak 30%. Australian Ravens do not usually flock together in large numbers, with the median being 2 and average this year 2.6. There was an unusually large gathering: 40/15 Nov LTug GrJ16 (CoF1). The historical database shows this species is typically nest building between Jun & Oct and then a smattering of breeding records through summer and autumn. Another breeding parameter shows “dy” is typically between Sep and Jan. This ABR fits some of this pattern with “nb” from Jul to Sept and “dy” Sept to Jan.

GBS: Recorded in all weeks at most sites. While group sizes are typically 6 or fewer, the max was 20/4wk May Curtin Gr K14 (AjR1). Abundance (A=1.7727) is a little higher than last year, 18% up on the 10YA and 37% up on the 30YA. Earliest breeding for this reporting year was di/1wk Aug Deakin GrK14 (RoD2). Breeding activity would have started well before then, and the last dy/2wk Feb Kaleen (CIM1).

Very common, breeding resident

Australian Raven

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	4911	4608	7	1156.9
WR	209	217	-4	111.3
G	216	186	16	135.0
BR	69	101	-32	20.6
GA	1.7727	1.6861	5	1.2901
GS	53	59	-10	61.8
GBR	38	48	-21	31.9

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

Common, breeding summer migrant

Usually recorded in the woodlands around Canberra suburbs.

General: RR 3.7% is up 37% on last year, down 4% on the 10YA and 18% down on the 30YA. *RR has declined from 6.9% in 1998 to its lowest value ever of 2.8% in 2017, but has taken a slight upturn this year.* No winter records, most in spring 50% and summer 44%. Max 9/10 Dec GOO GrM11 (Hos1) average 2.3 and median 2. Earliest 1/27 Sept MUL GrL10 (LaK1) and latest 1/8 Apr Bredbo Jerangle Rd Gr M13 (BaL1). Breeding: earliest di/4 Oct Bluetts Block GrI14 (BeS1) and latest dy/3 Jan Nth Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1).

GBS: The abundance value for this species in this survey is erratic and varies widely from year to year, but the average has remained constant over time. At A=0.0286, it is similar to last year and the

Leaden Flycatcher

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	448	383	17	141.1
WR	22	25	-12	18.0
G	69	71	-3	44.5
BR	23	38	-39	12.0
GA	0.0286	0.0214	33	0.0298
GS	9	8	12	11.9
GBR	0	0	-	1.2

10YA and just under the 30YA. 51 records, nearly always of single birds: max 4/2wk Jan and earliest 1/1wk Oct both Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and latest 1/3wk Mar Cook Gr J13 (TaN1).

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

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

General: RR 0.4% is up 34% on last year, down 20% on the 10YA and 48% down on the 30YA. *Since 1993 RR has been no higher than 1.3% and for most years below 1.0%. In 2017, it was at its lowest level, but has taken a slight upturn this year.* No winter records, most in spring 27% and summer 67%. Max 4/23 Jan NNP Booroomba Rocks Rd GrH20 (BeC1), mean 1.8 and median 2. Earliest 1/14 Oct Lake Jerrabomberra QBN GrM16 (HeS1) and latest 2/16 Mar Boboyan Rd GrH24 (DaC1). Breeding: earliest on/25 Nov Namadgi NP, Honeysuckle Creek Campground GrH20 (BeS1) and latest dy/21 Jan NNP Blundells Ck Rd GrE15 (HeS1).

Satin Flycatcher

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	48	42	14	23.5
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	20	17	18	15.0
BR	4	6	-33	2.2
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0018
GS	0	1	-100	2.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*

Rare, breeding resident

Found mainly in open woodland, generally avoiding closed forests.

General: RR 0.4% down 34% on the 10YA and down 74% on the 30YA. *While RR has improved very slightly since last year, it is still just above its lowest level ever.* Seasonal distribution was winter 13%, spring & summer 20%, and autumn 48%. Max 3/3 Mar Campbell Park GrM13 (EbD1). Earliest 1/9 Jul NSW Bumbalong GrL27 (EdB1) and latest 1/10 Jun Vikings Club Gr J16 (BuM4).

GBS: 2 records this year, similar to many past years: 1/4wk Aug Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and 1/2 wk Apr Holt GrJ12 (DaC1)

Restless Flycatcher

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	46	46	0	45.0
WR	1	0	Inf	1.4
G	21	22	-5	23.7
BR	0	1	-100	1.0
GA	0.0009	0.0000	Inf	0.0026
GS	2	0	Inf	2.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Very common, breeding resident

Our largest and most visible flycatcher.

General: RR 48% is similar to last year and up 13% on the 10YA and 27% on the 30YA. *It is at its highest level ever.* Abundance 1.8065 is like last year, but up 24% on the 10YA and 53% on the 30YA. Recorded throughout the year, mean 3.8, median 2, with max 135/15 Jul Rose Cottage Agistment GrL16 (CaR3). Earliest breeding di/18 Jul Queanbeyan Riverside Corridor GrN15 (BuM1) and latest dy/21 Feb Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (CoF1).

GBS: 1817 records, down slightly on previous years and averages. Abundance (A=2.0769) is up 3% on last year, 7% on the 10YA and similar to the 30YA. Recorded at all sites in all weeks evenly throughout the year. Max 23/3wk May Curtin GrK14 (AjR1), average 2.6 and median 2. Earliest breeding nb/3wk Aug Pearce (KrS1) and latest dy/1wk Mar Kambah (VeP1).

Magpie-lark

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	5818	6655	-13	1175.5
WR	108	138	-22	56.8
G	173	168	3	101.3
BR	149	242	-38	45.6
GA	2.0769	2.0103	3	2.0780
GS	53	59	-10	63.0
GBR	77	128	-40	82.9

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*

Rare, Visitor

Seldom reported in the ACT, rarely occurring as far inland as the ACT.

General: 7 records of mainly single birds this year cf 2 last year and 5.7 30YA: earliest 1/21 Oct Tallaganda SF North GrV19 (DaC1). Max and latest records on the same day 2/10 Feb Tallaganda SF Mountain Gully Rd GrV19 (McD1). This level of reporting is typical for the COG AoI.

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

Conspicuous in groups in woodlands and dry open forests.

General: RR 10.1% is up 20% on last year but down 4% on the 10YA and 10% on the 30YA. Abundance 0.8630 is up 26% on last year, 9% on 10YA and up 20% on the 30YA. While RRs have declined somewhat since 2010, they have improved this year. The abundance values have oscillated around the current values for many years. Recorded evenly in all seasons. Max 59/31 Jan N Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1), average 8.7 and median 7. Breeding: earliest dy/2 Jul Weston Park Yarralumla GrK12 (BuM4)) and latest ny/8 Apr Woodlands N Crown Rd GrK03 (SpB1).

GBS: 316 records from 26 suburban and rural sites (half the GBS sites this year). Abundance (A=1.2558) is up 57% on last year, 94% on 10YA and 156% on the 30YA. Average 9.0 and median 7 with earliest breeding dy/2wk Jul Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and max 66/1wk May and latest dy/1wk May both Curtin Gr K14 (AjR1).

Very common, breeding resident

White-winged Chough

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1219	1191	2	346.8
WR	68	75	-9	36.4
G	119	104	14	67.0
BR	87	132	-34	34.1
GA	1.2558	0.8005	57	0.4909
GS	26	25	4	23.9
GBR	59	46	28	10.8

Apostlebird *Struthidae cinerea*

Rare, vagrant

General: A lone Apostlebird, first recorded in the ACT last year, continued to be recorded regularly over the whole season, mainly at N Watson Wetlands and surrounding streets and Mount Majura Parkland. 44 records of most probably the same bird: earliest 1/30 July and latest 1/23 Jun Watson GrL12 both (AlA1).

PETROICIDAE: robins**Rose Robin** *Petroica rosea*

Uncommon, breeding migrant

Occurs mostly in forest areas in the ranges and on seasonal migration passage.

General: RR (0.6%), is slightly higher than last year (0.5%), but 29% down on the 30YA. Abundance is the same as long term averages (0.01). The number of birds sighted (108) is about the same as last year and the year before (111). 76 records, the same as last year, most in autumn and spring, the seasonal migration pattern. Earliest record 1/10 Aug West Goulburn Reserve (AnF1), latest 1/28 June ANBG (AlA1). Max 6/15 Nov NNP/Warks & Blundells Ck Rds (HoS1). Records are from widespread areas, with largest number of records ANBG (22), and NNP Warks/Blundells Ck Rds (13). No breeding records this year. While the species has been recorded in all but 3 of the previous 31 years, breeding has only been recorded in 9. 1 WOO record 1/24 Sept GOS (HoS1).

GBS: 12 records of single birds from 3 suburban sites, 10 records/3wk Jul – 4wk May Cook (TaN1), 1/3wk Aug Page (AlB1), and 1/2wk Jun Fadden (CaR3). 58% of the records were in winter.

Rose Robin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	76	76	0	27.6
WR	1	1	0	0.3
G	23	22	5	13.1
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0053	0.0042	25	0.0110
GS	3	2	50	8.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Pink Robin *Petroica rodinogaster*

Rare, non-breeding winter migrant

Occurs in higher elevation ranges and forests along the SE Great Dividing Range, an occasional winter visitor. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: No records this year, compared to 7 records last year. No breeding records in over 30 years.

GBS: No records. Last record in 2007, and before that in 2001, reported most years before that.

Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea*

Uncommon, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Occurs in higher and middle altitude forests, moving to lower habitats in autumn/winter. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: RR (2.3%), is 57% higher than last year (1.5%), which was the lowest since record keeping started (1.3%). This year it is down 44% on the 30YA. Since 1991, RR shows a gradual trend downwards. Total number of birds sighted (1021) is 35% up on last year (758) with max 38/6 Sep TNR – Ring Rd COF1. Mean 3.8 and median 2 are similar to last year (36, 3.7, 2). Spring records up 62% to 28% and winter records are down 39% to 42% last year. The seasonal spread of records is winter 26%, spring

28%, summer 13% and autumn 33%. The largest number of records (93) from various locations in NNP in most months of the year; highest number of birds recorded in NNP 22/1 Sept Nursery Swamp track (MaM4). 10 breeding records: earliest 2cf/28 Oct NNP Naas Trail (LaS1), and latest 2dy/30 Jan NNP Bendora Rd (BeC2). 2 WOO records, 13/19 June JER (BoJ1), 1/17 Sept NAS (McJ4).

GBS: 8 records from 1 rural site Carwoola, 1-2 birds in winter and early spring, 3wk Jul to 3wk Sep (BuM1). No breeding recorded.

Flame Robin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	276	206	34	126.2
WR	2	0	Inf	1.0
G	87	83	5	58.5
BR	10	7	43	4.4
GA	0.0044	0.0015	187	0.0076
GS	1	4	-75	3.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Scarlet Robin *Petroica multicolor*

Uncommon, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Occurs in open forest & woodland at middle altitudes, dispersing to lower levels in autumn. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW.

General: RR (6.6%), is up 18% on last year (5.6%) the lowest it had ever been; this year's RR is down 31% on the 30YA. The number of birds (1746) is down slightly on 2017 (1832), and also down on 2016 (2158), the highest ever number. Abundance is slightly up (0.1441) on last year (0.1290), but 17% below the 30YA. Present throughout the year, most records in autumn (45%) and winter (32%), a consistent seasonal pattern. Records were widespread, in 128 grid cells. Locations with most records, MFNR (all months of year), Mt Majura/Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park (mostly winter & autumn), NNP, TNR. 8 breeding records (6 at one site Narrabundah Hill), compared to 20 in 2017; earliest di/14 Aug and the latest 3dy/14 Jan, both Narrabundah Hill (CaJ4). The number of breeding records is within the average range of the last decade. 28 WOO records, significantly fewer than 2017 (52); 14 MUL (winter, spring & autumn surveys), and 7 other sites; WOO records 20% down on 30YA.

GBS: 41 records, 20% fewer than 2017 (51) and well down on 2016 (112). Abundance (A=0.0246) slightly down on 2017 (0.0260). 1-3 birds recorded from 8 sites, 4 rural sites (Wamboin, Carwoola, Burra, Murrumbateman) and 4 suburban sites near reserves (Cook, Curtin, Weston, Duffy). Most records are from autumn (54%) and winter (37%), similar to 2017. No breeding recorded. Only 2 breeding records in the GBS, in 1987 and 2009.

Scarlet Robin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	805	802	0	300.0
WR	28	52	-46	34.8
G	128	119	8	78.9
BR	8	20	-60	5.4
GA	0.0246	0.0260	-5	0.0372
GS	9	11	-18	15.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

A resident of inland woodlands, sometimes visiting the local region.

General: RR (1.4%), is up significantly on last year (0.4%), and up 160% on the long-term averages (0.5%). 285 birds sighted, Jul to Apr cf 60 last year, the most ever recorded, possibly reflecting a widespread dry period inland. The number of records is also significantly higher (171) than last year (50). Most records were in spring and summer. Many records from MFNR/Gooroo NR, and nearby Yerrabi Pond (max 5/12 Feb); also, LBath/S Morass (LeM1), Narrabundah Hill & Bluetts Block (several observers), and other sites widely spread around

Red-capped Robin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	171	50	242	16.9
WR	3	0	Inf	1.9
G	32	7	357	7.4
BR	16	1	1500	0.6
GA	0.0013	0.0000	Inf	0.0002
GS	1	0	Inf	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

32 grid cells (only 7 grid cells in 2017). 16 breeding records (note: half these records possibly the same birds observed multiple times at Yerrabi Pond), earliest 3 dy/12 Oct MFNR (BeC2), latest 2dy/23 Feb Yerrabi Pond (BeS1). Breeding has been observed in 14 of the years since 1983. 3 WOO records, 2/29 Sept GOO (TaN1), 1/13 Dec MAJ (WaK1), 1/26 March MJF (FeP1).

GBS: 2 records this year at one rural site in Carwoola GrQ16 3wk Sep and 2wk Nov (BuM1).

Jacky Winter *Microeca fascians*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A bird of relatively undisturbed woodland.

General: RR (0.7%), is 36% increase on 2017 (0.5%), and above its lowest level ever (0.3% in 1998), but about 40% below the long-term averages of 1.2%. The number of birds sighted (143) is slightly up from last year (136). The number of records (87) is also up slightly on last year (75). Recorded throughout the year, fewer records in winter and summer: 10 records 1-3 birds MFNR Jul-Oct and 28 records 1-5 birds Sept to June NNPVIC; 20 records 1-3 birds Aug-May Nelanglo TSR and 2/11 Jun Nanima TSR (GrB1). 4 breeding records (same as 2017), earliest di/20 Sept Nelanglo TSR (LeM1) (breeding record for third year in a row), and latest 2dy/8 Mar NNPVIC (BeS1). 14 WOO (ACT) records, a significant increase from last year, 1-2 birds 17 Sep & 17 Mar NAS (McJ4), 1/26 Sept SYM (HeS1), 2/18 March GOS (HoS1). Also 1-2 birds Aug-May NEL (LeM1 & NiA1).

GBS: No records this year. A handful of records in 24 of the last 35 years.

Jacky Winter

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	87	75	16	37.9
WR	14	4	250	4.0
G	14	16	-12	14.1
BR	4	4	0	2.3
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0007
GS	0	0	-	0.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*

Common, breeding resident

Occurs mainly in moist forests of the western dividing range, also in smaller numbers in wet gullies, along watercourses and some woodland sites.

General: RR (4.8%), is up significantly (81%) on last year (2.7%), just under the 30YA (4.9%). Prior to this year, RR had been in gradual decline since 1992, to its lowest level ever in 2017. The number of birds sighted (1118) is also significantly up on last year (641); 30YA number of birds is 216. 582 records this year (377 in 2017), from wide-ranging sites in various habitats, in 89 grid cells (83 in 2017). Present all year, records spread evenly, spring (30%), summer (26%) and autumn (28%), with fewer winter records (16%). Sites with most records: NNP 155, max 11/4 Mar Warks/Blundells Ck Rds (DrC1); ANBG 137, max 5/5 Aug (ReS1); TNR 54, max 14/23 June Gibraltar Fire Trail (BeC2). Other sites include Murrumbidgee & Molonglo Rivers, Ginninderra Creek, Michelago/Bredbo area, and urban edge reserves Mts Majura/Ainslie, MFNR, Mt Taylor and Percival Hill. 11 breeding records: earliest 1cf/ 26 Sept ANBG (NeG1), latest 2dy/ 22 Feb Yankee Hat NNP (NeG1). Other breeding sites include Bluetts Block (Uriarra), and in NNP. No WOO records.

GBS: Number of records dropped sharply this year (5), from 2017 (39) and 2016 (59), after steady increase since 2011. 4 of 5 records of single birds are from the same rural sites which have provided most of the records in recent years, 3/3wk Jul – 5wk Jul Carwoola (BuM1), and 1/3wk Nov Burra (AnI1); this year also 1/1wk Jan Wamboin (CoK2). No breeding records; 1 in Carwoola 4 years ago.

Eastern Yellow Robin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	582	377	54	151.8
WR	0	0	-	1.2
G	89	83	7	54.5
BR	11	7	57	2.6
GA	0.0022	0.0172	-87	0.0066
GS	3	2	50	1.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*

Rare, breeding resident

Generally sedentary species preferring large, higher quality woodland patches, remote from urban area. Declared vulnerable in ACT & NSW.

General: RR (0.5%), is much higher than last year (0.1%), 2017 being the lowest RR ever. This year RR is down 56% on the 30YA (1.2%). Number of birds (139) is a big increase on last year (42), with observations of between 1-5 birds. The number of records (63) is also well up on last year (21). Records include multiple observations of the same birds at 2 locations. Most records in summer (46%) and autumn (27%), with spring 18% and winter 10%. Records are spread across 21 locations in 19 grid cells, mostly rural (7 grid cells last year). Most records:

Googong Foreshores/London Bridge 20; Brindabella/East West Rds 17. Other locations include Wamboin, NNP, sites in the Monaro/Michelago/Bredbo areas (5 are K2C survey sites) and Yass River Rd. 1/3 Aug MFNR (BeC2) is an interesting record; no observations there for several years. 5 breeding records at 3 sites: 3dy/8 Oct Strike-a-light TSR near Bredbo (CoD2), 1-2 on/cf Dec/Jan Brindabella/East West Rds, 4dy/2 Jan Googong Dam (EbD1). Brindabella/East West Rds is atypical habitat on pine/woodland edge, and 2nd successive year breeding record there. No WOO records. Since 1995, this species shows a clear and significant long-term declining trend.

GBS: No records in the GBS since 2005.

Hooded Robin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	63	21	200	37.0
WR	0	0	-	2.6
G	19	7	171	19.2
BR	5	2	150	3.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0016
GS	0	0	-	0.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

DICAEDIDAE: mistletoebird**Mistletoebird** *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Occurs where there is mistletoe in the COG AoI.

General: Fewer records this year, but 532 individuals were counted, up on 363 last year. Abundance is up 72% on last year but down 32% on the 30YA. RR is up 63% on last year but down 45% on the 30YA. Max 10/23 Oct MFNR GrL10 (WyP1). Most sightings are of single birds. Present throughout the year with most sightings in spring 49% and summer 32%. 7 breeding records: earliest, dy/21 Oct NNPVIC GrJ19 (EbD1); latest, on/14 Jan MFNR GrL10 (CIJ3).

GBS: 17 records, down from 20 records last year. Abundance similar to last year and down 68% on the 30YA. RR is down 2% on last year but down 66% on the 30YA. No breeding recorded, with only breeding records in the GBS in 2009 and 2013.

Mistletoebird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	299	215	39	139.1
WR	40	28	43	30.2
G	60	49	22	43.6
BR	7	1	600	2.2
GA	0.0079	0.0077	3	0.0246
GS	5	7	-29	10.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

ESTRILDIDAE: weaver finches**Diamond Firetail** *Stagonopleura guttata*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Prefers undisturbed woodland with shrubs and eucalypts. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

General: 152 records up on 111 records last year. 2 WOO records down on 6 last year. Abundance is up 91% on last year but 52% down on the 30YA. RR is up 61% on last year and down 54% on the 30YA. Max 19/8 Apr Prospect Hill GrM28 (ReS1), mean 3.3, median 2. Breeding: 6 records up from 4 last year: earliest, nb/22 Oct LBath, S Morass GrZ08 (LeM1); latest, dy/3 May McQuoids Hill NR GrI16 (BeS1).

GBS: 2 records, previously recorded in 2013, with irregular sightings in previous years: a single bird on 2wk Mar and 1wk May, both in Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

Diamond Firetail

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	152	111	37	84.9
WR	2	6	-67	4.8
G	46	46	0	32.9
BR	6	4	50	4.2
GA	0.0009	0.0000	Inf	0.0041
GS	1	0	Inf	0.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis*

Common, breeding resident

Canberra's most common finch, it is generally observed in or near dense growth beside rivers and creeks as well as in suburban gardens.

General: 7595 individuals counted, up from 5655 last year. Abundance up 57% on last year and up 30% on the 30YA. RR is up 45% on last year but down 9% on the 30YA. Max 68/17 Apr JWNR (DaC1), mean 7.3, median 4. Recorded evenly throughout the year. Breeding: 28 records up from 19 records last year; earliest di/15 Jul JWNR (HeS1); latest dy/17 Feb JWNR (BuM4).

GBS: 171 records up from 135 records last year. Abundance down 6% on last year and down 5% on the 30YA. RR up 45% on last year and up 18% on the 30YA. Max 40/2wk May Giralang GrK12 (McD4), mean 5.7, median 3. 13 breeding records from 4 sites: earliest, nb/3wk Oct Carwoola GrQ12 (BuM1); latest, dy/1wk Mar Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Red-browed Finch

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1054	853	24	297.0
WR	2	2	0	4.9
G	91	93	-2	61.9
BR	28	19	47	9.2
GA	0.4321	0.4590	-6	0.4539
GS	14	15	-7	17.8
GBR	13	11	18	4.5

Plum-headed Finch *Neochmia modesta*

Non-breeding visitor/escapee

General: No records this year. Only 2 previous records in 2005 and 2014.

Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata*

Rare breeding visitor/escapee

A bird of the dry inland

General: 5 records after 40 last year. 4 of the 5 records are from JWNR and probably relate to deliberate releases. The remaining record: 6/27 Mar Mayfield Rd GrZ14 (BlA2).

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Usually found near water in woodlands and grasslands in the region.

General: 233 records up from 179 records last year from 43 grids up from 38 last year. More birds this year (1145) cf 763 last year means that abundance is up 76% on last year but still down 7% on the 30YA. RR is up 53% on last year but down 32% on the 30YA. Most records in autumn 36%. Max 42/3 Sep JWNR (MiP1), mean 5, median 3. 2 breeding records: earliest, nb/21 Oct and latest, dy/4 Jan both at The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: 35 records similar to 37 last year. Abundance is down 27% on last year and down 60% on the 30YA. RR is up 9% on last year but down 35% on the 30YA. Mean 2.2, median 2 with max 6/3wk Aug Weston (MaA2). Most records in autumn (31%) and winter (34%). Breeding not recorded, having been reported only in 1995, 2003 and 2014.

Double-barred Finch

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	233	179	30	87.9
WR	1	0	Inf	3.3
G	43	38	13	25.3
BR	2	3	-33	1.3
GA	0.0343	0.0467	-27	0.0859
GS	5	10	-50	11.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.4



Julian Robertson

PASSERIDAE: house sparrow**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Introduced species of urban and semi-urban areas.

General: Though the number of records fell from 1361 to 1250, most other measures suggested an increasing presence. All are well above 10YA and 30YA. Numbers up 16% on last year to 7307 and 203% and 520% above the 10YA and 30YA. Abundance rate 0.6032, up 36% on 2017 and 47% and 59 % above the 10YA and 30YAs. RR fluctuates, but at 10.3%, up 8%, is almost exactly the 10YA and 30YA. No change in 78 grid cells, scattered widely in Canberra suburbs and surrounding areas. Reported all year. Seasonal distribution similar to 30YA

with spring and summer accounting for 65% of records. Max continues to increase, up 112% on 2017 and 77% on 30YA, 212/5 June BuTYL (BuM1). 7 records of 100 birds. Mean 6, median 3. Only 13 breeding records in 10 grid cells, both down on 2017, but substantially higher than 10 and 30YAs: earliest di/28 Aug Forde Ponds (BeC2) and latest ih/11 Feb LBG East Basin (COF1).

GBS: In contrast with general records, last year's decline has continued with most indicators lower than 2017 and considerably lower than the 10&30YAs. Records down 17% to 649, numbers down 19% to 5975. Sites down 28% to 28. *The continuing decline in sites from the 30YA of 53.4 could be a major factor related to declining records and numbers.* RR down 5% to 28.5, Abundance down a further 5% to A=2.6264, the 4th lowest ever, having declined gradually from above 8.0 in the 7 years to 1991. Max 143/1wk July Jerrabomberra (HaL2), mean 9.2, median 4. 20 breeding records from 5 sites (same as last year from 6 sites). Earliest nb/4wk Sep, latest ny/3wk Jan both at Page (AlB1).

Common, breeding resident

House Sparrow

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1250	1361	-8	333.3
WR	2	1	100	2.6
G	78	78	0	46.3
BR	13	15	-13	6.0
GA	2.6264	2.8086	-6	4.5194
GS	28	39	-28	53.4
GBR	20	20	0	24.7

MOTACILLIDAE: pipit**Australasian Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Found in most grasslands around the ACT and the surrounding region.

General: A mixed picture for this common bird. While record numbers and widely spread grid cells are up by 21% and 13%, bird numbers fell by 11% to 1312. Three measures all are substantially higher than 10 and 30 YAs e.g. records up 192% and numbers by 162% on 30YAs. Abundance (0.1083) and RR (4.2%) are both higher than 2017 but remain respectively 33% and 25% below 30YA. Seasonal distribution similar to long term patterns, with 72% of records in spring and summer. Group size continue to fall: max 35/8 April Bredbo (Ba1), down 80% on 30YA, mean 2.6, median 2. 11 breeding records, highest since 1989, from 8 sites, only one in suburban Canberra. Earliest di/8 Oct Bredbo (CoD2) and latest cf/25 Jan NatArbor (BeS1).

Common, breeding resident

Australasian Pipit

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	509	419	21	174.4
WR	0	1	-100	1.2
G	93	82	13	53.8
BR	11	9	22	4.0
GA	0.0053	0.0138	-62	0.0166
GS	2	4	-50	2.1
GBR	0	3	-100	0.7



GBS: Downward trends from higher levels in recent years are apparent. 9 records (lowest since 1992) of 12 birds from 2 sites, Curtin and Bonner, mainly in spring (44%) and summer (33%). Abundance down by over 60% cf 2017, 10YA and 30YA. RR 0.4%, down from long term rates averaging 0.9%. Max 4/4wk March Curtin (AjR1), mean 1.3, median 1. No breeding records, first time since 2013.

FRINGILLIDAE: finches**Common Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Introduced species previously only found around the central area of Canberra, but now occurs elsewhere e.g. Lake George and Goulburn.

General: Most indicators show a decline to lower more long-term levels after rises in the past 5 years. 75% of records of 1-6 birds are from JWNR/FSW, probably repeat sighting of the same birds by different observers or on different dates. Records stabilised at 112, but numbers fell 28% to 204. Max also down: 12/10 Nov LGeo E (LeM1), down 56%, mean 1.8, median 1. Number of weeks recorded 37, down 16%. Abundance (0.0168) is down 16% on last year and down on the 10YA and 30YA (57% and 42%), RR (0.9%) is up 17%, but down on the 10YA and 30YA (39% and 19%). Spring records (46%) were higher than long term averages and winter ones unusually low (9%). No breeding records since summer 2016.

GBS: Last GBS record 2009.

Common Greenfinch

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	112	112	0	35.4
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	9	4	125	3.4
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0001
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Common, breeding resident

An introduced species found in suitable terrain (paddocks with weedy seeds) throughout the region.

General: Appears to be in slow decline. While the number of records (745) is 6% up on last year, the number of birds (4457) is down by 21% and grid cells down 4%. RR (6.2%) is up, but lower than 10YA (6.9%) and 30YA (8.60%) Abundance is down 8% on last year and 14% & 11% below 10 & 30YAs respectively. Seen every week. Seasonal distribution similar to long term averages, but with somewhat more observations in summer and fewer in winter. Max 266/22 April JWNR (MiP1), 23% down from 2017, mean 6.1. median 2. *More breeding records, 4, all except one within the ACT, extending over a longer period than in 2017:* earliest nb/23 Sep Parkwood (DrC1) and latest cf/2 Mar JWNR (LeM1).

GBS: Similar pattern of slow decline to the general records. Numbers of records (60), sites (7), birds (158), abundance (0.0695), weeks recorded (33) and maximum number (12) all down compared with long term averages. RR (2.6%) higher than 2017 and 10YA, but, lower than 30YA (4.7%). Only one site outside ACT, Carwoola (BuM1). Most other sites in north Canberra. Unusual seasonal distribution with 80% of records in spring and summer and very few autumn records. 3 breeding records, 2nd to 4th weeks Jan in Giralang (McD4) and Bonner (GrB1).

European Goldfinch

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	745	705	6	266.3
WR	3	0	Inf	1.8
G	87	91	-4	60.2
BR	4	2	100	2.6
GA	0.0695	0.0632	10	0.1699
GS	7	8	-12	16.3
GBR	3	1	200	0.6

ALAUDIDAE: larks**Horsfield's Bushlark** *Mirafrja javanica*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

A bird of grasslands throughout most of Australia and southeast Asia.

General: 36 records of 175 birds from 8 grid cells, a slight increase on last year. RR of 0.3% is 24% above last year, 21% above the 10YA and 31% above the 30YA. *There has been a steady increase in RRs since 2005 including peaks in 2007 and 2010.* Seasonal records were: spring 50% summer 47% and winter 4%. Max 28/10 Nov LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1). Mean 4.9, median 1. Earliest 1/25 Sept Collector Rd GrV08 (LaK1), latest 5/29 Jun LGeo E (LeM1).

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

Common, breeding resident

An introduced species, but at home in our grasslands.

General: RR of 2.0% same as last year but down 26% on the 10YA and down 32% on the 30YA. Recorded in all seasons with peaks in spring 48% and summer 26%. Mean 3.8, median 2 and max 62/10 Nov LGeo E GrTO9 and earliest 1/9 Jul LBath GrZ08 both (LeM1). Latest 1/29 Jun North Watson Ponds Gr J14 (BeS1).

GBS: No records this year, but regularly recorded in low numbers in the past. *There has been a gradual decline in record numbers since 1995.*

Eurasian Skylark

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	248	281	-12	93.1
WR	0	0	-	0.3
G	50	45	11	24.0
BR	0	0	-	0.5
GA	0.0000	0.0027	-100	0.0224
GS	0	2	-100	1.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Uncommon, breeding resident

Found most often in grassy areas near water.

General: Reported from wetlands in and around Canberra and further afield, with the majority (67%) of records from JWNR. RR 4.0% is about the same as last year, down 13% on the 10YA but also the same as the 30YA. The abundance 0.0949 is down 5% on last year down 21% on the 10YA but just down 4% the 30YA. Max 16/18 Jan JWNR Gr L14 (HeS1), average 2.4, median 2.4. Only breeding record dy/24 Jan JWNR GrL14 (DaC2).

GBS: No records this year, the first absence since 2011, and following a peak of 40 records in 2014.

Golden-headed Cisticola

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	485	558	-13	123.0
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	31	43	-28	17.2
BR	1	4	-75	0.9
GA	0.0000	0.0065	-100	0.0072
GS	0	2	-100	1.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.4

LOCUSTELLIDAE: grassbirds and songlarks**Brown Songlark** *Cincloramphus cruralis*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

A rarely recorded summer migrant.

General: 69 records from 13 grid cells cf 13 from 5 grids last year. The intensity of effort is often high for this species, with several observers reporting the same bird from the same site over a limited period. RR 0.6% is up 552% on last year, 49% above the 10YA & 38% above the 30YAs. *RR has bumped along the bottom of the graph for the last 40 years, with an occasional upturn, such as this year.* Most records were in spring 74% and summer 26%. Max 20/19 Oct LGeo E GrTO9 (LeM1), but most sightings were of single birds. Earliest 1/22 Sept NatArbor GrJ13 (PeH1) and latest 1/31 Jan Parkwood GrH11 (AlA1). Single breeding record cf/24 Oct Bluetts Block (Uriarra) Gr I14 (NeG1). Breeding recorded in 6 of the last 33 years.

Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A woodland summer migrant.

General: RR 1.3% is up 84% on last year, but down 46% on the 10YA & 51% on the 30YA. *RR has oscillated around 2% since 1990, with peaks in 1996, 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2014, with troughs in 2003 and 2017, but there has been a slight upturn this season.* Reported almost exclusively in spring 47% and summer 53%. Max 7/29 Oct CAS WOO GrJ18 (McD1), average 1.7 and median 1. Earliest 1/23 Sept Rose Lagoon GrU08 (AnF1), latest 3/4 Mar MFNR GrL10 (EbD1). Earliest breeding cf/25 Nov

Rufous Songlark

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	152	97	57	79.6
WR	10	11	-9	7.1
G	45	26	73	29.3
BR	4	4	0	2.6
GA	0.0018	0.0000	Inf	0.0019
GS	2	0	Inf	1.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Parkwood GrH11 (ReS1) and latest dy/15 Jan NNPVIC GrJ19 (DaC1).

GBS: Two records this year, earlier 1/2wk Nov Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and later 1/2wk Jan Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM4).

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

Rare, vagrant

General: No records this year. Last year was the first and only record in the COG AoI.

Little Grassbird *Megalurus gramineus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A cryptic species occurring in suitable cover near water.

General: RR 2.8% is 17% above last year 5% on the 10YA and up 19% on the 30YA. Abundance 0.0419 is up 19% on last year, similar to the 10YA and up 31% on the 30YA. This result reflects an increase in urban wetlands such as Crace Pond and Forde Pond, although 80% of the records come from JWNR/FSP. Recorded in all seasons with most in spring 51% and summer 28%. Max 5/2 Nov JWNR (EbD1), average 1.5 and median 1. Breeding: Earliest nb/4 Sept and latest cf/23 Feb both Ginninderra Ck GrK11 (HaJ2).

GBS: 5 records of a single bird in Oct - Nov Crace Wetland GrK11 (LeF1). Records only since 2008.

Little Grassbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	337	338	-0	72.4
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	16	15	7	7.0
BR	5	0	Inf	0.2
GA	0.0022	0.0015	44	0.0027
GS	1	1	0	0.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

ACROCEPHALIDAE: reed-warblers

Australian Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus australis*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Inhabits reed beds surrounding lakes, ponds and wetlands. Some birds remaining over winter.

General: Commonly found in wetlands over a wide area in the ACT and further afield, with 36% from JWNR. *The slight upward trend from 2015 has plateaued, but RR has shown a steady upward trend since 1998.* RR 9.0% is down 3% on last year, similar to the 10YA and up 19% on the 30YA. Earliest 1/22 Aug JWNR GrL14 (LeM1) and latest 1/18 May Gigerline NR Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (EbD1). Max 52/4 Oct LGin GrJ12 (LeM1), average 5.3, median 3. Breeding: earliest nb/16 Oct Casey Pond GrK11 (WyP1) and latest cf/24 Feb (HaJ7) Crace Pond GrK11.

GBS: 70 records from 5 suburban sites near bodies of water. Mean 3.1 median 3 and max 7/4wk Sep and latest breeding dy/2wk Feb both Jerrabomberra GrK14 (HaL2). Since 2006, the A value has been increasing steadily from just above zero to A=0.0967. Earliest breeding nb/1wk Nov Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1).

Australian Reed-Warbler

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1090	1316	-17	235.4
WR	0	0	-	0.8
G	57	62	-8	27.8
BR	38	58	-34	7.5
GA	0.0967	0.1072	-10	0.0278
GS	5	6	-17	2.0
GBR	6	3	100	0.7

HIRUNDINIDAE: swallow, martins

White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosterna*

Rare, breeding visitor

General: No records. 2 valid records from 1971 and 1 from 1980 (Wilson 1999, p. 73). 2 other records in 2009 and 2012 not confirmed by the Rarities Panel.

Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

A summer migrant. Its RR has fluctuated markedly over the last decade but has now fallen to that observed in the first decade of the 21st century.

General: Number of birds (1,212) far more than last year (664), the 10YA (593) and the 30YA (267). Recorded in all months Aug to Apr with most records in spring (51%) and summer (43%) cf. autumn (1.1%) and winter (4.0%). RR (1.4%) higher than last year (0.9%) though similar to the 10YA (1.6%) and the 30YA (1.5%). Recorded from 16% of grid cells surveyed (11% last year), more than the 10YA (9.9%) and the 30YA (7.4%). Max 40 (35 last year), mean 7.1, median 4. 25 breeding records (9 last year): earliest ih/20 Sep Plains Road, Hoskinstown GrS16 (BuM1) and latest ih/23 Jan Yaouk Rd GrD26 (DrC1).

GBS: 4 records (2 last year) from 2 sites: earliest 2/2wk Sep Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2) and latest 3/4wk Feb Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). No breeding ever recorded for this species in the GBS.

Fairy Martin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	175	127	38	45.2
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	53	36	47	16.8
BR	25	9	178	4.2
GA	0.0066	0.0100	-34	0.0059
GS	2	1	100	0.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

A regular summer woodland migrant.

General: Number of birds (2,984) similar to last year (2,739) though many more than the 10YA (1,419) and the 30YA (939). Although a migratory species, some over-winter hence recorded in all months, with many more records in spring (40%) and summer (42%) than in autumn (8%) and winter (9%). RR (3.1%) similar to last year (2.9%) though lower than the 10YA (3.6%) and the 30YA (4.3%). Recorded from 25% of grid cells surveyed (the same as last year), a little above the 10YA (20%) and 30YA (19%). Max 400/3 Jan LGin John Knight Memorial Park GrJ12 (FuP1) (max 125 last year), mean 8.1, median 4. 11 widely distributed breeding records (7 last year), on a par with the 10YA (10) and the 30YA (7): earliest ih/5 Oct Pollack Rd, Hoskinstown GrS16 (BuM1) and latest dy/2 Feb LGin GrJ12 (EbD1.).

GBS: Number of birds (55) fewer than last year (68), the 10YA (64) and the 30YA (62). 12 records (15 last year), similar to the 10YA and the 30YA (both 13), from 4 sites. RR (0.5%) similar to last year (0.6%), the 10YA (0.4%) and the 30YA (0.5%). Abundance similar to last year, higher than the 10YA (0.0201) and similar to the 30YA (0.0232). No breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

Tree Martin

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	376	411	-9	134.8
WR	22	11	100	12.9
G	82	80	2	43.2
BR	11	7	57	6.9
GA	0.0242	0.0260	-7	0.0232
GS	4	7	-43	5.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena*

Very common, breeding resident

A well-known resident often seen foraging over and around our lakes and ponds.

General: Fewer birds (25,905) than last year (37,091), though far more than the 10YA (13,324) and the 30YA (5,569). Recorded in every week, with a higher proportion of records in spring (33%) than summer (26%), autumn (28%) and winter (12%). RR (21%) a little higher than last year (19%) though similar to the 10YA (22%) and the 30YA (20%). *There has been a steady rise in RR from 9% in 1998 to the current far higher levels.* Recorded from 50% of grid cells surveyed (54% last year), similar to the 10YA (48%) and 30YA (44%). Max 1,460 (2,150 last year), mean 10.4, median 3. 32 breeding records (down from 79 last year), more than the 10YA (19) and 30YA (15): earliest ih/12 Sep N Watson Wetlands GrL12 (AlA1) and latest cf/17 Jan Glendale Depot GrI23 (COF1).

GBS: Number of birds (710) half last year's figure (1,345). the 10YA (1,423), and lower than the 30YA (867). 260 records (last year 411), fewer than the 10YA (384) though similar to the 30YA

Welcome Swallow

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2542	2652	-4	631.8
WR	22	12	83	8.1
G	164	172	-5	100.6
BR	32	79	-59	15.1
GA	0.3121	0.5149	-39	0.3209
GS	32	37	-14	26.3
GBR	4	13	-69	3.9

(236). Recorded in all weeks, with a lower proportion of records in winter (14%) than in spring (33%), summer (21%) and autumn (31%). Records from 60% of sites, like last year (62%) though more than the 10YA (47%) and the 30YA (41%). Abundance lower than last year and the 10YA ($A=0.4501$) and similar to the 30YA ($A=0.3209$). Just 4 breeding records (13 last year) cf. the 10YA of 9.1 and the 30YA of 3.9. Breeding at 2 sites: earliest nb/3wk Sep Deakin GrK14 (GaP9) and last ny/1wk Jan Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2).

PYCNONOTIDAE: bulbuls

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

Non-breeding vagrant

General: No reports this year but 2 in 2014-15.

ZOSTEROPIDAE: white-eyes

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

Common, breeding resident/migrant

A common sight in Canberra parks, gardens, and the surrounding woodlands.

General: Number of birds (12,588) similar to last year (12,954) though far higher than the 10YA (5,395) and the 30YA (2,412). Recorded in every week, with a lower proportion in winter (10%) than in spring (26%), summer (31%) and autumn (33%). RR (17%) the same as last year and similar to the 10YA and the 30YA (both 18%). Records from 42% of grid cells surveyed, like last year (41%), the 10YA (39%) and 30YA (35%). Max 106 (80 last year), mean 6.1, median 4. 10 breeding records (6 last year): earliest br/20 Sep ANBG GrK13 (EbD1) and latest dy/10 Feb JWNr GrL14 (DaC2).

Silvereye

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2091	2413	-13	548.2
WR	14	23	-39	16.5
G	137	131	5	80.4
BR	10	6	67	4.3
GA	3.0932	2.7037	14	4.7983
GS	45	47	-4	60.4
GBR	13	17	-24	13.4

GBS: Number of birds (7,037) similar to last year (7,062) though fewer than the 10YA (11,090) and the 30YA (12,963). Recorded in all weeks, with a lower proportion in winter (17%) than in spring (26%), summer (30%) and autumn (26%). RR (41%) like last year (40%) though lower than the 10YA (49%) and the 30YA (59%). Records from 85% of sites, similar to last year (78%), the 10YA (90%) and the 30YA (94%). 8th most abundant species. Abundance greater than last year but lower than the 10YA ($A=3.5075$) and the 30YA ($A=4.7983$). 13 breeding records (17 last year) from 5 sites: earliest ny/1wk Nov Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and latest dy/3wk Jan Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

STURNIDAE: starling, myna

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Very common, breeding resident

An introduced species that is virtually absent from the wet forests but otherwise common throughout the region.

General: This year more birds were counted for this species than for any other, 109,767 up on 86,666 last year. 3762 records up on 3126 records last year, from 168 grids up on 154 grids last year. 126 WOO records down from 147 last year. Abundance is up 48% on last year and up 82% on the 30YA. RR is up 41% on last year, and up 14% on the 30YA. Max 3550/20 Jan FSP (MiP1). Large numbers in this vicinity are sometimes associated with communal roosts in the Kelly's Swamp reed beds. Mean 29.7, median 6. 111 breeding records down on 121 records last year: earliest, ih/1 Aug Melba GrJ12 (KiB1); latest, ny/3 Jan NNP Granite Tors Walking Track (CaR3), with an early start to next season, ih/23 Jun Acton Peninsula GrK14 (EbD1).

Common Starling

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	3762	3126	20	848.9
WR	126	147	-14	75.8
G	168	154	9	102.3
BR	111	121	-8	45.5
GA	2.6765	1.9828	35	5.5564
GS	38	45	-16	53.1
GBR	17	13	31	33.7

GBS: 690 records up on 596 records last year from 38 sites up on 45 sites last year. Abundance is up 35% on last year but down 52% on the 30YA. RR is up 33% on last year and down 37% on the 30YA. Mean 8.8, median 5 with max 110/3wk Mar Holt (DaC1). Breeding, 17 records up on 13 last year: earliest, nb/4wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1); latest, cf/5wk Jan Curtin (AjR1).

Common Myna *Sturnus tristis*

Very common, breeding resident

An exotic species subject to ongoing attempts at population control.

General: 8144 birds down from 8201 last year. 2021 records, down from 2275, from 73 grids up on 65 grids last year. Abundance is up 16%, up 27% on the 10YA and up 50% on the 30YA. RR is up 4% on last year, down 2% on the 10YA but up 16% on the 30YA. Max 150/12 Aug Woden Town Centre GrK15 (CaR3); mean 4.1, median 2. Observed throughout the year with most observations in spring 32% and summer 29%. 50 breeding records, down sharply from 122 last year: earliest, ih/5 Aug Conder GrK18 (EbD1); latest, cf/13 Mar JWN (HeS1).

Common Myna

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	2021	2275	-11	448.8
WR	27	27	0	20.9
G	73	65	12	34.3
BR	50	122	-59	13.8
GA	1.8026	1.6340	10	2.8318
GS	45	45	0	52.1
GBR	18	17	6	34.5

GBS: 4101 birds, down 4268. 1038 records, down on 1048

records last year from 45 sites, the same as last year. Abundance is up 10% on last year, up 12% on the 10YA but down 36% on the 30YA. RR is up 14% on last year, up 6% on the 10YA but down 14% on the 30YA. Mean 4.0, median 2 and max 45/2wk Feb Chapman GrI15 (HaJ1). Records spread evenly throughout the year, with slightly fewer in winter (22%). 18 breeding records like 17 last year: earliest, on/1wk Oct Deakin (RoD2); latest on/1wk Feb Deakin (RoD2) with several “ih” events after that, with the latest ih/4wk Jun Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) indicating an early start to the next season.

TURDIDAE: thrushes

Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata*

Uncommon, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Most records come from the wet forests of the ACT and AoI and from the ANBG.

General: 66 records up from 33 last year. Abundance is up 132% on last year and up 48% on the 30YA. RR is up 134% on last year and up 55% on the 30YA. Present in the ACT and AOI throughout the year, it is recorded only sporadically in locations such as the ANBG & NNP. The birds in the ANBG appear to be habituated to people and are more readily observable there than elsewhere in their range. Generally, sightings of 1-2 birds with max 3/21 Jul ANBG GrK13 (HiC2). Two breeding records: cf/11 Sep 2017 ANBG GrK13 (EbD1) and cf/12 Nov Bendora Arboretum GrD17 (AlA1).

GBS: No records after 1 record last year.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Common, breeding resident

An introduced species. Prefers dense vegetation in wet forests, urban parks and gardens, including those of farmhouses. Virtually absent from undisturbed drier woodlands.

General: 1364 records down on 1669 records last year from 98 grids like 96 last year. Abundance is down 4% on last year but up 12% on the 30YA. RR is down 4% on last year and down 9% on the 30YA. Max 17/30 Jan Percival Hill Nature Reserve GrK11 (CIJ3), mean 1.7, median 1. 10 breeding records like 11 last year: earliest, nb/22 Sep Hall TSR GrJ10 (BeC2); latest, cf/27 Jan Victoria Park Goulburn GrZ01 (AnF1).

Common Blackbird

	17/18	16/17	%Δ	30YA
R	1364	1669	-18	385.8
WR	4	5	-20	3.0
G	98	96	2	45.9
BR	10	11	-9	4.5
GA	0.6457	0.6401	1	1.4023
GS	40	46	-13	58.7
GBR	5	13	-62	30.3

GBS: 895 records down from 959 records last year from 40 sites down from 46 sites last year. Abundance is up 1% on last year but down 54% on the 30YA. RR is up 7% on last year, but down 39% on the 30YA. 5 breeding records down on 13 last year and down 84% on the 30YA: earliest ny/4wk Nov Page GrJ12 (AlB1); latest, ny/4wk Jan Page (AlB1).

Table 1: Number of records for each species segregated by survey type 2017-2018

COG COG's paper record sheet, **BA** BirdLife Australia, **eBird** eBird Australia, **INC** Incidental on COG Website and **WOO** Woodland Survey. Greening Australia data included in COG. GBS records are not included (see Table 2). Unusual sightings not endorsed by the Rarities Panel are not included.

Rank	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO %
1	Australian Magpie	7774	244	149	7035	3	343	4.4
2	Magpie-lark	5818	133	98	5478	1	108	1.9
3	Crimson Rosella	5767	217	115	5087	5	343	5.9
4	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	5345	185	93	4817	7	243	4.5
5	Pied Currawong	5231	152	80	4886	3	110	2.1
6	Red Wattlebird	5151	189	88	4766	5	103	2.0
7	Australian Raven	4911	163	95	4438	6	209	4.3
8	Galah	4910	151	97	4425	5	232	4.7
9	Superb Fairy-wren	4118	177	96	3763	3	79	1.9
10	Crested Pigeon	3909	73	41	3742	2	51	1.3
11	Common Starling	3762	113	72	3451		126	3.3
12	Eastern Rosella	3382	163	62	2943	2	212	6.3
13	Willie Wagtail	3094	122	62	2854		56	1.8
14	Noisy Miner	3067	46	39	2772	1	209	6.8
15	Grey Fantail	3002	148	46	2637	2	169	5.6
16	Pacific Black Duck	2719	48	38	2619		14	0.5
17	Australian Wood Duck	2681	50	48	2551		32	1.2
18	Red-rumped Parrot	2591	66	29	2439	1	56	2.2
19	Welcome Swallow	2542	80	40	2400		22	0.9
20	Striated Pardalote	2465	154	30	2015	2	264	10.7
21	Eurasian Coot	2384	44	27	2311		2	0.1
22	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	2384	126	41	2158		59	2.5
23	Spotted Pardalote	2187	120	26	1935	4	102	4.7
24	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	2091	121	29	1876	1	64	3.1
25	Silvereye	2091	51	41	1985		14	0.7
26	Common Myna	2021	38	26	1929	1	27	1.3
27	Laughing Kookaburra	1866	56	30	1716	3	61	3.3
28	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	1850	128	19	1657		46	2.5
29	Weebill	1806	137	30	1481	2	156	8.6
30	Australian King-Parrot	1804	21	14	1739		30	1.7
31	White-throated Treecreeper	1766	105	49	1515	7	90	5.1
32	Masked Lapwing	1762	28	22	1702		10	0.6
33	Grey Butcherbird	1662	42	37	1502	6	75	4.5
34	Purple Swamphen	1637	34	21	1582			
35	Brown Thornbill	1635	89	42	1466	5	33	2.0
36	Grey Teal	1615	19	16	1572		8	0.5
37	White-browed Scrubwren	1570	37	26	1496	5	6	0.4
38	Noisy Friarbird	1562	78	19	1372		93	6.0
39	Dusky Moorhen	1559	31	12	1516			
40	Little Pied Cormorant	1541	33	21	1480		7	0.5
41	Grey Shrike-thrush	1461	84	48	1288	5	36	2.5
42	Rufous Whistler	1377	102	11	1172		92	6.7
43	Common Blackbird	1364	23	32	1305		4	0.3
44	Eastern Spinebill	1262	36	15	1194	2	15	1.2
45	House Sparrow	1250	21	16	1211		2	0.2
46	White-plumed Honeyeater	1244	42	12	1131	1	58	4.7
47	White-faced Heron	1234	14	22	1195		3	0.2

Rank	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO %
48	White-winged Chough	1219	43	21	1087		68	5.6
49	Buff-rumped Thornbill	1186	113	25	967		81	6.8
50	Australian White Ibis	1152	16	18	1112		6	0.5
51	Black Swan	1094	21	9	1063		1	0.1
52	Australian Reed-Warbler	1090	35	10	1045			
53	Rainbow Lorikeet	1079	42	8	1007	1	21	1.9
54	Red-browed Finch	1054	29	16	1007		2	0.2
55	Australasian Grebe	1032	16	17	995		4	0.4
56	Little Corella	1005	19	8	947		31	3.1
57	Rock Dove	992	10	4	976	1	1	0.1
58	Gang-gang Cockatoo	944	23	11	894	3	13	1.4
59	Hardhead	934	14	5	914		1	0.1
60	Little Raven	925	8	9	901	2	5	0.5
61	Dusky Woodswallow	894	55	9	780		50	5.6
62	Striated Thornbill	883	50	12	792	5	24	2.7
63	White-eared Honeyeater	882	50	60	750	4	18	2.0
64	Silver Gull	859	14	4	841			
65	Little Black Cormorant	816	19	5	789		3	0.4
66	Golden Whistler	814	45	9	732	1	27	3.3
67	Scarlet Robin	805	57	33	684	3	28	3.5
68	Australasian Darter	759	15	7	737			
69	European Goldfinch	745	17	10	715		3	0.4
70	Nankeen Kestrel	700	34	15	636		15	2.1
71	Great Cormorant	654	27	3	624			
72	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	644	9	25	608		2	0.3
73	Superb Parrot	628	22	19	564	5	18	2.9
74	Sacred Kingfisher	627	42	13	549		23	3.7
75	Black-fronted Dotterel	621	7	4	607		3	0.5
76	Straw-necked Ibis	617	7	5	604		1	0.2
77	Australian Pelican	605	4	5	596			
78	New Holland Honeyeater	594	16	5	570	3		
79	White-throated Gerygone	591	32	7	477	1	74	12.5
80	Eastern Yellow Robin	582	20	8	549	5		
81	Wedge-tailed Eagle	574	17	14	538		5	0.9
82	Satin Bowerbird	531	21	7	498	4	1	0.2
83	Olive-backed Oriole	517	37	4	437	1	38	7.4
84	Australasian Pipit	509	20	7	482			
85	Golden-headed Cisticola	485	7	1	475	2		
86	Eastern Koel	477	4	12	451	10		
87	White-naped Honeyeater	467	36	4	419		8	1.7
88	Australasian Shoveler	463	5	2	456			
89	Red-kneed Dotterel	451	2	4	445			
90	Leaden Flycatcher	448	32	6	388		22	4.9
91	Speckled Warbler	441	38	7	365		31	7.0
92	Pink-eared Duck	440	2	3	433		2	0.5
93	Common Bronzewing	439	11	10	389	1	28	6.4
94	Hoary-headed Grebe	420	5	5	409		1	0.2
95	Latham's Snipe	406	1	9	396			
96	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	399	24	8	353	1	13	3.3
97	Brown-headed Honeyeater	384	16	12	328	1	27	7.0
98	Tree Martin	376	21	4	329		22	5.9
99	Chestnut Teal	354	2	1	350		1	0.3
100	Dollarbird	338	10	6	318		4	1.2
101	Little Grassbird	337	9	2	326			

Rank	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO %
102	Spotted Dove	333	5	3	325			
103	White-winged Triller	327	20	5	286		16	4.9
104	Black-shouldered Kite	316	2	3	309	2		
105	Freckled Duck	306		1	303	2		
106	Mistletoebird	299	17	9	232	1	40	13.4
107	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	292	32	4	251		5	1.7
108	Grey Currawong	288	8	8	259	2	11	3.8
109	Brown Goshawk	276	3	1	261		11	4.0
110	Flame Robin	276	9	22	237	6	2	0.7
111	Western Gerygone	269	12	4	219		34	12.6
112	Eurasian Skylark	248	8	6	234			
113	Pallid Cuckoo	243	21	4	202		16	6.6
114	Varied Sittella	242	16	6	207	2	11	4.5
115	Royal Spoonbill	235	1	2	232			
116	Yellow Thornbill	234	3	10	220		1	0.4
117	Double-barred Finch	233	13	2	216	1	1	0.4
118	Brown Falcon	225	11	5	202		7	3.1
119	Great Egret	207	6	2	199			
120	Buff-banded Rail	180		1	179			
121	Fairy Martin	175	8		167			
122	White-necked Heron	174		3	171			
123	Little Eagle	173		1	170		2	1.2
124	Red-capped Robin	171	2		163	3	3	1.8
125	Domestic Mallard	167		2	165			
126	Whistling Kite	166	1	1	164			
127	Baillon's Crake	165		3	162			
128	Collared Sparrowhawk	164	4		159	1		
129	Australian Hobby	163	6	1	156			
130	Tawny Frogmouth	155	4	4	144	3		
131	Diamond Firetail	152	8	7	135		2	1.3
132	Rufous Songlark	152	9	1	132		10	6.6
133	Fuscous Honeyeater	148	29	3	116			
134	Spotless Crake	141	2		139			
135	Rainbow Bee-eater	132	6	2	122		2	1.5
136	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	132	15	1	108		8	6.1
137	Australian Spotted Crake	131	1		130			
138	Australian Shelduck	123	1		122			
139	Brown Quail	123	2	2	118	1		
140	Superb Lyrebird	115	3		106	6		
141	Common Greenfinch	112		1	111			
142	Brush Cuckoo	100	3		97			
143	Eastern Whipbird	94	2		92			
144	Plumed Whistling-Duck	94			94			
145	Southern Whiteface	91	8	1	78		4	4.4
146	Black-winged Stilt	90	1	2	87			
147	Yellow-billed Spoonbill	88	2	2	84			
148	Jacky Winter	87	4	2	67		14	16.1
149	Brown Treecreeper	81	13	6	55		7	8.6
150	Nankeen Night-Heron	76	1		75			
151	Rose Robin	76	1		74		1	1.3
152	Cattle Egret	75	4		71			
153	White-fronted Chat	74		4	68	2		
154	Brown Songlark	69	3		65		1	1.4
155	Swamp Harrier	69		3	66			

Rank	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO %
156	Bassian Thrush	66			65	1		
157	Long-billed Corella	64		3	61			
158	Crested Shrike-tit	63	12	1	48		2	3.2
159	Hooded Robin	63	6	3	54			
160	Peregrine Falcon	61	4	1	55	1		
161	Pied Cormorant	61	2	9	50			
162	Rufous Fantail	61	1	1	59			
163	Crescent Honeyeater	57			57			
164	Stubble Quail	57		1	54		2	3.5
165	Musk Duck	53	3	1	49			
166	Australian Owlet-nightjar	51			50	1		
167	Satin Flycatcher	48	2		46			
168	Restless Flycatcher	46	4		38	3	1	2.2
169	Scarlet Honeyeater	45		2	43			
170	Apostlebird	44		1	43			
171	Southern Boobook	43	1	1	41			
172	White-browed Woodswallow	40	2		34		4	1
173	Red-necked Avocet	38	1		36	1		
174	Horsfield's Bushlark	36			36			
175	Pied Butcherbird	34	4		28	1	1	2.9
176	Red-browed Treecreeper	29			29			
177	Crimson Chat	28		1	27			
178	Pilotbird	27			27			
179	Powerful Owl	27			26	1		
180	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	27		1	26			
181	Emu	26		1	25			
182	White-throated Needletail	26	1		24		1	3.8
183	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	25			25			
184	Whiskered Tern	25			25			
185	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	24			24			
186	Swift Parrot	24		1	22		1	4.2
187	Black-eared Cuckoo	23	1		22			
188	Muscovy Duck	23			23			
189	Brown Gerygone	22			22			
190	Intermediate Egret	22	1	2	19			
191	Olive Whistler	22		1	21			
192	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren	21			21			
193	Musk Lorikeet	19			18		1	5.3
194	Bush Stone-curlew	17	1		16			
195	Black Kite	16			16			
196	Domestic Graylag Goose	16			16			
197	Spotted Quail-thrush	16	1		15			
198	Blue-billed Duck	15			15			
199	Great Crested Grebe	14		1	13			
200	No sighting	14			14			
201	Masked Woodswallow	13			12	1		
202	White-cheeked Honeyeater	13			13			
203	Indian Peafowl	12	2		10			
204	Pacific Black Duck x Domestic Mallard	12			12			
205	Azure Kingfisher	11			8	3		
206	Fork-tailed Swift	11			11			
207	Northern Mallard	10	2		8			
208	Singing Honeyeater	10			10			

Rank	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO %
209	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	10		1	5	4		
210	Banded Lapwing	9			9			
211	Barn Owl	9			8	1		
212	Cicadabird	8			8			
213	Lewin's Honeyeater	8			8			
214	Peaceful Dove	8			8			
215	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	8		1	7			
216	Wonga Pigeon	8			8			
217	Australasian Bittern	7			7			
218	Black-faced Monarch	7			7			
219	Magpie Goose	7			7			
220	Spotted Harrier	7	2		5			
221	Channel-billed Cuckoo	5		1	2	2		
222	Domestic Goose	5			5			
223	Grey Goshawk	5			5			
224	Lewin's Rail	5			5			
225	Zebra Finch	5		1	4			
226	Black Falcon	4		1	3			
227	Painted Button-quail	4	1		3			
228	Red-capped Plover	4			4			
229	White-headed Pigeon	4			3	1		
230	Black Honeyeater	3			3			
231	Cockatiel	3			3			
232	Double-banded Plover	3			3			
233	Red-necked Stint	3			3			
234	Spangled Drongo	3			2	1		
235	Australian Little Bittern	2			2			
236	Blue-faced Honeyeater	2			2			
237	Crow & Raven species	2		2				
238	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	2		1		1		
239	Little Lorikeet	2			2			
240	White-throated Nightjar	2			2			
241	Bar-shouldered Dove	1			1			
242	Brolga	1			1			
243	Brush Bronzewing	1			1			
244	Budgerigar	1			1			
245	Corella sp	1		1				
246	Curlew Sandpiper	1			1			
247	Glossy Ibis	1			1			
248	Little Friarbird	1			1			
249	Little Wattlebird	1		1				

Table 2: Garden Bird Survey Statistics 2017-18

Values for 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (Year 37), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (Years 1-35). 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 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 $\Delta A\%$ and $\Delta R\%$ are both greater than $\pm 25\%$. This may be indicative of a general increase or decrease over the 37 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.

36 yr	Rk	Species	A	$\Delta A\%$	F (%)	$\Delta F\%$	W	R	G	B
	1	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	10.05	61	100.0	2	52	89.85	11.2	21
	2	Galah	5.75	-18	100.0	0	52	78.46	7.3	36
+	3	Crested Pigeon	3.88	129	100.0	56	52	80.35	4.8	34
	4	Australian Magpie	3.85	27	100.0	0	52	93.54	4.1	57
	5	Pied Currawong	3.71	-6	100.0	1	52	87.25	4.2	55
+	6	Little Corella	3.53	580	83.0	214	52	27.65	12.8	8
	7	Crimson Rosella	3.11	-1	100.0	1	52	85.58	3.6	25
-	8	Silvereye	3.09	-39	84.9	-10	52	41.36	7.5	9
+	9	Rock Dove	2.95	116	66.0	30	52	27.82	10.6	
-	10	Common Starling	2.68	-64	71.7	-17	52	30.33	8.8	6
	11	Red Wattlebird	2.65	14	98.1	0	52	84.57	3.1	49
-	12	House Sparrow	2.63	-51	52.8	-39	52	28.53	9.2	9
	13	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	2.51	4	71.7	-13	50	17.27	14.6	2
+	14	Australian King-Parrot	2.42	47	94.3	17	52	59.60	4.1	17
	15	Magpie-lark	2.08	2	100.0	2	52	79.87	2.6	40
+	16	Eurasian Coot	1.81	424	9.4	268	52	7.87	23.0	2
	17	Common Myna	1.80	-30	84.9	16	52	45.63	4.0	9
+	18	Australian Raven	1.77	49	100.0	5	52	71.69	2.5	17
+	19	Australian Wood Duck	1.58	291	43.4	48	52	16.40	9.6	9
+	20	Noisy Miner	1.49	251	69.8	143	52	32.48	4.6	9
	21	Eastern Rosella	1.41	-5	96.2	0	52	49.80	2.8	11
+	22	Superb Fairy-wren	1.36	31	86.8	15	52	43.30	3.1	17
+	23	White-winged Chough	1.26	184	49.1	45	52	13.89	9.0	11
+	24	Australian White Ibis	1.21	374	35.8	132	51	9.54	12.7	2
+	25	Rainbow Lorikeet	1.20	772	66.0	336	52	33.36	3.6	4
+	26	Pacific Black Duck	1.08	380	26.4	98	52	13.14	8.2	6
+	27	Red-rumped Parrot	1.05	124	71.7	71	52	19.65	5.3	
+	28	Gang-gang Cockatoo	1.01	32	77.4	11	52	32.66	3.1	11
+	29	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	0.95	164	79.2	132	52	11.30	8.4	8
+	30	Silver Gull	0.66	34	13.2	65	46	3.69	18.0	2
-	31	Common Blackbird	0.65	-55	75.5	-17	52	39.34	1.6	4
	32	Spotted Pardalote	0.64	-4	67.9	-12	52	30.11	2.1	

36 yr	Rk	Species	A	ΔA%	F (%)	ΔF%	W	R	G	B
-	33	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	0.62	-55	54.7	-33	52	15.69	3.9	11
	34	Eastern Spinebill	0.59	4	83.0	-5	52	38.29	1.5	8
	35	Weebill	0.50	-4	50.9	0	52	19.69	2.6	6
+	36	Brown Thornbill	0.50	65	54.7	9	52	25.89	1.9	8
+	37	Satin Bowerbird	0.44	185	56.6	147	52	21.10	2.1	8
	38	Red-browed Finch	0.43	7	26.4	0	52	7.52	5.7	8
	39	White-naped Honeyeater	0.42	-13	35.8	-21	23	3.21	13.1	
	40	Striated Pardalote	0.41	-30	62.3	-16	52	24.35	1.7	6
-	41	Noisy Friarbird	0.40	-46	77.4	-13	36	17.19	2.3	8
	42	Straw-necked Ibis	0.35	6	41.5	88	45	4.18	8.3	
+	42	Dusky Moorhen	0.35	419	9.4	314	52	8.09	4.3	6
+	44	Grey Butcherbird	0.34	454	84.9	253	52	28.53	1.2	4
+	45	Eastern Koel	0.33	736	86.8	272	27	21.14	1.6	17
	46	Laughing Kookaburra	0.31	-11	69.8	-1	52	18.59	1.7	4
	47	Welcome Swallow	0.31	7	60.4	49	52	11.43	2.7	4
-	48	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.30	-32	77.4	-13	49	17.89	1.7	6
+	49	Purple Swamphen	0.30	352	9.4	353	50	4.75	6.3	6
+	50	White-browed Scrubwren	0.29	70	54.7	65	52	16.75	1.8	11
	51	Grey Fantail	0.27	-18	54.7	-29	52	16.70	1.6	8
+	52	Superb Parrot	0.24	304	28.3	216	40	6.59	3.7	4
	53	Striated Thornbill	0.23	-7	17.0	-50	51	5.45	4.2	2
	54	Willie Wagtail	0.23	-14	73.6	0	52	16.75	1.3	6
+	55	Little Black Cormorant	0.21	389	11.3	200	36	2.90	7.2	
+	56	Masked Lapwing	0.19	71	43.4	16	52	9.23	2.0	8
+	57	Little Pied Cormorant	0.16	280	22.6	237	52	8.00	2.0	
+	58	Black Swan	0.15	323	13.2	292	46	3.60	4.0	8
+	59	Little Raven	0.14	28	15.1	35	39	2.15	6.6	2
+	60	Spotted Dove	0.13	321	30.2	162	52	9.89	1.3	4
+	61	Great Cormorant	0.12	675	18.9	229	40	3.25	3.8	
	62	Golden Whistler	0.11	-23	50.9	-15	36	9.14	1.2	
+	63	Australian Reed-Warbler	0.10	371	9.4	215	26	3.08	3.1	6
+	64	Hardhead	0.08	76	3.8	193	37	1.76	4.8	
+	65	Grey Teal	0.07	278	11.3	282	33	2.59	2.8	
-	66	White-plumed Honeyeater	0.07	-46	24.5	-38	49	4.18	1.7	2
-	67	European Goldfinch	0.07	-69	13.2	-59	33	2.64	2.6	4
+	68	White-faced Heron	0.07	69	22.6	27	49	5.27	1.3	
+	69	Yellow Thornbill	0.06	163	17.0	108	40	2.90	2.2	
	70	Olive-backed Oriole	0.06	4	54.7	32	38	6.07	1.0	
-	71	White-eared Honeyeater	0.06	-42	37.7	-19	48	4.97	1.2	
+	72	White-browed Woodswallow	0.06	76	5.7	95	3	0.13	43.3	
+	73	Brown-headed Honeyeater	0.06	42	7.5	-2	24	1.36	4.1	2
	74	Grey Shrike-thrush	0.05	-30	24.5	-27	51	5.05	1.1	
-	75	Rufous Whistler	0.05	-36	18.9	-58	34	3.96	1.3	4
-	76	Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.05	-61	11.3	-28	31	1.63	3.2	
+	77	Australian Pelican	0.05	160	7.5	-23	37	1.89	2.7	
-	78	Grey Currawong	0.05	-34	17.0	-48	49	4.35	1.2	2
+	79	Tawny Frogmouth	0.05	112	20.8	163	44	2.81	1.8	2
	80	Common Bronzewing	0.05	24	13.2	6	42	3.03	1.6	4
	81	White-throated Treecreeper	0.05	-23	11.3	-30	52	4.44	1.1	2
+	82	Australasian Grebe	0.05	216	9.4	316	40	2.33	1.9	
+	83	Australasian Darter	0.04	785	11.3	330	30	1.76	2.5	
+	84	Wedge-tailed Eagle	0.04	127	37.7	85	40	3.12	1.4	
	84	Dusky Woodswallow	0.04	-41	13.2	-16	27	1.45	2.9	2
	86	Dollarbird	0.04	-18	20.8	-31	22	2.33	1.8	4
+	87	Varied Sittella	0.04	27	5.7	-32	21	0.97	4.2	
-	88	Double-barred Finch	0.03	-69	9.4	-51	28	1.54	2.2	
+	89	Collared Sparrowhawk	0.03	54	30.2	19	41	3.16	1.0	
	90	Southern Boobook	0.03	-28	26.4	-24	35	2.90	1.0	
	91	Leaden Flycatcher	0.03	-7	17.0	-14	25	2.24	1.3	
-	92	Scarlet Robin	0.02	-38	17.0	-33	26	1.80	1.4	
	93	Tree Martin	0.02	-2	7.5	-7	10	0.53	4.6	

36 yr	Rk	Species	A	ΔA%	F (%)	ΔF%	W	R	G	B
+	94	Eastern Great Egret	0.02	539	9.4	380	32	1.71	1.2	
	95	Nankeen Kestrel	0.02	-15	18.9	-3	30	1.76	1.0	
-	95	Australian Hobby	0.02	-41	30.2	-6	28	1.67	1.1	
+	97	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	0.02	137	17.0	86	18	1.58	1.1	
-	97	Fuscous Honeyeater	0.02	-84	1.9	-93	11	0.48	3.5	
-	99	White-throated Needletail	0.01	-92	5.7	-72	3	0.18	7.5	
	100	Brown Goshawk	0.01	5	22.6	10	23	1.19	1.0	
	100	Sacred Kingfisher	0.01	5	13.2	-28	19	1.05	1.1	2
+	102	Nankeen Night-Heron	0.01	475	7.5	594	18	0.88	1.3	
+	103	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.01	39	11.3	18	16	1.01	1.0	
+	104	Australian Owllet-nightjar	0.01	190	5.7	118	22	1.01	1.0	
-	104	White-throated Gerygone	0.01	-44	7.5	-53	16	0.92	1.1	
-	106	Pallid Cuckoo	<.01	-63	7.5	-66	11	0.62	1.5	2
	106	Rainbow Bee-eater	<.01	-36	13.2	87	7	0.48	1.9	
	108	White-winged Triller	<.01	-29	5.7	-17	12	0.62	1.4	
+	109	Latham's Snipe	<.01	529	3.8	390	11	0.48	1.6	
-	109	Mistletoebird	<.01	-67	9.4	-37	13	0.75	1.1	
	111	Fairy Martin	<.01	9	3.8	147	4	0.18	3.8	
+	112	Fork-tailed Swift	<.01	53	3.8	164	1	0.09	6.5	
	113	Peregrine Falcon	<.01	-13	15.1	55	9	0.53	1.0	
-	113	Rose Robin	<.01	-51	5.7	-53	11	0.53	1.0	
-	113	Australasian Pipit	<.01	-69	3.8	5	8	0.40	1.3	
	116	Little Eagle	<.01	-19	9.4	-8	10	0.48	1.0	
-	117	Black-shouldered Kite	<.01	-72	5.7	-43	8	0.44	1.0	
-	117	Flame Robin	<.01	-57	1.9	-69	8	0.35	1.3	
+	119	White-necked Heron	<.01	223	9.4	244	8	0.35	1.1	
+	119	Cockatiel	<.01	126	3.8	6	8	0.40	1.0	
-	119	New Holland Honeyeater	<.01	-89	5.7	-46	5	0.22	1.8	
+	122	Brush Cuckoo	<.01	257	5.7	185	8	0.35	1.0	
-	123	Brown Falcon	<.01	-41	7.5	3	7	0.31	1.0	
+	124	Royal Spoonbill	<.01	320	3.8	456	5	0.22	1.2	
-	125	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<.01	-78	3.8	-69	5	0.22	1.0	
+	125	Scarlet Honeyeater	<.01	857	5.7	876	5	0.22	1.0	
-	125	Eastern Yellow Robin	<.01	-69	5.7	138	5	0.22	1.0	
	125	Little Grassbird	<.01	13	1.9	194	5	0.22	1.0	
-	129	Rufous Songlark	<.01	-51	3.8	77	4	0.18	1.0	
+	130	Red-capped Robin	<.01	741	1.9	346	2	0.09	1.5	
-	131	Brown Quail	<.01	-77	1.9	86	2	0.09	1.0	
+	131	Whistling Kite	<.01	39	3.8	117	2	0.09	1.0	
	131	Swift Parrot	<.01	-42	1.9	133	1	0.04	2.0	
-	131	Speckled Warbler	<.01	-90	1.9	-58	2	0.09	1.0	
-	131	Rufous Fantail	<.01	-69	3.8	-51	1	0.09	1.0	
-	131	Restless Flycatcher	<.01	-73	3.8	-22	2	0.09	1.0	
-	131	Diamond Firetail	<.01	-79	1.9	47	2	0.09	1.0	
+	131	Ring-necked Parakeet	<.01	123	1.9	257	2	0.09	1.0	
	139	Hoary-headed Grebe	<.01	-12	1.9	453	1	0.04	1.0	
+	139	Grey Goshawk	<.01	49	1.9	143	1	0.04	1.0	
+	139	Swamp Harrier	<.01	607	1.9	767	1	0.04	1.0	
-	139	Long-billed Corella	<.01	-91	1.9	-30	1	0.04	1.0	
+	139	Channel-billed Cuckoo	<.01	33	1.9	45	1	0.04	1.0	
-	139	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	<.01	-81	1.9	-8	1	0.04	1.0	
-	139	Crescent Honeyeater	<.01	-98	1.9	-80	1	0.04	1.0	
	139	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	<.01	1	1.9	53	1	0.04	1.0	

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 / 20-minute search**, although other types of search (Area searches) are also acceptable.

Woodland Survey (WOO)

Generally, 9 sub-sites (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 regular surveys of Lake Bathurst (including The Morass) and Lake George. The survey normally covers 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 p 94. 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 30 years (30YA). 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 were 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 the *BirdLife Australia Working List of Australian Birds*. BirdLife Australia and Charles Darwin University has developed this list and will maintain it into the future. The BirdLife Australia Working List is available for download: <http://birdlife.org.au/conservation/science/taxonomy>.

The status shown for each bird in the COG Area of Interest on the Systematic List is based on previous survey data. The COG Rarities Panel updates it from time to time.

As a 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 p. 103) 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).

For some reason the term Reporting Rate is used in relation to General Survey statistics and Recording Rate is used in the Garden Bird Survey. They refer to the same thing: the percentage of sheets or weeks in which the species is reported/recorded.

ABBREVIATIONS**General**

10YA	10-year average
30YA	30-year average
AoI	COG Area of Interest
ANBG	Australian National Botanic Gardens
ANU	Australian National University
BA	Birds Australia
br	breeding (unspecified)
BSP	Bungendore Sewage Ponds
BuTYL	Bungendore Trucking Yard Lane
CAS	Castle Hill (WOO site)
CBN	Canberra Bird Notes
CIMAG	Canberra Indian Myna Action Group
Ck	creek
CMP	Campbell Park (WOO site)
CNM	Canberra Nature Map
CNP	Canberra Nature Park
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation. The abbreviation is followed by the location, e.g. CSIRO Black Mountain
E	East
f	female
FSP	Fyshwick Sewage Ponds
GA	Greening Australia
GBS	Garden Bird Survey
GOO	Gooroo/Goorooyarroo (WOO site)
GOS	Goorooyarroo South (WOO site)
Gr[A01]	COG grid cell (number A01)
GunL	Gungahlin Lakes
HAL	Hall/Gold Creek (WOO site)
HS	Homestead
Hwy	Highway
incl	including
juv	juvenile
JER	Jerrabomberra (WOO site)
JWNR	Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Reserve
KAM	Kama (WOO site)
km	kilometre
LBath	Lake Bathurst
LBG	Lake Burley Griffin
LGeo	Lake George
LGin	Lake Ginninderra
LGin Pen	Lake Ginninderra Peninsula
LJerr	Lake Jerrabomberra
LTug	Lake Tuggeranong
Ln	lane
m	male

MAJ	Mt Majura (WOO site)
max	maximum
MFNR	Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve
MJF	Majura Firing Range (WOO site)
MtJerraNR	Mt Jerrabomberra Nature Reserve
MUL	Mulligans Flat (WOO site)
N	North
NAS	Naas (WOO site)
NatArbor	National Arboretum
NLN	Newline Quarry (WOO site)
NMA	National Museum of Australia
NNP	Namadgi National Park
NNPVIC	NNP Visitors' Information Centre
NP	National Park
nr	near
NR	Nature Reserve
QSP	Queanbeyan Sewage Ponds
R	River
Ra	Range
Rd	Road
RED	Red Hill (WOO site)
Res	Reserve
RR	Reporting Rate
S	South
SF	State Forest
SP	sewage ponds
SYM	Symonston (WOO site)
TNR	Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve
TSR	Travelling Stock Reserve
TUG	Tuggeranong (WOO site)
TUGH	Tuggeranong Hill Nature Reserve
W	West
WBS	Waterbird Survey
WBPD	West Belconnen Pond Dunlop
WOO	Woodland Survey
wk	week
x	presence of species (BA records)

Breeding codes

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

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Code	Observer	C O G	e B A	B B d	G B S
AjR1	R & J Allen				*
AlA1	Ash Allnutt			*	
AlB1	Barbara Allan	*			*
AlR1	Richard Allen	*		*	
AnF1	Frank Antram			*	
AnI1	Ian Anderson	*			*
BaB1	Barry Baker		*		
BaD3	David Baldwin			*	
BaI1	Ian Baird			*	
BaL1	Lia Battison	*		*	
BaS2	Shaun Bagley	*			
BeA2	Alistair Bestow	*			
BeC2	Cedric Bear			*	
BeD1	Darryl Beaumont	*			
BeL3	Linda Beveridge			*	
BeS1	Sue Beatty			*	
BiJ1	John Bissett	*		*	
BiR1	Rosemary Birch	*			
BLA2	BLA Observer		*		
BlG1	G & S Bluff			*	
BlJ1	J & N Black				*
BoC4	Con Boekel		*		
BoJ1	Jenny Bounds	*			*
BoS2	Suzi Bond			*	
BrJ3	John Brannan	*			*
BrJ5	John Brown			*	
BuM1	Martin Butterfield	*		*	*
BuM3	M Buszynski				*
BuM4	Mikayla Burke			*	
BuP1	Prue Buckley	*			
CaJ4	Jean Casburn			*	*
CaR3	Ryu Callaway	*		*	*
CIG1	Grahame Clark	*			
ClJ3	Julie Clark			*	
ClM1	M & K Clayton				*
CoA1	Alan Cowan	*			
CoC1	Canberra COG			*	
CoD2	David Cook	*			
COF1	COG Outing			*	
CoK2	K Cook				*
CrK3	Ken Crawley			*	
Code	Observer	C O G	e B A	B B d	G B S
CuR1	Roger Curnow	*			
DaC1	Chris Davey	*		*	*
DaC2	Christine Darwood			*	
DaG2	Geoffrey Dabb	*			
DcA1	C & A Drake				*
DeB3	Brian Deans			*	
DeD2	Dianne Deans	*	*		
DoM1	M Doyle				*
DrC1	Ms C Drake			*	
DwB1	B & K Dwyer				*
EbD1	eBird Observer			*	
EmL1	Lindell Emerton			*	
FeP1	Paul Fennell	*			
FoW1	Wilber Forsooth			*	
FrM1	Matthew Frawley			*	
FuP1	Peter Fullagar			*	
GaP1	Paul Gatenby		*		
GaP9	P Gatenby				*
GiJ2	Jesse Gibson			*	
GoJ3	John Goldie	*		*	
GrB1	Bill Graham	*		*	*
HaA2	A Hall				*
HaJ1	J & A Holland				*
HaJ7	John Harris			*	
HaK1	K & H Hahne				*
HaL2	Lindsay Hansch	*			*
HaS4	Stuart Harris	*			
HaW1	William Hall			*	
HeJ2	Jonathon Henshaw			*	
HeS1	Sandra Henderson	*		*	
HiC2	Celia Hindmarsh			*	
HoA1	A Howarth				*
HoJ1	Jack Holland	*		*	
HoS1	Steve Holliday	*		*	*
HuC2	Chris J. Hudson			*	
InC1	Incidental CNM	*			
KaD1	D Kay				*
KiB1	Bron King			*	
KoL1	L Kossek				*
KrS1	S Kral				*
KyP1	Peter Kyne			*	
LaD1	David Landon	*			
LaD3	Doug Laing				*
LaK1	Kim Larmour			*	

Code	Observer	C O G	e B A	B B d	G B S
LaS1	Sue Lashko	*		*	
LaS2	Sandra Lauer			*	
LeF1	F Leary				*
LeM1	Michael Lenz	*		*	*
LiB1	Bruce Lindenmayer	*			
LiJ1	Joan Lipscombe	*		*	
LjT1	T & J Lipscombe				*
LuN1	Noel Luff	*			
MaA2	Alison Mackerras			*	*
MaL2	Liam Manderson			*	
MaM4	M Maconachie			*	
MaM5	Mathieu Matteucci			*	
MaR5	Rod Mackay	*			
McD1	David McDonald	*		*	
McD4	Duncan McCaskill	*		*	*
McD6	David McCarthy	*			
McI1	Ian J McMahon			*	
McJ4	Julie McGuinness	*			
MeM2	Megan Mears			*	
MeP1	P & D Mellor				*
MiP1	Peter Milburn			*	
MoA2	Alan Morris		*		
MoK1	K Moore				*
MoM1	M Moncur				*
MoM3	Martyn Moffat	*		*	*
MuT1	Terry Munro	*			
NaT1	Tony Nairn			*	
NeG1	Gail Neumann	*		*	*
NiA1	A O Nick Nicholls	*			
OnP1	P & A O'Neil				*
OrY1	Yarden Oren			*	
PeH2	Harvey Perkins	*		*	
PhR1	R Phillips		*		
PoH1	Hugh Possingham			*	
QuA1	A Quick				*
RaJ1	A & J Russell				*
RaL1	Lucy Randall			*	
Code	Observer	C O G	e B A	B B d	G B S
RaM1	Michael Ramsey			*	
ReJ5	Julian Reid	*			
ReS1	Steve Read	*		*	
RoA1	Alison Rowell	*			
RoD2	David Rosalky	*			*
RoM3	Margaret Robertson			*	
RoS1	S Robertson				*
RoV1	Vivien Rolland			*	
RoW1	Warren Rowland			*	
RuA1	A Russell-French	*			
RuA2	Ashwin Rudder			*	
SaC2	Chris Sanderson			*	
SaD1	Debbie Saunders		*		
SeB1	Benjamin Serafin			*	
SlA1	Ashley Sloan		*		
SpB1	Bob Spiller		*		
SpK9	K Speldewinde				*
StH3	Helen Stevens		*		
StM4	Margaret Strong			*	
TaK1	Dr M K Tarburton		*		
TaM1	I McComas Taylor			*	
TaN1	Nicki Taws	*	*	*	*
ThA1	Alan Thomas	*			
TuA2	Alison Turner			*	
TwP1	Precocious Twitch			*	
VeM1	Maret Vesk		*		
VeP1	Philip Veerman	*			*
W S1	Shorty W			*	
WaJ3	J Waldron				*
WaK1	Kathy Walter	*			*
WaR4	R & B Walcott				*
WeL1	Lucy Wenger	*			
WiK2	K Windle				*
WiT1	Tony Willis	*		*	
WiC1	L & C Wenger				*
WoD1	Don Wood	*			*
WyP1	Patrick Wyllie			*	
ZwM1	M Zwankhuizen		*	*	

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The sincerest acknowledgment must go to all contributors of data. Without their endeavours, the ABR could not exist. Special thanks go to those observers who undertake surveys in line with the BLA Atlassing protocols, because data collected systematically is more useful than lists of random sightings. COG recognises the continued tremendous uptake in the use of eBird, not only as a system for individuals to manage their personal records, but one that enables COG to easily share observations of birds in the COG AoI.

Thanks also go to Jaron Bailey, for his work in maintaining the COG databases and preparing the statistics for authors to use. Thanks also to Duncan McCaskill for coordination of the GBS database and to Tony Harding, Barbara Allan, Joan Lipscombe and Helen Mason for data input.

COG particularly wishes to thank all survey organisers and participants for their continuing invaluable support.

The work of the Rarities Panel, the data checkers Nicki Taws, Chris Davey, Harvey Perkins and Barbara Allan, and Duncan McCaskill for the GBS, is also vital in maintaining the integrity of our records.

COG acknowledges the contribution made by BirdLife Australia, particularly Andrew Silcocks, for providing BA data for the COG AoI. COG recognises the tremendous difference the advent of eBird Australia has made to the reporting of birds in the COG AoI. COG acknowledges the monitoring and data management input from Peter Milburn and Alastair Smith (ACT) and Frank Antram (NSW).

The contributions for the Systematic List are:

- Chris Davey (ducks, grebes & waders)
- Barbara Allan (raptors, cormorants and night birds)
- Con Boekel (pigeons, cuckoos, frogmouths, nightjars, swifts, thrushes, starlings and finches)
- Ian McMahon (cockatoos & parrots,)
- Bill Graham (kingfishers and allies, lyrebird, fantails, flycatchers, chough and ravens, larks and songlarks)
- David McDonald (babbler, whipbird, cuckoo-shrikes, sittella, whistlers, oriole, woodswallows, magpies and allies)
- Nicki Taws (honeyeaters).
- Joan Lipscombe (rails, stilts, avocets, ibis and spoonbills)
- Jenny Bounds (robins).
- Malcolm Fyfe (thornbills and allies).
- Kim Farley (herons, egrets, treecreepers, bowerbird and fairy wrens)
- Paul Fennell (emu, quail, button-quail, stone curlews and plovers)

Their consistent efforts over the years are gratefully acknowledged. The survey overviews are written by: Duncan McCaskill (GBS), Michael Lenz (Waterbirds Survey) and Jenny Bounds (Woodland Survey). The maps are prepared by Nicki Taws. The Weather Summary is prepared by Paul Fennell from data provided on the Australian Bureau of Meteorology website.

Final responsibility for quality control rests with the ABR editor, Paul Fennell, in conjunction with the Canberra Bird Notes editor, Michael Lenz.

REFERENCES

Allan, B 2018, 'The Canberra Bird Blitz 20176', *Canberra Bird Notes*, vol. 43, no. 2, p. 194.

BirdLife Australia (2017). The BirdLife Australia Working List of Australian Birds; Version 2.1
Downloaded from http://www.birdlife.org.au/documents/BWL-BirdLife_Australia_Working_List_v2.1.xlsx .

BirdLife Australia 2015, *The state of Australia's birds 2015: headline trends for terrestrial birds*, BirdLife Australia, Melbourne, <http://birdlife.org.au/documents/SOAB-2015.pdf>.

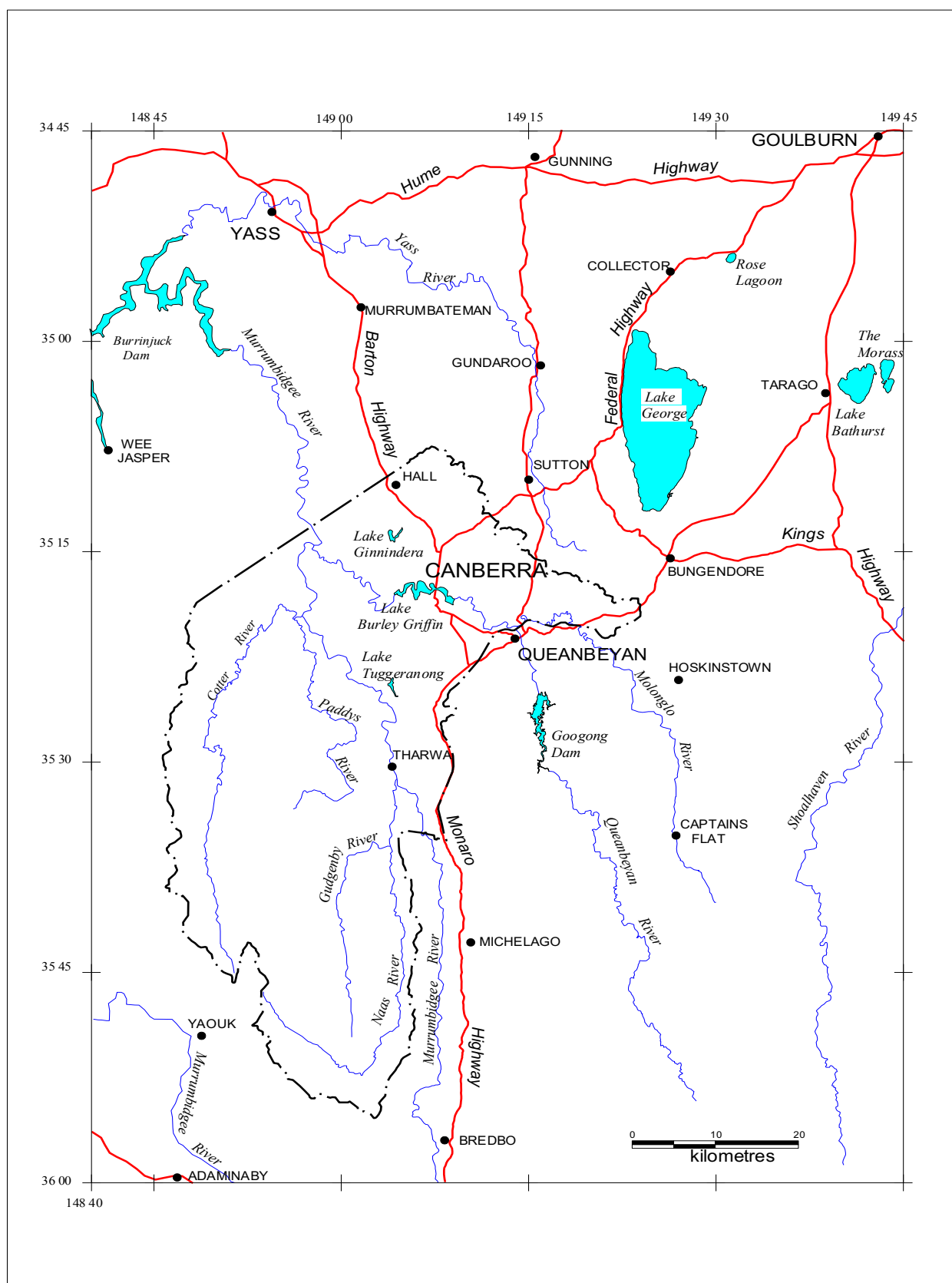
Butterfield, M, 2017, 'Breeding of Whiskered Terns (*Chilonias hybrida*) in the COG Area of Interest', *Canberra Bird Notes*, vol. 42, no. 2, p. 128.

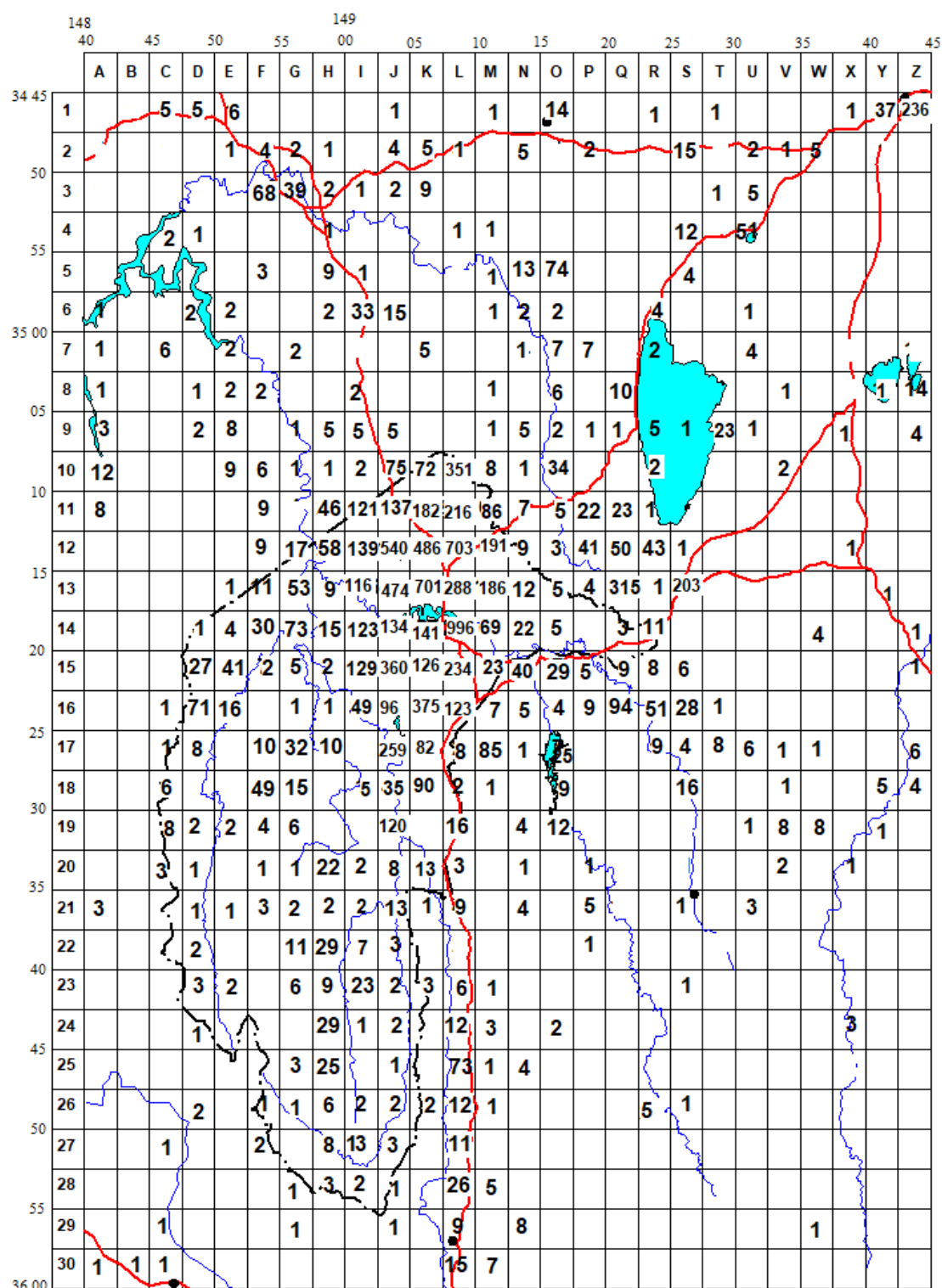
Rae, S et al. 2018, Notes on the breeding ecology of Little Eagles in the ACT in 2017/2018, *Canberra Bird Notes*, vol. 43, no. 2, p. 186.

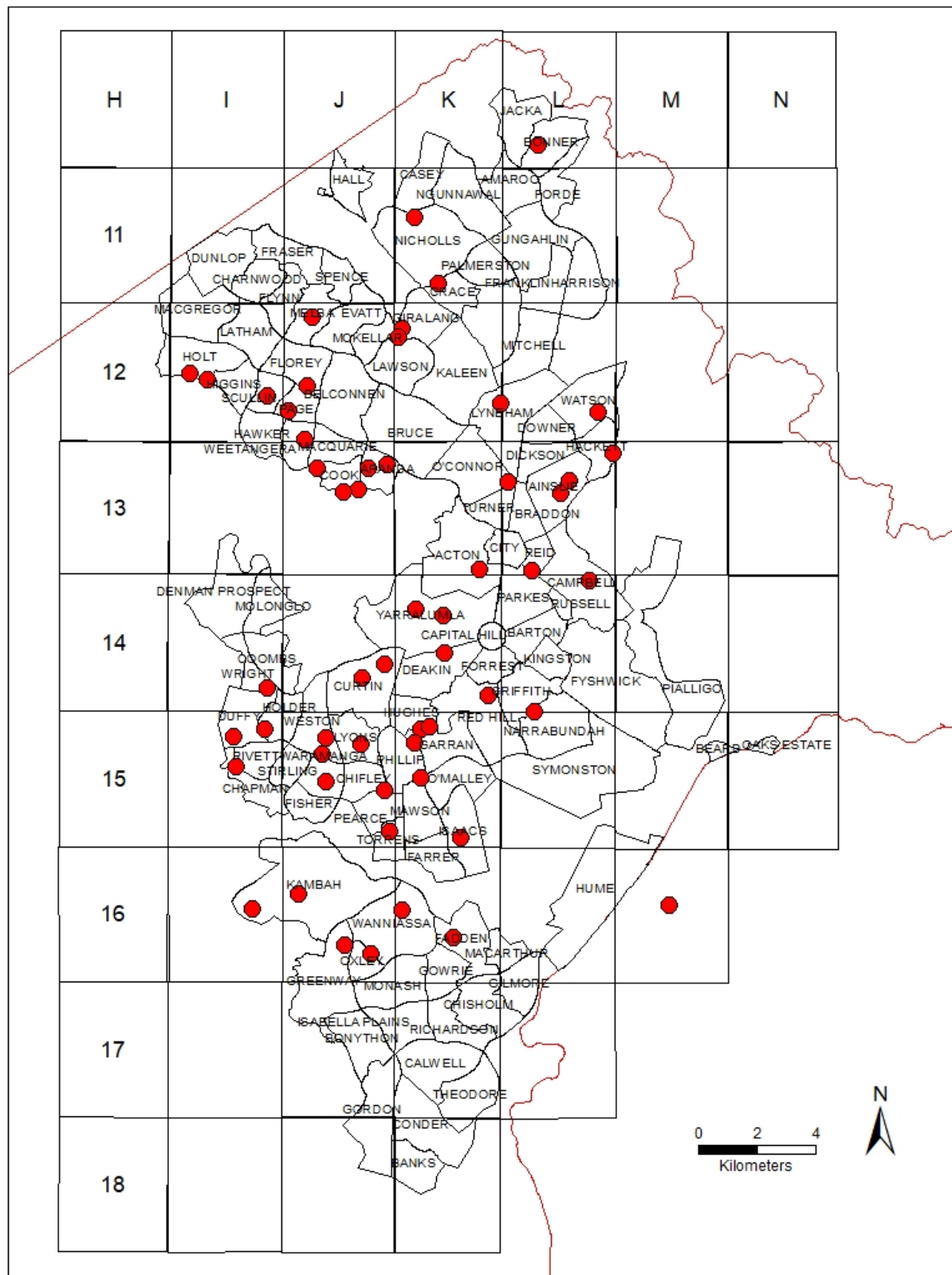
Taylor, M & Canberra Ornithologists Group 1992, *Birds of the Australian Capital Territory: an atlas*, Canberra Ornithologists Group & National Capital Planning Authority, Canberra.

Veerman, P & Canberra Ornithologists Group 2003, *Canberra birds: a report on the first 21 years of the Garden Bird Survey*, P.A. Veerman, Kambah, A.C.T.

Wilson, S 1999, *Birds of the ACT: two centuries of change*, Canberra Ornithologists Group, Canberra.

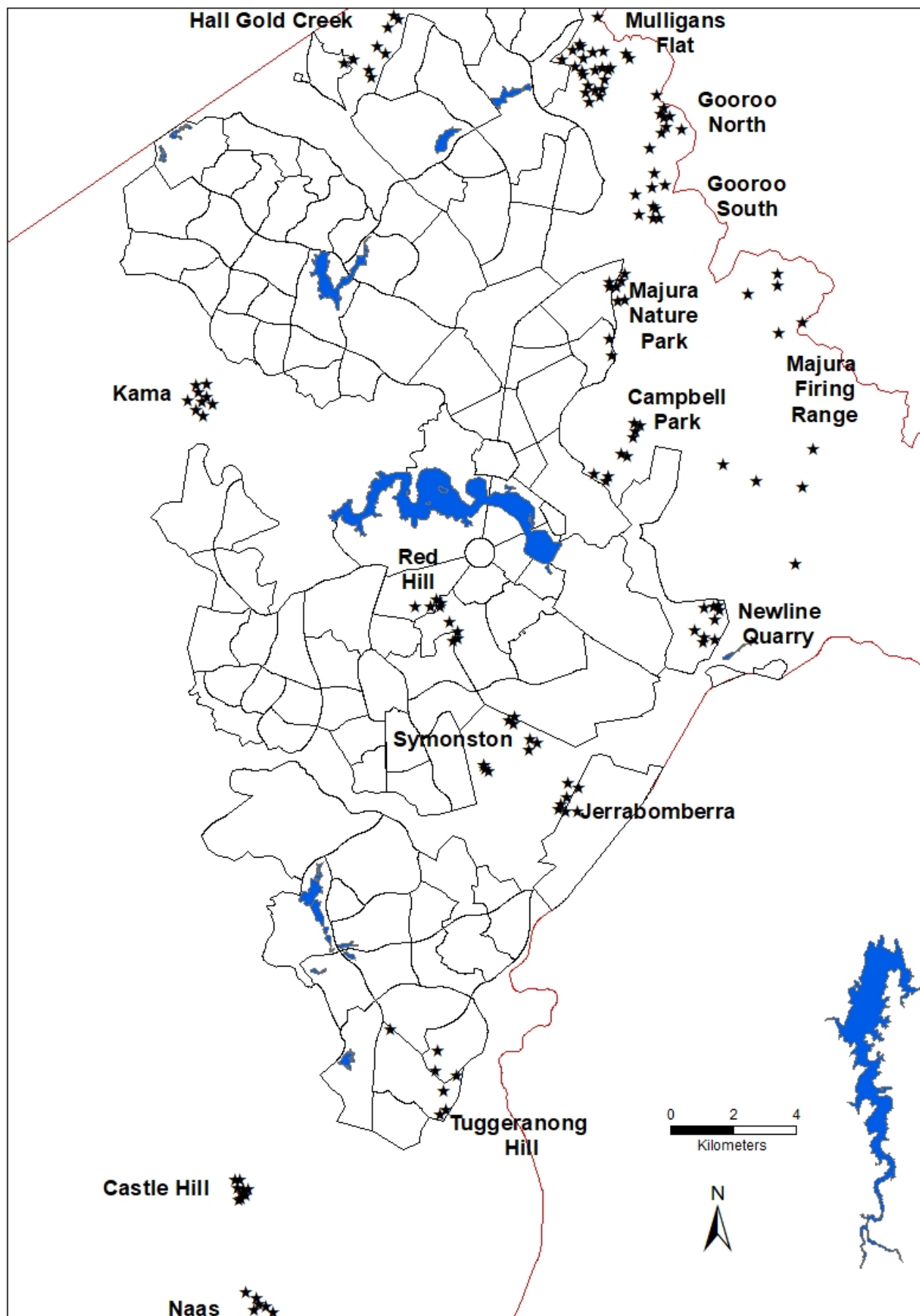
Map 1. The Canberra Region (COG's Area of Interest)

Map 2: Number of record sheets per grid cell for 2017-18

Map 3: Location of Garden Bird Survey Sites for 2017-18

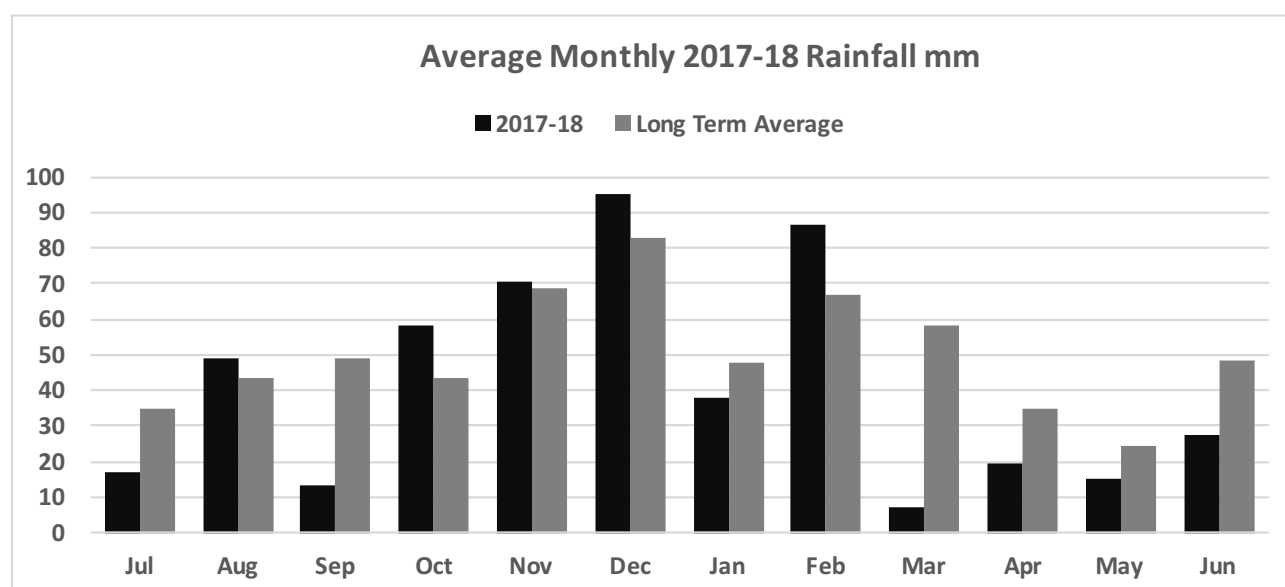
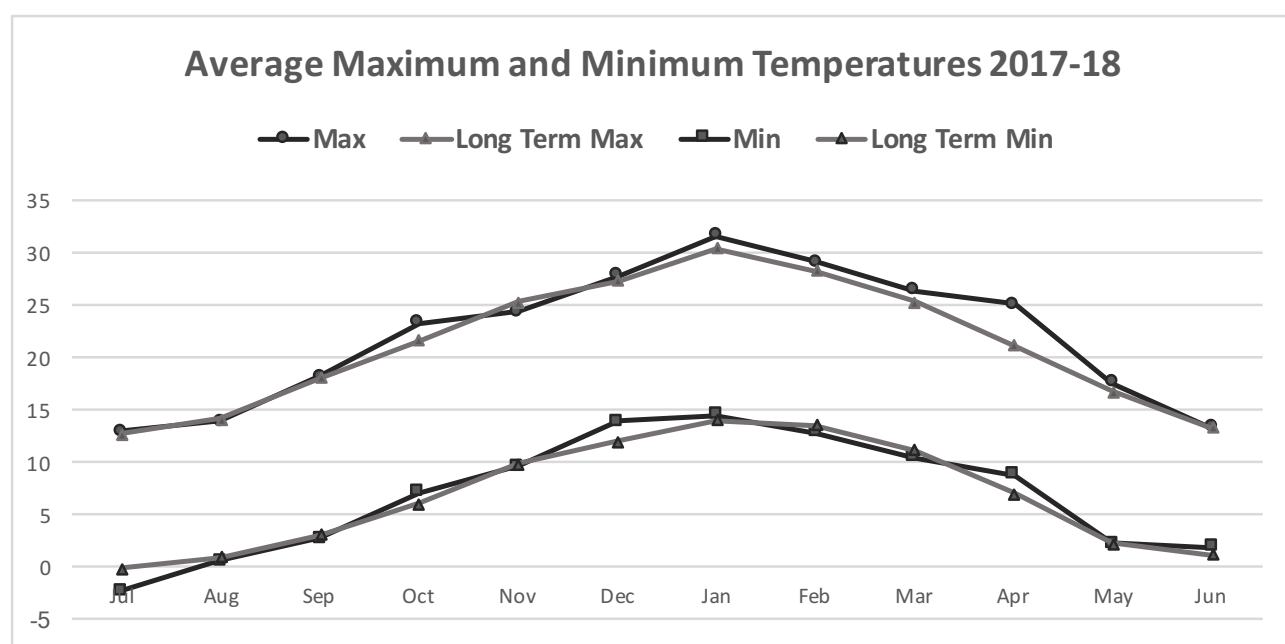
In addition, there are rural sites at Burra, Carwoola, Hoskinstown, Murrumbateman and Wamboin.

Map 4. Location of Woodland Survey Sites for 2017-18



Appendix 1: 2017-2018 Weather Summary (derived from BOM Website)

- Apart from modest falls in August it was the driest winter since 1994. It was a warmer winter than usual in terms of daytime temperatures, but with colder nights, with -8.7 on July 1. A cold front brought snow and hail across the territory on 27 Aug.
- Daytime temperatures were warmer than average during spring, but overnight temperatures were close to average. The season started off drier than usual, but finished with average totals in October and November.
- Summer rain was average to above average following a wet December, average rainfall in January and a day of heavy rain, with flash flooding, in late February. Both maximum and minimum temperatures were above average.
- Rainfall during autumn 2018 was low, only 30% of the long-term average. Record-breaking heat during April contributed to overall warmer than average daytime temperatures, while overnight temperatures were closer to average.



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/observing-birds/frequently-asked-questions/unusual-birds/>). The list does not include species which have been classified purely as escapees. The COG standard Observation Form is obtainable from http://canberrabirds.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/COG_Observation_Record_July_2012.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, which enables the document to be downloaded through the link at the bottom of the page: <http://canberrabirds.org.au/observing-birds/frequently-asked-questions/unusual-birds/>.

Appendix 3: List of threatened species in COG’s Area of Interest 2017

Species	ACT Status	NSW Status	Federal Status
Freckled Duck		Vulnerable	
Blue-billed Duck		Vulnerable	
Australasian Bittern		Endangered	Endangered
Bush Stone-curlew		Endangered	
Square-tailed Kite		Vulnerable	
Spotted Harrier		Vulnerable	
Little Eagle	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
White-bellied Sea-eagle		Vulnerable	
Grey Falcon		Endangered	
Black Falcon		Vulnerable	
Australian Painted Snipe		Endangered	Endangered
Curlew Sandpiper		Endangered	
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Gang-gang Cockatoo		Vulnerable	
Superb Parrot	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Swift Parrot	Vulnerable	Endangered	Critically Endangered
Little Lorikeet		Vulnerable	
Turquoise Parrot		Vulnerable	
Powerful Owl		Vulnerable	
Barking Owl		Vulnerable	
Brown Treecreeper	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Speckled Warbler		Vulnerable	
Regent Honeyeater	Endangered	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered
White-fronted Chat		Vulnerable	
Painted Honeyeater	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Varied Sittella	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
White-winged Triller	Vulnerable		
Olive Whistler		Vulnerable	
Dusky Woodswallow		Vulnerable	
Scarlet Robin	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Flame Robin		Vulnerable	
Pink Robin		Vulnerable	
Hooded Robin	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Diamond Firetail		Vulnerable	

Canberra Bird Notes 44 (1) Apr 2019

Annual Bird Report: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

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.

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.

Canberra Bird Notes 44 (1) Apr 2019

Annual Bird Report: 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Preliminary section

Introduction.....	1	Highlights and Lowlights.....	5
The year in context.....	2	Garden Bird Survey Overview.....	8
Summary Statistics.....	3	Woodland Survey Overview.....	9
Breeding.....	5	Waterbird Survey Overview.....	10

Systematic list

Comments on the content and writing style of the Systematic List.....	11		
Casuariidae: emu.....	12	Ptilonorhynchidae: bowerbird.....	52
Anatidae: ducks, swan.....	12	Climacteridae: treecreepers.....	52
Phasianidae: peafowl, quail.....	15	Maluridae: fairy-wren.....	53
Podicipedidae: grebes.....	16	Meliphagidae: honeyeaters.....	54
Columbidae: pigeons, doves.....	17	Pardalotidae: pardalotes.....	60
Cuculidae: cuckoos, koel.....	19	Acanthizidae: thornbills.....	60
Podargidae: frogmouth.....	22	Pomatostomidae: babblers.....	65
Eurostopodidae: nightjars.....	22	Neosittidae: sittella.....	65
Aegothelidae: owl nightjar.....	22	Campephagidae: cuckoo-shrikes etc.....	65
Apodidae: swifts.....	22	Cinclosomatidae: quail-thrush.....	66
Rallidae: rails, crakes, etc.....	23	Pachycephalidae: whistlers etc.....	67
Burhinidae: stone-curlews.....	26	Falcuncululidae: shriketit.....	68
Recurvirostridae: stilts, avocet.....	26	Psophodidae: whipbird.....	69
Charadriidae: plovers, dotterels etc.....	27	Oriolidae: oriole.....	69
Rostratulidae: painted-snipe.....	29	Artamidae: woodswallows, magpie etc.....	69
Scolopacidae: snipe, sandpipers.....	29	Dicruridae: drongo.....	72
Turnicidae: button-quail.....	30	Rhipiduridae: fantails.....	73
Laridae: gulls, terns.....	30	Corvidae: ravens.....	74
Pelecanidae: pelican.....	31	Monarchidae: flycatchers.....	74
Ardeidae: herons, egrets, bitterns.....	31	Corcoracidae: chough.....	76
Threskiornithidae: ibises, spoonbills.....	34	Petroicidae: robins.....	76
Phalacrocoracidae: cormorants.....	36	Dicaeidae: mistletoebird.....	79
Anhingidae: Darter.....	37	Estrildidae: weaver finches.....	79
Accipitridae: kites and eagles.....	37	Passeridae: house-sparrow.....	81
Tytonidae: masked owls.....	41	Motacillidae: pipit.....	81
Strigidae: hawk owls.....	41	Fringillidae: finches.....	82
Meropidae: bee-eater.....	42	Alaudidae: larks.....	82
Coraciidae: dollarbird.....	42	Cisticolidae: cisticola.....	83
Alcedinidae: kingfishers.....	42	Locustellidae: grass birds and songlarks.....	83
Falconidae: kestrel, falcons, hobby.....	43	Acrocephalidae: reed warblers.....	84
Cacatuidae: cockatoos.....	45	Hirundinidae: swallow, martins.....	84
Psittaculidae: lorikeets, Aust. parrots.....	47	Zosteropidae: white-eyes.....	86
Psittacidae: Afro-tropical parrots.....	51	Sturnidae: starling, myna.....	86
Menuridae: lyrebird.....	51	Turdidae: thrushes.....	87

Tables and Appendices

Table 1 Species by survey type.....	88	References.....	102
Table 2 GBS statistics.....	93	Maps.....	103
Data, Methodologies, etc.....	96	App 1: Weather Summary 2012-13.....	107
Abbreviations and Breeding Codes.....	98	App 2: Unusual birds in the region.....	108
List of survey contributors.....	99	App 3: Threatened or vulnerable species.....	108
Acknowledgements.....	101		