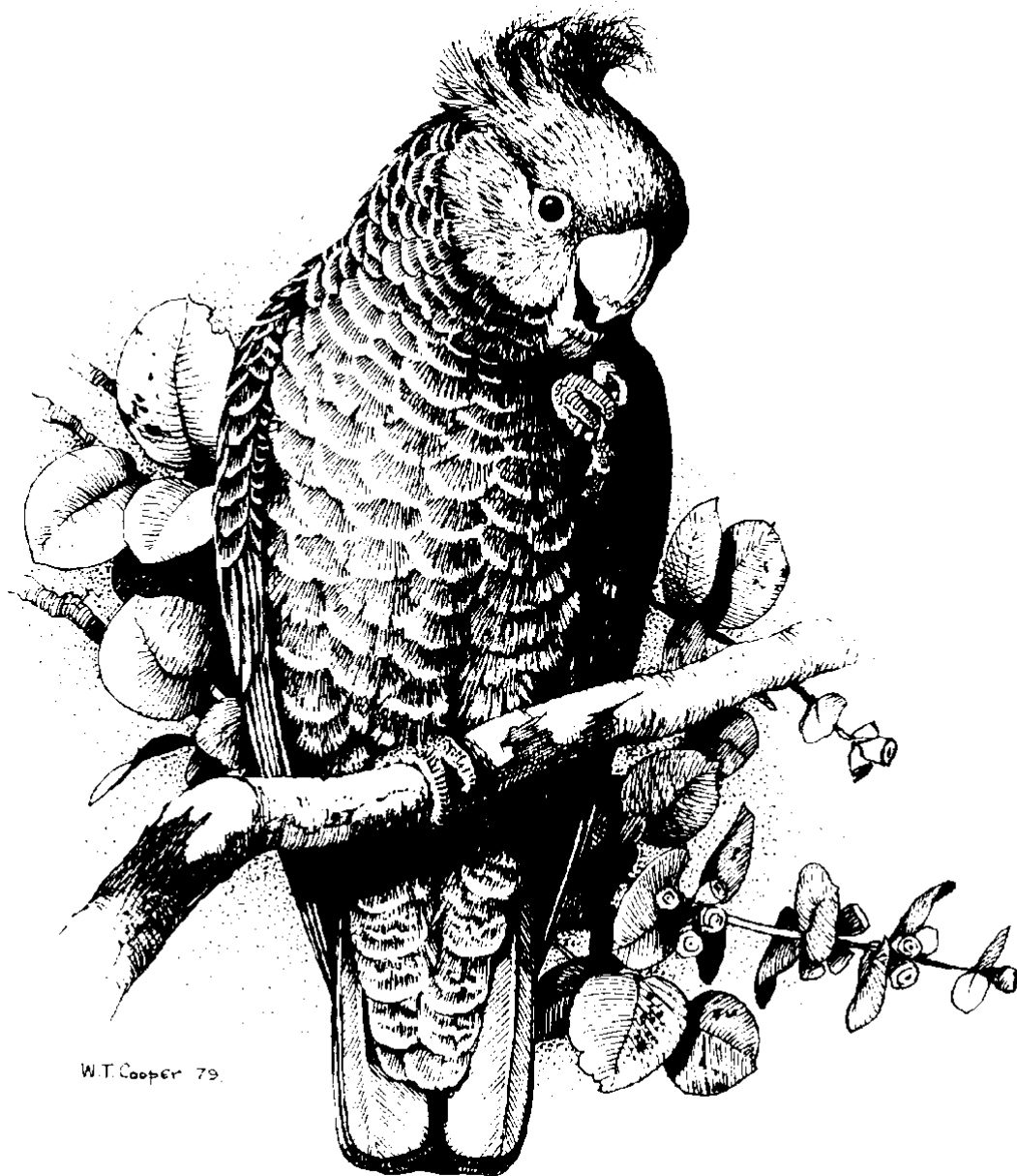


# canberra bird notes

ISSN 0314-8211

Volume 45  
Number 1  
April 2020



Registered by Australia Post – 100001304

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**ANNUAL BIRD REPORT: 1 JULY 2018 TO 30 JUNE 2019**

Editor: Paul Fennell

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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. As a result, 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). This report presents this information, makes some interpretation and draws attention to significant changes or trends in the distribution or abundance of species. To assist research, copies of CBN, beginning with vol. 1 (1968) are available on the COG Website <http://cbn.canberrabirds.org.au/>.

**COG's area of interest** (AoI – 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. 101). This encompasses an area of 13,675 sq. km, of which the ACT, at 2,357 sq. km, is only 17.2%. For COG's purposes of data analysis and reporting, the area is divided into a grid of 780 cells, each of 2.5 minutes of latitude and longitude (4.6 x 3.7 km). Each cell is identified by an alphanumeric code: A-βZ across the region from west to east and 1-30 from north to south (see Map 2, 106). Elevations in the ACT range from 450 m above sea level to 1912 m at the top of Bimberi Peak, and the ACT proper is about 130 km from the sea.

**Survey record types** used by COG are categorised according to type of survey used to collect the data. Most records are now presented by people using the Cornell University eBird application (eBird). Another avenue is through records collected by BirdLife Australia. Specialised COG surveys such as the Garden Bird Survey (GBS), Woodland Survey (WOO), and Waterbird Survey (WBS) are well established. Other atlassing records submitted by COG members by paper record forms are designated COG. For Bird Year 2019 (2018-2019) the source of **individual bird records** is outlined in the table below: Given the trend, the proportion of eBird records is likely to grow still further.

INC	BA	WOO	COG	eBird	Total bird records
247	1,550	4,788	5,840	209,239	221,664
0.1%	0.7%	2.2%	2.6%	94.4%	100%

Survey source of COG bird sighting records 2019 from Table 1 [p. 88]

**“General” Surveys.** 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. 106) 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>.

**The Annotated Checklist of the Birds of the ACT** is another useful resource, 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 version 3, 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. Maximum temperatures in the ACT in 2018-2019 were again generally higher than usual through summer and autumn, but night-time temperatures were more in line with the long-term averages. The year started off drier than usual, but had 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. Water levels in natural pondages within the ACT were getting lower, with some ephemeral ponds starting to dry up. Lakes George and Bathurst went completely dry, so there were no waterbird records from those areas (see WBS overview p. 10, and Appendix 1, p. 105). ACT Govt policy to create wetlands as part of stormwater reticulation structures, and the development of new suburbs in Gungahlin and Molonglo, have created many water retention ponds which have dramatically increased the habitat for water birds, and subsequently the number of species reported.



Purple Swamphen Julian Robinson

## SUMMARY STATISTICS

**Observer effort** is an essential driver of bird data collection. For the General Surveys this year, there were 401 contributors of records, of whom only 142 could be identified (see List of Contributors p. 97). The unnamed contributors were given the COG Observer Codes EbD1 (eBird) and BlA2 (BirdLife Australia) that for privacy or technical reasons were not able to be identified. Note that in the table immediately below the number of observers for the years 2018 through to 2019 is much higher than reported in previous years, when previously only *identified* observers were included in the reported statistics.

**The basic units** used are the **sheet** and the **sighting**. The sheet is the report of a bird watching effort, presented either on paper or electronically. The sighting is the report of an individual species on the sheet. The 16,092 sheets submitted this year is the highest number of observations submitted in COG's history, the 221,665 sightings likewise, and the number of **grid cells** covered as well. This continued high level of observations is due to the enthusiasm of observers, and the availability of mobile phone apps that facilitate the entry of data from the field.

As in recent years, totals have been boosted by COG's 14th "ACT Bird Blitz" (see Allan 2019) held in Oct 2018.

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 2019	
Number of observers	401
Number of sheets	16,092
Av no of sheets per observer	40.1
Median no of sheets per observer	4
Number of sightings	221,664
Av no of sightings per obs	552.8
Median no of sightings per obs	46
Av no of sightings per sheet	13.8
Median no of sightings per sheet	11

Bird Year	Species	Grid Cells	Sheets	Observers
2019	249	345	16092	401
2018	253	329	12162	330
2017	261	316	14198	305
2016	250	299	11591	292
2015	268	248	8255	258
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

The range of effort by observers is shown in the table below:

Bird Year	Sheets	Observers	Sightings	Average no of sheets per obsvr	Median no of sheets per obsvr	Average no of sightings per obsvr	Median no of sightings per obsvr	Average no sightings per sheet	Median no sightings per sheet
2019	16092	401	221665	40.1	4	552.8	46	13.8	11
2018	12162	330	176959	36.9	5	536.2	71	14.6	12
2017	14198	305	171285	46.6	4	561.6	59	12.1	9
2016	11591	292	160083	39.7	4	548.2	47	13.8	11
2015	8255	258	120813	32.0	5	468.3	53	14.6	12
2014	4643	247	74930	18.8	3	303.4	50	16.1	14
2013	4778	163	76576	29.3	6	469.8	83	16.0	13
2012	4381	161	62838	27.2	4	390.3	62	14.3	12
2011	3316	140	44968	23.7	4.5	321.2	63.5	13.6	11
2010	2581	145	35489	17.8	4	244.8	68	13.8	11

The average number of sheets per observer is now 40.1. However, the distribution of the data is skewed considerably towards the high end. The median number of sheets per observer is only 4. This means that most of the 401 observers contribute only a little to the data set, while on the other hand, a relatively small cohort presented many sheets. In 2019, the top 20 contributors presented 9,285 sheets (57.7% of the total), ranging from 1,951 sheets (over 5 sheets per day) to 223 sheets, with an average of 366.7 and a median of 325.5 sheets). It is interesting to note that the number of observers and sheets per observer have risen since 2015 when paper sheets were superseded by mobile phone apps. However, the median number of sheets per observer has remained constant over the years, as have the median number of sightings per sheet.

The average number of sightings per sheet (13.8) is slightly below last year (14.6). The median is 11, indicating that most observers are reporting systematic observations rather than incidental sightings of “interesting” birds.

Seasonal variation of effort is not great. Apart from the total records being much higher than previously, the effort is spread more evenly throughout the year although in 2019 both winter and summer observations are still a little lower than the other two seasons.

Year	Winter	%	Spring	%	Summer	%	Autumn	%	Total
2019	3537	22.0%	4452	27.7%	4292	26.7%	3811	23.7%	16092
2018	2372	19.4%	3223	26.4%	3138	25.7%	3480	28.5%	12213
2017	2973	21.0%	3556	25.1%	3800	26.9%	3823	27.0%	14152
2016	2189	18.8%	3049	26.1%	3156	27.0%	3277	28.1%	11671
2015	1515	19.3%	2213	28.2%	2203	28.0%	1926	24.5%	7857

**The number of grid cells** surveyed this year (345) is well above last year and is the highest ever. Most frequently surveyed cells were:

1. L&M14 (2341 cf 1065 reports last year): Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR (JWNR), Molonglo Reach and Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (FSP)
2. K12 (1590 cf 486): Kaleen and Lyneham Ridge
3. J12 (928 cf 540 last year): Lake Ginninderra (LGin)
4. L12 (919 cf 703) Mitchell and Watson, particularly Downer, Flemington and Mitchell Ponds
5. K13 (877 cf 701): Acton including ANU and ANBG
6. L13 (562 cf 288 last year): Central Canberra and part of Mt Ainslie NR from different sites in wetlands, parks and nature reserves
7. J13 (486 cf 474 last year): Aranda, Cook and Weetangera, including Aranda Bushland, Mt Painter and The Pinnacle Nature Reserves
8. Q13 (400 cf 315): Wamboin and parts of Kowen Pine Forest
9. L15 (357 cf 234) Callum Brae and environs, including Symonston
10. J15 (304 cf 360): Lyons, Weston Ck and Mt Taylor
11. K16 (260 cf 375 last year): Wanniasa and Fadden
12. K14 (238 cf 148) Yarralumla, Deakin and Red Hill Nature Reserve
13. L10 (228 cf 351): Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve (MFNR)
14. K15 (217 cf 128) Red Hill Nature Reserve. Mt Mugga Mugga and Isaacs Ridge NR
15. Z01 (210 cf 236): Southwest Goulburn including Goulburn Wetlands.

The number of records per species in the general surveys is shown in Table 1, p. 84. The 10 most frequently recorded species have changed a little since last year, as indicated in the table. 14 species were recorded only once.

Rank	Species	Records	Comment
1	Australian Magpie	10449	Same rank as last year
2	Magpie-lark	7712	Same rank as last year
3	Crimson Rosella	7452	Same rank as last year
4	Pied Currawong	7139	Up from 5 last year
5	Red Wattlebird	7099	Up from 6 last year
6	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	6912	Down from 4 last year
7	Australian Raven	6850	Same rank as last year
8	Galah	6649	Same rank as last year
9	Crested Pigeon	5686	Up from 10 last year
10	Superb Fairy-wren	5069	Down from 9 last year

**BREEDING (GENERAL SURVEYS)**

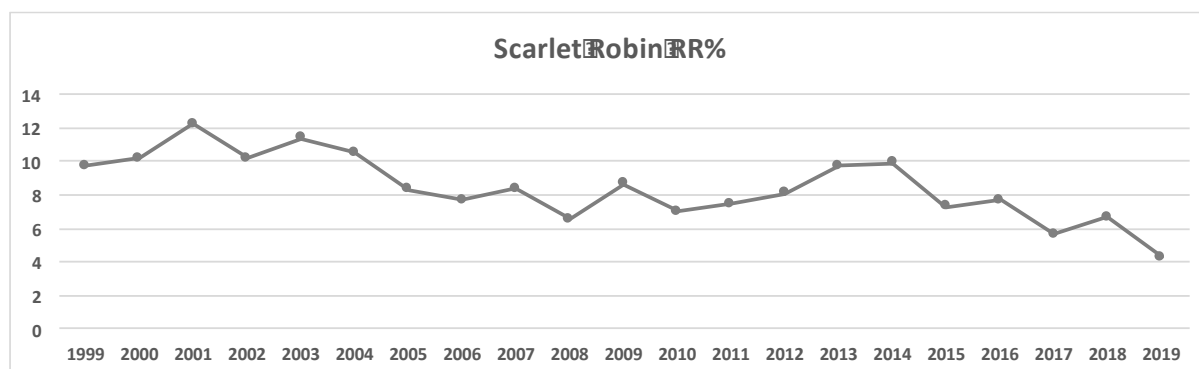
There were 3,441 breeding records, down from last year 3,535 and down from 4801 the year before. They include “inspecting hollows” and “display” as described in the COG breeding codes (see p. 96). Records also include the BA code (br) which excludes “circumstantial” evidence such as “inspecting hollow” 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 2018-19.

Breeding Code	Count	%
Dependent young	1475	42.9
Bird seen on or leaving nest	613	17.8
Inspecting hollow	357	10.4
Nest building	355	10.3
Nest with young	276	8.0
Carrying food	163	4.7
Display	163	4.7
Nest with eggs	27	0.8
Faecal sac	10	0.3
Breeding	1	0.0
Copulation	1	0.0

**HIGHLIGHTS AND LOWLIGHTS**

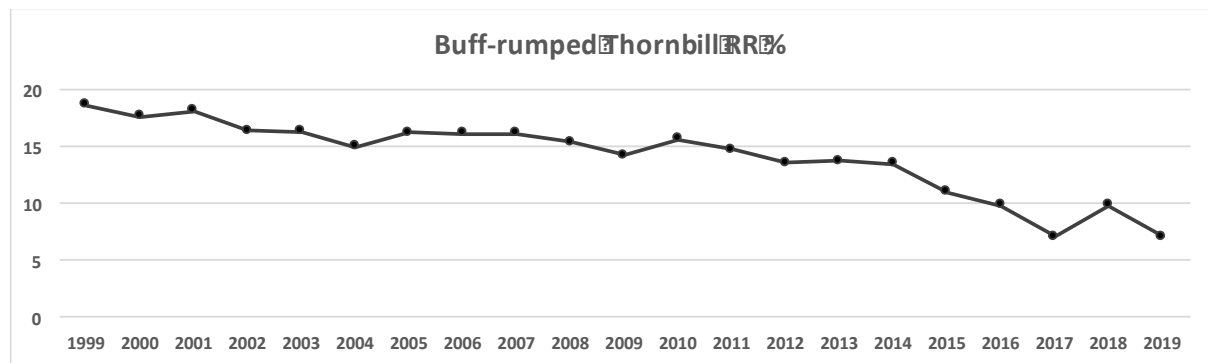
Overall for the species generally recorded in the COG AoI there are two stories. For those birds where human interaction with the environment has been beneficial, the species are coping. These include birds such as noisy miners, many of the cockatoos and parrots, and the waterbirds and waders that benefit from all the dams, artificial lakes, ponds and wetlands constructed in and around the ACT. In contrast, many species find the newer conditions less tolerable, such as the Hooded Robin and the Brown Treecreeper, whose habitats for one reason or another are steadily shrinking.

Most **robin species** are in decline, an example being the Scarlet Robin, one of the most prolific and easily identified robins in our region.



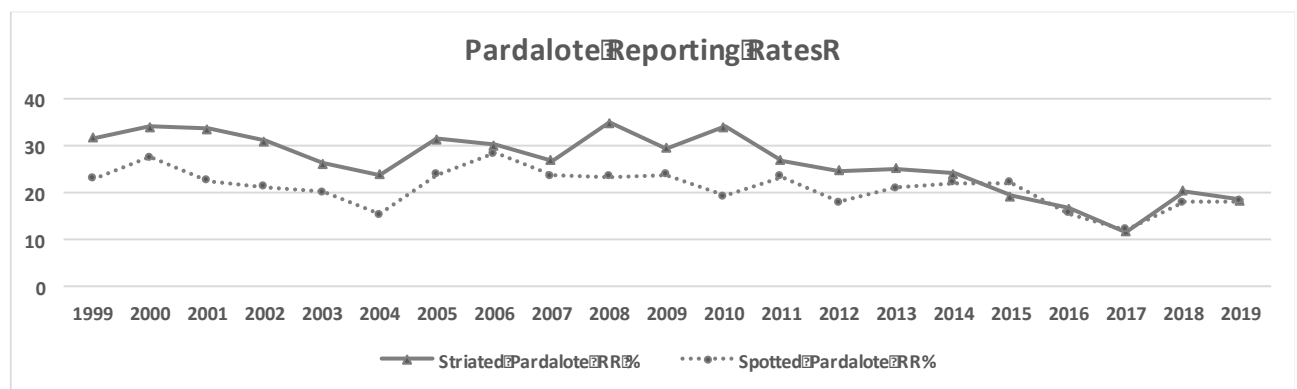
Turning to a focus on the status of pardalotes and thornbills and allies. **White-browed Scrubwren** continue to be reported at the same level as for the last 20 years. **Weebill** downward trend appears to have been reversed, at least for the time being. **Pilotbird** reporting rates remaining steady at a low level, but **Speckled Warbler** RR is now at its *lowest level ever* (see p. 58). Similarly, **Southern Whiteface** RR peaked at 4% in 2008, but has continued to decline to 0.5%, *its lowest level ever*. The **Buff-rumped Thornbill** RR has declined steadily since 1999, with every slight upturn in the statistic followed by several downturns. In the GBS the RR was around 5% for several years, but declined rapidly from 2013 to be at the relatively low level of 1.7%.



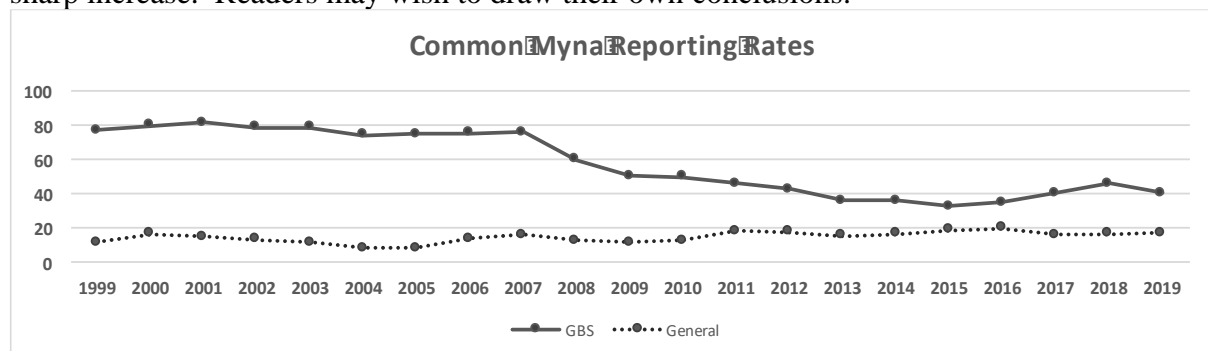


In the general surveys, **Yellow-rumped Thornbill** RR has generally held up over the years, but in contrast there has been a steady but gentle decline in this statistic in the GBS. The **Yellow Thornbill** story is similar for the general surveys, but the RR for the GBS has increased quite significantly over the last few years, possible due to the addition of rural GBS sites. In general surveys **Striated Thornbill** RR has remained close to 10% since 1991, but in more recent years been a little below rather than a little above. In the GBS the RR figure has been about 5% for the entire length of the survey, varying up and down more than in the general surveys, and this year is more at the higher end (8.8%). In the general surveys the **Brown Thornbill** is maintaining its status, with the RR hovering between 10 and 20%, but since 2004 it has been closer to the lower value. In contrast, the species seems to have an affinity for the domestic gardens of the Canberra region, demonstrating a steady rise in the GBS RR from just under 10% in 1986 to 30.5% in 2019.

Both **pardalotes** have reversed a downward trend, but the RR is still below the levels of the last 10-15 years.



Finally, a look at the status of the Common Myna. In the GBS it can be assumed that trapping started to become effective in 2007, and the graph speaks for itself. In the general surveys, it could be hypothesised that trapping has had little effect, or on the other hand, trapping may have prevented a sharp increase. Readers may wish to draw their own conclusions.



## GARDEN BIRD SURVEY (GBS) OVERVIEW

The Garden Bird Survey (GBS), which started in 1981, completed 38 years of continuous collection in 2018–19. We had records from 47 sites, down from 54 sites last year. The survey lost 13 sites, gained 4 new sites, 2 sites resumed observations. Some of the changes in sites are due to observers moving to a new house.

Sites are widely, but unevenly, distributed across the region. Belconnen, with 11 sites, is well covered as is North Canberra with 7 sites and Woden with 6 sites and Weston Creek with 6 sites. There are 4 sites in Tuggeranong, 5 in South Canberra. There are only 3 sites in Gungahlin and 1 in Queanbeyan. There are 4 rural residential sites in NSW, including a new site at Wee Jasper right on the westernmost edge of the COG area of interest. Despite its name, the GBS is not strictly a “garden” survey. GBS sites are about 3 hectares in area and 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 8 sites (7 suburban, 1 rural) which frequently record waterbirds such as 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 44.0, slightly up on last year. There were 13 sites which reported 50 or more weeks (up from 9 the year before). Overall, there were 2,069 weekly records, down from 2,275 last year. The decrease reflects the continuing decline in the number of people doing the GBS. The highest number of weekly records was back in 2009-10 with 3,516 weekly record from 88 sites.

156 species were recorded in 2018-19, up from 146 species in the previous year, which was an unusually low count for recent years. 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.

The full list of species in the GBS, ranked by A, is in Table 2 (p 94). Looking at the top ten species ranked by the Abundance Measure A, there are some changes from last year. The most notable being the big rise in Australian White Ibis from 25<sup>th</sup> last year to 6<sup>th</sup> this year. This is due mostly to the inclusion of a new site in Tuggeranong which regularly records huge numbers flying overhead. Australian White Ibis have been becoming increasingly common around Canberra in the last 10 years but are still only recorded at about 45% of GBS sites.

Other changes among the most common species include a big increase in Little Corella numbers so they are now ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> by A, overtaking Crested Pigeon which has fallen to 5<sup>th</sup> place, despite an increase in A by over 25%. Common Myna shows a welcome decline, with a 24% decline in A. They remain widespread, being recorded in 83% of sites.

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 47 sites reporting this year, 24 were done on paper charts, 22 were done on spreadsheets and one site was done via eBird. The increasing use of electronic reporting has significantly reduced the considerable effort spent on data entry.

Notable rarities recorded this past year include a Blue-faced Honeyeater in Ainslie, which is a first for the survey, a Diamond Firetail in Curtin, a Brown Songlark, also in Curtin, a Lewin's Rail in Giralang and an Intermediate Egret in Jerrabomberra.

*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 (now called Majura Training Area) (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 Sep, end Nov/early Dec, Mar and Jun.

Woodland Survey data are analysed to determine trends in bird abundance, and reports are published from time to time in *Canberra Bird Notes* and on the COG website ([www.canberrabirds.org.au](http://www.canberrabirds.org.au)). A major analysis 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 farm 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 13 years or more of data at all project locations, and 21 years of data at the foundation sites. Work commenced in 2019 to analyse the data from 1998 to 2018, and this is ongoing.

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

## **WATERBIRD SURVEY OVERVIEW**

### **Lake Bathurst and Lake George**

Lake Bathurst had dried up by May 2017 and stayed dry throughout the reporting year. The Southern Morass held some water until Nov 2017 and remained dry throughout the reporting year. Lake George remained dry throughout the reporting year. No records were obtained.

### **COG Prefers Surveys**

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.

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, comparable with other locations and not unduly biased. *The 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 <https://birddata.birdlife.org.au/survey-techniques>, the 2 hectare/20 minute search being the preferred method.

People using the BLA Birdata app should not find this a problem. Unfortunately, users of the mobile app for recording birds cannot record 2 hectare / 20 min search data and record their data in a way compatible with the BLA protocols. However, it is possible to use the eBird Web Browser facility to record the 2ha/20 minute area search option. See the instructions for use at <http://ebird.org/content/australia/news/birdlife-surveys/>.

## COMMENTS ON THE CONTENT AND WRITING STYLE OF THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

The greatly increased observer effort in recent years means that the total number of records and the number of birds reported for many species is higher than in earlier years simply because there are more observers out there counting the birds. These data should be treated with caution and more attention to be paid to the Reporting Rates and Abundance statistics.

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 some 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 included for most of the species in the Systematic List 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 98.

The diagram illustrates the relationship between various statistics and the data presented in the 'Wedge-tailed Eagle' table. Arrows point from descriptive boxes to specific columns or rows in the table.

	This year	Last year	% change between this year and last year	30 year average
Number of records – general surveys				
Number of Woodland records				
Number of grid cells general surveys				
Number of breeding records - general				
GBS abundance				
GBS number of sites				
Number of GBS breeding records				

Wedge-tailed Eagle				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	606	574	6	166.8
WR	7	5	40	3.2
G	149	136	10	65.7
BR	5	3	67	1.8
GA	0.0388	0.0420	-8	0.0245
GS	17	20	-15	15.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

## SYSTEMATIC LIST

Please note that for many species there is no GBS section because there have been no GBS records in the last 10 years.

### CASUARIIDAE: emu

#### Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

Rare, breeding resident

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

**General:** 25 records this year, the same as last year: 7 from near the Cotter Dam, 2 near TNR, 5 in regions adjacent and a single sighting near Wet Lagoon. Number of birds seen (53), and number of grid cells (65), about the same as last year, continues to suggest a stable population.

### PHASIANIDAE: pheasants and quail

#### Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

Rare, breeding resident/escapee

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

**General:** 20 records this year from Narrabundah/Red Hill plus 1 sighting of a probably domestic flock of 4 in in Pialligo, and another 2 at Huntly, Uriarra Rd. 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 13/5 Apr Narrabundah (DaC2), mean 4.3 and median 3, both slightly down on last year.

#### Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** About the same number of records as last year, but with the RR (0.3%) down 26% on last year and about a third of the 10 and 30YA. Total number of birds seen was 173 cf 126 last year. Most records (30) were from the Parkwood area, with only 3 from around LBath and 10 from areas to the east of LGeo. A few records from the grasslands around Canberra such as Gungaharra Grasslands (3), Ginninderra Creek (2). WBPD (1) and Nicholls (1). Records from early Aug through Jun, with the majority in summer (80% of records) and spring (11%). Max 20/18 Dec LGeo E (LeM1) with mean 3.1 and median 2. No breeding records this year.

**GBS:** 1 record of a single bird 2wk Aug Bonner (GrB1) after no records last year, and a single record 1/2wk Dec Curtin the previous year.

##### Stubble Quail

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	56	57	-2	34.9
WR	0	2	-100	0.7
G	12	25	-52	15.5
BR	0	1	-100	0.2
GA	0.0005	0.0000	Inf	0.0019
GS	1	0	Inf	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 (0.5%) half last year and half the 10&30YAs. Most records from JWNR (34), Percival Hill NR (6) and Ginninderra Creek Nicholls (4). Recorded throughout the year with slightly more in summer (33%) and spring (29%). Max 18/Aug LGeo E (LeM1), mean 2.5 median 2.

**GBS:** 1 record of 4 birds from Wee Jasper 3wk July (WiP9), and 2 records of 1 bird from in Giralang (McD4) in Nov/Dec.

##### Brown Quail

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	76	123	-38	28.4
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	22	24	-8	10.1
BR	0	1	-100	0.3
GA	0.0029	0.0009	240	0.0051
GS	2	1	100	0.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### ANATIDAE: ducks, geese and 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 like last year with 75 records. All recs from BuTYL (Trucking Yard Lane Bungendore) and BSP (Bungendore Sewage Ponds) apart from 5 records of a single bird

at JWNR (Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Reserve) on 7 Jan. Max 55/1 Sep BuTYL GrS13 (EbD1). Reported 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:** 3 records cf. with 15 last year: 5/28 Aug 2004 Quailago GrZ05 (BIA2) and 2 recs of a single bird 27 Jan and 31 Mar FSP GrL14 (MiP1). Reports continue to decline since the high during 2012.

**Musk Duck** *Biziura lobata*

Rare, breeding resident

A diving duck preferring deep water.

**General:** The general trend of decreasing numbers of birds in our area continues with another drop in virtually all parameters when compared with last year. The exception being the max reported 7/14 Apr Ingelara Big Dam GrL26 (HoJ1) cf. 3 last year. Most commonly reported from Edgeworth Pond Coombs GrI14 (11 recs) and the Baroona Wetlands GrL25 (8 recs). Also reported from Williamsdale GrL20, Michelago GrL26, Kings Highway GrX12, North Weston Ponds GrJ14 and Coombs Pond Gr14, all single birds.

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

Common, breeding visitor

A nomadic inland species, whose presence is dependent on water levels at lakes such as LGeo/LBath. Becoming less uncommon, and has occasionally bred in the COG AoI. When LGeo and LBath have water, many thousands have been recorded.

**General:** A continuing increase in all parameters from last year despite there being no water in LGeo or LBath: (abundance 1.56 cf 1.14, RR 4.5 cf 3.6) but still nowhere near the abundance of 20.3 in 2013-14. Most records from JWNR and environs but also from a variety of wetlands including WBPD, Upper Stranger Pond, North Weston Ponds, Wallaroo, Isabella Pond, BSP and Baroona Wetlands. Max down considerably from 2,300 to 915/5 May FSP GrL14 (MiP1). Reported throughout the year with a similar distribution to previous years. A single breeding rec di/15 Jun North Weston Ponds Gr14 (NeG1).

**GBS:** 1 record, 2/3wk Feb Waterview Gardens Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

**Pink-eared Duck**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	728	440	65	104.5
WR	0	2	-100	0.4
G	23	20	15	8.6
BR	1	0	Inf	0.3
GA	0.0010	0.0000	Inf	0.0003
GS	1	0	Inf	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Freckled Duck** *Stictonetta naevosa*

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

Declared vulnerable in New South Wales

**General:** Despite an increase in the no. of records the total no. of birds is down from last year and generally continues the decline since the peak in 2012-14. Mean 5.6 cf 9.0 last year, abundance 0.14 cf 0.22 and max 23/22 Sep JWNR GrL14 (CaM4), are all down from last year. Apart from a single rec from LGin (Gr12), 7 from The Valley Avenue Ponds (GrK11) 2 from BSP (GrS13) and 4 recs from Baroona Wetlands (GrL25) the remaining 416 recs all from the JWNR.

**Black Swan** *Cygnus atratus*

Common, breeding resident

Regularly observed on bodies of water throughout the region.

**General:** A large decrease in abundance from last year (0.3 cf 0.64 but no change in the reporting rate. Max 42/17 Jun Canturf Farm Fyshwick (EbD1), mean 3.5 and median 2. Distribution similar to last year but the largest number seen is well down (42 cf 762) whilst the number of breeding cells is similar to last year (11 cf 12) but down on previous years.

**GBS:** Reported from 4 sites Giralang GrK12 (McD4) (7 weeks), Greenway Gr16 (HaH2) (16 weeks), Yarralumla

**Black Swan**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1371	1094	25	299.1
WR	0	1	-100	0.3
G	39	40	-3	26.0
BR	62	84	-26	40.0
GA	0.0726	0.1439	-50	0.0510
GS	4	7	-43	2.9
GBR	9	26	-65	12.2

GrK14 (NeG1) (2 weeks) and Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) (49 weeks). 9 breeding recs over 8 weeks from 21 Aug at Jerrabomberra (HaL2) to dy/4wk Mar Greenway (HaA2).

### Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides*

Often found grazing next to farm dams.

**General:** As with last year, a decrease in all parameters (abundance 0.09 cf 0.22, RR 0.5 cf 1.0). Reported throughout the year, more in winter (44% of records) and less so during summer (10%). Max 108/18 Apr BuTYL GrS13 (LaK1) down from 530 last season. Most recs from the Bungendore area, with some records from Foxlow Lagoon, LGeo E, and Wollogorang, with a single rec 4/11 Jan JWNR GrL14 (HoS1). 3 breeding recs di/1 Jul BSP (McD1) and same location dy/17 Sep (CaJ4), also dy/27 Oct LGeo E (LeM1).

Rare, breeding visitor

#### Australian Shelduck

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	82	123	-33	65.0
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	13	14	-7	11.8
BR	3	0	Inf	2.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

Commonly observed grazing around urban lakes and ponds.

**General:** As usual the most widely reported waterfowl from 147 cells compared with Pacific Black Duck from 122 cells and Grey Teal from 82 cells. All parameters similar to last year. Max 195/27 Oct Warrina Inlet and Westbourne Woods GrJ14 (MaA2) cf 185 last year, mean 10.5 and median 6. The number of breeding records increased considerably from 35 in 2013-14 to 92 in 2014-15 and has remained about that level since with 101 recs in 2018-19 of which 30 ih and 69 are dy with breeding reported from 30 grid cells.

Common, breeding resident

#### Australian Wood Duck

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	4039	2683	51	703.7
WR	41	34	21	28.4
G	147	134	10	89.6
BR	101	107	-6	36.1
GA	1.6551	1.5570	6	0.5588
GS	26	23	13	21.4
GBR	24	30	-20	16.3

**GBS:** GBS statistics similar to last year, from 26 sites. Max 110/4wk Oct Jerrabomberra (HaL2) cf 125 last year with average numbers reported 8.7 cf 9.6 last year. 24 breeding records from 8 sites.

### Hardhead *Aythya australis*

A diving duck often seen in deeper waters.

**General:** A slight decrease in statistics (abundance 0.55 cf 0.6, RR 5.6 cf 7.7) and a reduction in max nos. seen (182 cf 223) reported on 18 Nov FSP (MiP1). Present throughout the year, on rural dams and urban ponds with reports from 46 grid cells.

**GBS:** 40 records, same as last year, with fewer (138) birds seen (190 last year). Apart from autumn (7.5% of records), sightings were even across the other seasons. Max 15/3wk Sep Jerrabomberra (HaL2), mean 3.5, median 2. Records from Jerrabomberra (31) and Crace (9) throughout the year.

Common, breeding visitor

#### Hardhead

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	899	934	-4	208.7
WR	0	1	-100	1.2
G	46	52	-12	22.8
BR	0	2	-100	0.4
GA	0.0677	0.0824	-18	0.0688
GS	2	2	0	1.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### Australasian Shoveler *Spatula rhynchotis*

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

**General:** An increase in both abundance (0.34 cf 0.27) and RR (4.9 cf 3.8) from last year although the max reported down from 680 to 103/24 Mar FSP (MiP1), mean 7.2 and median 4. 10 recs of more than 12 birds all from JWNR area. Apart from JWNR area, reported from 20 other sites, the most common being BSP, Barooka Wetland GrL25 and WBPD. Reported throughout the year with 3 breeding recs di/8 Sep JWNR (BuM1), dy/27 Nov WBPD GrI11 (LeM1) and dy /19 Dec WBPD (CoF1).

Uncommon, breeding visitor

#### Australasian Shoveler

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	786	463	70	150.0
WR	0	0	-	0.6
G	17	22	-23	14.9
BR	3	0	Inf	0.5
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0003
GS	0	0	-	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0



**Pacific Black Duck** *Anas superciliosa*

A very familiar duck in the region.

**General:** Similar parameters to last year. Max number seen similar to last year (297 cf 240) reported on 30 Sep FSP (MiP1). The next highest were 285/6 Jul Hall TSR (BeC2) and 272/12 Aug BuTYL GrS13 (BeS1). 41 recs with abundance marked as 'x' and so of little value statistically. Compared with last year, a large increase in the number of breeding records (88 cf 36) from 15 grid cells. Virtually all records (77) are "dy". Breeding from 28 sites with nearly all from urban lakes and ponds.

**GBS:** 305 recs very similar to 299 last year. Max 39/2wk Mar Jerrabomberra (HaL2) cf 61 last year. Reported from 12 sites with 4 sites reported for 40 weeks or more: Red Hill (WaR4), Jerrabomberra (HaL2), Yarralumla (NeG1) and Crace Wetland (LeF1), 2 recs of dy at Crace Wetlands.

Very common, breeding resident

**Pacific Black Duck**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	3584	2719	32	690.5
WR	10	14	-29	8.6
G	122	128	-5	72.5
BR	88	36	144	31.4
GA	1.2537	1.0663	18	0.3138
GS	12	14	-14	9.9
GBR	9	16	-44	8.7

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Rare, breeding resident

The status of this exotic feral species as a wild bird in this region is in doubt. It 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:** A decrease in the abundance and reporting rate from last year but figure irrelevant with only 2 records! Max number 4/27 Oct WBPd GrI11 down from 10 last year. Probably both in error and most likely domestic Mallard.

**Domestic Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Rare, breeding resident

**General:** An increase in the max number of birds 20/2 May WBPd GrI11 (WiT1) and the average number reported (5.1 cf 3.7) last year leading to an increase in abundance (0.08 cf 0.06) but no change in RR. No breeding records.

**Pacific Black Duck-Domestic Mallard**

**General:** 7 records from 5 sites, including 3 from urban Queanbeyan. The remaining 2 from LGin McDermott Place (EbD1) and BuTYL GrS13 (EbD1). Max 11/16 Aug Queanbeyan Gr015 (BuM1).

**GBS:** Records for over 20 weeks from 1wk Aug to 3wk Jun 25 of a single bird Yarralumla (NeG1).

**Grey Teal** *Anas gracilis*

Very common, breeding resident

Commonly observed throughout the region.

**General:** Despite an increase in the number of observations there has been a large decrease in all parameters compared with last year and continues the general decline since the peak in 2013-14. Abundance 1.7 cf 3.7, RR 11.7 cf 13.3 and max 400/19 Dec LGeo E GrTo9 (LeM1) cf 8500 last year. Mean 15.4 and median 7. The 22 breeding recs were di or dy from JWNR/FSP area (17 recs) with the remainder from The Valley Avenue Ponds (GrK11), Bonner Pond (GrL10) Molonglo Reach Park (GrL14), BuTYL (GrS13) and a farm dam at 'Yealambidgie' (GrI13)

**GBS:** 66 records from 4 sites: Giralang GrK12 (McD4) 17 weeks from 1wk Jul, Murrumbateman GrI06 (BIJ1) 29 weeks from 2wk Jul, Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) 12 weeks from 2wk Jul and Crace GrK11 (LeF1) 8 weeks from 3wk Aug. No breeding records.

**Grey Teal**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1885	1616	17	381.6
WR	2	9	-78	3.9
G	82	78	5	39.0
BR	22	25	-12	7.9
GA	0.0824	0.0728	13	0.0280
GS	4	6	-33	2.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.3

**Chestnut Teal** *Anas castanea*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Less frequently observed than Grey Teal.

**General:** Similar statistics to last year. Long-term abundance (0.078) and RR (2.6%) has remained stable since 2000 apart from an increase in 2010-11. Max 20/1 Sep BuTYL GrS13 (EbD1) cf 25 last year, mean 3.0 and median 2. Reported throughout the year, fewer (13%) in winter. 6 breeding recs all "dy" from JWNR between 2 - 23 Feb, probably from the same clutch.

**GBS:** 1/4wk Oct Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2)

**Chestnut Teal**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	421	354	19	99.3
WR	0	1	-100	0.3
G	13	20	-35	12.7
BR	6	0	Inf	2.0
GA	0.0005	0.0000	Inf	0.0035
GS	1	0	Inf	0.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Domestic Goose and Domestic Greylag Goose**

**General:** There were no records of Domestic Geese but there were 28 records of Domestic Greylag Geese from 7 grid cells. The max seen 18/10 Feb LBG Molonglo Reach GrL14 (HeS1) with 2 recs of dy/28 Oct Molonglo Reach Park GrL14 (McD1) and (CaR3).

**Muscovy Duck**

**General:** Despite a similar number of recs both abundance and RR are down compared with last year. Max 6/5 Jul Queanbeyan River Corridor GrN15 (BuM1) cf 14 last year. Reported throughout the year with no breeding recs. Nine recs of up to 4 individuals from LGin and 10 from Queanbeyan River Corridor and environs of up to 6 individuals with the remaining 5 recs from West Belconnen Pond (GrI11), Percival Hill NR (K11) Lanyon Homestead (Gr18) and Eddison Park (GrK15).

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

Common, breeding resident

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

**General:** Despite an increase in the number of records, all statistics were similar to last year: abundance 0.23 and RR 7.4%. Max 31/16 Oct FSP (DaC1), mean 3.1 and median 2. 71 breeding recs from 12 grid cells. After 2016-17 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of breeding recs since 1986: dy 45 recs, Observed throughout the year with slightly more in spring (33%). 3 nest with eggs, 7 nests with young and 16 observed on/leaving nest.

**GBS:** Reports from 5 sites Giralang GrK12 (McD4), Murrumbateman GrI06 (BlJ1), Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1), Crace GrK11 (LeF1) with a max of 4/2wk Sep Jerrabomberra cf 6 last year.

**Australasian Grebe**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1195	1032	16	294.4
WR	5	4	25	5.7
G	67	82	-18	44.8
BR	71	33	115	19.8
GA	0.0162	0.0446	-64	0.0209
GS	5	5	0	2.0
GBR	0	0	-	1.1

**Hoary-headed Grebe** *Poliocephalus poliocephalus*

Common, breeding resident

Prefers larger bodies of deeper water than the Australasian Grebe.

**General:** A similar number of recs to last year but an increase in abundance (0.42 cf 0.27) and a decrease in the RR (2.7 cf 3.5). There was an increase in the average number of birds seen from 7.9 to 15.9 with median 3 and max 300/17 Feb FSP (MiP1) cf 203 last year. Reported evenly throughout the year. 3 breeding recs all dy from Coaldrake Av Pond Denman Prospect (GrI14), 24 Feb (HeS1) and 5 Mar (HeS1 & CaR3). Numbers of 100 or more all reported from FSP.

**Hoary-headed Grebe**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	429	420	2	131.4
WR	0	1	-100	0.8
G	28	39	-28	17.1
BR	3	1	200	2.7
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0007
GS	0	1	-100	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Rare, breeding visitor

Very occasionally seen in the region.

**General:** 16 recs from 3 grid cells, Cotter Dam GrC14 (14 recs) and single recs from Black Mt Peninsula and Parkes Way near Coranderrk St. on 16 Sep and 20 Mar. If the bird had been there for that period it would have been reported regularly, so either a returning bird or different birds. No breeding recs.

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

Very common, breeding resident

This introduced species is generally restricted to urban areas.

**General:** 1,561 records up from 992 records last year, possibly matching recording effort. Changes to some parameters may also reflect variations in loft numbers, the nos. of birds being hand fed, and the activities of building owners. Abundance is down 2% on last year but up 7% on the 30YA. RR is up 19% on last year and up 21% on the 30YA. Max 140/19 Jun Garema Place (LeM1), mean 7.6, median 3. 18 breeding records from 6 grid cells: earliest, di/3 Jul Acton Peninsula GrK14 (EbD1); latest, on/20 Feb Umbagog District Park, Latham (COF1).

**GBS:** 499 records compared with 633 last year. Abundance is down 6% on last year but up 91% on the 30YA. Max 45/2wk Jul Garran GrK15 (QuA1), mean 11.2, median 6. Breeding not recorded.

**Rock Dove**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1561	992	57	276.1
WR	0	1	-100	0.1
G	46	40	15	17.5
BR	18	6	200	2.0
GA	2.7341	2.9107	-6	1.4298
GS	28	35	-20	31.2
GBR	0	0	-	1.4

**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 a few individuals continues. A single record: 1/29 Sep Bungendore GrS13 (EbD1).

**GBS:** No records for the fifth year in a row.

**Spotted Dove** *Spilopelia 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 parameters, Abundance and RRs for both General records and GBS records were positive last year and have continued to climb rapidly this year, **their highest value ever**.

**General:** 680 records cf. 333 records last year from 27 grids cf. 29 last year. Abundance is up 76% on last year and up 232% on the 30YA. RR is up 54% on last year and up 185% on the 30YA.

Max 13/13 Apr Stranger Pond GrJ17 (HeS1), mean 1.6, median 1. 4 breeding records: earliest, di/13 Nov Turner GrK13 (MiP1); latest, di/12 Jan Stranger Pond GrJ17 (BaL1).

**GBS:** 246 records up on 225 records last year from 16 sites same as last year. Abundance is up 30% on last year and up 265% on the 30YA. RR is up 24% on last year and up 272% on the 30YA. Mean 1.3 median 1, max 7/1wk Feb Campbell GrL13 (LjT1). Breeding not recorded.

**Spotted Dove**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	680	333	104	50.8
WR	1	0	Inf	0.1
G	27	29	-7	7.3
BR	4	4	0	0.5
GA	0.1629	0.1248	30	0.0447
GS	16	16	0	10.1
GBR	0	3	-100	0.6

**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. The 2003 fires burned much of its habitat. The species appears to have made a good recovery from those fires but there have been more recent fires in Tallaganda SF and the NNP.

**General:** 32 records of 1 to 2 birds, after 8 records last year, from 15 grids up from 7 grids last year. Some of the records were probably of the same birds. Earliest, 1/9 Aug Tallaganda NP Rocky Pic GrU21 (LaK1); latest, 1/29 Jun TNR GrF17 (EbD1).

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

### Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

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

**General:** 511 records up on 439 records last year from 82 grids up on 73 last year. Abundance is down 5% on last year but up 7% on the 30YA. RR is down 12% on last year and down 17% on the 30YA. Max 25/25 Apr Campbell Park GrM13 (EbD1), mean 2.5, median 1. Present throughout the year with slightly more sightings in spring and summer. 3 breeding records: earliest, on/30 Sep Mt Ainslie NR GrM13 (WyP1); latest, on/2 Feb ANBG GrK13 (DaC2).

**GBS:** 81 records up from 69 last year, from 5 suburban and 2 rural sites, the same as last year. Abundance is up 101% on last year and up 115% on the 30YA. Max 6/3wk Jun Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2). A single breeding record: co/3wk Sep Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

Common, breeding resident

#### Common Bronzewing

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	511	439	16	131.6
WR	24	28	-14	11.4
G	82	73	12	38.7
BR	3	5	-40	2.0
GA	0.0942	0.0468	101	0.0438
GS	7	7	0	9.0
GBR	1	3	-67	0.4

### Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans*

Historical records are restricted to well-watered habitats such those of the upper Cotter catchment. Given the recovery time since the 2003 fires more records might have been expected by now. The 2019 fire in the Tallaganda Forest and the 2020 fire in Namadgi National Park will again have destroyed much of its habitat.

**General:** 2 records: 1/2 Apr Newington Rd GrP11 (EbD1) and 1/8 Jun NNP – Nursery Swamp Track GrH22 (EbD1).

Rare, breeding resident

### Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*

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:** 5,686 records up on 3,909 last year. RR is up 10% on last year, up 24% on the 10YA and up 54% on the 30YA. Max 184/24 Feb Callum Brae NR GrL15 (EbD1), mean 4.2, median 2. 53 breeding records compared with 38 last year: earliest di/11 Jul Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4); latest br/3 Jun Belconnen GrJ12 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 1,767 records down on 1859 last year. Abundance up 16% on last year, up 27% on the 10YA and up 97% on the 30YA. Max 65/2wk Mar Kaleen GrK12 (ClM1), mean 5.2, median 3. 61 breeding records, down from 85 last year: earliest, on/1wk Jul Page GrJ12 (AlB1); latest “dy” record was 4wk Mar Florey (BrJ3) with some “co” and “di” after that, the latest being di/3wk/May, noting that for this species, “di” is recorded throughout the year.

Very common, breeding resident

#### Crested Pigeon

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	5686	3909	45	789.4
WR	75	51	47	27.6
G	129	110	17	63.2
BR	53	38	39	9.5
GA	4.5137	3.8981	16	2.2906
GS	45	54	-17	51.0
GBR	61	85	-28	55.4

### Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

Visitors are from the dry interior or escapees from aviaries.

**General:** No records this year after 2 records the year before last.

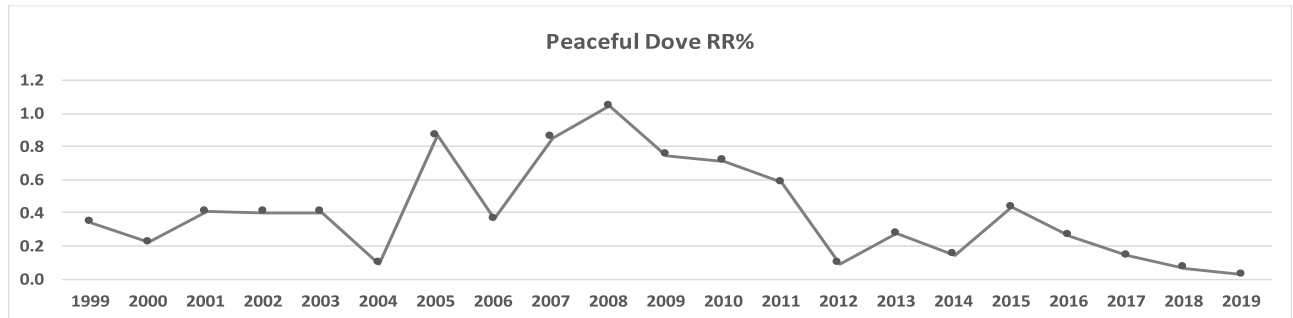
Rare, non-breeding visitor/escapee

### Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida*

Over time this species has mostly been recorded at locations at or near the Murrumbidgee River. There appears to be a retreat from some of its former regularly recorded locations.

Rare, non-breeding resident

**General:** 4 records compared with 8 last year. Abundance is down 62% on last year, down 94% on the 10YA and down 95% on the 30YA. It is likely from the pattern of records that 2 of the records relate to a single individual. This means that there were only 3 birds sighted within the region. Not that this species has been overly abundant in the COG AoI, with the 30YA of sightings being only 10.3. Note that the RR graph below indicates the significant downward trend towards possible extinction in the region. However, it does indicate periods of recovery to a tenuous presence.



**GBS:** 2 records, earliest 1/3wk Apr; latest 1/4wk Apr both from Holder GrI15 (SpK9).

**Bar-shouldered Dove** *Geopelia humeralis*

Non- breeding vagrant

**General:** No records this year following one record last year.

**Brown-capped Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps longirostris*

Non-breeding vagrant

**General:** No records this year after the first ever record for the ACT 5 years ago.

**PODARGIDAE: frogmouths**

**Tawny Frogmouth** *Podargus strigoides*

Observed in suburbs and woodlands in the COG AoI.

**General:** 217 records of 414 birds from 39 grid cells spread over 50 weeks, all the highest ever. RR (1.3%) same as last year, well above the 10 and 30YAs. Abundance 12% down, but well above 10 and 30 YAs. Seasonal distribution continues the long-term trend to fewer summer records, (15%) with spring records at 40%. Max 5/3 Nov MtMajNR (EbD1), mean 1.9, median 2. 57 breeding records from a wide range of locations, mainly in Oct and Nov, down 8% on last year, but well above 10 & 30YAs.

Earliest: on/17 Sep Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1); latest dy/1 Jan Wanniasa GrK16 (HeS1).

**GBS:** 41 records from 5 suburban and 1 rural site. Lower numbers of sites and grid cells compared to last year contributed to reduced value this year of some measures: compared with 30YAs - *records* (-6%), *numbers* (-26%), *abundance* (-3%) but *RR* (+24%). Despite this, both *abundance* and *RR* values are continuing a gentle upward trend from 2004. Spring records were high (56%), double last year, but in line with 10 and 30YAs. 15 breeding records from 2 sites: earliest nb/1wk Sep, Carwoola, GrQ16 (BuM1); latest dy/5wk Jan Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1).

Common, breeding resident

**Tawny Frogmouth**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	217	155	40	32.6
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	39	28	39	11.8
BR	57	62	-8	10.4
GA	0.0299	0.0494	-39	0.0308
GS	6	12	-50	6.2
GBR	15	13	15	10.0

**EUROSTOPODIDAE: eared 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 areas.

**General:** No records this year. 2 records previous year. Last breeding record Nov 2002.

### ÆGOTHELIDAE: owlet-nightjars

#### Australian Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*

Sparsely but widely distributed in wooded areas.

**General:** 42 records of a single bird regularly reported from the ANBG from early Jul to early Oct, 63% of total. Counting these as a single bird and a single record would reduce the total seen to 51 and records to 49, both lower than 2018 (55, 51). Upward trend across a range of indicators continued from last year: grid cells 15 to 22; weeks recorded 25 to 35. Abundance increased by 26%, to be the same as the 30YA. RR was up 33%, but only 7% on 30YA. These measures are unreliable due to distortion from the ANBG records. Only recorded in 3 grid cells outside ACT.

The substantial increase in winter records, 40%, compared with long term proportion of around 10%, is attributable to the ANBG records. Most records are of single birds. No breeding records.

**GBS:** A similar situation as with the general records, with 27 records at a single rural site in Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2) over the period Aug to Apr. One interpretation is that all records are of an individual resident bird, meaning that the total birds reported could be as low as 3 not the apparent 31. No change in numbers of sites or grid cells, but increased records 23 to 30, numbers 23 to 31 and weeks recorded 22 to 30. Abundance increased by 53% and RR by 48%, both substantially above long-term averages. 2 other records 1/4wk Jun Ainslie (HoS1) and 1/2wk Jul Fadden (CaR3).

Common, breeding resident

Australian Owlet-nightjar

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	90	51	76	17.9
WR	0	0	-	1.0
G	22	16	38	7.9
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0152	0.0100	53	0.0041
GS	3	3	0	1.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### APODIDAE: swifts

#### White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus*

Uncommon, non-breeding summer migrant

Records are highly associated with weather fronts.

**General:** Numbers of birds up on last year (310 to 712), records (26 to 58) and grid cells (20 to 31) as well, well above long term averages. Abundance and RR increased from last year. Abundance is 20% below 10YA and 52% below 30YA. RR is 30% above 10YA but 26% below 30YA. *Though increased from last year, the maximum and average numbers of birds are both well below long-term figures, suggesting diminishing group sizes.* Max 110/28 Jan Larbert GrZ14 (EbD1): mean 13.2 (36% below 10YA and 38% below 30YA): median 5, down

33% on previous year. Earliest record 5/16 Nov Ngunnawal GK10 (WyP1); latest 4/15 Jun, TNR Ashbrook Trail, GF18 (DaC1).

**GBS:** Increases from 2018 included: numbers of birds (30 to 105), records (4 to 12) grid cells (3 to 6), sites (3 to 6), maximum (20 to 30), abundance and RR. However, compared with 30YAs, many measures are down: numbers -69 %, records -49%, maximum -93%, abundance -59%, RR -22%. Appearing this year between Oct and Mar: max 30/2wk Jan Macarthur (MaL9), earliest 3/5 wk Oct Kambah (VeP1), latest 5/2wk Mar Curtin (AjR1).

White-throated Needletail

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	58	26	123	16.7
WR	0	1	-100	0.1
G	31	20	55	11.8
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.0515	0.0130	296	0.1267
GS	6	3	100	11.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Rare, non-breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** An exceptional year for this bird with 67 records of 1431 birds, the previous highest being 11 and 200 respectively. All measures substantially exceed 10 and 30YAs. Most birds reported in Jan (1185). Max 350/30 Jan JWNr, GrL14 (HoS1), mean 22.7, median 7. Earliest record: 2/15 Dec Sutton GrO10 (McD1); latest 1/9 Mar Uriarra Road. GrK13 (EbD1).

**GBS:** Increase in records and nos. similar to general records. 368 birds from 20 records. All measures well above 10 and 30YAs. Max 50/3wk Jan Fadden Gr K16 (CaR3) mean 18.4. median 13. Earliest record: 40/3wk Jan, Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1); latest 3/1wk Mar Aranda GrK13 (MeP1).

## CUCULIDAE: cuckoos

### Eastern Koel *Eudynamys orientalis*

Common, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** After somewhat of a lull last year, this species has resumed an upwards climb in most statistics. This may reflect the oasis nature of urban Canberra and contrasts strongly with trends in non-urban cuckoos which are in decline in most parameters. The relative trends may be partially masked since the Eastern Koel is generally easier to record than most other species of cuckoo. There were few WOO records, further indicating that this species still depends largely on urban habitats. 874 records up from 478 records last year in 51 grids, up from 49 last year. Abundance is up 46% on last year and up 170% on the 30YA.

RR is up 38% on last year and up 128% on the 30YA. Max 8/7 Jan Nicholls GrK11 (HaJ7), mean 1.4, median 1. Earliest record, 1/2 Oct Rivett GrI15 (HiC2); latest (very), 1/17 Jun Narrabundah GrL14 (EbD1). All koels have normally departed north by March at the latest in previous years. Breeding: 18 records down from 22 last year, from 10 grids, the same as last year: earliest, di/5 Nov Lyons (EbD1); latest, dy/18 Feb Deakin GrK14 (NeG1).

**GBS:** 504 records up from 489 last year from 40 sites down on 47 sites last year. Abundance is up 27% on last year and up 571% on the 30YA. RR is up 17% on last year and up 400% on the 30YA. Max 5/3wk Dec Waramanga GrJ15 (LaD3). Earliest record, 1/2wk Oct Deakin GrK14 (RoD2); latest, 1/4wk Mar Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). 15 breeding records, down from 30 last year: earliest dy/2wk Jan Page GrJ12 (AlB1); latest, dy/4wk Feb Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1).

Eastern Koel

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	874	478	83	81.7
WR	3	0	Inf	0.1
G	51	49	4	10.2
BR	18	22	-18	4.0
GA	0.4176	0.3290	27	0.0623
GS	40	47	-15	20.7
GBR	15	30	-50	3.9

### Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

Rare, non-breeding summer migrant

First reported in 1995 and recorded in most years since then.

**General:** 8 records of up to 2 birds, up on 5 records last year: earliest, 1/13 Nov Flynn GrJ12 (DaC2); latest, 2/14 Mar Farrer GrK16 (WES1).

**GBS:** 3 records up from 1 record last year: earliest 1/1wk Dec Curtin K14 (AjR1); latest 4wk Jan Waramanga GrJ15 (LaD3).

### Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites basalis*

Common, Breeding summer migrant

Occurs in open forest mainly in spring and summer.

**General:** Once again a very large annual turnaround in some General and GBS metrics compared with last year. Abundance and RR show a recent trend decline. 191 records, down from 399 last year, from 55 grids, down from 87 grids last year with 216 birds this year down from 504 last year. Abundance is down 67% on last year and down 52% on the 30YA. RR is down 64% on last year and down 52% on the 30YA. Max 3/13 Sep LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1), mean 1.1, median 1. Earliest record 1/14 Aug MFNR GrL10 (DaC2); latest, 1/31 Mar JWNR (RaL3).

3 breeding records: earliest, Br/10 Oct JWNR GrL14 (CaM4); latest, Br/13 Jan Smiths Rd Tennent GrK20 (WeS1).

**GBS:** 8 records down from 36 last year from 2 rural and 3 suburban sites: earliest, 1/4wk Sep Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1); latest, 1/1wk Apr Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	191	399	-52	85.5
WR	6	13	-54	7.2
G	55	87	-37	34.3
BR	3	5	-40	1.1
GA	0.0039	0.0165	-76	0.0054
GS	5	9	-44	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:** 1 record this year down from 23 records last year: 1/28 Jan Namadgi NP – Rendezvous Creek GrH24 (HoS1). This low number may reflect the impact of the ongoing drought in the Murray Darling Basin or it may just reflect the unpredictable pattern of visits by this species to the ACT.

**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:** Abundance and RR for both General and GBS records in trend decline during recent years. 98 records down from 132 last year. Abundance is down 49% on last year, down 68% on the 10YA and down 72% on the 30YA. RR is down 44% on last year and down 70% on the 30YA. Earliest record: 1/13 Aug Hume Wetland GrL16 (HeS1); latest, 1/2 Mar Stony Creek NR Carwoola GrP15 (EbD1). Breeding not recorded for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row.

**GBS:** 10 records compared with 23 records last year. Abundance is down 53% on last year and down 36% on the 30YA. RR down 51% on last year and down 34% on the 30YA. Earliest record, 1/2wk Sep Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1); latest, 1/1wk Apr Holt GrI12 (DaC1).

**Shining Bronze-Cuckoo**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	98	132	-26	70.6
WR	4	8	-50	7.0
G	44	55	-20	33.3
BR	0	0	-	0.7
GA	0.0049	0.0104	-53	0.0077
GS	4	6	-33	5.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Common, breeding summer migrant

Formerly common and widespread throughout the region in spring and summer.

**General:** 244 records down from 292 last year. Abundance is down 44% on last year and down 52% on the 30YA. RR (1.5%) is down 37% on last year and down 54% on the 30YA, **just above the all-time low of 1.4% in 2017**. Max 7/16 Dec NNP New Chums Rd (LaK1) mean 1.3 median 1. Observed in 38 weeks from Aug to Jun, Earliest record 1/10 Aug Campbell Park GrF17 (LeM1); latest, 1/29 Jun TNR Lyrebird Trail GrF17 (MaL2). 1 breeding record: di/27 Oct NNP – Honeysuckle Ck Campground GrH20 (NeG1).

**GBS:** 1 record down from 5 last year: 1/3wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). The 30YA for records of this species is 20.5. Abundance is down 77% on last year and down 94% on the 30YA. RR is down 77% on last year and down 94% on the 30YA.

**Fan-tailed Cuckoo**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	244	292	-16	114.3
WR	2	5	-60	3.0
G	82	91	-10	53.4
BR	1	1	0	0.7
GA	0.0005	0.0022	-77	0.0081
GS	1	2	-50	6.7
GBR	0	0	-	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. Many of its preferred habitats were burned in the 2019 Tallaganda and 2020 Namadgi NP fires.

**General:** 85 records down from 100 records last year from 39 grids down from 43 grids last year. Abundance is down 25% on last year and down 9% on the 30YA. RR is down 36% on last year and down 22% on the 30YA. Recorded in 19 weeks between Oct and Mar, with max 4/24 Jan NNP Nursery Swamp Track (WiT1), mean 1.3 median 1. Earliest: 1/27 Oct Naas Valley fire trail GrJ25 (HaS4); latest, 1/2 Mar Googong Dam GrO17 (AnI1). 2 breeding records: earliest, dy/1 Feb Kambah Pool NR GrI16 (HeS1); latest, dy/4wk Feb Bendora Arboretum GrD17 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 1 record after 8 last year: 1/3wk Dec Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

**Brush Cuckoo**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	100	-15	23.3
WR	3	0	Inf	2.1
G	39	43	-9	14.5
BR	2	1	100	0.2
GA	0.0005	0.0035	-86	0.0012
GS	1	3	-67	1.5
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:** Continues a recent pattern of wild annual fluctuations, reflecting variations in recording effort, but with a concerning downward trend in abundance and RR in recent years. 168 records down from 243 records last year from 49 grids down from 72 grids last year. 20 WOO records, just above the long-term average of 16.4. Abundance is down 54% on last year, down 36% on the 10YA, and down 60% on the 30YA. RR is down 48% on last year, down 35% on the 10YA, and down 62% on the 30YA. Recorded in 26 weeks between Jul and Apr, with max 4/25 Sep Googong Dam (CIJ3), mean 1.2, median 1. Earliest record 1/22 Jul National Rock Garden carpark LBG Gr J14; latest, 1/19 Apr Wet Lagoon (EbD1). 3 breeding records after 1 last year: earliest, di/11 Sep Carwoola GrQ16; latest, dy/18 Dec Hall TSR (WES1).

**GBS:** 24 records up from 14 last year, from Wamboin, Carwoola and Curtin. Abundance is up 51% on last year but down 19% on the 30YA. RR is twice last year but down 23% on the 30YA. First record: 1/1wk Sep and last, 1/3wk Jan both at Carwoola (BuM1).

**Pallid Cuckoo**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	168	243	-31	94.8
WR	20	16	25	16.4
G	49	72	-32	39.2
BR	3	6	-50	1.7
GA	0.0137	0.0091	51	0.0170
GS	3	4	-25	10.9
GBR	4	2	100	0.4

**RALLIDAE: crakes, rails and swampheens****Lewin's Rail** *Lewinia pectoralis*

Rare, breeding visitor

A very occasional visitor.

**General:** Few records before 2005, followed by sporadic records with an upward trend until 2015. *In 2019, a sharply downward trend reversed: records (5 to 20), numbers (6 to 24) and grid cells (2 to 3).* RR, 0.1%, and abundance, 0.0015, increased, but remain below 10/30 YAs. Most records from JWNR (17) GrL14, 1-2 birds, all others are of single bird. *Adjusting for likely repeated records, there were possibly only 5 individuals.* Recorded in 9 months, similar to 2018, but more typically every month. Max 2, mean 1.2, median 1. No breeding reported. One previous breeding record, 2016.

**GBS:** 4 records of a single bird in Giralang between 4wk Aug and 3wk Sept, Gr K12 (McD4). Only 2 previous GBS records, both in 2016.

**Lewin's Rail**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	20	5	300	4.8
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	3	2	50	1.0
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0020	0.0000	Inf	0.0000
GS	1	0	Inf	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Buff-banded Rail** *Hypotaenidia philippensis*

Uncommon, breeding summer-migrant

A secretive bird, often difficult to observe.

**General:** Rarely seen before 2000 and very few records annually until 2012. *Reduced numbers of records (180 to 149) and birds (289 to 224) from record levels in 2018. Adjusting for likely repeated records, the total number of birds could be about 15.* Abundance and RR down, but remain well above 10 and 30YAs. No records outside ACT. Most records from North Watson of 1 to 5 birds seen all year. Next highest was JWNR/FSP with a single bird reported from 23 Sep to 26 Dec. *Long term trend continues to change seasonal distribution away from predominantly summer to more winter and spring records.* Max 5/23 Jan, North Watson, GrL12, (AIA1), 2 below 2018 and 3 below long-term average. Mean 1.5, median 1. 2 breeding records, from 2 locations, down from 6 in 2018: dy/6 Dec Denham Prospect ponds GrL14 (Hes1); and ny/23 Jan North Watson GrL12 (CaJ4). **GBS:** No records since 2015.

**Buff-banded Rail**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	149	180	-17	17.9
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	7	7	0	2.8
BR	3	6	-50	0.8
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0001
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Australian Spotted Crane** *Porzana fluminea*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** Number of records (147) is highest ever and birds second highest (217). Grid cells up from 4 to 6. *Adjusting for likely repeated records, possibly only 14 individuals, similar to last year (estimate 12).* Abundance and RR substantially above 10 and 30YAs. *Summer and Autumn records were 96%, a very high figure historically.* JWNR and environs account for 95% of records and 96% of birds, 1-6 birds between 30 Sep and 11 April. Other locations are all in north Canberra. No other location had more than 2 records or birds. Earliest record 1/30 Sep, JWNR (EbD1), latest 2/4 May Forde Creek GrL10 (HaJ7). Max 6, Mean 1.5, similar to 10 and 30YAs, median 1. No breeding records.

**GBS;** no records, last one in 2015

**Australian Spotted Crane**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	147	131	12	20.2
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	6	4	50	2.5
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** *Zapornia pusilla*

Rare, non-breeding summer migrant

Usually seen on mud around reed beds.

**General** Some measures dropped back substantially in 2019, but are the second highest ever: records (down 43) and numbers (down 114) Abundance and reporting rate down 55% and 44% on 2018 figures, but both measures remain high compared with 10 and 30YAs. *Adjusting for likely repeated records, possibly only 11 individuals (13 estimated in 2018).* Unlike 2018, all records are from within the ACT. JWNR and immediate areas account for 94% of records and 95% of 166 birds. No other location had more than 2 records. Seasonal distribution followed long term patterns with 97% of all records being in Spring and summer. Earliest record 1/24 Aug JWNR, GrL14, (HeS1), latest 1/9 Mar JWNR GrL14 (EbD1), a short period compared with 12-month presence in 10/30YAs. Max 4/1 Oct JWNR GrL14, (CaM4), mean 1.4, median 1. No breeding record since 2010.

**Baillon's Crane**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	122	165	-26	19.6
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	6	5	20	2.2
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Spotless Crane** *Zapornia tabuensis*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Found occasionally in ACT and AoI wetlands,

**General:** After a big increase in 2018, number of records (85) and birds (106) returned to 2017 levels. Both measures remain well above 10/30YAs. Abundance (0.0066) and RR (0.50%) both fell below 10/30YAs and well below 2018's 2<sup>nd</sup> highest ever values. JWNR and immediate areas account for 94% of records and 95% of birds. No other location had more than 2 records. Other sites all in north Canberra suburbs, except one, Mulwaree Ponds, Tarago, 1/20 Sep, GrX06 (BiA2). *Adjusting for likely repeated records, possibly only 10 individuals, (14 estimated in 2018).* Seasonal distribution unusual with a higher proportion of autumn records than long term average (up 17%) and lower proportion of spring records (down 15%). Earliest 1/1 Jul JWNR GrL14 (EmL1); latest 1/9 June JWNR GrL14, (EbD1). Max 4/9 Mar JWNR GrL14 (EbD1), mean 1.3, median 1. No breeding records first time since 2015.

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

**Spotless Crane**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	141	-40	19.9
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	6	6	0	2.5
BR	0	1	-100	0.6
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0001
GS	0	0	-	0.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**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:** Reverted to upward trends apparent since 2011.

Records (2,146) up 31% and total birds (15,391) up 19%. Abundance (0.96) was down 10% on 2018 and up only 2% on 10YA. RR (13.3%) down 1% on 2018 and up only 7% on 10YA. Seen in all weeks, with seasonal distribution similar to long term averages. Max 54/20 Nov LTug GrJ16 (HeS1), mean 7.3, median 6. Max and mean below last year and long-term averages. *Number of breeding records declined again: down 8 to 83 (84% dy), but remain above 10 and 30YAs: first di/19 Aug JWNR (MiP1), last dy/15 Mar LGin (EbD1) with one later, di/18 April LGin GrJ12 (FuP1). RR about the same as last year but just above 10 and 30YAs. Of the 12 grids cells outside ACT, only one had a breeding record, dy/17 Dec Glenovel Road, Mulwaree River, GrX07, (LeM1).*

**GBS:** 110 records of 833 birds from 5 sites in 5 grid cells. A substantial increase in numbers from 676 last year, but otherwise similar to 2018. Sites were in Crace (LeF1), Giralang (McD4), Greenway (HaA2), Jerrabomberra (HaL2) and Yarralumla (NeG1). Max 23/1wk July Jerrabomberra (HaL2), mean 7.6 and median 3. Breeding at 2 sites, Jerrabomberra and Yarralumla, 2wk Sep to 1wk May, with 30 records, mostly dy, substantially above long-term averages.

**Purple Swamphen**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2146	1637	31	363.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	41	44	-7	19.7
BR	83	91	-9	22.9
GA	0.4087	0.2930	39	0.0996
GS	5	5	0	1.8
GBR	30	29	3	8.6

**Dusky Moorhen** *Gallinula tenebrosa*

Common, breeding resident

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

**General:** Recent trend to increased records resumed after the drop last year although numbers fell slightly (11,868 to 11,195).

Abundance fell by 29% from last year and is now below 10Y but still 7% above 30YA. RR (12.2%) also fell to below 10YA, but remains 12% above 30YA. Reported every week. *Trends to fewer numbers of birds per record continue:* Max 54/4 Sep Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (GrB1) well below 10 & 30YAs; mean 5.8 and median 4. 58 breeding records, mostly dy, about 15% up on 10 & 30 YAs. However, breeding RR 0.4, continues its long-term decline from 0.7. Only 4 records from outside ACT. Earliest breeding record 58 days later than 2018, di/13 Oct AIS Wetland Bruce GrK12, (EbD1), latest dy/10 Mar, Crace Pond, GrK11 (WyP1).

**GBS:** Seen at 5 sites in 5 grid cells, as in 2018, with fewer records (156, down 15%) and birds (660, down 16%). Abundance (0.32) and RR (7.7%) both down on 2018 values, but still substantially above 10 and 30YAs. Max 10/4wk August, Crace Wetlands GrK11 (LeF1), mean 4.2, marginally down on 2018, median 4. 9 breeding records from 3 sites were over a very short period: earliest ny/2wk Nov Giralang GrK12 (McD4), latest dy/2wk Jan Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

**Dusky Moorhen**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1958	1559	26	372.0
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	45	48	-6	25.2
BR	58	61	-5	23.5
GA	0.3238	0.3420	-5	0.1027
GS	5	5	0	2.0
GBR	9	10	-10	6.5

**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. No records this year. Last record 2014. Previous years recorded include: 2013 (75), 2012 (5), 2010 (63), 2008 (14), 2003 (32), 2002 (41) and 1996 (1).

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra*

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

**General:** While the no. of records increased, no. of birds fell 8% to 64,438, but are 50% and 119% above 10 and 30YAs.

Abundance (4.0) is about half the long-term averages, but RR (17.9%,) is 18% up on the 30YA. Present throughout the year. Records predominately from the ACT with multiple records from GrL14, JWNR region, (43% of total), but also from other water bodies in ACT. The surrounding region produced records from Goulburn. Nos. per record continue to be very

low compared with long term averages with max 1,120/24 Feb Yerrabi Pond (GrB1) up 10% on last year, but down 89% and 94% on 10 & 30 YAs. Mean 22.8, 43% down on long term averages; median 9, down 1. Fewer breeding records than last year, mostly “dy”. First, on/15 Sept AIS Wetlands, Bruce (EbD1); last dy/28 Apr Pipeline Ck Reserve, Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HeS1).

**GBS:** 5 sites, same as last year, produced more records (191 up from 179), but fewer birds (4,047, down from 4,111). Abundance and RR increased and remain substantially above long-term averages. As with general records, numbers of birds per record continue in long term decline. Max 92/2wk Nov Jerrabomberra GrM16 (Hal2), down 22; mean 21.2 down 1.8; median 10, down 2. No breeding records, down from 2 in 2018 and 18 in 2017.

Very common, breeding resident

**Eurasian Coot**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2878	2384	21	520.1
WR	0	2	-100	1.8
G	70	77	-9	34.5
BR	27	35	-23	13.1
GA	1.9858	1.7820	11	0.5217
GS	5	5	0	2.2
GBR	0	2	-100	4.3

**THRESKIORNITHIDAE: spoonbills and ibis****Yellow-billed Spoonbill** *Platalea flavipes*

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

**General:** A poor year for sightings of this bird, after some high figures last year, remaining well below 10 and 30YAs: abundance down 91%; and RR down 88% on last year. Number of weeks recorded and grid cells were also well down on last year and long-term averages. Records were from 2 sites in ACT (JWNR and Kama NR) and 3 in NSW (Rose Lagoon, Wamboin and a site on the Federal Highway near Wollogorang). Multiple records came from 2 sites: JWNR, (6), and Rose Lagoon (4). Numbers per record continued to decline. Max 4/5 May Federal Highway GrV03 (BuM4), down from 6: mean 1.3 down from 1.6 and median 1. All records, but 2, were of single birds. *Though summer records remain the highest proportion there is a long-term trend towards increased proportions in winter and spring.* Earliest 1/22 Jul Rose Lagoon GrU04 (CoF1), latest 4/5 May Federal Highway Wollogorang GrV03 (BuM4).

**GBS:** No records this year. Last record 2015.

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

**Yellow-billed Spoonbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	14	88	-84	24.0
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	5	14	-64	6.9
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*

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

**General:** Several measures increased again following downwards trends from 2013 to 2017: number of records (343), birds (648) are at their highest levels since at least 1986. Abundance (0.04) considerably higher than the long-term averages, while RR (2.1%) is greater than last year (1.9%), the 10YA (1.2%) & 30YA (1.1%). Half the records were from GrL14 (JWNR and environs), 1-6 birds between 26 Sep and 20 Apr. 7 grid cells were within the ACT, 3 in NSW. 6 sites had only a single record. Earliest 1/22 Jul, Rose Lagoon GrU04

Uncommon, breeding visitor

**Royal Spoonbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	343	235	46	45.3
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	10	15	-33	6.6
BR	3	1	200	1.1
GA	0.0049	0.0026	89	0.0009
GS	2	2	0	0.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

(COF1); latest 1/20 Apr JWNR GrL14 (MiP1). The maximum and mean numbers of birds remain well below the 10 & 30 YAs. Max 6/27 Jan JWNR GrL12 (EbD1), mean 1.9, median 2. Breeding 3 records, all nb, earliest nb/1 Jan JWNR GrL14 (EbD1), latest nb/17 Feb LBG GrL14 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 8 records of 1-2 birds from 2 sites overlooking water: Crace Wetlands and Giralang. First 1/4wk Oct, last 1/4wk April both Crace GrK11 (LeF1). Recorded in each year from 2014.

### Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Common, non-breeding visitor

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

**General:** Continuing an upward trend from 2011, numbers 10,896, up 103%, and records 1,018, up by 75% on last year. Both reached **record highs** since at least 1986, considerably above 10 & 30YAs. Abundance (0.68), up 63%, and remains substantially above long-term levels (10YA 53%, 30Y 58%). RR (6.7%) continues its upward trend, now being 32%, 85% and 95% above 2018, 10YA and 30YA figures. Seasonal sightings suggest a possible long-term trend towards a higher proportion of winter and autumn records (67.4% together, cf 55.4%, 10YA and 53.6% 30YA), with spring and summer records in decline.

#### Straw-necked Ibis

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1081	617	75	117.9
WR	0	1	-100	0.9
G	69	68	1	24.3
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.6796	0.3420	99	0.3376
GS	21	22	-5	15.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

Numbers of grid cells stabilised at 69 after the sudden increase last year. Almost half the grid cells were outside ACT, but 2 ACT sites together provided over 58% of all records GrJ12 Ginninderra Creek, Melba (10.4%) and L14, JWNR and environs (48%). Max 400/14 Sep GrH14 Casuarina Sands (BiA2), up from 150 in 2018 and only 20% below 10 and 30YAs. Mean 10.1, up 15%, but remaining below 10 and 30YAs. Median 5, up 1 from 2018. The next highest numbers were 130/8 Jan Rose Lagoon, GrU04 (AnF1) and 130/30 Jan JWNR GrL14 (HoS1) with only 3 other records of 100 or more birds. Recorded in all weeks from 1 July to 30 June.

**GBS:** Follows a similar pattern to the general records with substantial increases from 2018. 21 sites (down 1), produced 153 records, highest ever, up 61% on last year; numbers 1,385, 8<sup>th</sup> highest ever, up 76% on last year. RR (7.5%) up substantially: 82% on 2018; 439% on 10YA, and 234% on 30YA. Abundance (0.68), up substantially: 99% on 2018; 390% on 10YA and 101% on 30YA. Seen in 50 weeks. Max 160/3wk Sep GrA09 Wee Jasper (WiP9) up by 186% on 2018. Mean 9.1 and median 3. Sites were widely dispersed across ACT suburbs, but only two outside ACT.

### Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis moluccus*

Common, breeding resident

A regular inhabitant of wetlands around the region.

**General:** Despite a 10% increase in nos. of records, bird nos. declined by 14% to 14,582, but remain historically high, 5 times the 30YA and twice the 10YA. Abundance 0.9, down 35% on last year, 16 % on 10YA and like the 30YA. RR down to 7.5% from 9.5%, similar to 10YA and 21% up on 30YA. Seasonal distribution the same as long-term patterns, with more records in spring and summer. Records from 58 grid cells scattered widely in northern parts of COG AoI. 51% of all records were from GrK12 AIS Wetland Bruce (126) and L14 JWNR (528), both with records from every month. Max 898/14 Aug Macarthur GrL16 (MaL2), 82% up on last year, mean 11.6, median 3. 1 breeding record, down 5 from last year and well below 30YA, ny/3 Nov Gungahlin Pond, GrK11 (DaC1).

#### Australian White Ibis

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1267	1152	10	222.8
WR	1	6	-83	2.2
G	58	56	4	28.9
BR	1	6	-83	2.0
GA	3.8131	1.1916	220	0.3428
GS	21	19	11	12.0
GBR	0	1	-100	0.1

**GBS:** 21 sites in 12 grid cells produced 276 records, a 27% increase. Recorded in all months. Numbers up dramatically from last year, 2,749 to 7,771. RR rose by 44% and abundance by 220%, to the highest ever GBS level. Seasonal distribution was close to long term patterns. Max 898/2wk Aug Macarthur GrL16 (MaL2) also repeated in the general section above, is up from 97 in 2018 and almost 2.5 x long-term averages. Mean 28.2, very high, affected by big increase in max, median 7. No breeding recorded. Only 2 previous breeding records, in 2018 and 2010.

**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 with 150 birds in 2017 being the highest by far since at least 1986. This year only 8 sightings and 8 birds from 2 locations, GrU04, Rose Lagoon and GrL14 JWNR, each of a single bird, probably only 2 separate birds. 4 birds last year. Earliest, 11 Sep Rose Lagoon (HeS1), latest 27 Jan JWNR (WeS1), consistent with long term records being almost exclusively in Spring and Summer.

**GBS:** No records. Only 2 previous records, the latest in 2017.

**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:** No records this year. 7 records last year from Rose Lagoon in NSW.

**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:** 17 records of single birds from Nov to Feb at JWNR. It cannot be determined whether this was same bird seen several times over the period. Another record from Forde Pond in mid-Nov. 1 record of cf/2 Jan at JWNR, it is conjectural whether this is a genuine breeding event without further corroboration. There had been no breeding during the period 1982 to date. However, Steve Wilson in *Birds in the ACT: Two Centuries of Change* (1999) p. 21 noted breeding activity in the past.

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

**Nankeen Night-Heron** *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

Nocturnal feeding habits may lead to under-reporting.

**General:** 94 records (130 individual birds) this year, up from 76 records (97 birds) last year. 2/3 of the records from JWNR with the bulk of the remainder from grids K11 and K12 in Belconnen. RR of 0.6% is the same as last year, and below the 10YA of 0.9% and the 30YA of 0.8%, but suggests a relatively stable population. Max 5/26 Oct Giralang Pond (McD4), mean 1.4 and median 1. Reported in 33 weeks, with most records being in spring (30%) and summer (54%). No breeding records this year. Breeding previously recorded in 2012, 2013 and 2017.

**GBS:** 27 records, up from 20 last year from 2 sites: between Aug and Jun Giralang (McD4) and between mid-Jul to Feb Jerrabomberra (HaL2). The lengthy sojourns of these birds has bumped up the abundance value to almost 6 times the 30YA. There are no GBS breeding records for this species.

**Nankeen Night-Heron**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	94	76	24	26.6
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	12	13	-8	6.2
BR	0	0	-	0.2
GA	0.0196	0.0108	81	0.0029
GS	2	4	-50	1.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

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

**General:** 105 records (588 birds) compared to 75 records (431 birds) last year. Nearly all records from JWNR and environs, with the same birds were being recorded by multiple observers. Other sites include: LGin, MFNR, Upper Stranger Pond, WBPD, and Point Hut. Max 45/31 Mar at JWNR (EbD1), mean 5.6 and median 3. Recorded in 27 weeks in all seasons, with 54% of records in autumn, 30% in spring and only 4% in winter. RR (0.7%) slightly above last year but 34% below the 30YA.

**GBS:** 3 records this year, all Nov-Dec at Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

**Cattle Egret**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	105	75	40	33.7
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	10	12	-17	7.0
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0015	0.0000	Inf	0.0036
GS	1	0	Inf	1.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Occasionally seen in and around local bodies of water.

**General:** 85 records and 127 birds is half that of last year (160 records and 282 birds). Recorded from widely dispersed sites in the ACT and NSW: Rose Lagoon 17, Wallaroo 9, JWNR 7, Isabella Pond 6, Tharwa 5, Wamboin 4, and MFNR 3. The 0.5% RR for the year is well below the 10 & 30YAs of 1.7% and 1.5%. Max 7/6 Oct Rose Lagoon (HeS1), mean 1.5 and median 1. Reported in 43 weeks, with fewest records (16%) in winter and most in summer (34%) and autumn (31%). 1 putative breeding record di/3 Jan Isabella Pond (EbD1). Previously breeding recorded only in 1996, 1997 and 2014.

**GBS:** 2 records only of single birds, both in Feb, from Jerrabomberra (HaL2) Wamboin (CoK2).

Uncommon, breeding visitor

**White-necked Heron**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	174	-51	50.4
WR	0	0	-	0.7
G	30	39	-23	19.2
BR	1	0	Inf	0.4
GA	0.0010	0.0039	-75	0.0016
GS	2	5	-60	2.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

Seen in shallow waters across the region.

**General:** 250 records this year (207 last year) from 25 sites across 15 grid cells (20 cells last year). JWNR and environs contributed 61% of those records with the bunched record dates indicating multiple observers reporting the same birds at this heavily surveyed site. Other sites were Giralang Pond, LGin, Rose Lagoon, WBPD and Yerrabi Pond. Records were submitted in 44 weeks, this year mostly in summer (63%) and autumn (19%). Max 4/22 Jul Rose Lagoon (COF1). Overall, most records were of 1 or 2 birds, mean 1.3 and median 1. This is virtually the same as last year. RR has fallen again this year to 1.6% (1.7% last year). This is down on the 10YA of 2.4% and on the 30YA of 2.0%. No breeding of this species in this area.

**GBS:** 43 records, of single birds from 3 sites, spread right throughout the year, with fewer (14%) in autumn. 2 records from Jerrabomberra (HaL2), 6 from Crace (LeF1) and 35 from Giralang (McD4).

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

**Great Egret**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	250	207	21	68.3
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	15	20	-25	9.7
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0255	0.0195	31	0.0048
GS	3	5	-40	1.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia*

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

**General:** Only 9 records this year, with 5 from WBPD of a single bird on 22 Jan, and 4 from JWNR of a single bird between 20 and 29 Apr.

Rare, non-breeding visitor

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

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

**General:** 1,168 records this year (1,662 individual birds) which is down from 1,234 records last year (1,953 birds). However, unlike many other local species, RR (7.3%) has dropped 28% this year after remaining stable over time, close to the 30YA of 10.1%. Records were from many sites scattered across 89 grid cells, in all weeks and all seasons of the year (winter 13%, spring 25%, summer 35%, autumn 27%). Max 10/24 Mar JWNR (MiP1), mean 1.4 and median 1. 4 breeding records this year: first on/21 Nov Illilang FrL25 (CoF1) and the last nb/21 Jan JWNR (COF1).

**GBS:** 106 records from 6 suburban and 4 rural sites at Carwoola, Wamboin, Wee Jasper and Murrumbateman. Records this year were down on last year's 120 but up on the 30YA of 95.4. 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.

Common, breeding resident

**White-faced Heron**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1168	1234	-5	344.1
WR	1	3	-67	4.1
G	89	116	-23	60.2
BR	4	6	-33	4.2
GA	0.0707	0.0668	6	0.0482
GS	10	12	-17	12.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Very occasionally seen in the margins of water bodies

**General:** 69 records this year, following 50 the year before. All reports were of a single bird seen 69 times at JWNR between 4 & 28 Jan. Occasionally recorded in this region over the last 30 years.**PELECANIDAE: pelican****Australian Pelican** *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

Common, non-breeding visitor

Seen on all wetlands but is reported more frequently from JWNR.

**General:** 949 records, many more than last year and RR of 5.9% again compared favourably with the 30YA of 4%. Numbers ranged from 1-34, with the max being recorded 28 Oct JWNR (MiP1). Average 4.3. Recorded from 38 widespread grid cells, with JWNR accounting for 70% of the records. Recorded in every week of the year with a fairly typical seasonal distribution: winter 16%, spring 30%, summer 36% and autumn 17%. Pelican numbers fluctuate according to conditions inland. As expected, no breeding was recorded.**Australian Pelican**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	949	605	57	137.3
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	38	34	12	15.8
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.0564	0.0498	13	0.0189
GS	12	4	200	6.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**GBS:** 67 records from 12 sites; relatively common only near water in Jerrabomberra and Giralang. Range of 1-8 birds; average 1.7. Winter 33% (far more than usual), spring 18%, summer 28% and autumn 21%. RR of 3.3% was well up on the long-term average of 0.7%.**PHALACROCORACIDAE: cormorants****Little Pied Cormorant** *Microcarbo 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 85 grid cells). 1,466 records this year, with a RR of 9.1% near the 30 YA of 9.5%. Numbers ranged from 1-31. As usual, JWNR was a hotspot, accounting for 32% of records. Recorded evenly through the seasons and in every week of the year. 2 breeding events: on/3 Nov Gungahlin Pond GrK11 (DaC1); and ny/18 Nov Yass Weir GrG02 (SeB1). The species is a regular breeder, with records every year since 2004.**Little Pied Cormorant**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1466	1541	-5	325.3
WR	0	7	-100	2.9
G	85	87	-2	42.6
BR	2	2	0	2.9
GA	0.1565	0.1552	1	0.0616
GS	10	12	-17	5.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**GBS:** 148 records, from 8 urban and 2 rural sites, mostly near water. Range of 1-8 birds, average 2.2, with max 8/2wk Feb Jerrabomberra (HaL2). RR of 7.3% well up on the 30YA of 2.7%. Recorded in 51 weeks: winter 18%, spring 24%, summer 32%, autumn 26% but more in line with the long-term average.**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 likely contributing factor. Recorded in every week of the year, with again fewer winter records 16%, spring 31%, summer 28% and autumn 25%. Max 29/8 May Molonglo R GrJ14 (BaL1), average 2.4. From 52 widespread grid cells. 4 breeding records from the 1 site, all ny/1 May to 12 Jun, Molonglo R GrJ14 (HeS1 and BaL1).**Great Cormorant**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	924	654	41	165.8
WR	1	0	Inf	0.4
G	52	46	13	23.9
BR	4	6	-33	1.1
GA	0.0981	0.1218	-19	0.0241
GS	9	10	-10	4.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0



**GBS:** 64 records, at a RR of 3.1% as against the 30YA of 0.9%. Recorded in 44 weeks, with a similar seasonal pattern to the general records. Range 1-12 birds, average 3.1. From 9 sites, generally near bodies of water.

### Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Very common, breeding resident

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

**General:** 807 records, at a RR of 5%, slightly above the 30YA of 4.8%. Max 381/7 Apr JWNR (MiP1), mean 10.8. Recorded in every week of the year: winter 10%, spring 28%, summer 36% and autumn 26% - a normal seasonal pattern. From 39 widespread grid cells. 3 breeding records, 2 of nb/6 Jan JWNR and dy/1 May Molonglo R GrJ14 (HeS1).

**GBS:** 53 records, of 1-20 birds, average 3.3. RR of 2.6% remains well up on the 30YA of 1%. From 33 weeks spread throughout the year, but with only 8% winter records and more summer records than usual (42%). From 4 sites: Giralang, Jerrabomberra, Crace and Bonner.

Little Black Cormorant

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	807	816	-1	164.4
WR	1	3	-67	0.6
G	39	47	-17	21.5
BR	3	5	-40	1.8
GA	0.0864	0.2063	-58	0.0622
GS	4	6	-33	3.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### Great Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

The least common of the locally occurring cormorants.

**General:** 85 records, at a RR of 0.5%, the same as the 30YA. From only 5 grid cells this year, all around LBG and Lake Ginninderra. Numbers ranged from 1-10 birds, average 3. Recorded in 39 weeks, winter 8%, spring 31%, summer 39% and autumn 22%. The hotspot for the species was as usual JWNR and environs, which accounted for 82% of records. This species has never been recorded breeding in our AoI.

**GBS:** Unusually 2 records, of 1-2 birds, both in spring and both in Curtin (AjR1).

Great Pied Cormorant

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	61	39	17.0
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	5	13	-62	4.4
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0015	0.0000	Inf	0.0002
GS	1	0	Inf	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

## ANHINGIDAE: darter

### Australian Darter *Anhinga novaehollandiae*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** 882 records, at a RR of 5.5%, up 19% on the long-term average and from 35 widespread grid cells. Numbers averaged 2.0, and ranged from 1-34, the latter recorded 18 Feb Molonglo R GrJ14 (CaJ1). Recorded in every week, winter 16%, spring 20%, summer 29% and autumn 36%. 5 breeding records from 3 grid cells: from ny/18 Nov Yass Weir GrG02 (SeB1); nb/2 Feb Black Mt Peninsula (DaC1); to 30 May Molonglo R GrJ14 (HeS1). 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:** 24 records this year, well down on last year's 40 but well up on the long-term average of 11.7. Numbers ranged from 1-3. Darters were recorded from 5 urban sites, commonly from Jerrabomberra, but also occasionally from Yarralumla, Giralang, Curtin, and Kambah. Records came in only 19 weeks spread across the whole year, most commonly in autumn (54% of records).

Australasian Darter

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	882	759	16	158.2
WR	0	0	-	0.4
G	35	36	-3	13.4
BR	5	4	25	3.6
GA	0.0152	0.0438	-65	0.0079
GS	5	6	-17	2.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0
--	-	-	-	-
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Reintroduced, rare, breeding resident

This species has been successfully reintroduced to the predator free sanctuary within Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve and is the subject of an ongoing research project. Declared endangered in NSW.

**General:** In 2019, in MFNR, 26 banded birds (who could be individually identified) were recorded as well as several unbanded birds (therefore born in the sanctuary, demonstrating successful breeding), bringing the total number to an estimated 32 birds currently in the reserves. They are very cryptic, so the total number may be higher. Some birds now have home ranges in Goorooyarroo reserve. Some of the birds may also have moved out of the Mulligans area, with one report last year from Majura (*pers comm.* Shoshana Rapley).

**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:** Most records in Jul (11) but in smaller numbers to Dec. Number of records is down to 28 from 38 last year, but only 188 birds were recorded cf. 2218 last year. However, RR (0.2) is the same as the 10 & 30YAs. Only 2 grid cells, down from 5 last year, but approximately the 10YA & 30YAs, with sites at JWNR/FSW (25), and Foxlow Lagoon (5). Max 23/9 Jul Foxlow Lagoon (BuM1), mean 6.7, median 5. No breeding, only 2 previous records: 2017 and 2008.

**Pied Stilt** *Himantopus leucocephalus*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

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

**General:** Recorded sporadically throughout the year with fewest records in summer. RR (0.1%) down about 85% on 2018 and both 10 & 30YAs; abundance (0.0066) similarly. Seasonal records again unusual, more birds in autumn and fewer in summer. Max 31/30 Oct Foxlow Lagoon (BuM1), mean 4.8, median 3. The median of 3 is influenced by the fact that a group of 3 birds was reported by 9 different recorders at JWNR on 5 May. 9 records at Foxlow Lagoon produced the largest group. No breeding records. Previous breeding reported only in 1994, 1997, 2006, 2012, 2015 and 2017.

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

Non-breeding vagrant

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

**General:** With both LBath and LGeo dry, no records this year. Previously, 4 records in 1917.

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

Rare, non-breeding visitor

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

**General:** No records this year down from 4 last year and 14 the year before.

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

Rare, non-breeding vagrant

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

**General:** No records this year, down from 3 records last year.

**Oriental Plover** *Charadrius veredus*

Non-breeding vagrant

**General:** No records this year. The first and only record for the COG AoI 6 years ago.

**Black-fronted Dotterel** *Elseyaornis melanops*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** RR (2.5%) is 50% down on last year, and down about 40% on the 10 & 30YAs. Records were from wide-spread sites, largely from ACT wetlands including JWNR/FSP (with more than 2/3rds of records), MFNR, sites in Gungahlin and Weston, Uriarra Homestead Dam, and Googong and Michelago, Max 50/10 Mar JWNR (EbD1), mean 5.1 and median 2. While fewer birds were seen this year, they were in larger groups. Reported this year in even proportions in spring, summer, and autumn (around 30%), with a lower rate in winter (9%). Only 1 breeding record, down from 10 last year, with the 30YA at 2: ne/8 Dec NatArbor (EbD1).

**GBS:** No records this year. There are only 6 years in the previous 38 that have GBS records: 1982, 1995, 2002, 2012, 2015 and 2016. No breeding records ever in the GBS.

**Black-fronted Dotterel**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	406	621	-35	136.5
WR	0	3	-100	1.1
G	34	36	-6	18.9
BR	1	10	-90	2.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0005
GS	0	0	-	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Banded Lapwing** *Vanellus tricolor*

Rare, breeding visitor

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

**General:** 20 records this year, up from 9 last year. Records mainly from Hoskinstown, LBath S Morass and LGeo E. Max 14/5 Jan Hoskinstown (AnF1), mean 5.2, and median 4.5. Most birds seen in spring (40%) and summer (30%). The number of sightings and number of birds seen is up (94 cf. 29 last year) and the RR is almost doubled (0.1243 cf. 0.074). 8 breeding records: earliest Br/13 Sep LGeo E (LeM1) and latest dy/10 Jan LBath S Morass (LeM1).

**Masked Lapwing** *Vanellus miles*

Common, breeding resident

Well distributed throughout the ACT in suitable grassy areas.

**General:** RR (13.9%) is about the same as last year and the 10 & 30YAs. Max 67/1 Jul JWNR (MiP1), mean 3 and median 2. Most records from the wetlands and open grassy areas very widely spread throughout the COG AoI. Present throughout the year: winter 20%, spring 28%, summer 27% and autumn 24%, almost identical to last year. Only 37 breeding records from 13 grid cells, down from last year: earliest on/30 Jul Belconnen (DaC2) and latest ne/11 Jan Ginninderra Creek Nicholls (HaJ7).

**GBS:** 217 records from 22 sites is about the same as last year.

Max 20/3wk Jul Wee Jasper (WiP9), mean 2.1 and median 2. Records spread evenly throughout the year, with a few more (34%) in spring. Only 3 breeding records (cf 16 last year and 17 the year before), from 2 sites: earliest dy/1wk Nov and latest dy/3wk Nov Jerrabomberra both at Greenway (HaA2), with the other breeding site at Wee Jasper (WiP9).

**Masked Lapwing**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2243	1762	27	440.5
WR	7	10	-30	4.6
G	115	107	7	56.6
BR	37	59	-37	14.5
GA	0.2277	0.1847	23	0.1200
GS	22	23	-4	24.1
GBR	3	16	-81	5.0

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

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

Occurs most frequently around vegetated shallow lakes and ponds.

**General:** More records than last year, but with RR of 3.4% just below last year (3.7%) but still almost twice the 10 & 30YAs. Number of birds seen is 2172 cf 1663 last year. Almost all records (540) from JWNR/FSP/Kellys Swamp. Other sites include Rose Lagoon, WBPD and Foxlow Lagoon. Max 31/15 Mar JWNR (EbD1), mean 4, median 4. Records mainly in summer (38%) and spring (31%). No breeding records, only 7 previous breeding records: 2017, 2016, 2013, 2004 and 2002.

**Red-kneed Dotterel**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	546	451	21	52.4
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	6	10	-40	4.5
BR	0	0	-	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. First reported in 1964 when Lake Burley Griffin was filling.

**General:** No records. Previously recorded in 2008, 2012-2014 and 2017.

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

Non-breeding vagrant

A most unusual sighting in the COG AoI.

**General:** No records. 1 record in 2017 and 4 records in the 1990s.

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

Non-breeding vagrant

**General:** No records. Occasional records in 10 of the last 30 years.

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

Non-breeding vagrant

**General:** No records. Only 2 records in the last 20 years, in 2000 and 2014.

**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:** Abundance well down from last year (0.01 cf 0.05) from only 3 grid cells. Abundance well down from the 2013-14 and 2014-15 seasons of around 1.48 and 1.17 respectively. Mean down from 24.6 to 6.5 with the max 18/19 Oct JWNR GrL14 (A1A1) cf 300 last year. Records from JWNR (GrL14) and Canturf Farm next door, with a single rec from Foxlow Lagoon GrS18 4/30 Oct (BuM1).

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

Non-breeding vagrant

An occasional visitor to the COG AoI, with records from 5 of the last 20 years.

**General:** 1/30 Sep JWNR GrL14 (MiP1).

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*

Non-breeding vagrant

Occasionally seen in summer at FSP, LBath and LGeo.

**General:** 1/30 Sep JWNR, 1/4 Nov FSP (MiP1).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*

Non-breeding vagrant

An occasional visitor to this region in very low numbers, with larger groups in 2003 and 2014.

**General:** 1/2 Sep FSP (MiP1).

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

Common, non-breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** Reported between 10 Aug and 5 Apr from 34 sites. Abundance (0.13 cf 0.12) and RR (3.7 cf 3.3) a slight increase from last year from a similar no. of grid cells. Max 30/16 Dec JWNR GrL14 (EbD1) cf 27 last year. Reports of more than 10 birds from Forde Pond, JWNR (GrL14), Horse Park Wetland (GrL10) and WBPD (GrI11).

**GBS:** 8 recs between 2w Sep and 1wk Feb from Giralang GrK12 (McD4) with a max of 3 individuals.

**Latham's Snipe**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	591	406	46	78.3
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	20	20	0	8.1
BR	0	0	-	0.0
GA	0.0079	0.0078	1	0.0020
GS	1	2	-50	0.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

Non-breeding vagrant

Turns up most years in this region in low numbers, with most records in 2015.

**General:** 4 recs from JWNR all on 26 May and obviously of the same bird**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

Non-breeding vagrant

Appeared in only 6 years since 1986.

**General:** No records. Records only in 6 years previously, most recently in 2014**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

Non-breeding vagrant

Recorded in this region in most years, but no records since 2015.

**General:** No records. Recorded in most years in the past, but no records since 2015.**TURNICIDAE: button-quail****Painted Button-quail** *Turnix varius*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** 3 records, 2 of single birds, (4 last year): 4 Feb NNP – Square Rock/Smokers Flat track (DaC2); 18 Feb Gumms Rd GrV20 (RoJ5) and 8 Mar ANU (MiP1).**GBS:** No records this year. 1 record 5 years ago, the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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:** No records this year or last year. Most recent records in 2017. 1-4 birds regularly reported from 2009 to 2014, with only two reports prior to this, in 2006 and 2007. No reports, prior to 2006.**LARIDAE: gulls and terns****Silver Gull** *Larus novaehollandiae*

Common, breeding resident

A resident of larger bodies of water in the region.

**General:** Despite an increase in the number of records there was a decrease in abundance (1.3 cf 1.7) and a slight increase in the RR (7.6 cf 7.1) compared to last year. Observed throughout the year with fewer (17%) in winter. Max 340/22 Jul FSP GrL14 (MiP1) down from 720 last year, mean 17.5 and median 5. Most commonly seen around large bodies of water such as LBG, LTug and LGen as well North Weston Ponds, but very few records from Yerrabi Pond. 2 breeding recs from Spinnaker Island LBG (FuP1), no successful breeding but for further details see <https://ebird.org/checklist/S63890526> and <https://ebird.org/checklist/S52015948>.**GBS:** Reported from 8 sites with a max 300/2wk Feb Glebe Park GrL13 (BuM1). 14 breeding recs between 3wk Aug and 2wk Apr from Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1) presumably all of birds nesting on boats in Yarralumla Bay LBG.**Silver Gull**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1218	859	42	222.2
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	21	26	-19	16.5
BR	2	5	-60	2.2
GA	0.8361	0.6550	28	0.3142
GS	8	7	14	4.2
GBR	14	10	40	3.3

**Common Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Non-breeding vagrant

There have been sightings of a single bird in 9 years since 1987, following 2 birds in 1986.

**General:** No records.**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:** 37 recs cf 25 last year. A similar reporting rate but a large reduction in abundance (0.0029 cf 0.0085). Max number 6/10 Nov JWNR (MiP1). Nearly all recs from JWNR in Sep/Oct, (multiple sightings of a single bird?) plus 1/17 Oct Googong Dam, Western Foreshore GrO17 (CoF1).

**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:** 2/4 Nov FSP GrL14 (MiP1).

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

Rare, non-breeding visitor

Numbers 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 there were few rodents. 27 records, all single birds and all but two were at JWNR and environs. Recorded over 12 weeks, mainly in spring and autumn. No breeding. Barn Owls have only been recorded in numbers in 1991, 1995 and 2012.

**GBS:** 2 records, both single birds, and both in winter: 1/5wk Jul Pearce (KrS1); and 1/3wk Aug Giralang (McD4). Barn Owls have been reported in very low numbers in the last 20 years.

**Barn Owl**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	27	9	200	4.2
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	7	6	17	2.6
BR	0	1	-100	0.0
GA	0.0010	0.0000	Inf	0.0004
GS	2	0	Inf	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:** 1 record only, of a single bird 27 Jun O'Connor (TwP1). Powerful Owls have been recorded in 19 of the previous 30 years, most commonly in years in which a bird chose 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. The most recent endorsed record is at Shepherds Lookout in Apr 2011.

**Southern Boobook** *Ninox boobook*

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:** 52 records, of 1-4 birds, average 1.2, from 29 wide-spread grid cells. RR of 0.3% is well below the 30YA of 0.8%. Recorded in 29 weeks: winter 12%; spring 36%; summer 38% and autumn 14%, an unusual seasonal distribution with more summer records and fewer in spring and autumn than is customary. 1 definite breeding record: dy/6 Jan Mt Ainslie NR GrL13 (HeS1); and one ih/ 12 Jan Lawson. Boobooks have been recorded breeding only three times in the last 10 years.

**GBS:** 33 records, half last year's number, 1-3 birds, average 1.2.

RR (1.6%) is 52% down on the 30YA **and is at its lowest point ever**. Recorded over 27 weeks, with 9% of records in winter, 24% spring, 48% in summer and 18% autumn. From 14 sites; relatively common only in Cook. No breeding recorded.

**Southern Boobook**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	52	43	21	27.0
WR	1	0	Inf	0.4
G	29	20	45	13.0
BR	2	0	Inf	0.8
GA	0.0186	0.0286	-35	0.0372
GS	14	14	0	22.5
GBR	0	0	-	1.1

**PANDIONIDAE: osprey****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.

**ACCIPITRIDAE: eagles, kites and goshawks****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, 2018-19 was a much better year for this species, with 561 records, 78% up on the previous year. RR of 3.5% is well up on the long-term average (2.7%), 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 1-3, with an average of 1.2. Recorded in 51 weeks, evenly throughout the year. These kites

were recorded in 56 widespread urban and rural grid cells, though the hotspot for the species was again the ever-popular JWNR, with grid L14 accounting for 65% of the records. It was also the site of two possible breeding records, on/3 Sep and more usually, di/24 May. There have been breeding records in 14 of the previous 30 years.

**GBS:** 26 records, all single birds, from six sites near open grassland in Curtin, Bonner, Crace, Nicholls, Jerrabomberra and Giralang. RR of 1.3% was the same as the 30YA. Winter unusually accounted for 42% of records, with lower than usual numbers of records in spring and summer.

Black-shouldered Kite				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	561	316	78	92.9
WR	1	0	Inf	0.6
G	56	45	24	23.0
BR	2	3	-33	1.4
GA	0.0128	0.0043	194	0.0148
GS	6	3	100	6.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.6

**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:** Two records (1 WOO) on 9 Dec of presumably the same bird in Gooroo NR (HoS1).

**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 606 records this year, from 149 widespread grid cells. The relatively healthy RR of 3.8% is nevertheless 23% below the 30YA. Numbers ranged from 1-5 birds, average 1.7. Recorded in every week, with a fairly standard seasonal distribution, winter 18% of records, spring 25%, summer 27% and autumn, 30%. 5 breeding records: nb/9 Jul Stony Ck NR (BeS1); dy/27 Oct and 17 Dec McQuoids Hill (BeS1); dy/28 Oct Gooroo N (BoJ1) and dy/23 Feb Hume wetland (HeS1).

**GBS:** 52 records this year, with a RR of 2.6% up 44% on the long-term average. Range 1-4 birds, average 1.5. Records from 17 widespread sites, both urban and rural, over 36 weeks, with fewer autumn records than usual (17%). Unsurprisingly, no breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

Wedge-tailed Eagle				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	606	574	6	166.8
WR	7	5	40	3.2
G	149	136	10	65.7
BR	5	3	67	1.8
GA	0.0388	0.0420	-8	0.0245
GS	17	20	-15	15.7
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 (184, including 1 WOO) for a vulnerable species, but RR of 1.1% is 45% down on the 30YA of 2.3%. Range 1-4 birds, average 1.1. Recorded over 51 weeks, with 18% winter records, 34% spring, 28% summer, and 20% autumn, and from 49 widespread grid cells. Unsurprisingly JWNR again accounted for a large proportion of the records (33%). 14 breeding records of apparently 3 breeding events: from di/15 Aug to dy/28 Jan Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (SeB1); on/27 Oct Campbell Park (DaG2); and on/ny 8 Dec to 8 Feb Gilmore horse paddocks (CaR3). 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, published that 9 pairs were confirmed with nests in the ACT, with an additional 4 in nearby NSW. 5 chicks fledged in the ACT and 3 in the surrounding territory (Rae *et al*, 2019).

**GBS:** 12 records, all single birds, from 5 urban sites – Ainslie, Campbell, Lyneham, Weston and Curtin – and one rural – Wee Jasper. Common in none. RR of 0.6% approximates the long-term average. 4 records both in spring and summer, 3 in autumn and 1 in winter.

**Little Eagle**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	184	173	6	71.1
WR	1	2	-50	1.3
G	49	38	29	23.5
BR	14	5	180	2.1
GA	0.0064	0.0048	34	0.0065
GS	6	5	20	7.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Swamp Harrier** *Circus approximans*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Infrequently observed over grasslands, wetlands and streams.

**General:** 51 records, of 1-4 birds, average 1.3, from 17 largely rural grid cells, at a RR of 0.3%, 49% down on the 30YA. Recorded in 26 weeks, primarily in summer (39%). The hotspots for this species are Rose Lagoon GrU04, which accounted for 25.4% of records, and JWNR (23.5%). No breeding recorded this year. There have only been 5 breeding records for this species in our region, most recently in 2013 and 2018 with 2 fledglings sighted in NNP (Olsen *et al* 2018).

**GBS:** No records, compared with a rare one last year in Curtin.

**Swamp Harrier**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	51	69	-26	21.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	17	12	42	7.6
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0004	-100	0.0000
GS	0	1	-100	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:** 20 records this year, of 1-2 birds, from 4 grid cells. Most records were of a single bird at Parkwood Rd Wallaroo between 6 Jan and 21 Feb. RR 0.1%, 53% down on the long-term average. Over the last 30 years, numbers for this species have varied from 1 to 91 (in 2013).

**GBS:** No records again this year. There have been 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 3 records of single birds, possibly the same bird, given the proximity of the locations: 4 Jul Cork Oak plantation (EmL1); 19 Aug Acton GrK13 (SqK1); and 7 Sep ANBG GrK13 (MiP1).

**GBS:** No records. Reported quite regularly over the last 30 years.



**Brown Goshawk** *Accipiter fasciatus*

Common, breeding resident

Regularly observed throughout the region, including Canberra suburbs.

**General:** Nos. ranged from 1-4, with mean 1.2 and max 4/16 Nov ANBG. RR of 1.4% is 51% down on the 30YA. Recorded in 49 weeks: 14% winter, 39% spring, 31% summer and 17% autumn. 6 breeding records, ranging from on/8 Oct ANBG (Mc11), to dy/22 Feb Tuggeranong Ck (HeS1) with the other dy records from Tarago tip, Nelanglo TSR and the Brindabellas. Breeding in all but 3 of the previous 30 years.

**GBS:** 22 records from 12 sites (only 1 site rural), 1-2 birds. RR of 1.1% just over the long-term average. Recorded in 17 weeks throughout the year, particularly in summer with 41% of the records.

**Brown Goshawk**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	218	276	-21	94.5
WR	8	11	-27	6.4
G	62	64	-3	37.0
BR	6	14	-57	4.4
GA	0.0113	0.0117	-4	0.0101
GS	12	12	0	12.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Collared Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter cirrocephalus*

Common, breeding resident/sum. migrant

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

**General:** 161 records, from 47 widespread grid cells, with a RR of 1.0%, down 23% on the 30YA. Nos. ranged from 1-3 birds, mean 1. Recorded in 50 weeks, 12% winter, 24% spring, 29% summer and 35% autumn, with fewer winter and more autumn records than usual. 2 breeding records: dy/27 Oct ANBG (BoC4); and nb/7 Dec Federal Highway near Majura Lane GrN11.

**GBS:** 53 records, from 17 sites, between Aug and Jun. More common in Curtin and Giralang. RR of 2.6% is 17% up on the 30YA. More summer records (45%) than the general records, above. Mostly single birds, with some groups of two.

**Collared Sparrowhawk**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	161	164	-2	44.8
WR	1	0	Inf	1.9
G	47	57	-18	20.8
BR	2	8	-75	1.2
GA	0.0265	0.0338	-22	0.0237
GS	17	17	0	17.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.7

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

Uncommon, non-breeding visitor

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

**General:** 32 records, at a RR of 0.2% against the long-term average of 0.7%. Mostly single birds, from 13 widespread grid cells, nearly always over bodies of water and along rivers. Recorded in 21 weeks throughout the year, with more winter (34%) and far fewer summer (6.3%) 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.

**White-bellied Sea-Eagle**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	32	27	19	22.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	13	14	-7	10.1
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0004
GS	0	0	-	0.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Whistling Kite** *Haliastur sphenurus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** 223 records, from 49 widespread grid cells, though 56% of them came from JWNR. Numbers ranged from 1-3 birds, at an average of 1.1. Recorded throughout the year, with fewer spring records than usual (17%), with most records falling in summer 25% and autumn 36%. RR of 1.4% is down 9% on the long-term average. No breeding records; the species has only been recorded breeding 5 times in last 10 years.

**GBS:** 4 records, of 1-2 birds, from 3 sites, Ainslie, Curtin and Wee Jasper, 1 in winter, 1 spring and 2 in autumn. The species has never been a common garden bird, with the highest number of records 5, in 2004.

**Whistling Kite**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	223	166	34	52.3
WR	1	0	Inf	0.7
G	49	35	40	11.6
BR	0	0	-	0.5
GA	0.0025	0.0009	183	0.0007
GS	3	2	50	1.3
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:** A surprising 58 records, compared with a value of 2.5 over the previous 30 years, probably indicating some dryness to the west. RR 0.4%, continuing the pattern of regular low-level reporting of this inland species. Numbers ranged from 1-11, the latter being on 13 Apr Macarthur horse paddocks GrL16 (MaL2). Recorded between Jul and May from 27 widespread grid cells, mostly in the northern extremities of our AoI. One doubtful breeding record, of “display”.

**GBS:** 3 records this year, all single birds, 2 from a site in Curtin in Sep and Dec, and one from Macarthur in May. Black Kites are very occasionally reported in the GBS.

**MEROPIDAE: 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 9% on the 10YA and 23% on the 30YA. Max 22/12 Feb Naas Road at Apollo Road GrJ21 (EbD1), average 3.2 and median 2. Many sightings from along the Murrumbidgee R corridor. Earliest 7/29 Sep Yass Junction GrF02 (ReS1) and latest 1/1 Apr Symonston GrL15 (WeS1). 5 breeding records from 5 sites: earliest ih/27 Oct Upper Naas Trail GrJ22 (HaS4) and latest cf/21 Jan Uriarra Reserve West Gr G12 (CoF1).

**GBS:** 8 records from 6 urban sites. Max: 24/3wk Mar Curtin

Gr K14 (AjR1), earliest 7/2wk Oct Giralang (McD4) and latest 24/2wk Mar Curtin (AjR1)

**Rainbow Bee-eater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	171	132	30	47.5
WR	0	2	-100	0.8
G	49	44	11	22.6
BR	5	5	0	2.0
GA	0.0294	0.0091	223	0.0113
GS	7	7	0	4.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** RR (2.4%) is about 11% down on last year and the long-term averages. Overall the RR has hovered just above 2% since 1991. Observed from Oct to Mar with most records from spring 44%, and summer 54%. Earliest 1/9 Oct Pialligo Rd (AlR1) and latest 1/19 Mar Stony Ck NR. Max 10/21 Feb JWNr (EbD1). Breeding: earliest ih/25 Oct Stony Creek NR GrG13 (BeC2) and latest dy/10 Feb MFNR GrL10 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 39 records, from 8 urban and 2 rural sites, down from 53 last year. RR (1.9%) is down 17% on last year, 13% on the 10YA and 28% on the 30YA. Overall the RR has hovered around 2% since 1994. Max 6/1wk Jan Campbell (LjT1). First: 1/2wk Oct Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2), and last 1/1wk Mar Giralang (McD4).

**Oriental Dollarbird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	384	338	14	93.6
WR	4	4	0	5.2
G	46	42	10	25.0
BR	14	5	180	3.0
GA	0.0265	0.0412	-36	0.0413
GS	10	11	-9	17.0
GBR	0	5	-100	2.5

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

Non-breeding vagrant

Occasionally found perching over water.

**General:** 6 records of single birds from 3 sites cf 4 last year with multiple records of the same bird. Earliest was 1/9 Jul Stony Creek NR GrG13 (BeS1) and latest 1/30 Jun Point Hut Crossing GrJ17 (EbD1). Other records from Cotter Reserve GrG14. They have only been reported in 14 of the previous 35 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:** RR (4.6%) is up 11% on last year and 5% on the 10 & 30YAs. Abundance (0.0732) is 4% below the 10YA and up 6% on the 30YA. Max 7/28 Oct JWNR (MiP1), average 1.6 and median 1. Present between Sep and May most records in spring (42%) and summer (50%). Many observations from JWNR, but the species is seen in most nature reserves in and around Canberra. Breeding: earliest di/21 Oct Wamboin GrO13 (EbD1) and latest dy/20 Jan the Pinnacle NR (AlB1).

**GBS:** 15 records from 5 sites, between Oct and Apr, down from 24 last year with only about half the number of birds seen (15 cf. 27). Abundance 0.0074 is well below last year and the long-term averages. Earliest 1/2 wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and latest 1/1 wk Apr Aranda (HaK1). Only 6 years with breeding records.

**Sacred Kingfisher**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	737	627	18	163.2
WR	12	23	-48	10.6
G	115	112	3	47.0
BR	16	19	-16	5.5
GA	0.0074	0.0117	-37	0.0102
GS	6	7	-14	10.5
GBR	0	2	-100	0.2

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

Breeding vagrant

This inland species appears here occasionally.

**General:** No records this year or last year. In the last 35 years, this species has been reported in 2001, 2003 and 2008 to 2017.

**Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*

Common, breeding resident

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

**General:** RR (12.7%) is down 17% on last year, 10% on the 10YA and 23% the 30YA. *In 1999, the reporting rate was 20% and since then it has been on a slow and steady decline to the current value.* Recorded throughout the year with spring max 32%. Earliest breeding ih/9 Sep Mt Ainslie NR GrM13 (EbD1). Max and latest breeding 9 dy/3 Feb, both Melba Gr J11 (KiB1). Average 1.7 and median 1.

**GBS:** Recorded evenly in all seasons. The A value has varied from approx. A=0.6 down to A=0.2 in the mid-nineties, back up to the present. Average 1.7, median 2 with max 6/2wk Feb Bonner GrL10 (GrB1). Earliest breeding di/3wk Sept Garran GrK15 (QuA1) and latest dy/1wk Feb Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2).

**Laughing Kookaburra**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2044	1870	9	568.7
WR	46	65	-29	42.6
G	199	193	3	117.1
BR	14	10	40	5.4
GA	0.3342	0.3099	8	0.3164
GS	27	37	-27	43.3
GBR	7	6	17	4.3

**FALCONIDAE: falcons****Nankeen Kestrel** *Falco cenchroides*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** 624 records, the most recorded and the most widespread raptor in our region. RR of 3.9% is well below the 30YA of 6.1%. Numbers ranged from 1-5, the latter being on 28 Jan at Yankee Hat GrH25 (HoS1). Average 1.2. Recorded in 51 weeks, from 123 widespread grids: winter 10%; spring 41%; summer 31%; and autumn 18%. 5 breeding records from di/8 Sep Little Plain GrD06 (SeB1) to cf/22 Jan Cotter Reserve GrG14 (HeS1).

**GBS:** 30 records this year, of 1-2 birds, from 8 urban and 3 rural sites. RR was 1.5%, near the 30YA. Recorded in 23 weeks, with a somewhat different seasonal distribution to that of the general records, with only 13.3% in summer.

**Nankeen Kestrel**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	624	700	-11	208.7
WR	10	15	-33	7.4
G	123	149	-17	65.8
BR	6	12	-50	5.1
GA	0.0157	0.0178	-12	0.0154
GS	11	10	10	10.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

**Australian Hobby** *Falco longipennis*

Common, breeding resident/summer migrant

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

**General:** 236 records, well up on last year, but RR of 1.5% is down on the 30YA of 1.8%. Recorded in 50 weeks, 19% in winter, 20% spring, summer 31% and autumn 29% - suggesting that the hobby is more resident than migrant. Range Max 5/10 Feb Jerrabomberra Ck (CoF1), average 1.1. Recorded in 61 grid cells. 1 breeding record: on/ 8 Oct Holder (BeS1).

**GBS:** 29 records, from 13 suburban sites. RR (1.4%) down on the 30YA of 2.2%. Recorded in 21 weeks with winter 21%, spring 21%, summer 31% and autumn 28%. Most records were of single birds. No breeding recorded since 2012.

**Australian Hobby**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	236	163	45	60.7
WR	1	0	Inf	1.6
G	61	51	20	25.3
BR	1	0	Inf	1.6
GA	0.0167	0.0182	-8	0.0246
GS	13	17	-24	19.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.9

**Brown Falcon** *Falco berigora*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A resident of grasslands and open woodlands.

**General:** A good number of records, 220, including 2 WOO, though RR of 1.4% against the 30YA of 2.6% is less positive. Recorded from 74 widespread grid cells over 50 weeks in numbers ranging from 1-5, average 1.3. Max 5/27 Oct Taylors Creek Rd GrU09 (LeM1). Seasonal distribution winter 21%, spring 31%, summer 30% and autumn 18%. A somewhat lower figure for autumn than usual. 2 breeding records: on/22 Aug Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1); and ny/21 Nov "Illilanga" GrL25 (CoF1)

**GBS:** 4 records, all of single birds, from Ainslie, Wamboin and Wee Jasper, between Aug and Apr, 1 in winter, 2 in summer and 2 in autumn. This species appears to be affected more than most by Canberra's suburban growth.

**Brown Falcon**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	220	225	-2	89.6
WR	2	7	-71	2.5
G	74	94	-21	43.4
BR	2	2	0	1.0
GA	0.0020	0.0030	-35	0.0041
GS	3	4	-25	3.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Black Falcon** *Falco subniger*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

An inland species favouring eucalypt woodland.

**General:** 10 records, of 1-2 birds, from 10 widespread and mainly rural grid cells. RR of 0.1% the same as the long-term average. Recorded between Aug and Jun. Continues the pattern of regular but low level reporting of this inland raptor.

**GBS:** A single record: 1/3wk Jan Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) of a bird passing through the site abutting Mr Ainslie NR.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** 84 records, of 1-5 birds, average 1.3. Max 5/13 Nov Red Rocks GrJ16 (HeS1). RR of 0.5% is 45% down on the 30YA, reflecting the situation in which many raptors in our region find themselves. Recorded widely from 38 grid cells across urban and peri-urban areas and in 40 weeks, seasonally: winter 23%, spring 20%, summer 30% and autumn 27%, a pattern showing fewer spring records than usual. 4 breeding records of the same event, from ne/17 Aug to dy/13 Nov Red Rocks Gorge GrJ16 (HeS1). 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**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	84	61	38	32.6
WR	0	0	-	0.6
G	38	34	12	18.3
BR	4	7	-43	1.6
GA	0.0054	0.0052	4	0.0066
GS	4	8	-50	6.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

**GBS:** 10 records, of 1-2 birds, from 4 sites in Curtin, Ainslie, Wamboin and Chapman, over 10 weeks, with 2 records in winter, 1 in spring, 3 in summer and 4 in autumn. A fairly typical result for this survey, RR at 0.5% a little below the 30YA of 0.6%.

### CACATUIDAE: cockatoos and corellas

#### 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 AoI.

**General:** 8 records (3 last year) of 1-2 birds: earliest: 1/12 Jul Cook GrJ13 (BaD3), latest 4/10 Apr NatArbor (DaC2); sightings of 2 birds 2/20 Nov NatArbor (EbD1) and 2/4 Mar Lyneham (EbD1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 3 sites: 1/1 Jan Giralang (McD4), 1/9 Apr Curtin (AjR1), 2/16 Apr Kambah (VeP1).

#### Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

Rare, breeding visitor.

Very occasionally seen in casuarina food source trees on Mts Ainslie and Majura. Declared vulnerable in the ACT and NSW. First recorded in 1991, and sporadically since then.

**General:** No records this year. Earlier records in 2018, 2016, 2015 and 1992-2013, with peaks of 20 or more in the period 2003-2007. 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 funerea*

Common, breeding resident

Found mainly in the ranges to the west and south of Canberra, but becoming more widespread.

**General:** RR (6.3%) is 19% up from last year (5.3%) and 48% above the 30YA, steadily increased from 2013 (2.2%). Reported all year but more frequently in autumn (35%). Average 6.9, median 3 with max 245/15 Jul Kowen Forest (CaR3). 7 breeding records (6 last year): earliest dy/13 Jul Murrumbateman (BlA2), latest dy/23 Apr MtMajNR (MeM2).

**GBS:** 377 records from 40 sites (87%) from 52 weeks in groups of varying sizes averaging 6, median 3 with max 120/3wk Jun Murrumbateman GrIO6 (BlJ1). Abundance was 19% higher than last year and 140% higher than the 30YA but much lower than the peak abundance after the 2003 bushfires (A=2.2998 in 2003-04). Fewer records in spring (15%) and more in autumn (40%). 8 breeding records from 4 sites (6 last year): earliest dy/1wk Jan Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2) and latest dy/4 wk Jun Chapman (HaJ1).

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1019	645	58	146.5
WR	9	3	200	2.5
G	140	117	20	47.4
BR	7	6	17	3.0
GA	1.1094	0.9350	19	0.4632
GS	40	42	-5	29.1
GBR	8	6	33	4.1

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

Common, breeding resident/alt. migrant

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

**General:** The status of this species has remained steady since systematic reporting began. RR (7.2%) is 7% lower than last year but 9% above the 30YA of 6.6%. Average 3.0, median 2 with max 32/19 Oct ANBG (EbD1). Recorded all year but fewer records in autumn (20%) and more in spring (30%). 18 breeding records (19 last year): earliest ih/17 Aug Callum Brae (HeS1), last dy/ Mar Weston (MaA2) with a few early starts for the next season later.

**GBS:** 667 records from 30 sites (65%) from all weeks of up to 23 individuals. Average 3.3, median 2 with max 23/3wk May Garran (QuA1), with little seasonal variation although slightly fewer records in winter and spring (23%) and more records in autumn (29%). Abundance was 9% higher than last year, well below the peak of 2012-13 (A=1.27) but 34% above the 30YA. Recorded throughout Canberra. 9 breeding

Gang-gang Cockatoo

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1161	944	23	226.4
WR	19	13	46	7.6
G	79	83	-5	47.4
BR	18	19	-5	5.9
GA	1.0854	0.9944	9	0.8072
GS	30	41	-27	43.7
GBR	9	16	-44	11.3

records (16 last year) from 4 sites with first breeding record dy/1 k Jul Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3) and last dy/2 wk Feb Deakin GrK14 (RoD2).

### **Galah** *Eolophus roseicapilla*

Widespread throughout the region.

**General:** Ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in RR (41.3%) 2% higher than last year and 11% above the 30YA, representing a continuing slight upturn following a downward trend from 2013 (46.5%). Recorded all year but fewer records in winter (20%) and more in spring (31%). Average 8.2, median 4, with max 1000/17 Jul BuTYL GrS13 (EbD1). 128 breeding records (106 last year): first dy/3 Jul Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4), last dy/3 Mar Fadden GrK16 (CaR3), with a few early starts for the next season later in the year.

**GBS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> most abundant species in the GBS. Records from 100% of sites in all weeks of up to 300 individuals with little seasonal variation. Average 7.9, median 4, max 300/3wk Jun Macarthur GrL16 (MaL9). Abundance 17% above last year, arresting a gradual decline since 2010-11, 5% below the 30YA and well below the 2002-03 peak of 9.56. Breeding recorded from 14 sites (19 last year): earliest ih/1wk Aug Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and last dy/2wk Mar Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1), with a few early starts for the next season later in the year.

Very common, breeding resident

Galah				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	6588	4928	34	1276.8
WR	166	250	-34	137.7
G	197	194	2	114.5
BR	127	106	20	27.7
GA	6.6855	5.6970	17	7.0684
GS	46	54	-15	63.3
GBR	60	64	-6	59.4

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

Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** No records. Last record 2007-2008 (14 records). Recorded 7 times since records began

Non-breeding escapee

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

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

**General:** RR 0.5%, the same as last year and the same as the 30YA. Average 6.9, median 2 with max 65/2 Mar Belmore Pk Goulburn GrZ01 (FuP1). More records in summer (34%) with fewer (20%) in autumn. 1 breeding record (1 last year): ih/18 Sep Campbell Pk NP GrM13 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 8 records (2 last year) of up to 4 birds from 2 sites from Dec to May at Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2), and Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). Abundance of this species throughout the survey has been very low, except for a spike in 2012 (A=0.08). No breeding records ever in the GBS.

Uncommon, breeding resident/escapee

Long-billed Corella				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	79	64	23	18.1
WR	1	0	Inf	0.5
G	17	20	-15	5.0
BR	1	1	0	1.0
GA	0.0059	0.0004	1258	0.0066
GS	2	1	100	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 (9.6%) is 16% up on last year (8.3%) representing an arresting of the decline from the 2015 peak (12.4%) and 62% up on the 30YA (3.7%). 36 groups of 200+. Recorded from all seasons with 34% of records in summer and 16% in winter. Average 16.9, median 3 and max 770/9 Apr Fadden GrK16 (CaR3). 9 breeding records (10 last year): earliest on/23 Sep Red Hill (PeH2), latest dy/29 Apr Eddison Park Woden GrK15 (BuM4) with a few early starts for the next season later in the year.

**GBS:** The abundance was 40% higher than last year and 5 times the 30YA to the highest A value recorded for this species since the GBS began. Records from 38 sites (83%) from all weeks with 33%

Very common, breeding resident

Little Corella				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1545	1006	54	201.8
WR	34	32	6	9.6
G	86	74	16	22.4
BR	9	10	-10	3.4
GA	4.8822	3.4967	40	0.8097
GS	38	45	-16	23.1
GBR	12	10	20	1.7

of records in summer. Average 14.9, median 4, with max 360/3wk May Curtin GrK14 (AjR1). Breeding recorded from sites at Greenway and Watson; earliest ih/3wk Jul Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and last dy/3wk Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2).

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

A common bird of the ACT and surrounding region.

**General:** Ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in RR this year. RR 43% is 3% lower than last year but 99% higher than 30YA of 39.6%. Like the Galah, RR has gradually been tending upwards since 1998, however, there had been a slight downward trend since 2012-2013. Recorded in all months with fewer in winter (21%) and more in summer (27%). Average 7.4, median 3 with max 435/7 Jul Hannah Community Pk Fadden GrK16 (CaR3). 79 breeding records (85 last year): first dy/1 Jul Chifley GrJ15 (BuM4) and latest dy/19 Jun Holder GrJ15 (HoJ1).

**GBS:** Most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Records from all sites and all weeks with little seasonal variation. Mean 10.4, median 5 with max 168/3wk Jun Curtin (AjR1). Abundance 6% lower than last year when the highest ever abundance of A=9.9 was reported and 31% higher than the 30YA. Breeding recorded from 8 sites (11 last year): earliest ih/1wk Jul Deakin GrK14 (RoD2) and latest dy/2wk Jun Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1).

Very common, breeding resident

#### **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	6845	5361	28	1357.0
WR	152	259	-41	140.0
G	202	214	-6	127.8
BR	77	85	-9	21.5
GA	9.3911	9.9796	-6	7.1621
GS	46	54	-15	62.9
GBR	57	35	63	25.8

## **PSITTACULIDAE: parrots, lorikeets and rosellas**

### **Red-rumped Parrot** *Psephotus haematonotus*

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

**General:** Reported in all months (19% winter, 29% spring, 30% summer, 22% autumn) with a RR of 21.0%, 2% below last year and 35% above the 30YA. RR increased steadily from 2002 to 2014 then declined to 2016-7 (16.2%) before rebounding last year. Mean 6.4, median 4 with max 124/2 Aug Mawson District Playing Fields (HeS1). 43 breeding records (50 last year): first ih/20 Jul Acton Peninsular GrK14 (EbD1) and last dy/10 Mar Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (WyP1).

**GBS:** Records of up to 50 individuals from 30 (65%) sites from all weeks. Highest numbers (29%) in autumn, slightly fewer (22%) in summer. Average 4.8, median 3 with max 50/1wk Jul Curtin (AjR1). Abundance 9% higher than last year and 136% higher than the 30YA, steadily increasing from 2006. Breeding recorded from 2 sites (none last year): ih/4wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1), dy/3wk Nov Duffy GrI15 (CaJ4).

Common, breeding resident

#### **Red-rumped Parrot**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	3372	2593	30	531.4
WR	42	58	-28	29.4
G	107	102	5	58.8
BR	43	50	-14	11.9
GA	1.1300	1.0390	9	0.4793
GS	30	39	-23	26.6
GBR	2	0	Inf	2.3

### **Crimson Rosella** *Platycercus elegans*

An attractive common resident of the COG area of interest.

**General:** RR (46.3%) is 3% lower than last year and about the same as 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% in 2017-18, but took a significant upturn last year with a small decline this year. Average 4.3, median 3 with max 100/10 Aug Campbell Pk (LeM1). Recorded in all seasons but highest in spring (30%). Breeding: 87 records (71 last year) first ih/3 Jul Acton Peninsular (EbD1) and last dy/4 Feb Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1) followed by several 'ih' records to the end of the year.

Crimson Rosella/Eastern Rosella hybrid last reported last year. Yellow Rosella last reported 2015.

Very common, breeding resident

#### **Crimson Rosella**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	7452	5786	29	1559.1
WR	337	362	-7	210.0
G	233	232	0	158.8
BR	87	71	23	30.2
GA	3.1340	3.1175	1	3.3761
GS	46	54	-15	63.2
GBR	48	72	-33	38.1

**GBS:** 9<sup>th</sup> most abundant species (7<sup>th</sup> last year). Records from 46 sites from all weeks with almost no seasonal variation: average 3.6, median 3 with max 27/2wk Sep Jerrabomberra (HaL2). Abundance the same as 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. Abundance remained around that value until 2006, and from then declined to A=2.9942 in 2016-17, rising to A=3.1340 this year. Breeding recorded from 11 sites: earliest ih/2wk Jul Deakin (RoD2) and latest dy/3 wk Feb Ainslie (HoS1). Crimson Rosella/Eastern Rosella hybrid reported from 1 site in Holder in Jul-Jun. Yellow Rosella last reported 2010-11.

**Eastern Rosella** *Platycercus eximius*

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

**General:** RR 25.4%, 9% lower than last year and 6% lower than the 30YA and well below RR in 2013-14 (31.1%). Recorded in all seasons (higher numbers in spring 35% and fewer in winter 21%). Average 3.9, median 2 with max 50/10 Aug Campbell Pk (LeM1). Breeding: 51 records (57 last year): first ih/5 Jul The Pinnacle NR (AlB1) and last dy/2 Mar Hawker GrI12 (BuM4) with a few 'ih' records to the end of the year.

**GBS:** Records from 44 (96%) sites from all weeks with little seasonal variation (spring 29% and summer 22%). Abundance 2% higher than last year and 3% lower than the 30YA and below the peak in 2005-06 (A=1.78). Average 2.7, median 2 with max 11/2wk Mar Macarthur (MaL9). 20 breeding records from 6 sites (6 sites last year): first ih/1wk Aug Aranda (MeP1) and last dy/3wk Jan Aranda (MeP1)

Very common, breeding resident

**Eastern Rosella**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	4086	3392	20	926.1
WR	179	222	-19	124.5
G	155	163	-5	102.8
BR	51	57	-11	20.1
GA	1.4450	1.4148	2	1.4859
GS	44	52	-15	61.2
GBR	20	34	-41	21.9

**Australian Ringneck** *Barnardius zonarius*

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

**General:** No records (one in 2016-17).

Escapee

**Swift Parrot** *Lathamus discolor*

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

**General:** 58 records (24 last year) of 1-25 birds in Apr/May and Sep/Oct with many from the National Gallery and Watson. Also seen at Callum Brae and Molonglo Gorge. Max 25/25 Sep Watson GrL12 (AlA1). Earliest: 1/8 Sep Wanniasa Hills Primary School (HeS1), last 3/19 May Watson GrL12 (EbD1). Seen previously in any number in 2005, 2008, 2011, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

**GBS:** 12 records from 3 sites of 1-7 birds (1 last year, 3 in 2015-16) from Holt, O'Connor and Ainslie: Max 7/1wk Jan O'Connor GrL13 (DoM1).

Rare, non-breeding winter migrant

**Blue-winged Parrot** *Neophema chrysostoma*

A rare visitor from the west.

**General:** No records. Recorded in 2016, 2015 and 2013 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:** 32 records of presumably the same bird at JWNR 5-12 October, 2 other records of single birds: 1/27 Oct Googong Dam GrO17 (BuM4), 1/14 Feb JWNR (EbD1). No records last year, 3 records in 2016-17.

Non-breeding vagrant/escapee

**Musk Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta concinna*

Occasionally strays from eastern ranges.

Rare, non-breeding visitor



**General:** 58 records (19 last year) of 1-6 birds, many in Wanniasa and Watson and most from Jan-Jun. Max 6/11 Jan North MFNR GrL10 (CaM4). Earliest record 1/28 Aug (EbD1) and last 2/26 Jun both from Wanniasa Hills Primary School (HeS1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 1 site (previously recorded 2016-17): 2/2wk Jan Watson (WaK1).

**Little Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta pusilla*

Rare, non-breeding visitor

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

**General:** 1 record (2 last year) with earlier records from 2013 and with records in most years before then: 2/21 Feb Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1)

**GBS:** No records, 1 in 2015, 3 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 well to the east of 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 recorded in 2012-2013 and 1 in 1984-1985.

**Rainbow Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus moluccanus*

Common, breeding resident

A resident population in Belconnen region that has spread south.

**General:** Many records from Belconnen and N Canberra suburbs, however, there are now records throughout Canberra. RR 10.1%, 13% higher than last year and almost 1.5 times the 30YA. Since 2008-2009, RR has risen steadily from 1.2% to the current value, a significant increase. Records from all months, larger numbers in spring (27%) and fewer in winter (23%). Average 3.1, median 2 with max 60/21 Feb Goulburn GrZ01 (AnF1). 12 breeding records from 7 grid cells (10 last year from 5 grid cells): earliest ih/11 Aug Fadden (HeS1), last on/19 May Watson (WeS1). They include 2

dependant young records: dy/16 Jan Hawker (AlB1), dy/20 Mar Wanniasa Hills PS GrK16 (CaR3).

**GBS:** Abundance 2.6% lower than last year but about 4.6 times the 30YA, a minor drop after a continuing increase in abundance since 2006. 804 records from 31 sites (67%), including both N & S Canberra. Max 28/1wk Apr Fadden GrK16 (CaR3) with average 3.0, median 2. Observed in 52 weeks with slightly more sightings in autumn (27%). 9 breeding records (7 last year) from 3 sites in Page, Weston and Kaleen: earliest dy/2wk Jan Page (AlB1), last dy/1wk May Weston (MaA2).

Rainbow Lorikeet

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1619	1080	50	139.1
WR	32	22	45	3.4
G	43	39	10	9.4
BR	12	10	20	2.6
GA	1.2012	1.2297	-2	0.2154
GS	31	36	-14	12.5
GBR	9	7	29	1.3

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

Non-breeding vagrant/escapee

Occasionally strays from coastal areas in the Illawarra region, or escapes from local aviaries.

**General:** 63 records (24 last year) of 1-3 birds mainly from Watson Nov-Feb and the National Gallery and High Court area in Parkes. Earliest 1/3 Jul National Gallery and High Court (EbD1) and latest 1/30 Jun Hall Recreation Reserve GrJ11 (WeS1). 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 may have been recorded in the COG area in the past, but there are no records of this occurring in the present dataset.

**General:** 2 records (1 last year): 1/29 Apr Belconnen Golf Course Holt (DaC1), 1/23 May Mawson District Playing Fields (HeS1).

**Superb Parrot** *Polytelis swainsonii*

Common, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** Most records from north of LBG but movement continues across Canberra following the initial movement into Belconnen from 2005-06. Records from 41 grid cells this year compared with 37 last year. RR(5.2%) is the same as last year *representing the highest rate ever recorded (previous highest 5.1% in 2012-13)* and 67% above the 30YA (3.1%). Most records in summer (40%) with few records in winter (3.7%). Average 4.8, median 3 with max 50/17 Feb Federal Golf Course GrK15 (CaR3). 20 breeding records (8 last year) from ih/24 Sep Kama GrI13 (DaC1) to dy/1 Feb Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

**GBS:** Records from 18 sites (39%, 16 last year) from 38 weeks (29% spring, 38% summer and 31% autumn with only 2% of records in winter) mostly across the north of Canberra, but some records from Garran, Curtin, Weston, Griffith, Deakin and Fadden. Max 30/2wk Feb Deakin (RoD2), average 3.8, median 2. Abundance 4% lower than last year, arresting the continuing increases since movement of birds into suburban Canberra commenced in 2005-06 and 1.6 times the 30YA. Breeding recorded from 2 sites (2 last year) in Watson and Ainslie: earliest dy/3wk Dec and last dy/3wk Feb both at Ainslie (HoS1).

**Superb Parrot**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	840	628	34	105.7
WR	17	18	-6	4.8
G	41	37	11	13.4
BR	20	8	150	5.5
GA	0.2360	0.2458	-4	0.0907
GS	18	16	12	7.9
GBR	8	7	14	4.2

**Australian King-Parrot** *Alisterus scapularis* 976

Common, breeding resident

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

**General:** RR (15.2%) is 2% higher than last year but 41% higher than the 30YA. Sighted throughout the year with fewer records (18%) in summer and slightly more in winter (28%), Mean 3.6, median 2 with max 56/13 May ANU (EbD1). Significant growth in nos. (8,780 birds this year) since 2010. 16 breeding records (23 last year): first ih/10 Sep ANBG (EbD1) and last dy/4 Mar Cook GrJ13 (DrC1).

**GBS:** Records from 44 sites (96%) from all weeks of up to 70 individuals with 30% in winter, 27% in autumn and 18% in summer. Abundance 21% higher than last year and 55% higher than the 30YA. Max 70/4wk Jun Yarralumla (OnP1), average 4.6, 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 10 sites (9 last year): earliest ih/2wk Sep Ainslie (HoS1) and last dy/2wk Mar Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1).

**Australian King-Parrot**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2459	1806	36	370.2
WR	41	32	28	15.8
G	83	78	6	37.0
BR	16	23	-30	4.2
GA	2.9009	2.3971	21	1.8771
GS	44	51	-14	55.3
GBR	30	28	7	23.5

**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:** Last recorded in 2017-18 (2 records) with records in 2015-16 and 2014-15).

**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 (1.0%) is 20% above the 10 YA but still down 33% on the 30YA. The current RR is above the 0.61% of 2004, the season following the devastating fires of Jan 2003. It has been a long struggle for the species to re-establish itself in NNP after the fires, and the 2020 fires present another existential challenge. Nearly all records were of single birds from NNP & TNR. Max 17/15 Jun TNR Camel Back Trail GrF17 (DaC1), mean 1.9 and median 1. Recorded in all seasons with a summer 31%. No breeding records, only in 4 years in the past 33 years.

**Superb Lyrebird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	158	115	37	50.3
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	43	36	19	25.4
BR	0	0	-	0.1
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:** The range of this species is extending. This year's 709 records (1,517 individual birds) is a 34% increase over last year following a 37% increase the year before. Observed in 80 grid cells, up from 66 last year and well above the 10YA of 47 and 30YA of 28.2. Fewer records from the north side of Canberra this year. RR this year was 4.4%, the same as last year and greater than both the 10YA (3.4%) and the 30YA (3.1%). Abundance is up to 0.0943, above the 10YA of 0.0613 and the 30YA of 0.05201. Reported in all weeks. The 10YA for weeks reported is now 43.2 and the 30YA is 30 weeks only. Max 30/21 Jun NNPVIC (EbD1), mean 2.1 and median 1. 12 tentative breeding records, down from 14 last year and 22 the year before (which was the largest number recorded), but nearly all “display”, a few “nest building” and one “carrying food”. **GBS:** 569 records (480 last year) from 29 sites in the suburbs and 1 site at Murrumbateman and 1 in Wee Jasper. Reported in all seasons of the year, but slightly more (31%) in winter. The abundance of this species has increased to an all-time high of 0.66, being more than 142% above the GBS 10YA and 230% above the GBS 30YA. While most sites are south of LBG, the species has been reported from Aranda, Page and Scullin, not to mention Murrumbateman and Wee Jasper. 8 breeding records reported from 4 sites, in Yarralumla (NeG1), Kambah (VeP1), Curtin (AjR1) and Duffy (CaJ4).

**Satin Bowerbird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	709	531	34	105.3
WR	3	1	200	1.3
G	80	66	21	28.2
BR	12	14	-14	3.4
GA	0.6570	0.4317	52	0.1988
GS	31	31	0	18.7
GBR	8	5	60	4.0

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

Common, breeding resident

Prefers more mature open forests especially at higher altitudes.

**General:** 1873 records (3512 individual birds), an increase of 6% over the 1766 records (3492 birds) last year and well above the 30YA of 1027 birds. Recorded in 175 grid cells (181 last year) in all weeks, spread evenly across the seasons though with slightly fewer birds in winter (21%). RR of 11.6% is down from 14.6% last year, and below 10 & 30YAs. Abundance (0.2182) is below the 30YA value of 0.2996. **Abundance has again declined to its lowest level after a slight recovery last**

**White-throated Treecreeper**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1873	1771	6	602.9
WR	69	95	-27	78.6
G	175	181	-3	122.6
BR	5	8	-38	3.2
GA	0.0432	0.0464	-7	0.0629
GS	5	6	-17	9.3
GBR	0	1	-100	0.2

year. Max 12/15 Jun TNR Camelback Trail GrF17 (DaC1), mean 1.9 and median 1. 5 breeding records, down from 8 last year: first nb/22 Aug The Pinnacle NR (AlB1); last dy/24 Nov Stony Creek NR GrP15 (EbD1).

**GBS:** Reported regularly from 2 rural (Carwoola BuM1 and Wamboin CoK2) and 1 suburban (Cook TaN1) sites. Records were spread evenly through the year with slightly fewer in autumn, which is atypically low this year. Abundance remains about half the 10YA and only 66% of the 30YA. All sightings but one were of single birds. No breeding this year, with only 4 breeding reports for the GBS over the period of the survey.

### Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythrops*

Uncommon, breeding resident

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

**General:** 27 records this year (29 last year) reporting 51 individual birds (52 last year), from 22 sites in NNP (11 from Warks/Blundells Ck Rds) and 4 others. Reported in all seasons of the year between Aug and May. RR (0.2%) is down on last year but this value has always been low. Its more remote habitat and quiet behaviour may be resulting in under reporting. Max 6/19 Aug NNP Stockyard Spur Walking Track (AlA1), mean 1.9 median 2. 2 breeding records: cf/3 Jan NNP (BeS1) and dy/22 Jan (KaL1) both at New Chums Rd GrD16. In 35 years, breeding recorded in only 9 years.

### Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

Rare, breeding resident

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

**General:** About the same number of records and birds seen as last year, continuing the slow decline of this species in the COG AoI. 78 records this year of 192 birds (81 records of 219 birds last year) is well below the 2012 peak of 137, and below the 10YA of 88.8 but the same as the 30YA of 77.9 records. Recorded in 37 weeks, in all seasons with a peak in spring (35%). However, the species was reported from only 4.6% of grid cells compared to the 30YA of 10.6% of grid cells. A small decrease in RR this year (0.5 down from 0.7 last year), is well below the 10YA of 1.3 and the 30YA of 2.3. Abundance is also falling over time with a value this year of 0.0119, much lower than the 10YA 0.0390 and the 30YA of 0.0551. Max 9/14 Oct Murrays Corner GrG15 (CaJ4), mean 2.5, median 2. Only 4 breeding records (4 last year): first cf/18 Oct Michelago GrL25 (HeS1) and last dy/18 Jan Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1).

Brown Treecreeper

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	78	81	-4	77.9
WR	1	7	-86	9.2
G	16	21	-24	24.6
BR	4	4	0	3.1
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:** Number of records up by 23% but the number of birds reported is down 3%. Abundance has dropped this year by 26% and the RR (31.5%) has decreased by 7%. Records from all weeks with marginally higher proportions of records in spring and summer. Max 74/17 Jan JWNr (DaC1), mean 5.7 and median 4 (mean 7.1 and median 5 last year). 23 breeding records this year is the same as last year: earliest nb/2 Aug LGin (EbD1) and last dy/27 Feb The Pinnacle (AlB1) with an early start to next season, nb/11 Jun West Hume GrL18 (HeS1).

Superb Fairy-wren

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	5069	4123	23	1212.0
WR	54	84	-36	76.3
G	182	212	-14	142.1
BR	23	24	-4	13.6
GA	1.5245	1.3637	12	1.2137
GS	38	47	-19	50.9
GBR	19	22	-14	13.0

**GBS:** 958 records (1006 last year) from 38 sites from all weeks of the year. While the number of birds reported (3107) is down on last year (3146) the A Value (A=1.5245) is up 12% on last year. Mean 3.2, median 3 and max 11/3wk Sep Curtin (AjR1). 19 breeding records (22 last year): first di/4wk Sep Curtin (AjR1) and last dy/4wk Mar Nicholls (LiR1).

**MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters and chats****Crescent Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*

Uncommon, breeding resident/alt. migrant

Reported mostly during the winter months.

**General:** 83 records this year, 57 last year. The RR of 0.5% is the same as last year and down 36% on the 30YA. Recorded throughout the year, similar to the long-term pattern with fewer in summer (9.6%) and more in winter (47%). Most observations at ANBG (29), NNP (17) and Stony Ck NR (7) with others from Cotter Reserve, TNR and Tallaganda NP. Max 12/19 May NNP Square Rock Track (COF1). No breeding records. The only breeding records are 1 in 2014 and 3 in 1990.

**GBS:** 10 records from a regular site in Chapman (HoJ1), of a single bird between 1wk Jul and 3wk Aug, and between 2wk May and 4wk Jun. 1 other record 1/2wk Jun Duffy (CaJ4). Abundance dropped sharply in 2003 and has been very low since then.

**Crescent Honeyeater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	83	57	46	27.4
WR	1	0	Inf	0.0
G	19	22	-14	11.9
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.0064	0.0004	1372	0.0153
GS	2	1	100	5.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

**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:** 7 records this year (13 last year) of one bird at JWNr; earliest 21 Jul, latest 20 Oct, both (MiP1). No breeding records, 2 last year, and possibly 1 the year before ("carrying food").

**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 up on last year but the number of birds (2,292) and RR (4.8%) almost the same. Main sites: ANBG (33%) and JWNr (48%), but also LGin, WBPd, Casuarina Sands and Goulburn Wetlands. Seasonal pattern typical for this species with most records in spring (35%) and fewest in summer (18%). Max 19/1 May ANBG (EmL1), mean 3.0 and median 2. 3 breeding records; first dy/15 Nov ANBG (ReS1) last ny/3 Jan JWNr (CaM4).

**GBS:** 31 records this year (5 last year and 35 the year before), at 3 suburban and 1 rural site throughout the year: earliest 1/2wk Jul Wee Jasper (WiP9) and latest 1/4wk Jun Duffy (CaJ4). Max 10 4wk Jul Wee Jasper (WiP9), mean 1.5, median 1. Abundance has fluctuated over the years and this year is recovering from a very low point. No breeding recorded this year. There are only 8 years where breeding has been recorded.

**New Holland Honeyeater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	772	594	30	136.4
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	27	22	23	13.3
BR	3	7	-57	1.5
GA	0.0236	0.0039	504	0.0330
GS	4	3	33	6.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.3

**Blue-faced Honeyeater** *Entomyzon cyanotis*

Vagrant, very rare breeding resident

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

**General:** 19 records this year a considerable increase, mostly from Yass GrG03 and Hall GrJ11. Multiple sightings at similar time periods indicate that the actual number of birds seen is much less than the 35 indicated in the data. The species has been reported in 7 years since the first record in 2006. The COG AoI lies a little to the east of the normal southernmost range of this bird.

**Black-Chinned Honeyeater** *Melithreptus gularis*

Rare vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. COG AoI is to the east of its normal range. Records previously from 1999, 2007 (10 records), 2008, and 2010.

**General:** 1 record on 3 Mar Rose Retreat, Jerangle GrQ29 (FeH1), not presented for appraisal.

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

A species of drier forests at all altitudes.

**General:** Number of records, number of birds about the same as last year, but RR (2.3%) is 27% lower than last year and 41% lower than the 30YA. *The RR has been in steady decline since 2007 to its lowest point ever.* Seasonal distribution of records follows long-term patterns but with slightly more records in spring (39%) and fewer in winter (16%). Mostly observed in nature reserves around Canberra, max 20/19 May Wamboin (EbD1), mean 4, median 3. 5 breeding records: first Br/16 Oct Campbell Park (LeM1), last dy/19 Mar Jerrabomberra grasslands (EbD1).

**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, dy/2-3wk Feb Wamboin (CoK2).

Common, breeding resident

**Brown-headed Honeyeater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	373	385	-3	133.8
WR	27	28	-4	19.9
G	79	85	-7	44.0
BR	5	7	-29	2.9
GA	0.1001	0.0546	83	0.0427
GS	5	4	25	4.8
GBR	2	2	0	0.2

**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 the same as last year but the number of birds well up (3,952 cf 2,927 last year). The RR (2.9%) is still 44% down on the 30YA. Fewer records in winter (13%) with most records in autumn (30%). Return migration numbers were low (30 or fewer) first noted around mid-Sep. Autumn migration flocks of up to 490 in the late Mar/Apr, with max 490/21 Apr Gigerline NR (MaL2). There were only 5 groups greater than 100 in Apr and May. Mean 8.6, median 3. 9 breeding records, 6 last year: first dy/21 Oct TNR GrF18 (EbD1), last dy/19 May Wamboin (EbD1).

**GBS:** 62 records, 73 last year. Little evidence of return migration, with up to 5 birds being reported from Jul to Mar, with the first large group (40) being reported in 1wk Apr, the start of the migration in autumn. Max 315/3wk Apr Jerrabomberra (HaL2), mean 11.6 median 4. Abundance a little down on last year but still 20% above the 30YA. Since the last peak of A=1 in 1999, A values usually between 0.1 and 0.2 but have risen somewhat in the last 2 years.

**White-naped Honeyeater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	469	467	0	168.4
WR	5	8	-38	5.8
G	103	99	4	65.0
BR	9	11	-18	3.8
GA	0.3523	0.4131	-15	0.2944
GS	16	19	-16	25.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**White-eared Honeyeater** *Nesoptilotis leucotis*

Common, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Generally uncommon in the suburbs.

**General:** Records and number of birds (2,007) up on last year but RR and abundance are down 15% on last year and 30% on the 30YA. WOO records higher than last year. Reported from woodland and forest sites across the COG AoI, most records in autumn (39%) then winter (27%). Max 20/26 Sept Nursery Swamp GrH22 (BeS1), mean 2, median 1. 2 breeding records: Br/13 Oct and Br/18 Oct Woodlands GrK03 (SpB1).

**GBS:** 55 Records, half that of last year, over 42 weeks at 24% of sites. 65% of records from a single rural site at Wamboin (CoK2), the remaining records from 9 suburban sites and 1 site in Murrumbateman. The seasonal distribution was atypical with twice as many records in summer than usual, probably due to the long-term presence at Wamboin. *The A-value (0.0339) continues its downward trend starting in 2010 to its lowest level ever.*

**White-eared Honeyeater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	997	884	13	304.6
WR	30	20	50	21.8
G	159	148	7	97.1
BR	2	2	0	2.3
GA	0.0339	0.0572	-41	0.0945
GS	11	20	-45	27.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.6

**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. Present in most years since 2003 with peaks in 2003 and 2014.

**Little Friarbird** *Philemon citreogularis*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** 15 records after 1 last year, reported from 7 dispersed grid cells. 5 records on 2 Feb Black Mt Pen, with sightings from Hall & Hall TSR, JWNR, Pierces Ck, Stony Ck Woodland, Watson and Yerrabi Pond. No breeding records.

**Noisy Friarbird** *Philemon corniculatus*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A species mostly of lowland woodland regions.

**General:** Although the number of records is up on last year, the number of birds (4,484) is significantly lower than last year (5,555). RR 10.1% about 20% down on last year and the long-term averages. *Since 1990, RR has remained steady around 10%, with high points in 1999 and 2000.* 54% records in spring, 36% in summer. 1 record in winter in Jul ANBG. Next record was relatively late 2/9 Sep Latham (HuC2), last 1/19 May Cotter Reserve (WeS1). Max was a roost flight of 84/18 Oct N Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1), mean 2.8, median 2. 23 breeding records, well down on 68 last year: the first on/27 Oct Umbagog Park GrI12 (CuR1), last dy/19 Jan NNPVIC (HoS1).

**GBS:** Number of records (252) continues its downward trend to the lowest level ever. Recorded at 76% of sites, but the number of birds recorded is less than half of last year, and 74% down on the 30YA. Present for a relatively short season between Sep and Apr, *one of the shortest ever.* Earliest record 1/1wk Sep Curtin (AjR1), latest 1/4wk Apr Fadden (CaR3). Abundance about half last year and 66% below the 30YA. From a peak of A=1.23 in 2000, the species has recorded a steady decline in the GBS. 7 breeding records: first nb/3wk Oct Curtin (AjR1), last dy/2wk Jan Ainslie (HoS1).

**Noisy Friarbird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1626	1562	4	425.1
WR	69	93	-26	64.1
G	114	121	-6	69.2
BR	23	68	-66	20.6
GA	0.1968	0.3901	-50	0.5717
GS	35	42	-17	55.3
GBR	7	8	-12	31.2

**Black Honeyeater** *Sugomel nigrum*

Non-breeding vagrant

Vagrant from inland.

**General:** No records this year. 3 records last year, all from Nelanglo TSR GrO05 Recorded only 5 times since 1982: 1991, 2007, 2009 and 12 records in 2014, a single record 2017, and 3 in 2018.

**Scarlet Honeyeater** *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

Rare, non-breeding visitor.

Visitor from coastal districts.

**General:** 3 records of single birds this year, down from 45 last year, from 3 different locations: 1/3 Oct JWNR (HoS1), 1/27 Oct O'Connor (MiP1) and 1/4 Feb Tallaganda NP Rocky Pic (LaK1).

**GBS:** Rarely recorded in GBS. No records this year after 5 records from 3 sites last year.

**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 but the RR dropped back to 8.5% from 10.4% last year. *The RR has hovered around 10% since 1981.* Observed throughout the year but a slightly higher proportion of sightings in autumn (29%). Most sightings from Canberra suburbs and surrounding nature reserves, one hot spot being the ANBG. Only 1 breeding record: dy/4 Feb Wamboin Gr O13 (EbD1).

**Eastern Spinebill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1368	1262	8	340.6
WR	8	15	-47	11.4
G	124	119	4	66.5
BR	1	6	-83	1.6
GA	0.6070	0.5917	3	0.6014
GS	42	45	-7	56.2
GBR	5	5	0	3.6

**GBS:** Recorded from 91% of sites, slightly higher than last year's 83% and about the long-term average (89%). Abundance was also higher than last year and the same as the 30YA. More birds seen in autumn (33%) and winter (35%), the same as last year and approximating the 30YA. 5 breeding records, first nb/3wk Oct Wamboin (CoK2), last dy/4wk Jan Chapman (HaJ1).

**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 last year.

**General:** No records this year, 28 records last year from Campbell Park GrM13 between 19-24 Nov.

**White-fronted Chat** *Epthianura albigfrons*

Rare, breeding resident

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

**General:** 85 records, up on last year, but fewer birds (412 cf 531 last year). Records from the Wright/ Coombs/Denman Prospect/ Weston Ponds area and the nearby NatArbor, and only 6 from LGeo & LBath. Reported evenly throughout the year, with slightly more records in winter (34%). Max 55/16 Jul LGeo E (LeM1), mean 4.8, median 4. 6 breeding records from 6 locations: first nb/26 Aug LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1) and last dy/24 Feb Denman Prospect GrI14 (HeS1), with an early start, nb /19 Jun N Weston Ponds (BuM1). **GBS:** No records this year after 3 in Wright 2 years ago.

**White-fronted Chat**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	74	15	27.9
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	7	12	-42	7.5
BR	6	7	-14	1.6
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0002
GS	0	0	-	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:** 3 records this year from Tallaganda NP Rocky Pic (LaK1) in Nov, Dec and Feb.

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

Non-breeding vagrant

Vagrant from inland districts.

**General:** 1 record this year: 1/24 Dec MtMajNR (EbD1). 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, in NSW and the Commonwealth.

**General:** 1 record: 1/26 Mar Symonston (WeS1), 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 higher than last year. Number of birds (24,035) highest on record, and RR (44.1%) also highest on record. However, in contrast, abundance value (1.4936) is less than last year, 2015 and 2016, possibly indicating that increased observer effort in recent years is reporting more birds, but fewer are being reported each outing. Recorded evenly throughout seasons with a peak in spring (35%). Max 150/2 May Macarthur (MaL2), mean 3.4, median 2.

**Red Wattlebird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	7099	5154	38	1193.0
WR	94	106	-11	64.6
G	192	182	5	116.2
BR	123	144	-15	33.9
GA	2.5304	2.6415	-4	2.5282
GS	45	53	-15	62.6
GBR	116	173	-33	137.1



123 breeding records: first nb/10 Sep Rose Lagoon (HeS1), last dy/15 Feb Belconnen (FuP1), with an optimistic nb/19 May JWNR (EbD1).

**GBS:** Recorded at nearly all sites in all weeks, with observations distributed evenly throughout the 4 seasons. Abundance ( $A = 2.53041$ ) down a little but tracking within the long-term averages. Still the most abundant honeyeater species in the GBS. Breeding records well down on last year, recorded at 20 sites: first nb/3wk Aug Kaleen (CIM1) and last dy/2wk Feb Aranda (MeP1).

### Singing Honeyeater *Gavicalis 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 2007, 2010, 2014 and 2018.

**General:** No records this year after 10 records of 1 bird in Macgregor last year.

### White-plumed Honeyeater *Ptilotula penicillata*

Common, breeding resident

Most common in woodlands in lowland areas.

**General:** Many more records, higher number of birds and higher RR than last year, continuing recovery from the dip in all values in recent years. However, WOO records are down again, and the abundance value (0.3341) is down on last year, but still 8% up on the 30YA value. Records spread evenly across the season, slightly lower in winter (22%). Max 30/20 Oct L Gin Pen (EbD1), mean 2.9, median 2. Similar large numbers recorded consistently from LGin and Nelangelo TSR 48. 29 breeding records (19 last year): first di/25 Oct LGin (EbD1) and last dy/9 May West Hume (HeS1).

**GBS:** 148 records from 21 of sites, well up from last year. Abundance ( $A=0.1232$ ) higher than last year and 20% above the 30YA. 2 breeding records from Jerrabomberra (HaL2), dy in wks 4-5 Jan.

#### White-plumed Honeyeater

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1845	1244	48	340.0
WR	27	58	-53	31.6
G	100	101	-1	57.1
BR	29	28	4	11.2
GA	0.1232	0.0689	79	0.1025
GS	21	13	62	23.5
GBR	2	4	-50	0.7

### Yellow-plumed Honeyeater *Ptilotula ornata*

Non-breeding vagrant

A bird of forests and scrub from the west. 2 birds were seen at Hall TSR on 31 May 2018, and subsequently by many COG members at the same spot in the following days. The species is known to wander when conditions are harsh inland, which probably accounts for its arrival in our region. These 2 birds were not reported in last year's ABR.

**General:** 7 records of a single bird sighted at Kinleyside GrJ11 by 7 different observers between 28 Aug and 3 Sep.



### Fuscous Honeyeater *Ptilotula fusca* Uncommon, breeding resident/autumn migrant

Uncommon in the suburbs but sometimes overwinters.

**General:** Records well up on last year, and RR higher but still 25% below the 30YA. Many birds overwintered in 2018 with 50 records from Jul-Aug, with the seasonal distribution being atypical with more records in winter and autumn than usual. RR (1.4%) higher after lows in 2016 and 2017. Max 40/2 Feb NNP Yankee Hat GrH25 (RoJ5), mean 4.1 and median 3. 4 breeding records, all from NNP: first nb/22 Oct Cotter Hut Rd at De Salis Ck (HaL2), last dy/13 Feb Boboyan Rd Woodland (HeS1).

**GBS:** 17 records (11 last year, 3 the previous year, and 10 the year before that), all but 3 records from 1 site in Cook GrJ13 (TaN1) between 1wk Jul and 2wk Apr, with 2 records from Jerrabomberra and 1 from Weston. No breeding records.

#### Fuscous Honeyeater

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	222	148	50	62.9
WR	0	0	-	2.3
G	52	43	21	28.3
BR	4	9	-56	2.8
GA	0.0393	0.0165	138	0.0615
GS	3	1	200	13.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**White-fronted Honeyeater** *Purnella albifrons*

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** *Caligavis 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 12.5% slightly lower than last year (15.2%) and 26%r below the 30YA. The 2<sup>nd</sup> most commonly reported honeyeater, with most sightings in spring 41% and autumn 28%. Records of overwintering birds in the suburbs during Jul and Aug like last year with the first large group of returning birds 80/15 Sep Gigerline NR GrJ19 (EbD1) and 200/27 Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Autumn movement was first noted 402/20 Mar Gigerline NR (COF1). Max in autumn 2500/19 Apr Narrabundah Hill NR (COF1), mean 14.7 median 3. 2 breeding records (8 last year), first nb/18 Nov NNP Warks/Blundell Ck RdsS1, last Br/27 Dec TNR.**GBS:** Records in all but 3 weeks. Abundance (A=2.4593) slightly lower than last year, but still higher than the 30YA. 21 overwintering records in July and Aug from 7 sites. Spring return movement first noted in 1wk Sep with a flock of 12 in Curtin, then similar sized flocks from 5 sites. Autumn movement started relatively slowly in 4wk Mar with a flock of 200 recorded in Pearce (KrS1) followed by numerous reports of flocks between 50 and 500 until 4wk Apr. During autumn migration 8 flocks of 100+ birds with largest flock 500 in 1wk Apr from Pearce GrK15 (KrS1).**Yellow-faced Honeyeater**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2014	1850	9	579.0
WR	53	46	15	39.0
G	203	201	1	127.2
BR	2	8	-75	3.4
GA	2.4593	2.4881	-1	2.0625
GS	31	39	-21	50.8
GBR	0	1	-100	1.3

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

Rare, breeding resident

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

**General:** 41 records (10 last year), of 63 birds from 17 grid cells. 7 records from Gigerline NR GrK20 of 1-2 birds between 20 and 27 Apr; 9 records from Tuggeranong Hill during the winter months; and 7 records from Narrabundah Hill NR in Apr/May.**GBS:** 4 records this year, from 2 sites: earliest 1/4wk Jul Cook (TaN1) and latest 1/4wk Apr Chapman (HaJ1). Other records 6 & 7 years ago from Hoskinstown.**Bell Miner** *Manorina melanophrys*

Non-breeding vagrant

Usual distribution is coastal forests of SE Australia. Records usually from upper Queanbeyan R.

**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:** No. of records and birds higher than last year but RR lower but still 23% above the 30YA. *Since 2015 RR has flattened off after a steady rise.* Max 48/19 May Watson (WeS1), mean 5.2, median 4. More records in spring (40%). 79 breeding records, nearly 4 times the 30YA: first nb/14 Aug Fadden (HeS1); last dy/20 Jan Sutton (McD1).**GBS:** 695 Records (739 last year) from 30 sites (70% of sites), and in decreased numbers. *After a rise in the A value between 2013 and 2016, the it has flattened off albeit maintaining its record level.* Max 50/2wk Apr Red Hill (WaR4), mean 4.5, median 4. 25 breeding records from 3 sites, decreasing from last year (35): first nb/1wk Jul Watson (WaK1); last dy/2wk Jan Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and Ainslie GL13 (HoS1).**Noisy Miner**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	3924	3079	27	682.3
WR	232	221	5	110.8
G	108	106	2	60.3
BR	79	66	20	17.0
GA	1.5417	1.4725	5	0.5558
GS	30	37	-19	21.0
GBR	25	37	-32	14.3

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

Very common, breeding resident/migrant

Easily recognised from its call, foraging in larger eucalypts.

**General:** RR (18.2%) is the same as last year and close to the 10 & 30YAs. Abundance (0.495) is below the 10 & 30YAs (0.53). Mean 2.7, median 2, max 93/22 Feb N Lyneham Ridge (LeM1). A low in summer (18%) with more records in spring (31%) and autumn (36%). 43 breeding records from 9 grid cells: first ih/31 Jul ANBG, last on/24 Jan MtMajNR.

**GBS:** About the same number of records (713) as last year, from 33 sites compared with 37 last year. Abundance (0.7542) was up by 18% but remains in line with 10 and 30YAs. Average number of birds 2.2, median 2, with max 15/4wk Jul Wybalena Grove, Cook (TaN1). 3 breeding records: first nb/3wk Aug Curtin (AjR1) and latest dy/2wk Dec Florey (BrJ3).

**Spotted Pardalote**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2933	2192	34	667.9
WR	106	107	-1	81.5
G	168	160	5	109.3
BR	43	9	378	6.6
GA	0.7542	0.6407	18	0.6630
GS	33	37	-11	49.4
GBR	3	0	Inf	9.2

**Striated Pardalote** *Pardalotus striatus*

Very common, breeding resident/migrant

Common in the tablelands and often heard in the suburbs.

**General:** The RR (18.5%) is still down 9% on last year and down 18% on the 30YA. No. of records and birds is up a little (8,476 birds cf 7,226 last year). Mean 2.9, median 2, with max 100/2 Apr MFNR (HoS1). 39 breeding records from 21 grid cells, first nb/11 Jul Cook (DrC1), last cf/4 Feb Watson.

**GBS:** Abundance (0.2870) was very slightly down on last year, but RR is the same. Average number of birds 1.6, median 1, with max 12/3wk Mar Kaleen (CIM1). 7 breeding records: first nb/3wk Sep and last ny/3wk Nov Carwoola (BuM1).

**Striated Pardalote**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2976	2475	20	777.8
WR	240	274	-12	159.6
G	197	189	4	123.3
BR	39	30	30	17.6
GA	0.3970	0.4005	-1	0.5389
GS	34	34	0	46.8
GBR	7	11	-36	15.1

**ACANTHIZIDAE: thornbills and gerygones****Brown Gerygone** *Gerygone mouki*

Rare, winter visitor

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

**General:** 14 records this year, 22 last year. 11 of the records from ANBG of 1 to 6 birds between 9 Jul and 12 Sep, in contrast to last year when the birds were recorded in autumn. Other sightings: 6/9 Jul Rhoda St Goulburn and West Goulburn Bushland Reserve GrY01 (AnF1), 1/5 Aug Murrumbateman (EbD1). No breeding records ever in the COG AoI.

**White-throated Gerygone** *Gerygone olivacea*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Prefers reasonably well watered woodlands, including Canberra gardens.

**General:** The no. of records is up but the no. of birds is down on last year (1,153 birds cf 1,250). RR (3.8% cf 4.9%) is down on last year and 38% under the 30YA. Seasonal distribution normal, with 0 in winter, 49% spring, 38% summer and 12% autumn. First record 3/13 Sep MFNR (CIJ3) and latest 4/4 May Percival Hill NR (HaJ7). Mean 1.9, median 1, max 9/12 Oct MFNR (McD4). 7 breeding records: first nb/4 Nov MFNR (WiP1) and last dy/13 Mar (HeS1).

**GBS:** 36 records (21 last year) from 15% of sites, from Sep to Mar, mostly from 2 rural sites. No winter records, 56% spring, 39% summer and 6% autumn. Total

**White-throated Gerygone**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	609	591	3	208.2
WR	91	74	23	54.4
G	85	81	5	46.5
BR	7	12	-42	4.5
GA	0.0182	0.0100	82	0.0150
GS	7	4	75	8.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

no. of birds 37 (23 last year). This is still down a little on the long-term averages. Abundance (0.0182) above 10 & 30YAs (0.0154).

### Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca*

Common, breeding summer migrant

Found in drier woodland with a scrubby understory.

**General:** RR (1.3%) down 41% on last year and half the long-term rates. Mean 1.55, median 1, max 5/30 Nov Mt Ainslie NR (A1A2). Observed in 36 weeks with only 1.4% winter records, with 86% in spring and summer. 3 breeding records from 3 grid cells: first nb/27 Oct MFNR (BoJ1), and last nb/1 Dec Shepherds Lookout (ReS1).

**GBS:** No records again this year. *Generally, there are a few records each year, but there were no records for the last 3 years in the GBS Survey.* There have never been any breeding records in GBS.

#### Western Gerygone

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	211	269	-22	98.5
WR	29	34	-15	28.8
G	41	44	-7	23.6
BR	3	7	-57	1.7
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0027
GS	0	0	-	2.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### Weebill *Smicrornis brevirostris*

Common, breeding resident

Forages mainly for lerps in eucalypts in most areas.

**General:** RR (18.8%) is up on last year (15%) and matches the long-term averages. There has been an upward trend from a low of 11.3% 2 years ago. Mean 3.7, median 3, max 32/20 Jun MFNR (EbD1). Recorded in every week of the year with slightly more sightings in spring (32%). 32 breeding records (17 last year) from 19 grid cells: first nb/18 Jul Mt Ainslie NR (COF1), last dy/9 Dec Gooroo S (HoS1).

**GBS:** 438 records from 27 sites from all weeks (451 last year).

Number of birds (1,384) a little above last year (1,158), 2/3 the 10YA and 11% below the 30YA. Observed over the whole year, with slightly fewer sightings in spring and summer. Mean 3.2, median 2, max 20/33wk Jul Wee Jasper (WiP1). 8 breeding records from 2 sites: first nb/1wk Sep Curtin (AjR1), last on/4wk Oct Giralang (McD4).

#### Weebill

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	3022	1819	66	639.2
WR	213	169	26	150.9
G	107	108	-1	67.7
BR	32	17	88	6.7
GA	0.6791	0.5020	35	0.5813
GS	27	28	-4	34.9
GBR	8	10	-20	3.9

### Pilotbird *Pycnoptilus floccosus*

Rare, breeding resident

An elusive species, more often heard than seen.

**General:** Most records (19) from NNP in the Warks/Blundells Ck/Bendora Rd area, with 7 from TNR. Observed in 8 grid cells, up from 10YA of 6.8 and 30YA of 5.3. Number of birds 38 (33 last year). Despite these increases, RR and abundance has declined from both the 10YA and 30YA. Records from 17 weeks, with most from summer (59%) and spring (17%), winter (4%), and zero in autumn. Max 3/10 Feb NNP Bendora Rd (MaL2), mean 1.4, median 1. No breeding records this year. There are only 4 breeding records previously: 1989, 1996, 2011 and 2017.

### Speckled Warbler *Pyrrholaemus sagittatus*

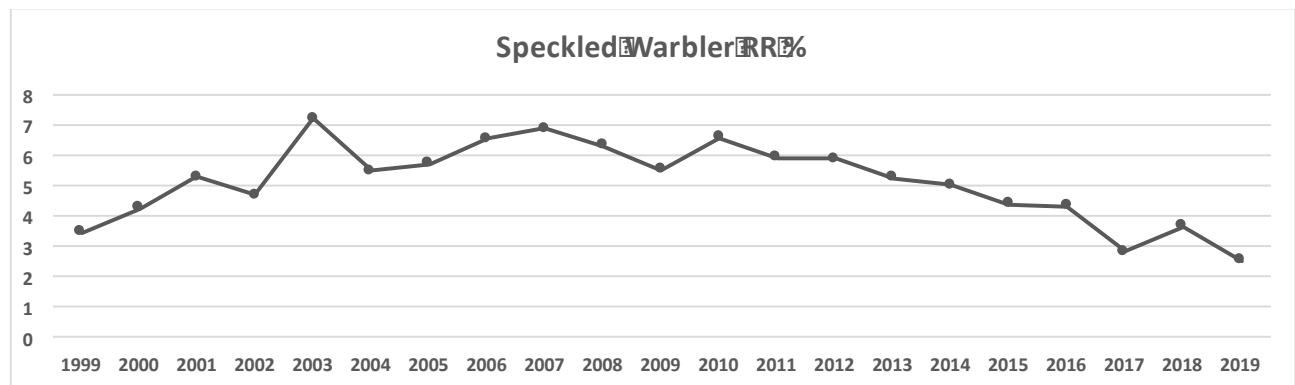
Uncommon, breeding resident

Prefers undisturbed dry open woodland. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** Observed in every week, evenly throughout the year, with slightly more records in autumn (30%) and fewer in winter (19%). A small decrease in the number of birds (878) compared with last year (898). The RR (2.5%) fell 32% from last year, well down on the 10YA (4.3%) and the 30YA (4.9%), *and now at its lowest level ever.* The abundance (0.0540) is at its lowest point since 1986. Mean 2.2, median 2, max 25/20 Jun MtMajNR (A1A1). 8 breeding records, same as last year, from 7 grid cells: first nb/2 Sep Newline (ReS1) to last dy/22 Feb Shepherds Lookout (DaC3).

#### Speckled Warbler

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	407	445	-9	167.4
WR	17	35	-51	21.4
G	56	60	-7	36.3
BR	8	8	0	3.1
GA	0.0020	0.0009	126	0.0081
GS	1	1	0	2.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0



**GBS:** 4 records (2 last year) each of 1 bird from Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2) in Sep and Oct. No breeding, only 2 breeding records in the GBS, in 1987 and 1993.

### **Chestnut-rumped Heathwren** *Calamanthus pyrrhopygius*

Rare breeding resident

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

**General:** 8 records, down from 21 last year, all records of single birds except for 2 records of 2 birds Bluetts Block (3 sightings) and Cuumbeun NR (4). The other sighting was at Vanity's Crossing. Records were evenly spread from Jul to May. No breeding records this year. Prior to this there have been only 4 breeding records: 1995, 2011, 2013 and 2018.

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

Very common, breeding resident

Found in most areas where there is suitable cover.

**General:** While the number of records and number of birds sighted (5,325 cf. 4,888 last year) is up, the RR (11.7%) is just under the long-term averages. The RR has been near this level since 1991. Records were from all weeks of the year, slightly more sightings in spring (31%) across 132 grid cells (38%). Max 25/8 Apr TNR (EbD1), mean 2.9 and median 2. 10 breeding records in 5 grid cells (16 records from 9 grid cells last year). Earliest: di/28 July JWNR (EbD1) and latest dy/30Jan Casa del Lago Belconnen (FuP1).

#### **White-browed Scrubwren**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1878	1570	20	437.5
WR	5	6	-17	4.8
G	132	131	1	87.0
BR	10	16	-38	7.1
GA	0.2861	0.2926	-2	0.2117
GS	26	30	-13	25.2
GBR	0	25	-100	6.3

**GBS:** 383 records (389 last year) from 36 sites (21 Canberra suburban and 4 in NSW). Recorded evenly throughout the year, with the slightly more (30%) in spring. Abundance like last year and the 10YA which is up on the 30YA, continuing a general upward trend starting in about 2000. Max 4/3wk Dec Scullin (ClG1), mean 1.5, median 1. Surprisingly, no breeding records this year (25 last year). There are fewer GBS sites for this species this year, continuing a downward trend from last year.

### **Southern Whiteface** *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A ground-feeder in drier scrub and grassland margins.

**General:** The number of records and number of birds (204) is about the same as last year and above the 30YA, but the RR (0.5%) *is at its lowest value ever*. Abundance is also at its lowest ebb. Sighted in more grid cells than last year (see table at right). Recorded in 35 weeks with 19% in winter, 22% spring, 24% summer and 35% autumn. Mean 2.4, median 2, max 8/9 Jun Smiths Rd (EbD1). No breeding records after 1 last year.

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

#### **Southern Whiteface**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	91	-7	59.0
WR	6	4	50	3.7
G	35	30	17	24.2
BR	0	1	-100	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:** There are more records than last year, but slightly fewer birds sighted (13,399) from about the same number of grid cells covering all weeks. However, the RR dropped to 17% below the 30YA, continuing a decline that started in 2011, *hovering just above the lowest value ever (in 2017)*. Abundance also dropped to 17% below the long-term averages. Mean 5.2, and median 4, max 50/16 May NNPVIC (EbD1). Records

distributed evenly throughout the year, with slightly fewer in winter. 55 breeding records from 26 grid cells: first nb/30 Jul NNP Orroral Valley GrG22 (HeS11) and last dy/28 Jan Gordon Pond (EbD1).

**GBS:** 324 records from 28 sites (61% of sites) in all weeks, with slightly more records in autumn (28%). Abundance about the same as last year, but is only half the 10 & 30YAs (1.3). RR (15.7%) rose but also remains well below the 10YA (25.3%) and 30YA (30.9%). Mean 3.8, median 3 and max 15/2wk Jul Crace Wetland (LeF1). 11 breeding records from 5 sites with first nb/3wk Sep Curtin (AjR1), and last dy/4wk Jan Giralang (McD4).

Very common, breeding resident

**Yellow-rumped Thornbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2721	2386	14	715.2
WR	50	61	-18	47.8
G	165	167	-1	112.5
BR	55	65	-15	23.4
GA	0.6094	0.6212	-2	1.2752
GS	28	30	-7	50.2
GBR	11	18	-39	19.6

**Yellow Thornbill** *Acanthiza nana*

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

**General:** Observed throughout the year, with slightly fewer records in winter (20%). There is this year another increase in records (33%) and bird numbers (19%) but the RR (1.9%) remains the same as last year, now above both the 10YA (1.54%) and the 30YA (1.7%). The abundance (0.0410) is also up by 10% and is close to both the 10YA (0.0428) and 30YA (0.0479). Mean 2.2 and median 2, max 10/13 Jul LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). Only 2 breeding records: nb/13 Sep Symonston (WeS1) and dy/8 Feb North Lyneham (LeM1).

**GBS:** 71 records from 5 suburban and 2 rural sites. Covering 39 weeks, essentially the same as last year. Fewest records in spring (13%), most in summer (31%) with 30% in autumn and 27% in winter. Abundance the same as last year and is 75% above the 10YA value, and 126% above the 30YA. Mean 1.8, median 2, max 6/4wk Jun Wamboin (CoK1). 1 breeding record: dy/1wk Feb Lyneham (LeM1), the same record as in the general section above.

Uncommon, breeding resident

**Yellow Thornbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	313	235	33	59.3
WR	2	2	0	1.9
G	52	56	-7	26.2
BR	2	1	100	1.2
GA	0.0618	0.0633	-2	0.0274
GS	7	9	-22	5.6
GBR	1	0	Inf	0.4

**Striated Thornbill** *Acanthiza lineata*

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

**General:** Abundance and RR up by 24% and 8% on last year, *up a little from the record low in RR in 2017*. Abundance (0.4367) is now 22% higher than the 10YA but the same as the 30YA. The RR is 6% above the 10YA but 18% below the 30YA. No. of birds (7,027) is 65% up on last year and much higher than the 10YA and 30YA figures. Observed throughout the year, more records in autumn (30%) and fewer in summer (20%). Mean 5.6, median 4, max 50/15 Jun Ashbrook Fire Trail GrF18 (DaC1). 9 breeding records from 7 grid cells: first nb/3 Aug ANBG (DaC2) and last dy/19 Jan The Pinnacle AlB1).

**GBS:** 179 records from 3 rural and 11 suburban sites over 51 weeks. Seasonal distribution again like the long-term average with more records in winter 39% and autumn 31% and fewer in spring and summer 15%. **Abundance is at its highest level**, well above that of last year and the long-term

Very common, breeding resident

**Striated Thornbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1271	890	43	330.6
WR	31	31	0	35.5
G	141	141	0	91.1
BR	9	13	-31	7.4
GA	0.6099	0.2271	169	0.2563
GS	14	9	56	21.1
GBR	2	3	-33	0.9

averages (see table). Mean 6.9 is 138% above the 30YA, median 5, max 40/3wk Jul Kambah (VeP1). 2 breeding records: nb/3wk Oct Wamboin (CoK1) and dy/4wk Oct Curtin (AjR1).

### **Brown Thornbill** *Acanthiza pusilla*

Found everywhere in the region except open grasslands.

**General:** The no. of records and birds (5,050 birds) are up, but the RR (11.1%) is down on last year, (13.5%), and the 30YA. The RR has been steady on about 10% since 2004. Abundance (0.3138) is 19% below last year and below the 10 and 30YAs. Mean 2.9, median 2, max 23/6 Jan NNP Bendora Rd GrD16 (EbD1). Seen in every week, the seasonal distribution is as even. 10 breeding records in 9 grid cells: first, nb/23 July Aranda Bushland (EbD1), last dy/28 Dec Symonston (WeS1).

**GBS:** 621 records from 33 sites (72%), from all weeks, with more in winter (28%) and autumn (27%). No. of birds (1,129) is up on the previous year, 40% above 30YA (943). Abundance also up on last year and above the 10YA and 30YA, **being at its highest level since the start of the survey**. Mean 2.1, median 2, max 24/1wk Aug Macarthur (MaL9). 3 breeding records from 2 sites, first ny/1wk Nov Deakin (RoD2), last dy/3wk Nov Yarralumla (NeG1).

Very common, breeding resident

#### **Brown Thornbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1784	1641	9	479.0
WR	34	39	-13	19.2
G	154	163	-6	107.4
BR	10	15	-33	5.2
GA	0.6477	0.4928	31	0.3513
GS	33	30	10	35.5
GBR	3	6	-50	2.9

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

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

**General:** Number of records down slightly on last year with number of birds (5748) down by 12% but still considerably more than in earlier years. RR (7.1%) is 27% down on last year, and still well under the 10YA (10.8%) and 30YA (12.6%). Abundance also fell by 33% to 0.3572, and remains below the 10 and 30YAs by 37% and 42% respectively. **Abundance is just above the record low of 2017**. Mean 5.1, median 4, max 36/5 Aug MtMajNR (AlA1). 18 breeding records from 10 grid cells: first nb/28 Aug Bicentennial National Trail GrJ11 (DaC2), and last dy/13 Jan The Pinnacle NR (AlB1).

**GBS:** 34 records, down from 37 last year, from 2 rural and 3 suburban sites. Abundance (0.0514) is just below last year but is still down by 73% on the 10YA and 63% on the 30YA. Mean 3.0, median 3, with max 5/2wk Jan Wamboin (CoK2). No breeding records this year. Very few breeding records before 2005, but reports of low numbers between 2005 and 2013, with a peak of 35 in 2012 and 5 records in 2016.

Common, breeding resident

#### **Buff-rumped Thornbill**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1145	1193	-4	432.8
WR	87	88	-1	75.0
G	113	116	-3	81.0
BR	18	36	-50	14.9
GA	0.0496	0.0507	-2	0.1345
GS	5	6	-17	9.9
GBR	0	0	-	1.5

## **POMATOSTOMIDAE: Australian 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, previously in 2012 (Gundaroo) and in 2004-07 (Duntroon).

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

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 decline from 8% in 1989 to its present value of just 1%. Despite the low RR, 700 birds recorded, far fewer than last year (1,045) though more than the 10YA (523) and the 30YA (311). Recorded in 48 weeks, with more in spring (36%) than in summer (25%), autumn (18%) and winter (21%). RR (1.0%) half that of last year (2.0%) and the 10YA (1.9%), and lower than the 30YA (2.6%). Recorded from 11% of grid cells, similar to last year, the 10YA and the 30YA.

Max 25/10 Jul MtMajNR GrM12 (AlA1), mean 4.2, median 3. 7 breeding records (9 last year): earliest, cf/28 Oct Bluetts Block (Uriarra) GrI14 (CaJ4) and latest, cf/6 Jan MFNR GrL10 (CIJ3).

**GBS:** 65 birds recorded (93 last year), similar to the 10YA (52) and the 30YA (58). 19 records (22 last year), 15 from a single site at Wamboin GrQ12 (CoK2), the others being from a site at Cook. No breeding records (none last year; recorded in only 7 years of the GBS).

Uncommon, breeding resident

**Varied Sittella**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	168	242	-31	89.1
WR	11	11	0	7.6
G	39	46	-15	30.7
BR	7	9	-22	5.6
GA	0.0319	0.0403	-21	0.0216
GS	2	3	-33	4.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.2

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

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:** 990 birds recorded (517 last year) many more than the 10YA (417) and the 30YA (211). Recorded in every month with marked spring (45%) and summer (45%) peaks, compared with autumn (8%) and winter (2%). RR (4.9%) remains relatively low, similar to last year (4.3%), the 10YA (4.4%) and the 30YA (4.9%). Recorded from 26% of grid cells surveyed (23% last year), more than the 10YA (21%) and the 30YA (17%). Max 7 (5 last year), mean 1.3, median 1. 17 breeding records, an unusually high number: 14 last year, 10YA (9.0) and the 30YA (4.8), earliest dy/5 Nov Evatt GrJ12 (KiB1) and latest dy/6 Feb JWNR GrL14 (DaC2).

**GBS:** 124 birds recorded, similar to last year (139) though fewer than the 10YA (191) and the 30YA (167). Number of records (117) fewer than last year (138), the 10YA (174) and the 30YA (152). Most records from spring (47%) and summer (44%), cf. autumn (8%) and winter (1%). Records from 52% of sites. Abundance (0.0608) similar to last year, the 10YA and 30YA. Max 2, mean and median 1. No breeding records and none last year. Breeding has occurred in 19 years of the survey.

Common, breeding summer migrant

**Olive-backed Oriole**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	789	517	53	167.5
WR	40	38	5	25.1
G	90	76	18	40.3
BR	17	14	21	4.8
GA	0.0608	0.0603	1	0.0623
GS	24	29	-17	27.6
GBR	0	0	-	2.5

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

A resident of the dry forests of the ACT.

**General:** 34 birds recorded, more than last year (29), the 10YA (28) and the 30YA (22). Recorded in 15 weeks. RR the same as last year (0.1%), lower than the 10YA (0.3%) and the 30YA (0.5%). Recorded from 4% of grid cells surveyed (3% last year). Most records of 1 or 2 birds; 2 records of 3 birds, including 7 from various sites in NNP, 3 from Tallaganda SF and 4 from Molonglo Gorge. No breeding recorded. Only 4 years with breeding reports, the most recent being 2017.

Uncommon, breeding resident



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

Rare, breeding resident

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

**General:** 117 birds recorded, more than last year (104), the 10YA (59) and the 30YA (50). RR (0.5%) the same as last year and the 10YA 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 2004-08.* Recorded in all months, with a higher proportion of records in winter (24%), spring (28%) and summer (32%) than autumn (15%). Recorded from just 4% of grid cells surveyed (5% last year). Max 5 (6 last year), mean 1.6, median 1. No breeding records (5 last year).

**Eastern Shrike-tit**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	74	63	17	32.7
WR	0	2	-100	1.7
G	15	16	-6	14.6
BR	0	5	-100	2.0
GA	0.0010	0.0000	Inf	0.0015
GS	1	0	Inf	0.3
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:** 21 records of 30 birds (similar to last year's 22 records of 28 birds), many more than the 10YA of 8.3 records, and the 30YA of 6.8, most from NNP and TNR. Recorded from Dec to Apr, and Jun. Most records of 1 or 2 birds, 2 records of 3. No breeding records, 1 last year which was the third ever recorded, the previous breeding records being in 1987 and Jan 2018.

**Rufous Whistler** *Pachycephala rufiventris*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A summer migrant found mostly in open woodlands.

**General:** 3,130 birds recorded, like last year (3,213) but more than the 10YA (1,675) and the 30YA (918). Recorded in every month, with more records in spring and summer (both 44%) than in autumn (12%) and winter (1%). *RR (9.4%) at the second lowest level since systematic recording began.* Recorded from 57% of grid cells surveyed (53% last year). Max 35 (15 last year), mean 2.1, median 1. 4 breeding records (15 last year) from nb/25 Dec JWNR (FoW1) to dy/8 Mar Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 100 birds recorded, fewer than last year (120), the 10YA (158) and the 30YA (174). 84 records of 90 last year, fewer than the 10YA (113) and the 30YA (137). Birds recorded from 28 Aug to 30 Apr. Records from 22% of sites, more than last year (18%), the same as the 10YA (22%) but lower than the 30YA (38%). Abundance (0.0491) similar to last year (0.0520), and the 10YA (0.0513) but lower than the 30YA (0.0649). 1 breeding record (3 last year): dy/1 Jan Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

**Rufous Whistler**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1508	1377	10	488.1
WR	77	92	-16	74.9
G	198	174	14	111.5
BR	4	15	-73	6.8
GA	0.0491	0.0520	-6	0.0649
GS	10	10	0	24.3
GBR	1	3	-67	0.8

**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:** 1,484 birds recorded (last year 1,450), many more than the 10YA (805) and the 30YA (414). Recorded from 29% of grid cells (27% last year), in every week, with a lower proportion in summer (9%) than in autumn (37%), winter (28%) and spring (26%). *RR (5.5%) at the second lowest level since systematic recording began: lower than last year (6.7%), the 10YA (7.0%) and the 30YA (7.9%).* Max 21 (20 last year), mean 1.7, median 1.

**Golden Whistler**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	890	814	9	271.6
WR	23	27	-15	18.4
G	101	88	15	66.6
BR	2	1	100	0.8
GA	0.1202	0.1092	10	0.1373
GS	23	28	-18	39.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

2 breeding records (1 last year): on/10 Nov TNR Lyrebird Trail GrF17 (MaL2) and cf/18 Nov NNP Warks/Blundells Ck Rds GrE15 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 245 birds recorded, similar to last year (252) though fewer than the 10YA (326), and the 30YA (369). 219 records, the same as last year though lower than the 10YA (292) and the 30YA (317). Records in all months except Dec and Jan: autumn 53%, winter 35%, spring 11% and summer 1%, very close to the long-term seasonal pattern. Records from 50% of sites (52% last year). Abundance (0.1202) similar to last year (0.1092), the 10YA (0.1059) and the 30YA (0.1373). Max 3 (4 last year), mean 1.1, median 1. No breeding records (and only 3 since systematic recording began).

### Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

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

**General:** 2,726 birds recorded (last year 2,299), many more than the 10YA (1,120) and the 30YA (665). Recorded in every week, with similar proportions across the four seasons. RR (10.65%) lower than last year (12.0%), similar to the 10YA (10.6%), but lower than the 30YA (13.5%). *Since 1992 there has been a steady decline in RR from over 20% to the current much lower level.* Recorded from 58% of grid cells surveyed, the same as last year and similar to the 10YA (56%) and the 30YA (52%). Max 25 (12 last year), mean 1.6, median 1. 7 widely-distributed breeding records (7 last year): earliest cf/21 Oct LGin GrJ12 (EbD1) and latest dy/13 Feb LBath GrZ08 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 127 birds, similar to last year (123) though far fewer than the 10YA (224) and the 30YA (197). 120 records, similar to last year (115), fewer than the 10YA (181) and the 30YA (168). Recorded in 49 weeks of the year, with a marked peak in winter (37%) cf spring (22%), summer (13%) and autumn (27%). Records from 28% of sites (last year 24%), more than the 10YA (20%) though similar the 30YA (29%). Abundance higher than last year but similar to the 10YA (0.0726) and the 30YA (0.0734). Max 2, mean 1.1, median 1. No breeding records (only 8 years when breeding is recorded).

### PSOPHODIDAE: whipbird

#### Eastern Whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus*

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

**General:** 181 birds recorded, similar to last year (174) and far more than the 10YA (71) and the 30YA (35). Recorded in all months of the year, with 5% in winter, 37% in spring, 46% in summer and 12% in autumn. RR (0.7%) lower than last year (0.8%) and higher than the 10YA (0.5%) and the 30YA (0.6%). The species seems to have recovered well from the 2003 bushfires, with RRs of just 0.2% in the two years following that disaster. Recorded from just 7% of grid cells surveyed (7% last year as well), more than the 10 & 30YA (both 4%), mostly from NNP, Tharwa Sandwash and TNR. Max 6 (7 last year), mean 1.7, median 2. No breeding records (2 in 2016-17, the first since 1994).

Common, breeding resident

#### Grey Shrike-thrush

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1701	1462	16	462.4
WR	41	37	11	30.0
G	199	190	5	121.9
BR	7	7	0	3.5
GA	0.0623	0.0533	17	0.0734
GS	13	13	0	18.7
GBR	0	0	-	0.5

Uncommon, breeding resident

#### Eastern Whipbird

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	105	94	12	20.1
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	24	22	9	8.9
BR	0	0	-	0.1
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0000
GS	0	0	-	0.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**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:** 4,240 birds recorded (last year 4,258), far more than the 10YA (2,368) and the 30YA (1,130). Recorded in 51 weeks, with marked spring and summer peaks (40%), cf autumn (17%) and winter (3%). RR (14.5%) lower than last year (17%), the 10YA (17.3%) and the 30YA (17.9%). Recorded from 47% of grid cells. Max 20, mean 1.8, median 1. 22 breeding records (39 last year), earliest on/19 Oct Kambah Pool NR GrI16 (HeS1) and latest dy/19 Apr JWNR GrL14 (WeS1).

**GBS:** 558 birds recorded (684 last year), fewer than the 10YA (898) and the 30YA (1,015). 361 records (408 last year), fewer than the 10YA (600) and the 30YA (679). Recorded in all but 4 weeks, with higher proportions in spring (40%), summer (38%) and autumn (19%) than winter (4%). Records from 85% of sites, a similar proportion to last year (78%), the 10YA (80%) and the 30YA (87%). Abundance similar to last year and the 10YA (0.2916) though lower than the 30YA (0.3783). Max 9, mean 1.6, median 1. 14 breeding records (11 last year) from just 2 sites: earliest nb/3wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and latest dy/2wk Apr Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2331	2091	11	613.3
WR	61	64	-5	61.8
G	163	162	1	98.1
BR	22	39	-44	15.3
GA	0.2885	0.2965	-3	0.3783
GS	39	42	-7	54.9
GBR	14	11	27	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:** 3 records, 8 last year, fewer than the long-term trends after the 2013-14 year's surge to 20, from LGin and Hackett. 2 records of 1 bird and 1 record of 2, earliest 1/8 Jul LGin GrJ12 (McD4) and latest 2/3 Jun Hackett GrL12 (AlA1).

**GBS:** no records, 1 last year. Recorded in small numbers irregularly over the years.

**Common Cicadabird** *Edolisoma tenuirostre*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** 6 records (8 last year), similar to the 10YA (5.7) though more the 30YA (4.3), 5 from NNP and one from Palerang Rd, 1 record of 2 birds, the rest of 1 bird. Earliest 1/1 Dec Palerang Rd GrU19 (LaK1) and latest 1/3 Jan NNP New Chums Rd GrD16 (BeS1). No breeding recorded. 1 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 has been low over the last 5 years. 592 birds recorded, fewer last year (849), but more than the 10YA (479) and the 30YA (234). Recorded in every month from Aug to Apr: earliest 1/23 Aug Kellys Rd Williamsdale GrL21 (HeS1) and latest 2/24 Apr Uriarra TSR GrH14 (DaC1). RR (1.5%) half that of last year (2.7%) and well below the 10YA (2.8%) and the 30YA (3.0%). Recorded from 16% of grid cells surveyed (19% last year). Max 18, mean 2.4, median 2. 13 breeding records (21 last year), similar to the 10YA (15) though more than the 30YA (9): earliest di/13 Oct Woodlands Wetland Dam GrK03 (SpB1) and latest dy/12 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (WeS1).

**White-winged Triller**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	243	327	-26	104.3
WR	10	16	-38	10.0
G	54	64	-16	31.2
BR	13	21	-38	9.0
GA	0.0044	0.0082	-46	0.0073
GS	2	3	-33	3.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.8

**GBS:** 6 records (14 last year), lower than the 10YA (12) and the 30YA (11). 3 were from a single site at Curtin and 3 from a rural site at Carwoola. Earliest 3/3wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and latest 1/3wk Dec Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). No breeding records (and none last year). Breeding has occurred in 10 of the last 30 years.

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

#### Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*

4<sup>th</sup> most commonly reported species in the general records and 3<sup>rd</sup> most commonly reported in the Garden Bird Survey.

**General:** Number of birds (21,523) more than last year (16,789) and very many more than the 10YA (8,559) and the 30YA (3,699). Recorded in every week with a higher proportion of records in spring (31%) than in summer (24%), autumn (23%) and winter (22%). RR (44%) similar to last year (43%) and the 10YA (39%) though higher than the 30YA (36%). **RR was the highest since 1989.** Recorded from 59% of grid cells. Max 68 (cf 104 last year), well below the 10YA (436) and the 30YA

(521), mean 3.1, median 2. 140 breeding records (141 last year), many more than the 10YA (69) and the 30YA (37), each month Aug to Mar, peaking in Oct.

**GBS:** Number of birds (7,588) similar to last year (8,515) though fewer than the 10YA (11,700) and the 30YA (10,395). Number of records (1,852) similar to last year (2,016) and fewer than the 10YA (2,672) and the 30YA (2,305). Recorded in all weeks, similar proportions of records in each season. Records from all sites. Abundance ( $A=3.6675$ ) the same as last year, the 10YA (3.7966) and the 30YA (3.8731). *The abundance has been remarkably steady around  $A=4.0000$  since 1996.* Max 45 (53 last year), mean 4.8, median 3. 135 breeding records (186 last year) from 41% of sites, in each month Aug to Feb.

Very common, breeding resident

#### Pied Currawong

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	7139	5236	36	1240.2
WR	108	115	-6	68.7
G	205	209	-2	129.7
BR	140	141	-1	37.3
GA	3.6675	3.6909	-1	3.8731
GS	46	54	-15	63.0
GBR	135	186	-27	160.3

#### Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*

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

**General:** Number of birds (321) lower than last year (386), though higher than the 10YA (256) and the 30YA (189). Recorded in all weeks of the year, with higher proportions of records in spring (36%) than in summer (19%), autumn (25%) and winter (20%). RR (1.6%) well below last year (2.4%), the 10YA (3.0%) and the 30YA (4.5%). *RR has undergone a long, continuous, ever-so-gentle decline from 1991's 6.2% to 1.5% in 2017 (the lowest ever) and just 1.6% this year. RR was 5% or higher for every year between 1991 and 2008, and below 5% every year since then.* Recorded from 22% of grid cells surveyed

(21% last year). Max 4 (5 last year), mean 1.3, median 1. 5 breeding records (11 last year), similar to the 10YA (5.8) and the 30YA (4.3). Earliest nb/22 Aug Casuarina Sands NR GrG14 (HeS1) and latest dy/6 Feb Mt Franklin GrC18 (HeS1).

**GBS:** Number of birds (79) fewer than last year (114), the 10YA (163) and the 30YA (186). Number of records (71) fewer than last year (99), the 10YA (145) and the 30YA (160). Recorded in 48 weeks (49 last year), with higher proportions of records in winter (28%) and spring (37%) than in summer (15%) and autumn (20%). RR (3.5%) lower than last year (4.3%), the 10YA (4.7%) and the 30YA (6.0%). *As with the general records, RR has fallen steadily over the last two decades.* Records from 11% of sites (17% last year). Abundance lower than last year, the 10YA (0.0528) and the 30YA (0.0693). Max 2 (2 last year), mean 1.1, median 1. No breeding records (1 last year).

Uncommon, breeding resident

#### Grey Currawong

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	256	289	-11	153.6
WR	8	12	-33	15.0
G	77	70	10	48.9
BR	5	11	-55	4.3
GA	0.0388	0.0494	-22	0.0693
GS	5	9	-44	20.0
GBR	0	1	-100	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 (45,791) well up on last year's figure (38,494), and many more than the 10YA (18,539) and the 30YA (8,176). Recorded in all weeks, with a slightly lower proportion in winter (23%) than in spring (29%), summer (25%) and autumn (24%). Records from 73% of grid cells surveyed, similar to last year (76%), the 10YA (72%) and the 30YA (71%). RR (65%) like last year (64%), the 10YA (61%) and the 30YA (58%). 5<sup>th</sup> most abundant species (2.8456), abundance lower than last year (3.1651), but up on the 10YA (2.7088) and the 30YA (2.3837). Max 100 (91 last year), mean 4.5, median 3. 406 breeding records (373 last year) in every month, with a marked Oct/Nov peak, mostly "dy".

**Australian Magpie**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	10449	7795	34	1977.6
WR	346	364	-5	228.4
G	250	250	0	164.4
BR	406	373	9	101.3
GA	4.7581	3.8574	23	3.2355
GS	46	54	-15	63.3
GBR	169	215	-21	218.9

**GBS:** No. of birds (9,697) like last year (8,899), fewer than the 10YA (10,797) though similar to the 30YA (8,683). Number of records (1,966) fewer than last year (2,1592), the 10YA (2,8331) and the 30YA (2,411). Recorded in all weeks, with almost equal numbers of records in each season. Records from all sites. Most recorded and 4<sup>th</sup> most abundant species, abundance slightly higher than last year, the 10YA (3.5038) and the 30YA (3.2355). Max 57 (42 last year), mean 4.9, median 4. 169 breeding records (215 last year) from 48% 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 (97) more than double last year (44) and far more than the 10YA (28) and the 30YA (10). RR (0.4%) the same as last year and the 10YA but twice the 30YA (0.2%). Abundance (0.006) similar to last year and the 10YA (both about 0.004) and higher than the 30YA (0.00310). Records from 22 widely-spread sites, including 18 (29%) from Stony Creek NR, 11 (18%) from Uriarra East Reserve and 10 (16%) from Kama NR. Records in all months, once of 4 birds, 7 times of 3 birds, with the rest 1 or 2 birds. 2 breeding records (1 last year) which was just the 6<sup>th</sup> in the COG AoI: dy/20 Jan Stony Ck NR GrG13 (HeS1) and dy/16 Mar Uriarra East reserve GrG13 (LaK1).

**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.

**Grey Butcherbird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1683	1664	1	336.3
WR	91	77	18	39.9
G	136	144	-6	64.1
BR	20	29	-31	3.9
GA	0.3710	0.3403	9	0.0936
GS	40	46	-13	20.9
GBR	15	7	114	0.6

**General:** Number of birds (2,093) the same as last year (2,093) though many more than the 10YA (991) and the 30YA (415). Recorded in every week of the year, with an autumn peak (34%) cf. winter (18%), spring (22%) and summer (25%). RR (10.5%) lower than last year's record high level (13.7%) and about the same as the long-long-term averages. From 39% of grid cells (44% last year), like the 10YA (36%) though more than the 30YA (28%). Abundance (0.13) lower than last year (0.17) and the 10YA (0.149) but higher than the 30YA (0.1221). Max 7 (11 last year), mean 1.2, median 1. 20 breeding records (29 last year): earliest on/17 Sep Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1) and latest dy/16 Feb MFNR GrL10 (WyP1).

**GBS:** Number of birds (756) same as last year (785), though more than the 10YA (651) and far more than the 30YA (251). Number of records (615) fewer than last year (651) though higher than the 10YA (220) and far higher than the 30YA (198). Recorded in all weeks, with higher proportions of records in autumn (36%) than in winter (22%), spring (15%) and summer (27%). RR (30.2%) about

the same as last year though higher than the 10YA (19%) and far higher than the 30YA (8%). Records from 87% of sites, a similar proportion to last year (85%) though higher than the 10YA (63%) and far higher than the 30YA (33%). Abundance similar to last year though much higher than the 10YA (0.217) and the 30YA (0.0936). Max 5, mean 1.2, median 1. 15 breeding records (7 last year): earliest cf/3wk Sep Garran GrK15 (QuA1) and latest dy/4wk Jan Kaleen GrK12 (CIM1).

### **Masked Woodswallow** *Artamus personatus*

Rare, breeding summer migrant

Usually seen in company with the White-browed Woodswallow. Numbers fluctuate widely from year-to-year. This year the highest number of records and birds in the time series.

**General:** 876 birds recorded, far more than last year (122), many more than the 10YA (172), and the 30YA (68). 59 records, just 13 last year, more than the 10YA (11) and the 30YA (6), from 1/15 Sep Macarthur GrL16 MaL2) to 6/4 Jan LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). Max 250/30 Oct Hoskinstown GrR16 (BuM1). 4 breeding records: first on/10 Dec LGeo E GrT09 and last cf/4 Jan LBath S Morass GrZ08 both (LeM1). Previously 3 breeding records in 2013-14 which were the first since 2004-05. This year's 4 breeding records is the largest number reported.

**GBS:** 7 records this year (totalling 59 birds), from 2 urban and 1 rural site: first 1/4wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and last 5/2wk Nov Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) with max 25/3wk Oct Carwoola (BuM1), mean 8.4, median 6. No breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

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

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

An occasional visitor from the north and west. Numbers fluctuate widely from year-to-year. This year the highest number of records and birds in the time series.

**General:** 2,694 birds recorded, far more than last year (1,030 and just 57 the year before) the 10YA (832) and the 30YA (387), the highest number of birds in the time series. Number of records (164) well above last year (40) the 10YA (38) and the 30YA (23). Recorded in late Nov to Mar, with max 400/17 Nov Hoskinstown GrR16 (BuM1), mean 16.9, median 6. 23 breeding records from nb/17 Nov Nelanglo TSR GrO05 (DaC2) to dy/1 Feb Taylors Ck Rd GrU09 (LeM1).

**GBS:** 215 birds, 130 last year, cf. the 10YA of 148 and the 30YA of 103. 12 records from 2 rural (Wamboin & Carwoola) and 4 suburban (Weston, Curtin, Ainslie and Kaleen) sites in Sep to Nov, max 40, mean 16.6, median 10. No breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

### **Dusky Woodswallow** *Artamus cyanopterus*

Common, breeding summer migrant

A migrant woodland species, some over-winter.

**General:** 5,549 birds recorded, more than last year (5,053), many more than the 10YA (2,349) and the 30YA (1,351). Recorded in every month, with more records in spring (34%) and summer (38%), than in autumn (24%) and winter (4%), a typical seasonal pattern. RR (6.2%) a little below last year (7.4%) and like the 10YA (6.5%) but less than the 30YA (7.3%). Recorded from 35% of grid cells surveyed, like last year (38%), the 10YA (33%) and the 30YA (29%). Max 100 (200 last year), mean 5.6, median 4. Abundance (0.3448) below last

year's figure (0.4155) but close to the 10&30YAs. 62 breeding records (76 last year): earliest di/25 Sep Googong Dam GrO17 (CIJ3), latest dy/11 Apr NNP Yankee Hat GrH25 (BeC2).

**GBS:** 220 birds recorded, more than last year (97) about the same as the 30YA (211). No. of records (49) more than last year (33) above the 10&30YAs (36 and 35). Recorded in each month Sep to May, with no winter records, spring and summer (29%), with a peak in autumn (43%) being a typical seasonal pattern. Records from 28% of sites (13% last year), more than the 10 & 30YAs (17%). Abundance higher than last year and the long-term averages. Max 10, mean 4.5, median 3. 5 breeding records (1 last year): first on/2wk Dec and last dy /8 Jan both at Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

#### **Dusky Woodswallow**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	990	894	11	248.8
WR	13	50	-74	14.7
G	120	124	-3	66.9
BR	62	76	-18	26.5
GA	0.1079	0.0420	157	0.0786
GS	13	7	86	10.8
GBR	5	1	400	0.8

**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:** RR (20.1%) down 21% on last year, down 14% on the 10YA and 10% on the 30YA. WOO records down considerably this year. Recorded in all seasons with maxima in spring 36% and summer 35%. Max 24/20 Oct LGin (AnI1), average 2.1 median 2. Breeding: earliest Br/15 Sep TNR Birrigai Time Trail Gr G17 (ReS1) and latest dy/23 Feb JWNR (BaL1).

**GBS:** All metrics are down this year with abundance (0.1771) down 21% on last year and 26% on the 10YA and 29% on the 30YA. More records in spring (31%) and summer (28%). Average 1.3 and median 1. Max 5/2wk Feb and earliest breeding record nb/4wk Sep and latest dy/1wk Jan, all from Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

**Willie Wagtail**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	3241	3095	5	764.5
WR	38	57	-33	32.9
G	168	179	-6	109.9
BR	56	73	-23	26.0
GA	0.1771	0.2237	-21	0.2492
GS	26	40	-35	44.8
GBR	13	15	-13	9.4

**Rufous Fantail** *Rhipidura rufifrons*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

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

**General:** 71 records this year, up from 61 last year between Oct and Apr. The RR of 0.4% is similar to last year and the 10YA but down 32% the 30YA. *The RR has varied over the years, but has trended downward from 1993 to the present year, where the rate is the second lowest it has ever has been.* Most records were in summer (66%) and spring (21%). Max 9/30 Jan NNP Warks/Blundells Ck Rds GrE15 (LaK1). Earliest record: 1/27 Oct Campbell Park (DaG1) and latest 1/7 Apr Cooleman Ridge NR GrI13 (EbD1). Breeding records only in 9 of the last 33 years (last in 2005).

**GBS:** 3 records, earliest 1/3wk Oct Yarralumla (NeG1) and latest 1/2wk Apr Cook (TaN1).

**Grey Fantail** *Rhipidura fuliginosa*

Common, breeding resident/summer migrant

A well-known summer migrant to ACT woodlands.

**General:** RR (22.9%) is down 7% on last year, down 11% on the 10YA and 18% on the 30YA. *RR is at its second lowest level since records began, trending downward since 2000.* 4% of the records are from winter, 40% from spring, and 33% summer and 24% autumn. Max 61/28 Oct TNR Gibraltar Fire Trail (FuP1), mean 3.7 median 2. Breeding: first nb/30 Sept Mt Ainslie NR (WyP1) and latest dy/21 Feb Callum Brae NR (HeS1).

**GBS:** 361 records from 30 sites, the same as last year. RR (18%) is up 9% on last year, down 2% on the 10YA and down 14% on 30YA. Max 10/1wk Apr Page (AlB1), average 1.6 and median 1. Earliest breeding nb/2wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1) and latest dy/2wk Jan Giralang Grk12 (McD4).

**Grey Fantail**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	3617	3002	20	961.3
WR	98	169	-42	126.5
G	216	209	3	140.2
BR	19	13	46	13.0
GA	0.2875	0.2670	8	0.3359
GS	31	30	3	48.1
GBR	7	19	-63	3.5

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

Non-breeding vagrant

A coastal species not often recorded in the ACT.

**General:** 1 record this year following 3 last year: 1/19 Feb Callum Brae GrL15 (DaC2). The species has been regularly albeit sparsely reported since 2000.

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

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

Usually recorded in the woodlands around Canberra.

**General:** RR (3.0%) down 17% on last year, down 19% on the 10YA and 30% on the 30YA. *It is just above its lowest value ever of 2.8% in 2017.* No winter records, appearing from Sep to Apr, most in spring 41% and summer 54%. Max 10/3 Nov Bluetts Block GrI14 (AlA1), average 2.1 and median 2. Observed in more grid cells than last year, the species is reported from a wide range of sites in nature parks in the region. Earliest 1/30 Sep Uriarra Forest GrF1 (RoV1) and latest 2/14 Apr Bredbo GrM28 (LaS1). Breeding: earliest on/17 Oct MFNR (BoJ1) and latest dy/17 Feb Mt Ainslie NR (ReS1).

**GBS:** The abundance value for this species (0.0211) has varied widely from year to year moving between 0.02 and 0.04 since 1988. Max 4/2wk Jan and earliest 1/1wk Oct both Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and latest 1/3wk Mar Scullin GrI12 (ClG1).

Common, breeding summer migrant

**Leaden Flycatcher**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	490	448	9	149.5
WR	23	22	5	18.7
G	82	69	19	44.0
BR	24	23	4	12.0
GA	0.0211	0.0282	-25	0.0301
GS	7	9	-22	11.7
GBR	0	0	-	1.2

**Satin Flycatcher** *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

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

**General:** RR (0.3%) is down 21% on last year, down 31% on the 10YA and 52% down on the 30YA. *Since 1993 the RR has been no higher than 1.3% and, but in 2017 it was at its lowest level.* Appearing between Oct and Mar with nearly all records in spring 34% and summer 62%. Max 4/1 Jan NNP Warks/Blundell Ck Rds Gr15 (CaR3). Average 1.5 and median 1. Earliest 1/2 Oct MFNR GrL12 (EbD1) and latest 1/14 Mar NNP Honeysuckle Ck GrH20 (WiT1). Breeding: earliest nb/8

Dec NNP Blundells Ck Rd GrE15 (LaK1) and latest cf/23 Dec TNR Sanctuary GrF18 (ReS1).

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

**Satin Flycatcher**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	50	48	4	22.1
WR	0	0	-	0.1
G	24	20	20	13.9
BR	2	4	-50	2.2
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0015
GS	0	0	-	2.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Restless Flycatcher** *Myiagra inquieta*

Found mainly in open woodland, generally avoiding closed forests.

**General:** RR 0.2% down 65% on the 10YA and down 85% on the 30YA. *While the reporting rate has declined very slightly since last year, it is still just above its lowest level ever.* Seasonal distribution was winter 23%, spring 37%, summer 10%, and autumn 30%. Max 4/14 Apr Bredbo GrM28 (LaS1). Earliest 1/9 Aug Narrabundah Hill GrI15 (CaJ4) and latest 1/9 Jun Illilanga GrL25 (LaS4). Breeding: cf/14 Oct Bredbo GrM28 (ReS1).

**GBS:** 4 records (same bird) over 4 weeks in Aug Holt (DaC1).

Rare, breeding resident

**Restless Flycatcher**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	30	46	-35	42.0
WR	0	1	-100	1.5
G	18	21	-14	22.8
BR	2	0	Inf	0.9
GA	0.0020	0.0009	126	0.0025
GS	1	2	-50	2.5
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Magpie-lark** *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Our largest and most visible flycatcher.

**General:** RR (47.9%) is the same as last year and up 9% on the 10YA and 24% on the 30YA. *It is at its highest level ever.* Abundance (1.7) has *increased dramatically from 0.66 in 2012 to its current value*, although it is down 5% on last year, but up 11% on the 10YA and 35% on the 30YA. Recorded throughout the year. Max 200/15 Jun Macarthur GrL16 (MaL2), mean 3.6 and median 2. Earliest breeding di/9 Sept Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and latest dy/9 Mar Cook GrJ13 (DrC1).

Very common, breeding resident

**Magpie-lark**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	7712	5821	32	1330.4
WR	78	111	-30	60.5
G	169	174	-3	103.7
BR	154	149	3	47.7
GA	2.4122	2.0750	16	2.0948
GS	45	54	-17	62.5
GBR	72	77	-6	84.8



**GBS:** While there are fewer records (1,688) this year RR (82.8%) is up 3% on last year, 7% on 10YA and 5% on 30YA. Abundance is up 16% on last year, 23% on the 10YA and 15% on the 30YA, probably indicating that there are more birds about. Recorded in all weeks evenly throughout the year. Max 200/15 Jun Macarthur GrL16 (MaL2) (reported in both general and GBS survey), average 2.9 and median 2. Earliest breeding on/1wk Jul Weston GrJ15 (MaA2) and latest dy/1wk Mar Holt GrI12 (DaC1).

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

Rare, Visitor

A species of the east coast, seldom occurring this far inland.

**General:** 6 records in all: 1/2 Dec NNP Warks/Blundells Ck GrE15 (LaK1); 4 records by different observers of the same bird 1/10 Dec ANBG; and 1/4 Mar Tallaganda SF GrW19 (LaK1). This level of reporting is typical for this species.

## **CORVIDAE: ravens**

### **Little Raven** *Corvus mellori*

Uncommon, breeding resident/winter migrant

This species occurs in flocks outside the breeding season.

**General:** RR (5.2%) is similar to the 30YA. Since 1998 the RR has moved around the 5% mark, being a little above since 2015. Max 320/13 Feb LBath GrZ08 (LeM1). Mean 11.1 median 4. Recorded in all seasons. Most sightings from open spaces in surrounding NSW, but some from the ACT in places such as NNP, Symonston and MFNR. Earliest breeding nb/27 July Victoria Park Goulburn GrZ01 (AnF1) and latest dy/10 Nov Majura Rd GrM13 (LeM1), with a single record indicating a start for the next season, nb/20 Jun Bungendore GrS13 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 31 of the 46 records from 2 rural and 6 suburban sites were mainly small numbers (1-12) with max of 53/3wk Feb Holt GrI12 (DaC1). Most records were in autumn (35%). A single breeding record, the second ever recorded in the GBS, dy/2wk Dec Wamboin Gr Q12 (CoK2).

**Little Raven**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	832	925	-10	181.1
WR	11	5	120	3.3
G	125	136	-8	54.6
BR	9	11	-18	2.0
GA	0.1811	0.1409	29	0.1337
GS	8	8	0	8.1
GBR	1	2	-50	0.1

### **Australian Raven** *Corvus coronoides*

Very common, breeding resident

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

**General:** The RR (42.6%) is up 5% on last year and 12% on the 10YA and 15% on the 30YA. It has hovered around 40% since 1999. Recorded in all seasons with a spring peak 31%. 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 80/13 Jan Fadden Primary School (CaR3). 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 year’s records largely fit this pattern with “nb” from Jul to Oct and “dy” Sept to Feb.

**GBS:** Recorded in all weeks at all sites evenly throughout the year. Abundance (A=1.9195) is a little higher than last year, 26% up on the 10YA and 45% up on the 30YA. Abundance has been rising steadily for the last 30 years to reach its current value, **the highest on record**. While group sizes are typically 6 or fewer, the max was 40/3wk Feb Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1). This species starts breeding very early in the season. Earliest breeding for this reporting year was on/1wk Jul. Breeding activity would have started well before then, and the last nb/1wk Jun, both records from Yarralumla site.

**Australian Raven**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	6850	4926	39	1270.3
WR	221	224	-1	118.8
G	226	216	5	136.8
BR	126	69	83	21.9
GA	1.9195	1.7490	10	1.3262
GS	46	54	-15	61.5
GBR	37	38	-3	32.9

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

Conspicuous in groups in woodlands and dry open forests.

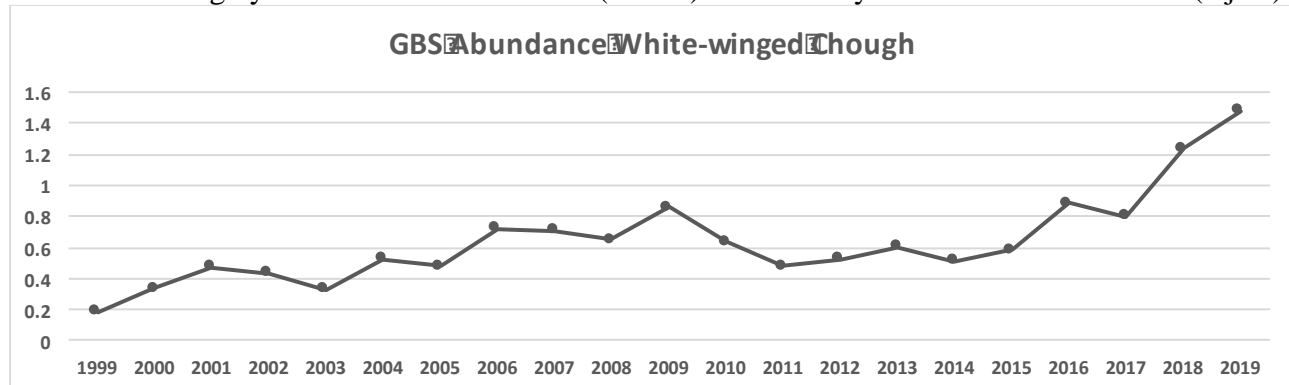
**General:** Reporting rate 9.0% is down 10% on last year, 12% on the 10YA and 6% on the 30YA. Abundance (0.7031) is down 18% on last year and 12% on 10YA and 6% on the 30YA. *Both reporting rates and abundance values have declined somewhat in the last year, but they have oscillated around the current values for many years.* Recorded all seasons with spring max 36%. Max 47/11 Jul and earliest breeding di/5Jul both N Lyneham GrK12 (LeM1), average 7.9 and median 7. Breeding: latest ny/11 Mar Black Mt NR GrK13 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 334 records this year, a little more than last year (316). Abundance (A=1.4814) up 20% on last year, up 114% on 10YA and up 189% on 30YA, having risen significantly since 2014. While they are observed regularly in 3 rural sites (Wee Jasper, Wamboin and Carwoola), this species is being observed more each year in Canberra suburbs such as Ainslie, Red Hill, Lyneham, Garran, Campbell, Pearce, Yarralumla, Cook and Watson. Max 70 4wk Jul Ainslie (HoS1), average 9.0 and median 7. Earliest breeding dy/2wk Jul Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and latest dy/3wk Feb Curtin Gr K14 (AjR1).

Very common, breeding resident

**White-winged Chough**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1445	1219	19	367.8
WR	66	68	-3	38.7
G	126	119	6	67.2
BR	104	87	20	35.1
GA	1.4814	1.2384	20	0.5123
GS	27	26	4	24.0
GBR	26	59	-56	12.7

**Apostlebird** *Struthidae cinerea* Rare, vagrant

A rare visitor from the west.

**General:** First recorded in the ACT 2 years ago, mainly at N Watson Wetlands and surrounding streets and Mount Majura Parkland. No records this year.

**PETROICIDAE: Australian robins****Rose Robin** *Petroica rosea*

Uncommon, breeding migrant

Occurs mostly in forest areas in the ranges and on seasonal migration passage.

**General:** RR (0.4%), is 31% down on last year and 49% down on the 30YA. Abundance (0.005) is down about the same amount on the long-term averages (0.01). The number of birds sighted (82) is less than last year (108), and the year before (111). 69 records, slightly down (9%) on last year, spread over the 4 seasons, slightly higher in spring (29%), with winter records 26%, autumn 19%. A significant increase in summer records (26%) from last year (11%). This year's pattern is not typical of most records in autumn and spring, the seasonal migration periods. Earliest record 1/4 July ANBG (EbD1), latest 1/10 June MtMajNR (RaL3). Max 3/2 Oct NNP/Warks & Blundells Ck Rds (LaK1) and 3/11 Mar at the same location (EbD1). Records show similar location patterns to last year, widespread in 22 Grid Cells. Most records NNP

**Rose Robin**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	69	76	-9	29.1
WR	0	1	-100	0.4
G	22	23	-4	13.0
BR	0	0	-	0.3
GA	0.0020	0.0052	-62	0.0109
GS	1	3	-67	8.1
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

around Warks & Blundells Creek Rds (24, mostly Dec to March), ANBG (11 – half the number of last year), Mts Majura/Ainslie NR (7), TNR (6) and Tallaganda NP (3), with several mostly single records in urban and peri-urban sites. An interesting record at southern end of COG AoI, GrL28, 1/11 May, Scottsdale Reserve Bredbo (NeG1). No breeding records this year. While the species has been recorded in all but 3 of the previous 32 years, breeding has only been recorded in 9. No WOO records. **GBS:** 4 records of single birds 2wk April to 4wk June from one suburban site, Cook, (TaN1).

### **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:** RR 0.2%, same as last year. 34 records this year, compared to no records last year, and 7 records in 2017. 32 of the 34 records are of 1 bird at ANBG (various observers), over two separate periods; 21 records in August/early Sept, and 11 records in May/June. The other two records 1/26 April MtMajNR (EbD1), and 1/1 May TNR (BeS1). The earliest record 1/2 Aug (HeS1), and latest record 1/7 June (HoS1), both at ANBG. 74% of records in winter and 24% of records in autumn. No WOO records. 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 (1.4%), is 36% lower than last year (2.3%), and the second lowest RR since record keeping started (lowest RR 1.3% in 1997). This year RR is down 59% on the 30YA. Since 1991, RR shows a gradual trend downwards. 232 records this year, 16% fewer than last year, distributed over 80 grid cells, similar pattern to last year. Total number of birds sighted (961) is 6% less than last year, but higher than the number in 2017 (758). Groups with large numbers of birds recorded at TNR in

Aug (38 birds) early Sept (50), NNP Orroral Valley early Sep (40), Googong Dam May (30), and Smiths/Naas Rds June (27). Mean 4.1 and median 2 are like last year (3.8, 2). The seasonal spread of records is winter 33%, spring 24%, summer 15% and autumn 28%. The largest number of records (84) from various locations in NNP in all months of the year, most records Dec to Apr. 4 breeding records this year (10 last year): earliest 2 di/4 Sep Campbell Park (LeM1), and latest 3 dy/28 Jan NNP Orroral Valley (EbD1). 2 WOO records, 2/28 March JER (BoJ1), 6/26 June JER (BoJ1). Four K2C survey records of 1-3 birds at two properties in Bredbo/Michelago area.

**GBS:** 8 records (same as last year). 7 records from 1 rural site Carwoola, 1-2 birds in winter and early spring, 4wk Jul to 1wk Oct (BuM1). 1 record 3/4wk April, Curtin (AjR1). No breeding recorded.

**Flame Robin**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	232	276	-16	119.3
WR	3	2	50	1.0
G	80	87	-8	56.9
BR	4	10	-60	4.2
GA	0.0064	0.0043	47	0.0075
GS	2	1	100	2.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### **Scarlet Robin** *Petroica boodang*

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 (4.3%), 36% less than last year (6.7%), and the lowest it has ever been. This year's RR is down 52% on the 30YA. The number of birds (1254) is significantly less than last year (1754), and significantly less than 2017 (1832) and 2016 (2158) which was the highest ever number. 684 records this year, 811 last year, a 16% decrease. Abundance (0.0779) is down on last year (0.1442), the lowest abundance rate since record keeping, and 54% below the 30YA (0.17). Present

throughout the year, most records in winter (42%) and autumn (44%), a seasonal pattern. Records are

**Scarlet Robin**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	684	811	-16	302.4
WR	37	34	9	36.0
G	113	130	-13	78.4
BR	2	8	-75	5.2
GA	0.0196	0.0247	-21	0.0352
GS	9	10	-10	14.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

widespread, in 113 grid cells (130 grid cells last year). Locations with most records are similar to last year: MFNR (all months of year), Mt Majura/Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park (mostly winter & autumn), and NNP. Only 2 breeding records this year: 2 dy/29 Jan NNP Orroral Valley (HeS1), 2 di/7 Jun Cotter Reserve (HeS1). The number of breeding records is the lowest of the last decade. 37 WOO records, slightly less than last year (34), 13 MUL (most in winter and autumn surveys), and 7 other sites. 9 K2C survey records (8 in autumn surveys) at 8 sites in Williamsdale/Michelago/Bredbo areas. **GBS:** 34 records, 19% fewer than last year (42). Abundance ( $A=0.0196$ ) down on 2018. 1-2 birds recorded from 9 sites (8 sites last year); 4 rural sites (Wamboin, Carwoola, Murrumbateman and Wee Jasper) and 5 suburban sites (Aranda, Cook, Fadden, Duffy, Giralang). Most records are from winter (71%) and autumn (23%), compared to last year's winter (36%) and autumn (55%). No breeding recorded. Only 2 breeding records in the GBS, in 1987 and 2009.

### Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

Uncommon, breeding visitor

A resident of inland woodlands, sometimes visiting the local region.

**General:** RR (0.4%), down significantly on last year (1.4%), to the same level in 2017 (0.4%). RR is down 42% on the long-term average (0.7%). Only 80 birds sighted this year, compared with 285 last year and the most ever recorded, possibly reflecting a widespread dry period inland. The number of records (61) is also significantly less than last year (171), and slightly more than 2017 (50). Recorded in all months of the year, this year most records in spring (41%), autumn (28%) and winter (20%); last year most records (86%) were in spring and summer. Records are from 22 grid cells (32 last year), 21 in ACT/Queanbeyan and 1 in the Goulburn area, 1/29 Dec West Goulburn Bushland Reserve (AnF1). 2 locations have the most records, MFNR/Gooroo NR (16), and Mt Ainslie NR/Campbell Park (14 in Feb to June months). Pierces Forest and Narrabundah Hill have 3 records each. No breeding records this year (16 last year). Breeding has been observed in 14 of the years since 1983. 4 WOO records, 2/3 Dec MJF (AlB1), 2/8 Dec GOO (TaN1), 2/7 April GOO (TaN1), 1/30 June MUL (MoM3).

**GBS:** 1 record this year at a rural site in Carwoola GrQ16, 1/2wk Nov (BuM1).

Red-capped Robin

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	61	171	-64	22.4
WR	5	3	67	2.0
G	22	32	-31	8.3
BR	0	16	-100	1.1
GA	0.0005	0.0013	-62	0.0002
GS	1	1	0	0.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

### Jacky Winter *Microeca fascians*

Uncommon, breeding resident

A bird of relatively undisturbed woodland.

**General:** RR (0.5%), is less than last year (0.7%), and just above its lowest level ever (0.3% in 1998), and 54% below the long-term average of 1.2%. The no. of birds (135) and the no. of records (85) is slightly less than last year. Recorded throughout the year, with fewer records in winter (18%) and autumn (14%). Spring records 48%, summer records 20%. Most records at 2 sites similar to last year: up to 4 birds NNPVIC (38), and up to 4 birds Nelanglo TSR 48, also at MFNR/Gooroo NR (4 records), 2 in Michelago/Bredbo area, and several sites in CNP and the Naas Valley/southern NNP. 6 breeding records (up on 4 last year and in 2017), earliest 2 nb/14 Oct K2C site Michelago area (HeS1) and latest 2 dy/1 Jan NNPVIC (MiP1). No breeding records at NEL this year, after three successive years of breeding there. 2 WOO (ACT) records, a significant decrease from last year (14), 1/25 Nov NAS (McJ4), 1/2 Dec MUL (BrJ3).

**GBS:** No records this year or last year. A handful of records in 24 of the last 36 years.

Jacky Winter

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	85	87	-2	39.7
WR	5	14	-64	4.5
G	20	14	43	14.0
BR	6	4	50	2.4
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 (4.2%), 13% less than last year (4.8%) and just under the 30YA (4.5%). Prior to last year, RR had been in gradual decline since 1992, to its lowest level ever in 2017 (2.7%). 671 records this year (583 last year), from wide-ranging sites in various habitats in 89 grid cells similar to last year. Present all year, records spread evenly seasonally this year, winter (25%), spring (23%), summer (25%) and autumn (27%). Sites with most records: ANBG (159) max 6 birds (several records), NNP (142), max 11/23 Oct NNP Warks/Blundells Ck

Rds (DaC2); TNR (116) max 10/14 Aug Lyrebird Trail (EbD1); Bluetts Block Uriarra (32) max 6/18 July (AlA1). Other sites include Murrumbidgee & Molonglo Rivers, Ginninderra Creek, Tallaganda NP, and urban edge reserves such as Mts Majura/Ainslie, Mt Taylor and Percival Hill. 4 breeding records (11 last year), earliest 1 nb/23 Oct NNP Warks/Blundells Creeks Rds (DaC2), latest 5 dy/25 Nov ANBG (ReS1). Other breeding records at Mt Ainslie NR and McQuoids Hill NR. No WOO records. 9 records K2C surveys, 7 properties in Michelago/Bredbo areas.

**GBS:** 5 records this year at the same site in Wee Jasper GrA09, 1/3-4wks Jul, 1/ 2-3wks Aug, 1/3 wk Apr (WiP9). No. of records dropped sharply last year (5 in Carwoola, Burra & Wamboin), from 2017 (39) and 2016 (59), after steady increase since 2011. No breeding records; 1 in Carwoola 5 years ago.

Eastern Yellow Robin

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	671	583	15	153.9
WR	1	1	0	1.2
G	89	90	-1	53.4
BR	4	11	-64	2.4
GA	0.0029	0.0022	36	0.0067
GS	1	3	-67	1.5
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 (0.2%), is much less than last year (0.5%), and closer to the 2017 lowest RR ever (0.1%). This year RR is down 85% on the 30YA (1.1%). Number of birds (43) is a significant decrease on last year (139), with observations of between 1-4 birds. The number of records (25), is 60% less than last year (63), but more than 2017 (21). Last year's records include multiple observations of the same birds at 2 locations, including the Brindabella/East West Roads site which is possibly no longer an active territory. Most records this year in winter (52%) and autumn (28%), with spring 8% and summer 12%. Records are spread across rural locations in 10 grid cells, much less than 19 grid cells last year. Locations include NNP/NNPVIC 9 records, Googong Foreshores/London Bridge 5 records (20 records last year), Smiths Road/Gigerline NR 3 records, and 4 records Michelago/Bredbo area (3 are K2C survey sites). Brindabella/East West Rds 3 records only in July 2-3 birds (17 records last year including breeding). One interesting record 2/8 June Salt Box GrC05, Lake Burrinjuck area south of Yass (SeB1). No breeding records this year, compared to 5 last year. No WOO records. Since 1995, this species shows a clear and significant long-term declining trend.

Hooded Robin

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	25	63	-60	36.3
WR	0	0	-	2.6
G	10	19	-47	18.6
BR	0	5	-100	3.1
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0016
GS	0	0	-	0.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

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

Rare, breeding summer migrant

**General:** 76 records of 375 birds from 10 grid cells, a significant increase on last year. Reporting rate of 0.5% is 60% above last year, 80% above the 10YA and 101% above the 30YA. Seasonal records were: spring 9.2% summer 85.5% and autumn and winter 2.6%. Sightings mainly from Wallaroo, Parkwood and LGeo and LBath. Max 27/30 Nov LGeo E (LeM1). Breeding: earliest cf/19 Jan Parkwood Rd GrH17 (BaL1) and latest cf/1 Feb LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1).

**Eurasian Skylark** *Alauda arvensis* Common, breeding resident  
An introduced species, but at home in our grasslands.

**General:** Reporting rate of 2.7% is up 33% on last year, 4% on the 10YA but down 3% on the 30YA. *The period 2001-2005 saw very low abundance, almost negligible. There was some recovery in the years to 2010, but the figure has slumped again since then.* Recorded in all seasons with peaks in spring 36% and summer 50 %. Max 102/19 Sep LGeo E GrTO9 (LeM1). Earliest 1/1 Jul Rob Roy NR GrK18 (EbD1) and latest 3/25 Jun WBPd GrI11 (LeM1) Earliest breeding cf/9 Dec Gungaharra NR GrK12 (ReS1) and latest cf/24 Jan Parkwood Rd Wallaroo GrH11 (LeM1).

**Eurasian Skylark**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	436	248	76	95.6
WR	1	0	Inf	0.3
G	49	50	-2	24.3
BR	2	0	Inf	0.5
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0224
GS	0	0	-	1.3
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**CISTICOLIDAE: cisticolas**

**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis*

Found most often in grassy areas near water.

**General:** RR (2.9%) is 27% down on last year, 37% on the 10YA and down 26% the 30YA. *There has been a considerable decline since the high of 7.5% in 2013, but the RR is returning to more long-term levels.* The abundance 0.0561 is down 41% on last year, down about 50% on the long-term averages. Max 17/17 Jan JWNR (DaC1), average 1.9 median 1. Most records from wetlands within the ACT particularly JWNR, but also records from Goulburn Wetlands, Baroon Wetlands and Wet Lagoon. Earliest breeding record dy/16 Oct JWNR GrL14 (DaC2) and latest cf/31 Jan Parkwood Rd Wallaroo GrH11 (LeM1).

Uncommon, breeding resident

**Golden-headed Cisticola**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	467	485	-4	135.4
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	24	31	-23	17.2
BR	4	1	300	1.0
GA	0.0000	0.0000	-	0.0073
GS	0	0	-	1.4
GBR	0	0	-	0.4

**ACROCEPHALIDAE: reed-warblers**

**Australian Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus australis*

Inhabits reed beds surrounding lakes, ponds and wetlands. Some birds remaining over winter.

**General:** The upward trend in abundance from 2002 has plateaued at 0.42. RR (10.3%) is up 15% on last year similar to the 10YA and up 33% on the 30YA. *The RR has been increasing since 1998 most likely in step with the increasing number of wetlands in the ACT.* First record 1/4 Aug Hume Wetland GrL14 (HeS1) and last 1/19 May JWNR (ReS1). Present in spring 40% and summer 50%, with a small presence in autumn (9%). Max 55/17 Jan JWNR (DaC1), average 4.1, median 3. Breeding: earliest nb/20 Oct Greenway to Red Rocks Gorge GrJ16 (HeS1) and latest dy/10 Mar Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (WyP1).

**GBS:** 74 records from 4 suburban sites near bodies of water. Max 5/3wk Oct Crace Wetland GrK11 (LeF1). Since 2006, the A value has been increasing steadily from just above zero to (A=0.0810). First record 1/1wk Sep Giralang (MxD4) and last 2/2wk Apr. Earliest breeding nb/4wk Oct and latest on/1wk Nov both Yarralumla GrK14 (NeG1).

**Australian Reed-Warbler**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1657	1090	52	265.3
WR	0	0	-	0.8
G	64	57	12	28.5
BR	26	38	-32	8.2
GA	0.0810	0.0954	-15	0.0307
GS	4	5	-20	2.2
GBR	2	6	-67	0.9

**LOCUSTELLIDAE: grassbirds and songlarks****Brown Songlark** *Cincloramphus cruralis*

A rarely recorded summer migrant.

**General:** 97 records from 14 grid cells cf 69 from 17 grids last year. The RR 0.6% the same as last year and 51% above the 10YA and 41% above the 30YA. *The RR has moved up and down between 0 and 1% since 1993.* All records were in spring (16%) or summer (84%) ranging from Oct to Feb. Mean 2.6, median 2 and max 12/28 Jan Parkwood Rd Wallaroo GrH11 (EbD1), but most sightings were of single birds. Earliest 1/10 Oct JWNR (MaM4) and latest 3/16 Feb Parkwood Rd Wallaroo GrH11 (EbD1). 5 breeding records, 4 possibly the same event in Jan at Parkwood Rd Wallaroo: earliest cf/10 Jan LBath GrZ08 (LeM1) and the latest cf/24-28 Jan Parkwood Rd Wallaroo (EbD1). Breeding recorded in 7 of the last 14 years.

**GBS:** One record 1/2wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

Rare, breeding summer migrant

**Brown Songlark**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	97	69	41	14.6
WR	0	1	-100	0.2
G	14	17	-18	7.0
BR	5	1	400	0.4
GA	0.0005	0.0000	Inf	0.0001
GS	1	0	Inf	0.2
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Rufous Songlark** *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

A woodland summer migrant.

**General:** RR (0.6%) is down 52% on last year, and down 71% on the 10YA and 75% on the 30YA. *RR has declined from 3.9% in 2014 to its lowest level ever.* Reported from Sep to Feb, almost exclusively in spring 53% and summer 46%. Max 4/27 Oct Uriarra Rd GrG13 (WS1), average 1.5 and median 1. Earliest 2/12 Sep Tuggeranong (EbD1), latest 1/1 Mar WBPD (LeM1). Earliest breeding cf/5 Jan NNPVIC GrJ19 (HeS1) and latest ne/28 Jan Boboyan Rd woodland GrK14 (HoS1).

**GBS:** One record this year, 1/3wk Oct Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

Common, breeding summer migrant

**Rufous Songlark**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	96	152	-37	80.5
WR	0	10	-100	7.4
G	30	45	-33	29.2
BR	2	4	-50	2.5
GA	0.0005	0.0017	-72	0.0016
GS	1	2	-50	1.0
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Tawny Grassbird** *Megalurus timoriensis* Rare, vagrant

A very rare visitor, appearing recently in the COG AoI.

**General:** 2 records this year, 1/7 Oct JWNR GrK14 (RoV1) and 1/10 Nov JWNR GrL14 (MiP1). The first recording of this species in the COG AoI was 2 years ago..

**Little Grassbird** *Megalurus gramineus*

A cryptic species occurring in suitable cover near water.

**General:** RR (2.6%) is down 6% on last year 12% on the 10YA but up 10% on the 30YA. Abundance 0.0370 is down 11% on last year down 13% on the 10YA but up 11% 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 38% and summer 46%. Max 6/16 Dec The Valley Avenue Ponds GrK11 (HaJ7), average 1.4 and median 1. Possible breeding: single record di/31 Jan JWNR GrL14 (HoS1).

**GBS:** 6 records from 1 site from 1/3wk Nov to 1/4wk Jan Crace Wetland GrK11 (LeF1).

Uncommon, breeding resident

**Little Grassbird**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	419	337	24	81.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	11	16	-31	7.1
BR	1	5	-80	0.4
GA	0.0029	0.0022	36	0.0028
GS	1	1	0	0.6
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**HIRUNDINIDAE: swallow, martins****Fairy Martin** *Petrochelidon ariel*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

A summer migrant, sometimes seen nesting under culverts. Some birds overwinter.

**General:** No. of birds (1,831) far more than last year (1,212), the 10YA (657) and the 30YA (304). Recorded in all months Aug to Mar with most records in spring and summer both (46%) cf. autumn (6%) and winter (2%). RR (2%) higher than last year (1.49%) and above to the 10 & 30YAs (1.4%). Recorded from 12% of grid cells (16% last year), more than the 10YA (10.8%) and the 30YA (7.5%). Max 50 (40 last year), mean 5.9, median 4. 15 breeding records (25 last year): earliest on/25 Sep Hume GrL16 (HeS1) and latest on/2 Mar Forde (COF1).

**GBS:** 9 records (4 last year) from 4 sites: earliest 11/4wk Aug and latest 2/4wk Apr both Wee Jasper GrA09 (WiP9). No breeding ever recorded for this species in the GBS.

**Fairy Martin**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	316	175	81	48.4
WR	0	0	-	0.2
G	40	53	-25	17.4
BR	15	25	-40	4.6
GA	0.0844	0.0065	1198	0.0060
GS	4	2	100	0.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.0

**Tree Martin** *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Uncommon, breeding summer migrant

A regular summer woodland migrant.

**General:** No. of birds (2,726) similar to last year (2,984) though many more than the 10YA (1,6409) and the 30YA (1,030). 460 records, more than last year (376) and the 10YA (242) and the 30YA (140). Although a migratory species, some over-winter hence recorded in all months, with many more records in spring (46%) and summer (37%) than in autumn (8%) and winter (8%). RR (2.9%) similar to last year (3.1%) though lower than the 10YA (3.5%) and the 30YA (4.1%). Recorded from 23% of grid cells surveyed (the same as last year), a little above the 10YA (21%) and 30YA (19%). Max 100/23 Mar LGin Pen GrJ12 (AIB1) (max 400 last year), mean 6.0, median 3. Only 4 breeding records (11 last year), below the 10YA (10) and the 30YA (7): earliest ih/25 Sep Googong Dam GrO17 (CIJ3) and latest on/7 Jan NNP Yankee Hat GrH25 (DaC2).

**GBS:** Number of birds (34) fewer than last year (55), the 10YA (64) and the 30YA (62). 9 records (12 last year), below the 10 & 30YAs (both 13), from 7 sites: earliest 1/4 wk Aug Giralang GrK12 (McD4), latest 1/2wk Apr Wamboin GrG12 (CoK2), with max 12/1wk Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1), mean 3. 8. Median 2. No breeding ever recorded in the GBS.

**Tree Martin**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	460	376	22	140.3
WR	14	22	-36	13.6
G	79	82	-4	43.6
BR	4	11	-64	6.6
GA	0.0167	0.0238	-30	0.0232
GS	7	4	75	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:** Many fewer birds (16,739) than last year (25,905), approaching the 10YA (15,684) but more than the 30YA (6,353). Recorded in every week, with a higher proportion of records in spring (37%) than summer (31%), autumn (22%) and winter (10%). RR (16.9%), lower than last year (21%) and the 10YA (22%) and the 30YA (20%). *The RR has remained fairly steady for the last 10 years.* Recorded from 44% of grid cells surveyed (50% last year), similar to the 10YA (48%) and 30YA (44%). Max 405/16 Feb Norgrove Park GrL14 (LeM1) (1,460 last year), mean 6.5, median 3. 27 breeding records (down from 32 last year and 79 the year before, the same as the 10YA (29) but nearly twice the 30YA (15): earliest on/12 Sep TNR GrF18 (EbD1) and latest Br/20 Mar Gigerline NR GrK20 (COF1).

**Welcome Swallow**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2725	2542	7	688.3
WR	4	22	-82	8.8
G	151	164	-8	102.5
BR	27	32	-16	15.1
GA	0.1791	0.3078	-42	0.3272
GS	25	32	-22	26.4
GBR	1	4	-75	4.1



**GBS:** Number of birds (365) half last year's figure (710) and half the year before that (1,345). With the 10YA at 1,423 and the 30YA 878. 162 records (last year 260), fewer than the 10YA (384) and the 30YA (230). Recorded in 48 weeks, with a lower proportion of records in winter (9%) than in spring (36%), summer (28%) and autumn (26%). Records from 54% of sites, lower than last year (59%) though slightly more than the 10YA (49%) and the 30YA (42%). Abundance much lower than last year and the 10YA ( $A=0.46$ ) and the 30YA ( $A=0.3272$ ). Only 1 breeding record (4 last year) cf. the 10YA of 9.4 and the 30YA of 3.8: nb/3wk Sep Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

### 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 records and birds (15,863) considerably up on last year (12,588) and far higher than the 10YA (6,474) and the 30YA (2,800). However, the RR of 17.4% is the same as the 10 & 30YAs. Recorded in every week, with a lower proportion in winter (12%) than in spring (32%), summer (33%) and autumn (22%). Records from 44% of grid cells surveyed, like last year (42%), the 10YA (40%) and 30YA (35%). Max 200 (106 last year), mean 5.8, median 4. 4 breeding records (10 last year): earliest nb/16 Dec Braddon GrL13 (FoW1) and latest nb/8 Jan Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (DaC2).

Silvereye				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2794	2091	34	587.2
WR	8	14	-43	17.0
G	149	137	9	80.5
BR	4	10	-60	3.7
GA	3.1011	3.1227	-1	4.6999
GS	42	46	-9	59.6
GBR	4	14	-71	13.5

**GBS:** Number of birds (6,320) fewer than last year (7,204) and fewer than the 10YA (10,781) and the 30YA (12,613). Recorded in all weeks, with a lower proportion in winter (20%) than in spring (27%), summer (28%) and autumn (26%). RR (44.9%) up on last year (42%) though lower than the 10YA (48.1%) and the 30YA (58.7%). Records from 91% of sites, similar to last year (85%), the 10YA (89%) and the 30YA (93.4%). 10<sup>th</sup> most abundant species. Abundance the same as last year but lower than the 10YA ( $A=3.49$ ) and the 30YA ( $A=4.7$ ). 4 breeding records (14 last year) from 3 sites: earliest nb/3wk Nov Bonner GrL10 (GrB1) and latest cf/1wk Feb Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

### 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 saw again the highest number of birds and records, since at least 1986: 146,850 birds up from 109,835; and 5,002 records up from 3,769. Abundance 9.1, is similar to last year, but is up 41% on 10Ya and 64% on the 30YA. RR (30.8%) is marginally down on 2018, but remains substantially higher than 10YA (11%) and 30YA (14%). Grid cells (183) up from 168 grids last year, were scattered widely through ACT and surrounding AoI. 140 WOO records, up from 133 last year, and down 7% on 10Ya. Max 3,530/30 Dec FSP GrL14 (MiP1), possibly associated with communal roosts in the Kelly's Swamp reed beds. Mean 29.9 similar to last year and remaining below long-term averages, median 6. 90 breeding records similar to 10YA. Breeding records

Common Starling				
	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	5002	3769	33	933.8
WR	140	133	5	80.2
G	183	168	9	104.4
BR	90	111	-19	45.4
GA	3.4244	2.6957	27	5.2474
GS	39	39	0	52.0
GBR	16	17	-6	30.9

predominantly from ACT sites: cf (28) and ih (20) accounted for 59% of breeding records. Earliest ih/16 Aug Watson GrL12 (GoJ3); latest on/5 Mar Stony Creek NR GrG13 (HeS1).

**GBS:** 39 sites from 21 grid cells produced 710 records, slightly up on 708 last year, and 6,979 birds, up from 6,219, a 12% increase on last year. Records and numbers both around 50% down on 30YA. Abundance (3.4%) is up 27% on 2018, and 76% on 10YA, but down 35% on the 30YA. RR (34.8%) is up 14% on last year, up 33% on 10YA but down 26% on the 30YA. Max 500/2wk Aug Macarthur GrL16 (MaL9) (duplicate of General record), up from 110 in 2018, is substantially above 10YA, but 58% below 30YA. Mean 9.8, median 5. Long-term trend to fewer summer records offset by increases in autumn and winter continued. Breeding, 16 records, down from 17 last year, from only 3 sites: earliest, nb/3wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1); latest, dy/1wk Dec Curtin GrKI4 (AjR1).

### Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*

Very common, breeding resident

An exotic species subject to ongoing attempts at population control.

**General:** Despite population control measures, numbers of records (2,783) are up 38% on last year and birds (9,156) up 12%, and remain well above long-term averages. Abundance, 0.57 is 15% down on 2018, but is 18% above 30YA. RR (17.3%) is up 4% on last year and 16% above 30A. Max is trending downwards, 53% down on 2018 and 91% down on 30YA, 70/24 Jun National Zoo and Aquarium GrJ14 (EbD1) with mean 3.3 and median 2. 68% of records from spring and summer. Downward trend in breeding records continues, with 24 records, down 52% from 2018 and 23% on 10YA. Breeding

Common Myna

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2783	2021	38	509.5
WR	29	27	7	21.8
G	82	73	12	36.1
BR	24	50	-52	15.1
GA	1.3656	1.7945	-24	2.8611
GS	38	46	-17	52.5
GBR	16	18	-11	34.7

RR (0.1%) down around 67% on 2018 and long-term averages: earliest ih/30 Aug Narrabundah Hill GrI15 (HoJ1); latest, ih/27 Jun Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1), an early start to 2019, otherwise dy/8 Feb The Pinnacle GrJ13 9 (KiB1).

**GBS:** Declines are evident, perhaps attributable in part to reduced number of sites, 46 to 38. 2,783 birds, down from 4,140 last year, from 819 records, down from 1,057 records. Abundance (1.37) is down: 24% on last year, 11% on the 10YA and 52% on the 30YA. RR (40.2%) is down: 12% on last year, 3% on the 10YA and 25% on the 30YA. Mean 5.3, median 2 and max same as last year, 45/3wk Feb Chapman GrI15 (HaJ1). Records typically spread evenly throughout the year, with slightly fewer in autumn (21%). 16 breeding records down from 18, but from more site: earliest, ih/4wk Aug Watson, GrL12 (WaK1); latest dy/4wk Feb Kaleen GrK12 (CiM1).

### TURDIDAE: thrushes

#### Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata*

Uncommon, breeding resident/altitudinal migrant

Most records come from the ANBG and wet forests of the ACT and AoI.

**General:** 100 records up 52% on last year with number of birds 151, up from 83 last year; Abundance (0.0094) is up 97% on the 30YA. RR (0.6) is up 74% on 30YA. Present in 15 grid cells throughout the year, it is recorded only sporadically with 69% of records from the ANBG. Earliest, 1/2 July ANBG GrK13, (WyP1); latest 1/29 Jun, TNR Lyrebird Trail GrF17 (MaL2). The birds in the ANBG appear to be habituated to people and are more readily observable there than elsewhere. Max 5/4 Aug ANBG GrK13 (AiA1), average 1.5 median 1. Only 2 other sites had records of more than 2: 3/2 Dec NNP Warks/Blundell Creek Roads Gr E15 (LaK1); 3/24 Mar TNR Lyrebird Trail, GrK17 (MaL2). 5 breeding records, all "on", all ANBG GrK13: earliest 12 Aug (ZwM1), latest 9 Sep (WyP1).

**GBS:** No records after 1 record in 2017.

#### 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:** Increases in many measures on last year: more records, no. of birds (3,453) up 52%; and grids up 11%. Abundance (0.21) and RR (13%) are up slightly on last year and the long-term measures. Max is down considerably on previous values: 13/16 Oct JWNR (DaC1); mean 1.7; median 1. 8 Breeding records, down from 10, but still more than double 10 & 30YAs: earliest nb/21 July Ginninderra Creek Melba GrJ12 (KiB1); latest dy/27 Feb Morrell Close LGin, GrK12 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 40 sites produced 908 records of 1,389 birds. Abundance is up 6% on last year but down 50% on the 30YA. RR is up 4% on last year, but down 30% on the 30YA. Max 7, continuing the long-term decline, mean 1.5, median 1. Only 3 breeding records down 2 from last year and down 88% on the 30YA of 25 records: earliest dy/4wk Dec Giralang GrK12 (McD4); latest, dy/3wk Jan Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

#### Common Blackbird

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	2100	1364	54	406.2
WR	7	4	75	3.2
G	109	98	11	46.9
BR	8	10	-20	3.8
GA	0.6816	0.6402	6	1.3675
GS	40	41	-2	57.8
GBR	3	5	-40	28.1

### DICAEDIDAE: flowerpeckers

#### Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

Occurs where there is mistletoe in the COG AoI.

**General:** Numbers and records fluctuate, with downward trends since peaks in 2015. Records down 9% (with WOO records down 13%) on last year; numbers (480), down 10%; but both remain above long-term averages. Abundance (0.029) continues its long-term decline from 30YA, 0.062, RR similarly. Max 12/28 Oct Woodstock NR GrH12 (DaC1), mean 1.7, median 1. Present throughout the year with long-term pattern of over 80% of records being in spring and summer. Only 2 breeding records: nb/25 Oct (DaC1); dy/23 Jan both Stony Creek NR GrG13 (BeC2, BeS1).

**GBS:** 5 sites produced 13 records of 16 birds, continuing the rapid decline since 2010. Abundance (0.79), unchanged from last year, but down 68% on the 30YA. RR (0.6%) is down 13% on last year and 71% on the 30YA. Most records in spring and autumn, with none in winter. No breeding, last record 2014.

Common, breeding summer migrant.

#### Mistletoebird

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	287	299	-4	143.5
WR	35	40	-12	31.5
G	59	60	-2	43.2
BR	2	7	-71	2.3
GA	0.0079	0.0078	1	0.0243
GS	5	5	0	9.9
GBR	0	0	-	0.1

### ESTRILDIDAE: weaver finches

#### Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata*

Prefers undisturbed woodland with shrubs and eucalypts. Declared vulnerable in NSW.

**General:** 140 records down from 152 records last year. Abundance is down 44% on last year and down 72% on the 30YA. RR (0.9%) is down 30% on last year and down 65% on the 30YA *to be just above the lowest level of 0.8%*. Max 25/13 Jun Boboyan Road GrI22 (CaR3), mean 2.6, median 2. Breeding: 5 records down from 6 last year: earliest, dy/17 Dec Glenovel Road W LBath GrY07 (LeM1); latest, dy/27 Feb Macgregor (GrH11) (LeM1).

**GBS:** 1 record: 1/ 2wk Apr Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

Uncommon, breeding resident

#### Diamond Firetail

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	140	152	-8	85.5
WR	0	2	-100	4.9
G	38	46	-17	32.6
BR	5	6	-17	4.2
GA	0.0005	0.0009	-43	0.0032
GS	1	1	0	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:** 1,259 records up from 1,054 last year. 9,236 birds, up from 7,595 last year. Abundance is down 8% on last year but up 14% on the 30YA. RR is down 10% on last year and down 14% on the 30YA. Max 50/8 Apr TNR, mean 7.5, median 4. 18 breeding records earliest, nb/3 Oct Yass Gorge GF03 (SeB1); latest, di/19 Apr JWNR GrL14 (ReS1).

**GBS:** 146 records down from 171 records last year. Abundance up 5% on last year but down 3% on the 30YA. RR down 3% on last year and up 10% on the 30YA. Max 40/4wk Jun Giralang GrK12 (McD4), mean 6.2, median 4. 6 breeding records down from 13 records last year: earliest, nb/1wk Nov and latest, dy/3wk/Jan, both from Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Red-browed Finch

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1259	1054	19	312.3
WR	4	2	100	5.0
G	88	91	-3	60.7
BR	18	28	-36	9.8
GA	0.4475	0.4261	5	0.4633
GS	16	14	14	17.8
GBR	6	13	-54	4.9

**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 castanotis*

Rare breeding visitor/escapee

A bird of the dry inland

**General:** 7 records after 5 last year. Most records are from JWNR and probably relate to deliberate releases. The probable exception and max: 10/18 Aug Pialligo GrM14 (EbD1).

**Double-barred Finch** *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Usually found near water in woodlands and grasslands in the region.

**General:** 417 records up from 234 records last year from 41 grids down from 44 last year. 1,621 birds up on 1,147 last year. Abundance is up 7% on last year but down 2% on the 30YA. RR is up 35% on last year but down 3% on the 30YA. Reported throughout the year, but with more records in summer (31%) and autumn (34%), with max 29/10 May Lawson GrK12 (EbD1), mean 3.9, median 3. 8 breeding records up from 2 last year from 2 sites: earliest, br/23 Aug Lawson Gr K12 (EbD1); and latest, nb/16 Apr Yass Gorge GrF03 (SeB1).

**GBS:** 25 records, down from 35 last year, from 3 suburban and 2 rural sites. Abundance is down 3% on last year and down 60% on the 30YA. RR is down 19% on last year and down 48% on the 30YA. Max 13/3wk Aug Nicholls (LiR1). Breeding not recorded, reported only in 1995, 2003 and 2014.

Double-barred Finch

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	417	234	78	91.4
WR	3	2	50	3.3
G	41	44	-7	25.5
BR	8	2	300	1.3
GA	0.0329	0.0338	-3	0.0832
GS	5	5	0	10.8
GBR	0	0	-	0.4

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Common, breeding resident

Introduced species of urban and semi-urban areas.

**General:** 1,771 records up on 1,250 last year from 90 grids up from 78 grids. 6,931 birds down from 7,207 Abundance down 28% but up 6% on the 30YA. RR is up 7% on last year and 8% on 30YA. Max 60/1 Aug LGeo E (LeM1). Mean 4, median 3. Breeding: 18 records, up on 13 records last year: earliest, nb/9 Oct Sutton (McD1); latest, dy/15 Feb Belconnen (FuP1).

**GBS:** 662 records similar to 679 records last year. Abundance is down 5% on last year and down 42% on the 30YA. RR is up 10% on last year but down 39% on the 30YA. Max 45/2wk July Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), mean 7.8, median 4. 4 breeding records down from 20 records last year: earliest, dy/4wk/Dec and latest, dy/3wk Jan both from Page (AlB1).

House Sparrow

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	1771	1250	42	349.3
WR	1	2	-50	2.6
G	90	78	15	46.6
BR	18	13	38	5.4
GA	2.5182	2.6489	-5	4.3197
GS	30	29	3	52.0
GBR	4	20	-80	23.0

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

Probably extinct in the region

Introduced species of urban and semi-urban areas, mainly in Victoria. There have been 3 unendorsed records for this species in this region, in 2000, 2007 and 2012, the last at Strathnairn GrH12. A search of eBird reveals that the only sightings in that database near to our region were at Murrumbucca in 1957, and near Bredbo in 1968. Given that it is safe to assume that species was never here on a viable basis, and, if it was, this is no longer the case, the species is probably extinct in the region.

**MOTACILLIDAE: pipit****Australasian Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Common, breeding resident

Found in most grasslands around the ACT and the surrounding region.

**General:** 556 records up from 509 records last year, but the no. of birds is about the same (1359). However abundance is down 22% on last year and down 45% on the 30YA. RR is down 17% on last year and down 33% on the 30YA. Max 20/27 Oct LGeo E GrT09 (LeM1), mean 2.5, median 2. 16 breeding records: earliest, di/24 Aug WBPD GrI11 (LeM1); latest, cf/29 Jan Parkwood Rd, Wallaroo GrH11 (EbD1).

**GBS:** 6 records (lowest since 1992) of 10 birds from 1 site. Max 3/3wk Sep Curtin GrK14 (AjR1), mean 1.7, median 1.5. 2 breeding records: earliest, di/3wk Oct, latest di/2wk Jan both from Curtin GrK14 (AjR1).

**Australasian Pipit**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	556	509	9	176.1
WR	1	0	Inf	1.2
G	89	93	-4	53.6
BR	16	11	45	3.9
GA	0.0049	0.0052	-6	0.0167
GS	1	2	-50	2.1
GBR	2	0	Inf	0.7

**FRINGILLIDAE: old world finches****Common Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris*

Uncommon, breeding resident

Introduced species previously only found around the central area of Canberra, but now recorded from elsewhere e.g. Lake George and Goulburn.

**General:** 122 records up from 112 last year. Grids increased to 12 from 9 last year – reflecting an expansion in the known range. Max 8/28 Oct JWNR GrL14 (MiP1), mean 2.1, median 1.5. Possibly reflecting the drought, Abundance is down 8% on last year and down 45% on the 30YA. RR is down 18% on last year and 32% on the 30YA. No breeding records since 2016.

**Common Greenfinch**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	122	112	9	38.5
WR	0	0	-	0.0
G	12	9	33	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 seedy weeds) throughout the region.

**General:** The slow decline of this species seems to have been accelerated by the drought, with falls in most metrics. The decline appears to have been partially masked by variations in recording effort: 816 records up from 745 last year from 94 grids up on 87 grids last year. Max 148/29 Jul JWNR GrL14 (MiP1) is down 57% on the 30YA. Mean 4.2, median 2. Abundance is 43% down on last year and 49% down on the 30YA. RR is down 17% on last year and down 34% on the 30YA. Breeding, 4 records: earliest, cf/24 Oct Glendale Depot GrI23 (HeS1); latest, dy/23 Feb JWNR GrL14 (BaL1).

**European Goldfinch**

	18/19	17/18	%Δ	30YA
R	816	745	10	264.4
WR	3	3	0	1.9
G	94	87	8	59.5
BR	4	4	0	2.3
GA	0.0358	0.0685	-48	0.1597
GS	6	7	-14	15.1
GBR	0	3	-100	0.6

**GBS:** Similar pattern of decline to the general records, possibly also including a recent drought signal. 35 records compared with 60 records last year. Abundance is down 48% on last year and down 78% on the 30YA. RR is down 34% on last year and down 61% on the 30YA. Max 10/4wk Aug Giralang (McD4), mean 2.1 median 2. Breeding not recorded.

**Table 1: Number of records for each species segregated by survey type 2018-2019**

**COG** COG's paper record sheet, **BA** BirdLife Australia, **eBird** eBird Australia, **INC** Incidental 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.

Rk	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO%
1	Australian Magpie	10449	251	98	9746	8	346	3.3
2	Magpie-lark	7712	127	59	7445	3	78	1.0
3	Crimson Rosella	7452	228	81	6796	10	337	4.5
4	Pied Currawong	7139	165	68	6793	5	108	1.5
5	Red Wattlebird	7099	194	61	6743	7	94	1.3
6	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	6912	189	73	6412	19	219	3.2
7	Australian Raven	6850	150	51	6419	9	221	3.2
8	Galah	6649	158	58	6199	7	227	3.4
9	Crested Pigeon	5686	99	52	5455	5	75	1.3
10	Superb Fairy-wren	5069	155	31	4826	3	54	1.1
11	Common Starling	5002	120	30	4710	2	140	2.8
12	Eastern Rosella	4086	159	52	3695	1	179	4.4
13	Australian Wood Duck	4039	81	35	3879	3	41	1.0
14	Noisy Miner	3924	68	22	3600	2	232	5.9
15	Grey Fantail	3679	137	18	3362	2	160	4.3
16	Pacific Black Duck	3584	50	18	3503	3	10	0.3
17	Red-rumped Parrot	3372	63	20	3244	3	42	1.2
18	Willie Wagtail	3241	122	24	3056	1	38	1.2
19	Weebill	3022	159	7	2639	4	213	7.0
20	Striated Pardalote	2976	141	12	2582	1	240	8.1
21	Spotted Pardalote	2933	105	24	2692	6	106	3.6
22	Eurasian Coot	2878	47	9	2822			
23	Silvereye	2801	46	16	2724		15	0.5
24	Common Myna	2783	48	38	2665	3	29	1.0
25	Welcome Swallow	2725	68	19	2634		4	0.1
26	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	2721	121	19	2529	2	50	1.8
27	Australian King-Parrot	2459	30	25	2362	1	41	1.7
28	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	2331	108	9	2151	2	61	2.6
29	Masked Lapwing	2243	44	8	2183	1	7	0.3
30	Purple Swamphen	2146	39	16	2091			
31	Common Blackbird	2100	24	24	2045		7	0.3
32	Laughing Kookaburra	2044	64	12	1919	3	46	2.3
33	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	2014	110	12	1839		53	2.6
34	Dusky Moorhen	1958	38	4	1916			
35	Grey Teal	1885	27	4	1848	4	2	0.1
36	White-browed Scrubwren	1878	36	15	1817	5	5	0.3
37	White-throated Treecreeper	1873	107	7	1682	8	69	3.7
38	White-plumed Honeyeater	1845	53	2	1763		27	1.5
39	Brown Thornbill	1784	51	12	1684	3	34	1.9
40	House Sparrow	1771	24	41	1704	1	1	0.1

<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>COG</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>eBird</b>	<b>INC</b>	<b>WOO</b>	<b>WOO%</b>
41	Grey Shrike-thrush	1701	83	9	1562	6	41	2.4
42	Grey Butcherbird	1683	53	6	1528	5	91	5.4
43	Australian Reed-Warbler	1657	34	3	1620			
44	Noisy Friarbird	1626	68	6	1483		69	4.2
45	Rainbow Lorikeet	1619	41	5	1538	3	32	2.0
46	Rock Dove	1561	17	7	1537			
47	Little Corella	1545	21	5	1484	1	34	2.2
48	Rufous Whistler	1508	77	4	1350		77	5.1
49	Little Pied Cormorant	1466	22	4	1440			
50	White-winged Chough	1445	42	12	1325		66	4.6
51	Black Swan	1371	23	2	1346			
52	Eastern Spinebill	1368	20	20	1317	3	8	0.6
53	Striated Thornbill	1271	45	11	1179	5	31	2.4
54	Australian White Ibis	1267	16	8	1242		1	0.1
55	Red-browed Finch	1259	19	5	1230	1	4	0.3
56	Silver Gull	1218	21	1	1196			
57	Australasian Grebe	1195	19	13	1157	1	5	0.4
58	White-faced Heron	1168	16	1	1150		1	0.1
59	Gang-gang Cockatoo	1161	18	17	1102	5	19	1.6
60	Buff-rumped Thornbill	1145	78	4	974	2	87	7.6
61	Straw-necked Ibis	1081	5	7	1067	2		
62	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	1019	17	10	976	7	9	0.9
63	White-eared Honeyeater	997	51	9	900	7	30	3.0
64	Dusky Woodswallow	990	63	4	910		13	1.3
65	Australian Pelican	949	7	1	941			
66	Great Cormorant	924	26	1	894	2	1	0.1
67	Hardhead	899	10	2	887			
68	Golden Whistler	890	30	5	829	3	23	2.6
69	Australasian Darter	882	17		865			
70	Eastern Koel	874	9	4	855	3	3	0.3
71	Superb Parrot	840	13	6	801	3	17	2
72	Little Raven	832	10	14	795	2	11	1.3
73	European Goldfinch	816	17	3	793		3	0.4
74	Little Black Cormorant	807	19	1	786		1	0.1
75	Olive-backed Oriole	789	48	2	699		40	5.1
76	Australasian Shoveler	786	6	2	776	2		
77	New Holland Honeyeater	772	16	2	752	2		
78	Sacred Kingfisher	737	47	4	673	1	12	1.6
79	Pink-eared Duck	728	6	1	720	1		
80	Satin Bowerbird	709	22	36	647	1	3	0.4
81	Scarlet Robin	684	38	1	603	5	37	5.4
82	Spotted Dove	680	9	2	667	1	1	0.1
83	Eastern Yellow Robin	671	14	6	645	5	1	0.1
84	Nankeen Kestrel	624	20	2	592		10	1.6
85	White-throated Gerygone	609	30	1	487		91	14.9
86	Wedge-tailed Eagle	606	13	3	582	1	7	1.2

Rk	Species	Total	COG	BA	eBird	INC	WOO	WOO%
87	Latham's Snipe	591	7		584			
88	Black-shouldered Kite	561	5	3	552		1	0.2
89	Australasian Pipit	556	20	2	533		1	0.2
90	Red-kneed Dotterel	546	3		543			
91	Common Bronzewing	511	26	1	459	1	24	4.7
92	Leaden Flycatcher	490	29		438		23	4.7
93	White-naped Honeyeater	469	27	5	432		5	1.1
94	Golden-headed Cisticola	467	2		465			
95	Tree Martin	460	24	2	420		14	3.0
96	Eurasian Skylark	436	10	1	424		1	0.2
97	Freckled Duck	430	4		425	1		
98	Hoary-headed Grebe	429	6		423			
99	Chestnut Teal	421	3	1	415	2		
100	Little Grassbird	419	4		415			
101	Double-barred Finch	417	13	2	398	1	3	0.7
102	Speckled Warbler	407	27	2	360	1	17	4.2
103	Black-fronted Dotterel	406	4	4	398			
104	Oriental Dollarbird	384	17	1	361	1	4	1.0
105	Brown-headed Honeyeater	373	20	1	325		27	7.2
106	Royal Spoonbill	343	3		340			
107	Fairy Martin	316	5		311			
108	Yellow Thornbill	313	4	2	305		2	0.6
109	Mistletoebird	287	9	3	240		35	12.2
110	Domestic Mallard	278		1	277			
111	Grey Currawong	256	5	1	241	1	8	3.1
112	Great Egret	250	3		247			
113	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	244	17	2	223		2	0.8
114	White-winged Triller	243	7	3	223		10	4.1
115	Australian Hobby	236	7		228		1	0.4
116	Flame Robin	232	5	2	222		3	1.3
117	Whistling Kite	223	1	3	218		1	0.4
118	Fuscous Honeyeater	222	19	3	198	2		
119	Brown Falcon	220	3	1	214		2	0.9
120	Brown Goshawk	218	5	1	204		8	3.7
121	Tawny Frogmouth	218	7	2	207	1	1	0.5
122	Western Gerygone	211	12		170		29	13.7
123	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	191	6	1	178		6	3.1
124	Little Eagle	184	4		179		1	0.5
125	Rainbow Bee-eater	171	8		163			
126	Pallid Cuckoo	168	13		134	1	20	11.9
127	Varied Sittella	168	9	2	145	1	11	6.5
128	White-browed Woodswallow	164	5	1	154		4	2.4
129	Collared Sparrowhawk	161	5	1	154		1	0.6
130	Superb Lyrebird	158	1	1	150	6		
131	Buff-banded Rail	149	1		148			
132	Australian Spotted Crake	147			147			



<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>COG</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>eBird</b>	<b>INC</b>	<b>WOO</b>	<b>WOO%</b>
133	Diamond Firetail	140	15		125			
134	Baillon's Crake	122	1		121			
135	Common Greenfinch	122	1		121			
136	Cattle Egret	105			105			
137	Eastern Whipbird	105	2		103			
138	Bassian Thrush	100	1	2	97			
139	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	98	5	1	88		4	4.1
140	Brown Songlark	97	1		96			
141	Rufous Songlark	96	3	1	92			
142	Nankeen Night-Heron	94	2		92			
143	Australian Owlet-nightjar	90			90			
144	Brush Cuckoo	85	4		78		3	3.5
145	Great Pied Cormorant	85	4	3	78			
146	Jacky Winter	85	3	3	74		5	5.9
147	Southern Whiteface	85	12	1	66		6	7.1
148	Spotless Crake	85		1	84			
149	White-fronted Chat	85		1	84			
150	White-necked Heron	85			85			
151	Peregrine Falcon	84	1		83			
152	Crescent Honeyeater	83			81	1	1	1.2
153	Australian Shelduck	82			81	1		
154	Long-billed Corella	79			78		1	1.3
155	Brown Treecreeper	78	16		61		1	1.3
156	Brown Quail	76	4		72			
157	Horsfield's Bushlark	76	1		75			
158	Plumed Whistling-Duck	75			74	1		
159	Eastern Shrike-tit	74	14	1	59			
160	Rufous Fantail	71	1		70			
161	Little Egret	69	2		67			
162	Rose Robin	69	1	1	66	1		
163	Fork-tailed Swift	67	1		66			
164	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	63			63			
165	Pied Butcherbird	62	3		56		3	4.8
166	Red-capped Robin	61		1	54	1	5	8.2
167	Masked Woodswallow	59	2	1	55		1	1.7
168	Black Kite	58		2	56			
169	Musk Lorikeet	58			58			
170	Swift Parrot	58	1	5	52			
171	White-throated Needletail	58			57	1		
172	Stubble Quail	56			56			
173	Southern Boobook	52		1	50		1	1.9
174	Swamp Harrier	51			51			
175	Satin Flycatcher	50	1		49			
176	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	41			41			
177	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	41	1		39	1		
178	Whiskered Tern	37			37			

<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>COG</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>eBird</b>	<b>INC</b>	<b>WOO</b>	<b>WOO%</b>
179	Pink Robin	34			34			
180	Turquoise Parrot	34			34			
181	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	32			32			
182	Wonga Pigeon	32	2		29	1		
183	Restless Flycatcher	30	5		25			
184	Pilotbird	29		1	28			
185	Domestic Graylag Goose	28			28			
186	Red-necked Avocet	28	1		27			
187	Barn Owl	27			27			
188	Musk Duck	27	3		24			
189	Red-browed Treecreeper	27		1	26			
190	Emu	25		1	24			
191	Hooded Robin	25	3		22			
192	No sighting	25			25			
193	Muscovy Duck	24			24			
194	Pied Stilt	22			22			
195	Spotted Quail-thrush	22			21	1		
196	Olive Whistler	21			21			
197	Banded Lapwing	20		4	16			
198	Indian Peafowl	20	1		19			
199	Lewin's Rail	20			20			
200	Spotted Harrier	20	1		19			
201	Blue-faced Honeyeater	19			19			
202	Australian Little Bittern	18	1		17			
203	Great Crested Grebe	16			16			
204	Little Friarbird	16			16			
205	Brown Gerygone	14			14			
206	Yellow-billed Spoonbill	14		1	13			
207	Black Falcon	10		1	9			
208	Intermediate Egret	9			9			
209	Channel-billed Cuckoo	8			8			
210	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren	8			8			
211	Cockatiel	8			8			
212	Glossy Ibis	8			8			
213	Azure Kingfisher	7			7			
214	Pac Black Duck x Dom Mallard	7			7			
215	White-cheeked Honeyeater	7			7			
216	Yellow-plumed Honeyeater	7			7			
217	Zebra Finch	7			6	1		
218	Black-faced Monarch	6			6			
219	Common Cicadabird	6			6			
220	Common Greenshank	4			4			
221	Peaceful Dove	4			4			
222	Australasian Figbird	3			3			
223	Blue-billed Duck	3		1	2			
224	Brush Bronzewing	3			3			

<b>Rk</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>COG</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>eBird</b>	<b>INC</b>	<b>WOO</b>	<b>WOO%</b>
225	Grey Goshawk	3			2	1		
226	Lewin's Honeyeater	3			3			
227	Painted Button-quail	3			3			
228	Scarlet Honeyeater	3			3			
229	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	3			3			
230	Budgerigar	2			2			
231	Crow & Raven species	2		1			1	50
232	Mallard	2	2					
233	Red-necked Stint	2			2			
234	Square-tailed Kite	2			1		1	50
235	Tawny Grassbird	2			2			
236	Black-chinned Honeyeater	1			1			
237	Black-eared Cuckoo	1			1			
238	Bush Stone-curlew	1	1					
239	Corella sp	1		1				
240	Curlew Sandpiper	1			1			
241	Little Lorikeet	1			1			
242	Pectoral Sandpiper	1			1			
243	Pied Honeyeater	1			1			
244	Powerful Owl	1			1			
245	Regent Honeyeater	1			1			
246	Spangled Drongo	1			1			
247	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	1			1			
248	White-headed Pigeon	1			1			
249	White-winged Black Tern	1			1			
Totals		221664	5840	1550	209239	248	4788	
Per cent of Totals			3%	0.7%	94%	0.1%	2%	

**Table 2: Garden Bird Survey Statistics 2018-19**

Values for 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 (Year 38), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (Years 1-37). 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

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

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

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

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

B (breeding) = % of sites with 1 or more breeding obs

W (weeks) = number of weeks with records

### Legend for Table 2

An indication of the status of a species for the GBS year, relative to the average for all previous GBS years, is provided by a + or – prefix when  $\Delta A\%$  and  $\Delta R\%$  are both greater than  $\pm 25\%$ . This may be indicative of a general increase or decrease over the 38 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.

37 yr	Rk	Species	A	$\Delta A\%$	F (%)	$\Delta F\%$	W	R	G	B
	1	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	9.34	47	100.0	2	52	90.09	10.4	8
	2	Galah	6.68	-4	100.0	0	52	84.34	7.9	15
+	3	Little Corella	4.81	701	80.9	189	52	32.24	14.9	2
	4	Australian Magpie	4.74	54	100.0	0	52	96.47	4.9	23
+	5	Crested Pigeon	4.48	155	97.9	51	52	86.85	5.2	15
+	6	Australian White Ibis	3.76	1240	44.7	179	51	13.34	28.2	0
	7	Pied Currawong	3.74	-5	100.0	1	52	90.96	4.1	20
-	8	Common Starling	3.41	-54	85.1	-1	52	34.85	9.8	3
	9	Crimson Rosella	3.16	0	100.0	1	52	86.23	3.7	11
-	10	Silvereye	3.06	-39	91.5	-3	52	44.42	6.9	3
+	11	Australian King-Parrot	2.91	75	95.7	18	52	63.03	4.6	11
+	12	Rock Dove	2.69	92	59.6	16	52	24.12	11.2	0
	13	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	2.56	6	68.1	-17	49	16.63	15.4	0
	14	Red Wattlebird	2.54	9	97.9	0	52	84.24	3.0	20
-	15	House Sparrow	2.48	-53	63.8	-26	52	32.00	7.8	1
	16	Magpie-lark	2.41	18	97.9	0	52	83.04	2.9	14
+	17	Eurasian Coot	1.96	409	10.6	288	52	9.23	21.2	0
+	18	Australian Raven	1.91	58	100.0	5	52	74.38	2.6	9
+	19	Australian Wood Duck	1.63	275	55.3	86	52	18.66	8.7	8
+	20	Noisy Miner	1.59	250	66.0	122	52	35.04	4.5	3
+	21	Superb Fairy-wren	1.50	43	80.9	7	52	46.30	3.2	8
	22	Eastern Rosella	1.50	0	95.7	-1	52	53.65	2.8	6
+	23	White-winged Chough	1.46	215	57.4	68	52	16.14	9.0	4
	24	Common Myna	1.36	-47	83.0	13	52	40.12	3.4	7
+	25	Pacific Black Duck	1.23	398	25.5	86	52	14.74	8.4	4
+	26	Rainbow Lorikeet	1.22	628	68.1	311	52	40.07	3.0	3
+	27	Red-rumped Parrot	1.12	130	66.0	55	52	23.25	4.8	2
+	28	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	1.09	192	85.1	141	52	18.22	6.0	4

37 yr	Rk	Species	A	ΔA%	F (%)	ΔF%	W	R	G	B
+	29	Gang-gang Cockatoo	1.08	41	66.0	-5	52	33.01	3.3	4
+	30	Silver Gull	0.82	64	17.0	110	46	3.62	22.7	1
	31	Spotted Pardalote	0.75	12	72.3	-6	52	34.75	2.1	2
-	32	Common Blackbird	0.68	-52	87.2	-4	52	44.71	1.5	3
	33	Weebill	0.67	27	59.6	16	52	21.27	3.2	2
+	34	Straw-necked Ibis	0.67	105	44.7	98	50	7.39	9.1	0
+	35	Satin Bowerbird	0.65	302	68.1	186	52	27.55	2.4	4
+	36	Brown Thornbill	0.64	109	70.2	39	52	30.01	2.1	2
	37	Eastern Spinebill	0.61	8	91.5	5	52	41.86	1.5	3
+	38	Striated Thornbill	0.60	144	29.8	-10	51	8.65	6.9	2
-	39	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	0.60	-55	59.6	-27	52	15.66	3.8	5
	40	Red-browed Finch	0.44	9	34.0	28	52	7.06	6.2	1
+	41	Eastern Koel	0.42	790	87.2	248	25	24.99	1.7	7
	42	Striated Pardalote	0.42	-28	74.5	1	52	25.18	1.6	3
+	43	Purple Swamphen	0.40	460	10.6	367	51	5.32	7.6	2
+	44	Grey Butcherbird	0.37	438	87.2	239	52	30.59	1.2	4
	45	White-naped Honeyeater	0.36	-25	36.2	-20	28	3.09	11.6	0
	46	Laughing Kookaburra	0.34	-3	59.6	-16	52	19.82	1.7	2
+	47	Dusky Moorhen	0.32	330	10.6	331	52	7.54	4.2	3
-	48	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.30	-32	85.1	-4	48	17.79	1.7	2
	49	Grey Fantail	0.28	-14	66.0	-14	50	17.74	1.6	3
+	50	White-browed Scrubwren	0.28	60	55.3	63	52	18.51	1.5	0
+	51	Superb Parrot	0.26	301	40.4	325	38	6.81	3.9	2
+	52	Masked Lapwing	0.22	101	46.8	25	52	10.49	2.1	1
-	53	Noisy Friarbird	0.21	-71	76.6	-14	35	12.47	1.7	3
+	54	Little Raven	0.18	58	17.0	51	33	2.22	8.0	1
+	55	Fork-tailed Swift	0.18	4599	36.2	2330	6	0.97	18.4	0
	55	Welcome Swallow	0.18	-39	55.3	35	48	7.97	2.2	1
-	57	Willie Wagtail	0.17	-33	55.3	-25	52	12.52	1.4	1
+	58	Spotted Dove	0.17	409	36.2	201	51	12.32	1.3	0
+	59	Little Pied Cormorant	0.15	246	21.3	198	51	7.15	2.2	0
	60	White-plumed Honeyeater	0.12	-4	44.7	14	50	7.15	1.7	1
	61	Golden Whistler	0.12	-13	48.9	-18	37	10.58	1.1	0
+	62	Dusky Woodswallow	0.11	54	29.8	90	32	2.42	4.5	1
+	63	White-browed Woodswallow	0.10	214	12.8	329	8	0.58	17.9	0
+	64	Brown-headed Honeyeater	0.10	150	10.6	38	40	2.37	4.2	1
+	65	Great Cormorant	0.10	414	19.1	215	44	3.09	3.1	0
+	66	Common Bronzewing	0.09	140	14.9	19	42	3.91	2.4	1
+	67	Little Black Cormorant	0.09	80	8.5	114	33	2.56	3.3	0
+	68	Fairy Martin	0.08	1277	8.5	437	8	0.43	19.1	0
+	69	Grey Teal	0.08	287	8.5	167	34	3.19	2.5	0
+	70	Australian Reed-Warbler	0.08	254	8.5	169	30	3.58	2.2	1
+	71	Black Swan	0.07	91	8.5	134	51	3.58	2.0	2
+	72	White-faced Heron	0.07	71	21.3	19	49	5.12	1.4	0
+	73	Hardhead	0.07	38	4.3	214	33	1.93	3.5	0
	74	Olive-backed Oriole	0.06	7	53.2	28	30	5.99	1.1	0
	75	Grey Shrike-thrush	0.06	-19	27.7	-17	49	5.80	1.1	0
+	76	Yellow Thornbill	0.06	139	14.9	77	39	3.43	1.8	1
	77	White-throated Needletail	0.06	-66	14.9	-26	10	0.68	8.3	0

37 yr	Rk	Species	A	ΔA%	F (%)	ΔF%	W	R	G	B
+	78	Australian Pelican	0.06	174	25.5	163	43	3.24	1.7	0
-	79	Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.05	-63	10.6	-32	26	1.64	3.0	0
-	80	Rufous Whistler	0.05	-41	21.3	-52	29	4.06	1.2	1
	81	White-throated Treecreeper	0.04	-30	10.6	-33	51	4.25	1.0	0
-	82	Grey Currawong	0.04	-46	12.8	-60	48	3.62	1.1	0
+	83	Wedge-tailed Eagle	0.04	102	38.3	84	36	2.56	1.5	0
-	84	Fuscous Honeyeater	0.04	-62	6.4	-76	16	0.82	4.7	0
-	85	European Goldfinch	0.04	-84	12.8	-60	24	1.69	2.1	0
-	86	White-eared Honeyeater	0.03	-66	23.4	-50	42	2.66	1.3	0
-	87	Double-barred Finch	0.03	-70	10.6	-44	22	1.21	2.7	0
	88	Varied Sittella	0.03	-3	4.3	-48	18	0.92	3.4	0
+	89	Tawny Frogmouth	0.03	28	14.9	80	28	2.03	1.5	2
+	90	Rainbow Bee-eater	0.03	114	17.0	136	6	0.43	7.0	0
+	91	Masked Woodswallow	0.03	502	6.4	554	6	0.34	8.4	0
	92	Collared Sparrowhawk	0.03	22	38.3	50	34	2.61	1.0	0
-	92	Oriental Dollarbird	0.03	-48	23.4	-22	20	1.93	1.4	0
+	94	Eastern Great Egret	0.03	610	6.4	195	37	2.08	1.2	0
	95	New Holland Honeyeater	0.02	-36	8.5	-18	23	1.50	1.5	0
	96	Leaden Flycatcher	0.02	-32	14.9	-24	22	1.69	1.2	0
+	97	Swift Parrot	0.02	1224	6.4	662	11	0.58	3.4	1
+	98	Nankeen Night-Heron	0.02	799	4.3	238	24	1.30	1.5	0
-	98	Scarlet Robin	0.02	-51	19.1	-24	18	1.64	1.2	0
-	100	Southern Boobook	0.02	-53	31.9	-7	27	1.64	1.1	0
	100	Tree Martin	0.02	-23	17.0	109	11	0.58	3.3	0
	102	White-throated Gerygone	0.02	1	14.9	-6	22	1.74	1.0	0
-	103	Australian Hobby	0.02	-44	29.8	-7	21	1.45	1.2	0
	104	Australasian Grebe	0.02	5	10.6	333	22	1.21	1.3	0
	105	Nankeen Kestrel	0.02	-27	23.4	20	23	1.45	1.1	0
+	106	Australian Owllet-nightjar	0.01	309	6.4	139	30	1.45	1.0	0
+	106	Australasian Darter	0.01	147	10.6	272	19	1.16	1.3	0
-	108	Pallid Cuckoo	0.01	-45	6.4	-70	16	1.16	1.2	1
	109	Black-shouldered Kite	0.01	-17	12.8	29	24	1.26	1.0	0
	110	Brown Goshawk	0.01	-1	25.5	24	17	1.06	1.0	0
+	111	Latham's Snipe	0.01	439	2.1	150	8	0.39	2.0	0
-	111	Mistletoebird	0.01	-67	10.6	-28	12	0.63	1.2	0
-	113	Sacred Kingfisher	0.01	-36	12.8	-30	11	0.72	1.0	0
	114	Little Eagle	0.01	6	12.8	25	10	0.58	1.1	0
-	114	Crescent Honeyeater	0.01	-64	4.3	-54	11	0.53	1.2	0
	114	Flame Robin	0.01	-37	4.3	-30	8	0.39	1.6	0
+	117	Long-billed Corella	0.01	26	4.3	58	8	0.39	1.5	0
	118	Peregrine Falcon	0.01	-12	8.5	-14	10	0.48	1.1	0
+	119	Royal Spoonbill	0.00	610	4.3	459	8	0.39	1.3	0
-	119	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.00	-37	8.5	-11	9	0.48	1.0	0
-	119	Australasian Pipit	0.00	-71	2.1	-41	6	0.29	1.7	1
-	122	White-winged Triller	0.00	-63	4.3	-37	5	0.29	1.5	0
-	123	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	0.00	-47	10.6	14	7	0.39	1.0	0
	124	Brown Quail	0.00	-21	4.3	310	3	0.14	2.0	0
-	124	Eastern Yellow Robin	0.00	-59	2.1	-14	5	0.24	1.2	0
+	124	Little Grassbird	0.00	49	2.1	216	6	0.29	1.0	0

37 yr	Rk	Species	A	ΔA%	F (%)	ΔF%	W	R	G	B
+	127	Whistling Kite	0.00	279	6.4	256	4	0.19	1.3	0
	127	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	0.00	9	4.3	108	4	0.19	1.3	0
-	129	Brown Falcon	0.00	-63	6.4	-13	3	0.19	1.0	0
+	129	Lewin's Rail	0.00	10301	2.1	5174	4	0.19	1.0	0
	129	Cockatiel	0.00	7	6.4	80	3	0.14	1.3	0
+	129	Musk Lorikeet	0.00	78	2.1	241	2	0.10	2.0	0
-	129	Speckled Warbler	0.00	-77	2.1	-52	4	0.19	1.0	0
-	129	Restless Flycatcher	0.00	-39	2.1	-56	4	0.19	1.0	0
-	129	Rose Robin	0.00	-82	2.1	-82	4	0.19	1.0	0
+	136	Great Pied Cormorant	0.00	847	2.1	605	2	0.10	1.5	0
	136	Cattle Egret	0.00	-52	2.1	50	3	0.14	1.0	0
+	136	Black Kite	0.00	1272	4.3	947	3	0.14	1.0	0
+	136	Channel-billed Cuckoo	0.00	334	6.4	385	2	0.14	1.0	0
-	136	Rufous Fantail	0.00	-48	6.4	-16	3	0.14	1.0	0
+	141	Pink-eared Duck	0.00	305	2.1	834	1	0.05	2.0	0
+	141	Peaceful Dove	0.00	130	2.1	256	2	0.10	1.0	0
	141	White-necked Heron	0.00	-26	4.3	46	2	0.10	1.0	0
+	141	Eastern Barn Owl	0.00	172	4.3	277	2	0.10	1.0	0
	141	Eastern Shrike-tit	0.00	-34	2.1	303	2	0.10	1.0	0
-	146	Stubble Quail	0.00	-70	2.1	106	1	0.05	1.0	0
-	146	Chestnut Teal	0.00	-84	2.1	262	1	0.05	1.0	0
+	146	Intermediate Egret	0.00	259	2.1	453	1	0.05	1.0	0
+	146	Black Falcon	0.00	138	2.1	244	1	0.05	1.0	0
-	146	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	0.00	-95	2.1	-82	1	0.05	1.0	0
-	146	Brush Cuckoo	0.00	-54	2.1	2	1	0.05	1.0	0
	146	Blue-faced Honeyeater	0.00		2.1		1	0.05	1.0	0
+	146	Red-capped Robin	0.00	157	2.1	361	1	0.05	1.0	0
-	146	Rufous Songlark	0.00	-86	2.1	-2	1	0.05	1.0	0
+	146	Brown Songlark	0.00	153	2.1	439	1	0.05	1.0	0
-	146	Diamond Firetail	0.00	-88	2.1	64	1	0.05	1.0	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 as a separate entry. 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. 90. 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 Oriental 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 have 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 list of identified observers and their observer codes is provided on p. 97. 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	BirdLife 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

MtMajNR	Mt Majura Nature Reserve
MAJ	Mt Majura (WOO site)
max	maximum
MFNR	Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve
MTA	Majura Training Area, formerly 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
recs	records
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)
TugHNR	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 IDENTIFIED CONTRIBUTORS					Obs	Observer	C O G	B A	e B d	G B S
Obs Code	Observer	C O G	B A	e B d	G B S					
AjR1	R & J Allen				*	DaC1	Chris Davey	*		*
AlA1	Ash Allnutt			*		DaC2	Christine Darwood			*
AlB1	Barbara Allan	*			*	DaG2	Geoffrey Dabb	*		
AlR1	Richard Allen			*		DeB3	Brian Deans			*
AnF1	Frank Antram			*		DoM1	M Doyle			*
AnI1	Ian Anderson	*				DrC1	Ms C Drake			*
AuN1	Nancy Auerbach			*		EbD1	eBird Observer			*
BaB1	Barry Baker		*			EmL1	Lindell Emerton			*
BaD3	David Baldwin			*		FeH1	H Fergusson			*
BaG1	Graham Barwell		*			FeP1	Paul Fennell	*		
BaI1	Ian Baird			*		FoW1	Wilber Forsooth			*
BaL1	Lia Battison	*		*		FrM1	Matthew Frawley			*
BeC2	Cedric Bear			*		FuP1	Peter Fullagar			*
BeL3	Linda Beveridge			*		GoJ3	John Goldie	*		*
BeS1	Sue Beatty			*		GrB1	Bill Graham			*
BiJ1	John Bissett	*				HaA2	A Hall			*
BiT2	Tony Bischoff			*		HaJ1	J & A Holland			*
BlA2	BA Observer		*			HaJ7	John Harris			*
BlG1	G & S Bluff			*		HaK1	Kay Hahne	*		*
BlJ1	J & N Black				*	HaL2	Lindsay Hansch	*		*
BoC4	Con Boekel		*			HaS4	Stuart Harris	*		
BoJ1	Jenny Bounds	*			*	HaW1	William Hall			*
BoS2	Suzi Bond			*		HeS1	Sandra Henderson	*		*
BrJ3	John Brannan	*			*	HiC2	Celia Hindmarsh			*
BrJ5	John Brown			*		HoA1	A Howarth			*
BuM1	Martin Butterfield			*	*	HoJ1	Jack Holland	*		*
BuM4	Mikayla Burke			*		HoS1	Steve Holliday	*		*
BuP1	Prue Buckley	*				HuC2	Chris J. Hudson			*
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CaR3	Ryu Callaway			*	*	LaD1	David Landon	*		
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ClG1	G S Clark				*	LaK1	Kim Larmour			*
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COF1	COG Outing	*		*		LiB1	B Lindenmayer	*		
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CuR1	Roger Curnow	*				LjT1	T & J Lipscombe			*
						LuN1	Noel Luff	*		*
						MaA2	Alison Mackerras			*

Obs Code	Observer	C O G	B A	e B d	G B S	Obs Code	Observer	C O G	B A	e B d	G B S
MaL2	Liam Manderson			*		RoJ5	Julian Robinson			*	
MaL9	L Manderson				*	RoM3	M Robertson			*	
MaM4	M Maconachie			*		RoS1	Sue Robertson	*			
MaM5	Mathieu Matteucci			*		RoV1	Vivien Rolland			*	
MaR5	Rod Mackay	*				RoW1	Warren Rowland			*	
McD1	David McDonald	*		*		RuA1	A Russell-French	*			
McD4	Duncan McCaskill	*		*	*	RuA2	Ashwin Rudder			*	
McD5	D McKerrow	*				SaD1	Debbie Saunders		*		
McI1	Ian J McMahon			*		ScK1	Ken Schaefer	*			
McJ4	Julie McGuiness	*				SeB1	Benjamin Serafin			*	
MeM2	Megan Mears			*		SlA1	Ashley Sloan		*		
MeP1	P & D Mellor & L				*	SpB1	Bob Spiller		*		
MiP1	Peter Milburn			*		SpK9	K Speldewinde				*
MoA2	Alan Morris		*			TaM1	I McComas Taylor			*	
MoM1	M Moncur				*	TaN1	Nicki Taws	*	*	*	*
MoM3	Martyn Moffat	*		*	*	TuA2	Alison Turner			*	
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NeG1	Gail Neumann	*		*	*	WeS1	shorty w			*	
OnP1	P & A O'Neil				*	WaK1	Kathy Walter	*			*
OrY1	Yarden Oren			*		WaR4	R & B Walcott				*
PeH2	Harvey Perkins	*				WaS1	Stephen Wallace			*	
PoH1	Hugh Possingham			*		WiK2	Kevin Windle	*			*
QuA1	A Quick				*	WiP9	P Wilkinson				*
RaJ1	A & J Russell				*	WiT1	Tony Willis			*	
RaL3	Lucy Randall			*		WyP1	Patrick Wyllie			*	
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Note that there are many more contributors unable to be readily identified because of privacy arrangements of the eBird data download.

## 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 BA 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, 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)
- Joan Lipscombe (rails, stilts, avocets, ibis and spoonbills, thrushes, starlings and mistletoebird)
- Jenny Bounds (robins).
- Paul Fennell (emu, peacock, quail, button-quail, stone curlews, plovers, herons, egrets, treecreepers, bowerbird and fairy wrens, honeyeaters, thornbills and allies).

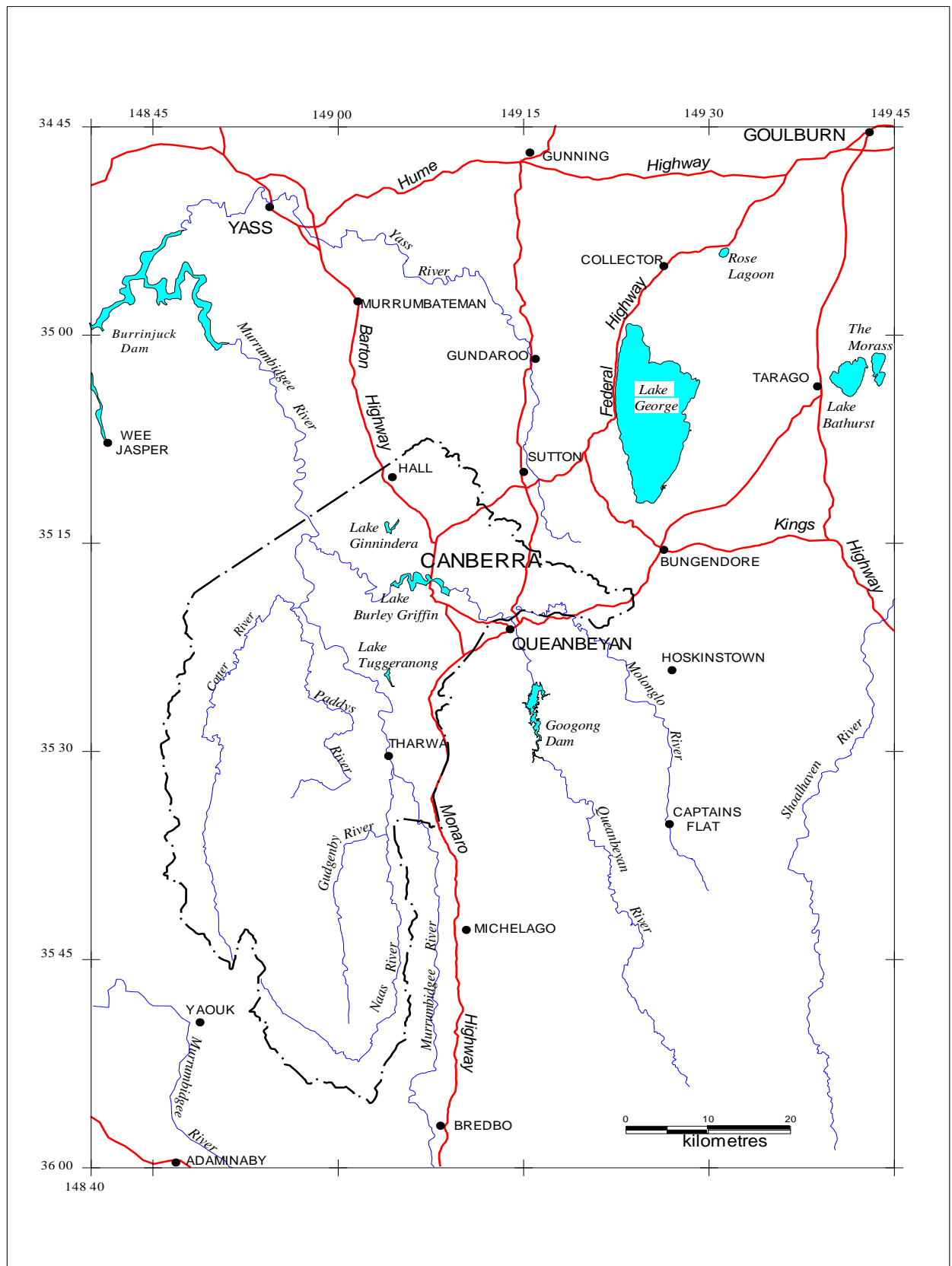
Their consistent efforts over the years are gratefully acknowledged. The survey overviews are written by: Duncan McCaskill (GBS), Michael Lenz (Waterbirds Survey) and Jenny Bounds (Woodland Survey). The maps are prepared by Nicki Taws. The Weather Summary is prepared by Paul Fennell from data provided 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.

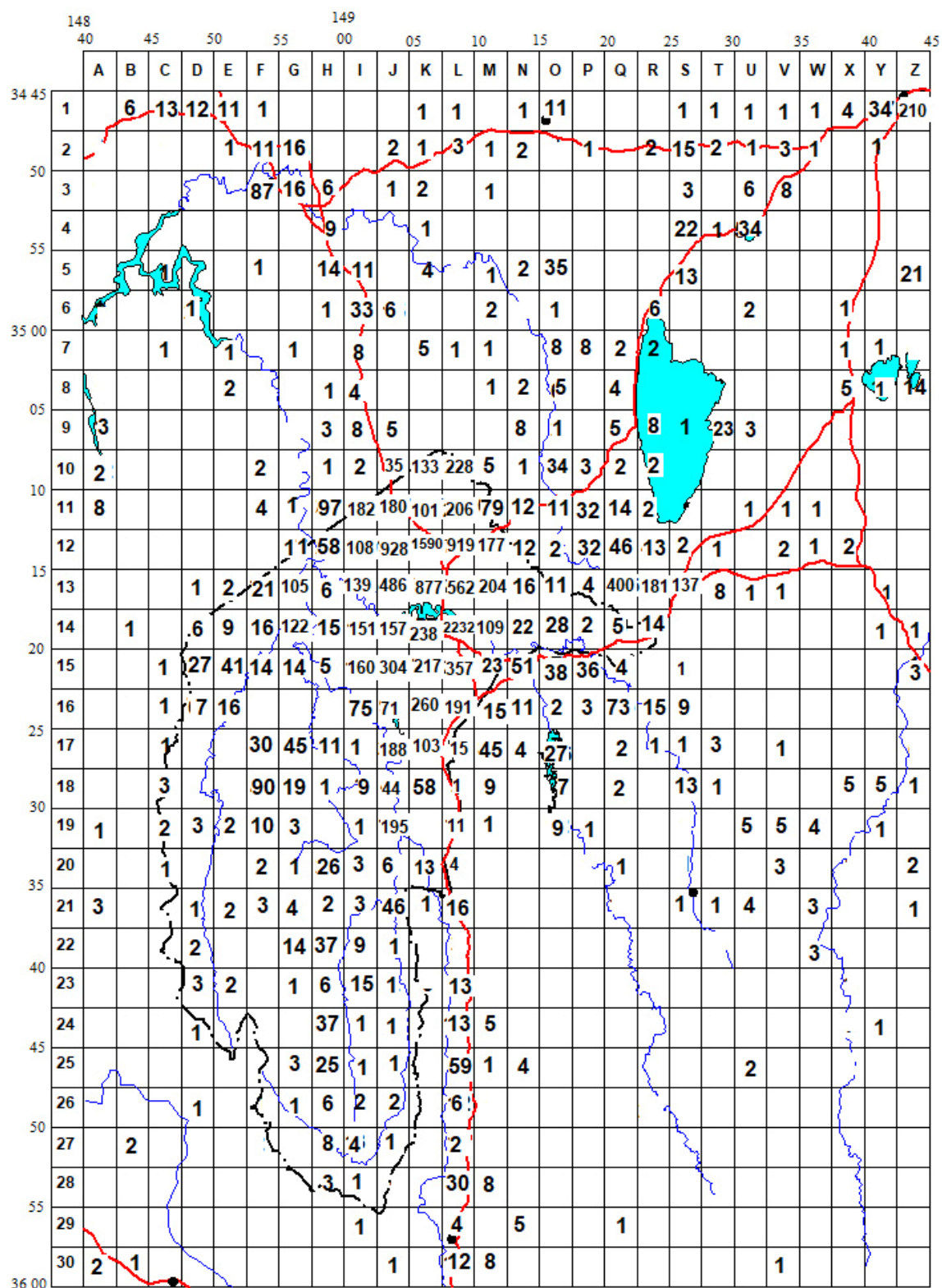
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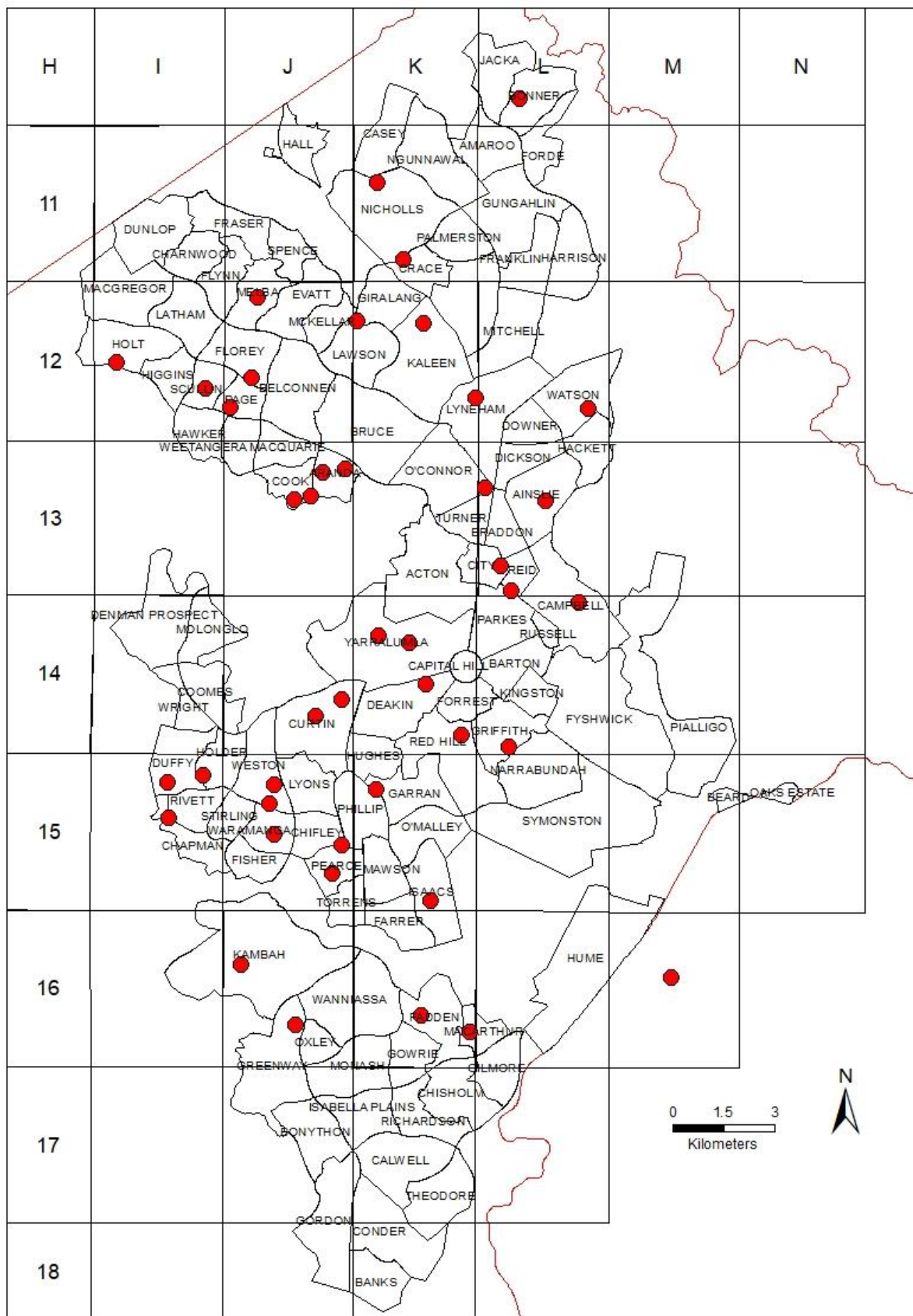
**Map 1. The Canberra Region (COG's Area of Interest)**



Map 2: Number of record sheets per grid cell for 2018-19

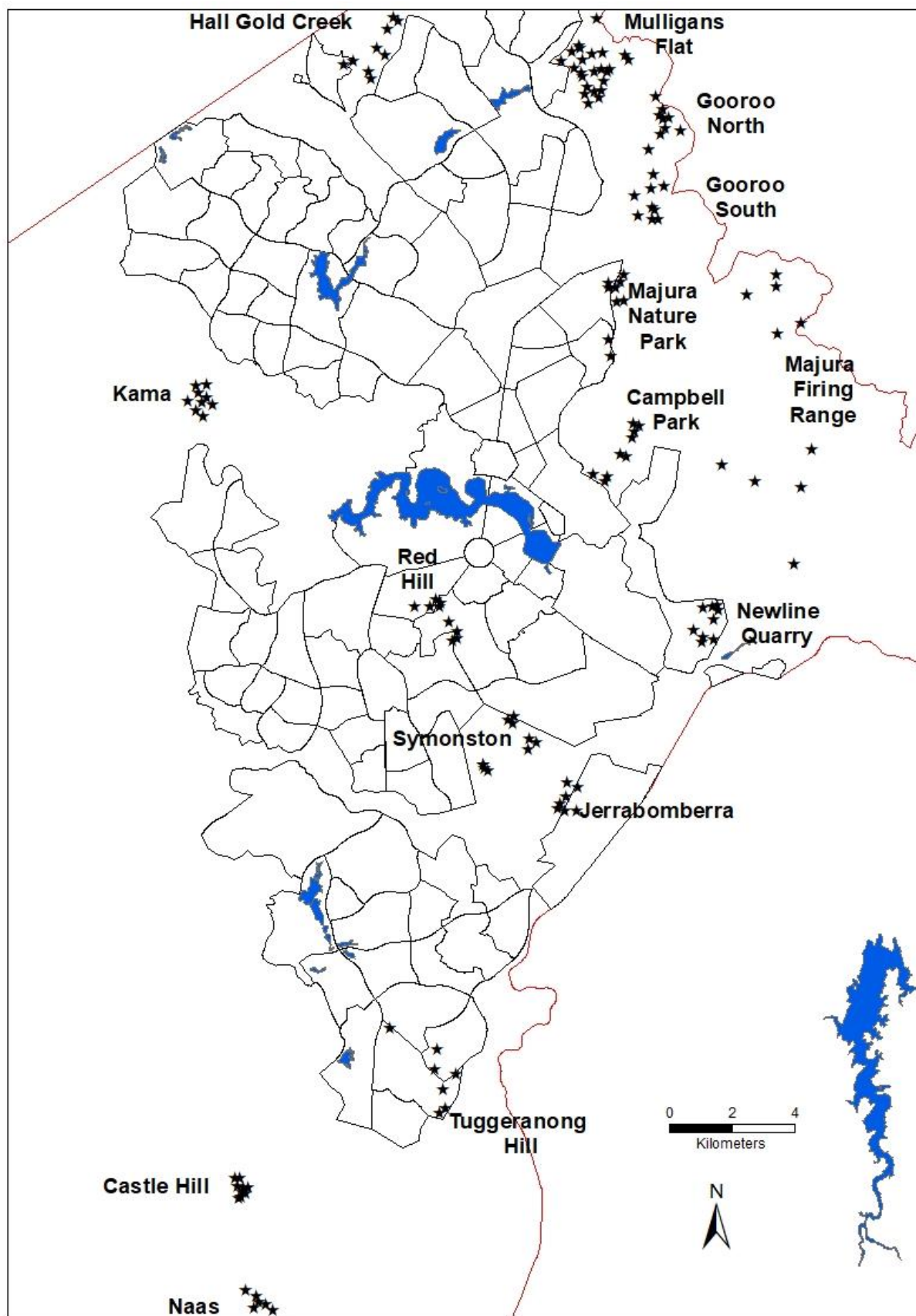




**Map 3: Location of Garden Bird Survey Sites for 2018-19**

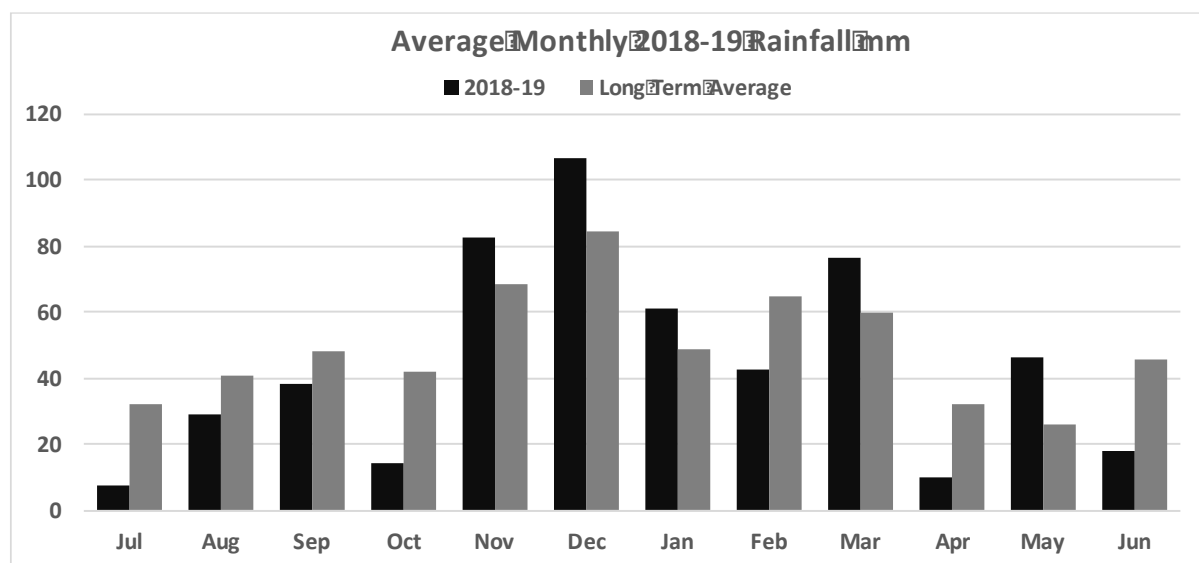
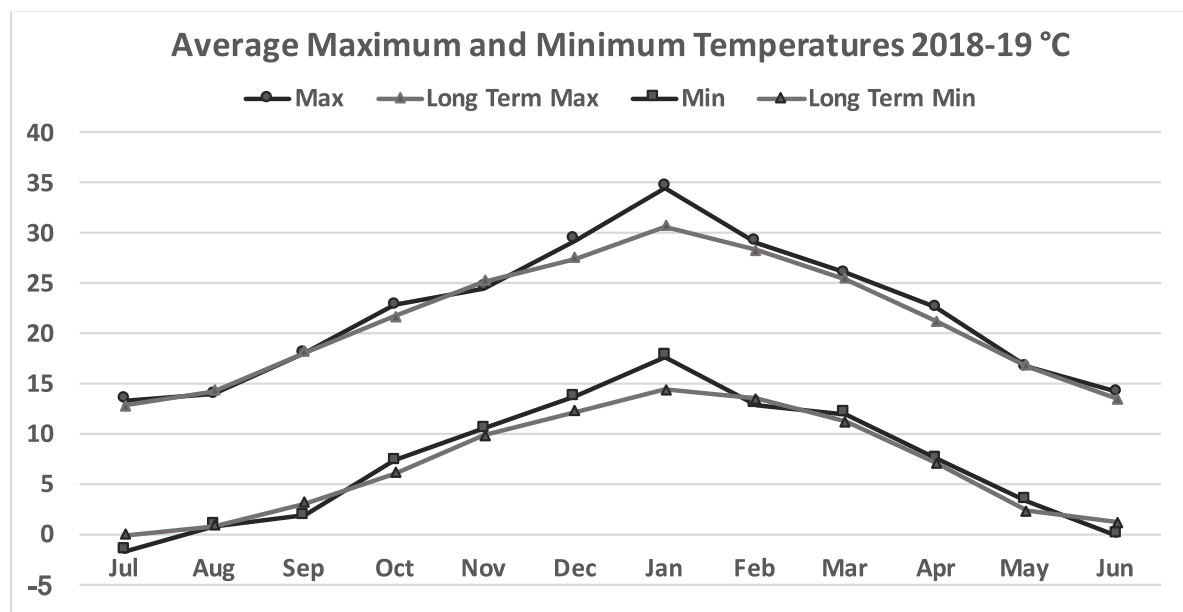
There are rural sites at Wee Jasper, Carwoola, Murrumbateman and Wamboin.

**Map 4. Location of Woodland Survey Sites for 2018-19**



**Appendix 1: 2018-19 Weather Summary (derived from BOM Website)**

- Winter 2018 was very dry across the ACT although the total of 29 rainy days was only a little below the average of 32. Days were warm, especially in July with daytime temperatures in the ACT 0.7 °C above average. Canberra Airport reported 52 frost days, slightly below the winter average of 57.
- Total spring rainfall was below average across the ACT, but with some wet days in November. Spring mean maximum and minimum temperatures were above average for most of the ACT.
- Summer rainfall was average overall, highest in December and lowest in February. A series of heatwaves affected the ACT in late December and January, with both Canberra and Tuggeranong observing their highest summer mean temperature on record
- Autumn Rainfall 96% of the long-term average. Both Max and Min temperatures were higher than normal



## 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](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 2019

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 Painte-snipe		Endangered	Endangered
Curlew Sandpiper		Endangered	
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Gang-gang Cockatoo		Vulnerable	
Superb Parrot	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Swift Parrot	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Critically Endangered
Little Lorikeet		Vulnerable	
Purple-crowned Lorikeet		Vulnerable	
Turquoise Parrot		Vulnerable	
Powerful Owl		Vulnerable	
Barking Owl		Vulnerable	
Brown Treecreeper	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Speckled Warbler		Vulnerable	
Regent Honeyeater	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered
White-fronted Chat		Vulnerable	
Painted Honeyeater	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Pied Honeyeater		Vulnerable	
Black-chinned Honeyeater		Vulnerable	
Varied Sittella	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	
Grey-crowned Babbler		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 45 (1) Apr 2020**  
**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 and Kevin Windle. The first edition in each year is this Annual Bird Report, edited by Paul Fennell. Major articles of up to 5000 words are welcome on matters relating to the distribution, identification or behaviour of birds in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding region. Please discuss any proposed major contribution in advance. Shorter notes, book reviews and other contributions are also encouraged. All contributions should be sent to [cbn@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto:cbn@canberrabirds.org.au) or [michael.lenz.birds@gmail.com](mailto:michael.lenz.birds@gmail.com).

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

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