# canberra bird notes

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# CANBERRA ORNITHOLOGISTS GROUP INC

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# ANNUAL BIRD REPORTS: 1 JULY 1999 TO 30 JUNE 2000 AND 1 JULY 2000 TO 30 JUNE 2001

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

# INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

#### The ABR

The Annual Bird Report (ABR) is a summary of all COG's records of birds occurring in the Canberra region during the year. Its purpose is to make this information readily available to all COG members and the general public, and to draw attention to any significant changes or trends in the distribution or abundance of species in the region.

COG's area of interest ('the Canberra region') is defined as the area bound by parallels of latitude 34° 45' and 36° 00' S and meridians of longitude 148° 40' and 149° 45' E (see Map 1, p. 193). This encompasses an area of 13,675 sq km, of which the ACT, at 2,357 sq km, is only 17.2%. For COG's purposes of record collection, the area is divided into a grid of 780 cells, each of 2.5 minutes of latitude and longitude. Each cell is identified by an alphanumeric code: A-Z across the region from west to east and 1-30 from north to south (see Map 2, p. 194). Elevations in the ACT range from 450 m above sea level to 1,911 m at the top of Mt Bimberi, and the ACT proper is about 130 km from the sea.

Records included in these two ABRs derive from several sources. COG members contribute records from recreational birdwatching, atlassing surveys (the introduction of the Birds Australia (BA; Atlas project in August 1998 promoted a significant boost to member effort which continued throughout 1999-2001), one incidental sightings. Many records derive from specific COG surveys including the Garden Bird Survey (GBS), the Woodland Survey (WOO) and the Waterbird Survey (WBS). Records reported in these two ABRs

have been further boosted by two other sources which have only recently begun contributing data to the COG database. Firstly, there are records from persons who have surveyed within COG's area of interest and submitted their records to BA; under agreement with BA, these records are then forwarded to COG. And secondly, there are records from the Greening Australia (GA) Birdwatch project (see below).

COG asks that any sightings of birds considered to be 'unusual' in the Canberra region (see Appendix I, p. 198) are fully described, preferably on an Unusual Bird Report Form, and submitted for assessment by the COG Rarities Panel. Only reports accepted by the panel become endorsed COG records. All records of 'unusual' birds in the systematic lists of these ABRs have been so endorsed unless specifically indicated otherwise.

# 1999-00 and 2000-01 in context

The ABRs summarise the records held in the COG database but can not be considered a comprehensive or necessarily accurate reflection of the real situation. Many factors influence the level and consistency of reporting of the many and varied bird species in the region. Several of the major variable influencing factors on these two ABRs are mentioned briefly here. The effects of these influences need to be taken into account when attempting any interpretation of the data in the ABRs.

Geographical factors such as temperature, rainfall, and water levels in the main lakes of the region can have a very significant effect on bird demographics. While rainfall and

temperature were not especially unusual (see Table 1. Comparative levels of activity Appendix 2, p. 199), the continuing extremely low water levels in Lake George and Lake Bathurst have had a major effect on the number of species and individuals recorded at those lakes.

The BA Atlas and the COG Woodland Surveys have continued to encourage high levels of observer effort, with obvious resulting increases in reporting levels. Individuals with a particular interest in a given species can have an effect on overall reporting rates at the local level and their records frequently account for up to half the total records for a number of species.

# Summary and highlights

1999-00 saw 206 species of bird recorded in our area, while 215 were recorded in 2000-01 (see Table 1). The concerted atlassing effort was reflected in the considerably higher numbers of grid cells covered and data sheets submitted (see Map 3, p. 195). By the end of June 2001, 435 grids, or 56% of the total, had been surveyed at least once. The most popular grids in 1990-00 were K16, K13 and M13, while in 2000-01 M13, L11, J18, J13 and 112 were the most frequently surveyed. Not surprisingly, these sites are centrally located and include several of Canberra's nature parks where surveying can be particularly rewarding. COG has made a concerted effort to encourage its members to survey further afield in our area of interest and the response to date has been most encouraging.

The number of contributors in Table 1 includes for the first time those who reported data directly to Birds Australia. Of the 203 contributors, 62 provided some or all of their records to BA. Those contributors are mainly persons passing through the COG region, though a few are local members who prefer to record 'presence' as the BA datasheet requires, rather than abundance as for the COG datasheet.

Year	Species	Grid	Data	Contrib
		cells	sheets	utors
95-96	217	108	853	95
96-97	217	91	591	88
97-98	210	92	583	88
98-99	214	239	1076	149
99-00	206	288	1731	203*
00-01	215	435	2489	203*

<sup>\*</sup> combined total for 1999-01

On the positive side, 1999-00 saw the first records of the Great Crested Grebe since June 1997 and the first Swift Parrots since May 1997; the White-headed Pigeon put in an appearance; and the Bell Miner was reported in the east of our region. Rainbow Lorikeets appeared to be on the increase.

In 2000-01 the first Australasian Bitterns and Spotted Harriers since 1998 were reported, along with the first Little Wattlebird in two decades and the first Pied Cormorant since 1995. It was a good year for crakes and rails, with the first Lewin's Rail since February 1991 being recorded in December at the Fyshwick sewage ponds. From the same location in September and January, Baillon's Crake was reported, as was the Spotless Crake in January and February.

One of the more surprising records was that of a Red Knot, which visited Fyshwick sewage ponds on 7 Nov 2000. While the Red Knot has been recorded previously on our region's eastern lakes, and most recently in October 1996, this was the first record for the ACT.

The Pied Butcherbird was recorded in both years, from the north of our region. Species which appear to be on a distinct upward trend in our area include the Satin Bowerbird, the Crested Pigeon and, sadly, the Common Myna.

On the negative side of the ledger, for the first time in at least 25 years, no Freckled Duck were reported in 2000-01. With the low water levels, the scolopacids were poorly represented in the records. The Whitefronted Chat too continued to be rarely reported.

Of the 174 species of birds reliably recorded as having bred in the COG region, 99 did so in 1999-00 and 104 in 2000-01. Not all of the species which did breed did so in both years: over the two-year period 1999-2001 118 species, or 68% of the species known to breed here, were recorded as breeding. Highlights include the first reported breeding of the Spotless Crake in the ACT, at the Fyshwick sewage ponds. Up to 5 dependent young were seen in the north-western corner pond between 26 Jan and 10 Feb 2001. Remarkably, no Rufous or Golden Whistler breeding was reported in 1999-00, a reporting aberration, we hope.

#### **GBS** overview

1999-00 and 2000-01 were the 19th and 20th years, respectively, of the GBS. Contributions were received from 49 sites in 1999-00 and 55 sites in 2000-01 (site locations are shown in Map 4, on p. 196). There were three first-time contributors in 1999-00 and seven in the following year, while seven stalwarts have continued their contributions since the first year of the GBS.

130 species were recorded in the 1999-00 GBS, and 142 in 2000-01, including a 'first' in the form of a Tawny-crowned Honeyeater at a Chapman site. The numbers of species per chart ranged from 26 to 92 in 1999-00 and 24 to 90 in 2000-01, with the average being 43.94 and 44.31 in the respective years.

There were breeding records for 39 species in 1999-00 and 45 in 2000-01. Highlights for 1999-00 included the first GBS breeding records for the Satin Bowerbird and the Brown Quail, and Wedge-tailed Eagles displaying, while 2000-01 saw the first GBS

breeding of the Grey Teal and the Golden Whistler.

In both years, the Galah was the most common species reported, followed by the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, the Silvereye and the Common Starling. The Common Myna moved to fifth position in 2000-01 and another pest species, the Spotted Turtle-Dove, is beginning to establish itself.

# Woodland Survey overview

In 1998, COG began systematic monitoring of bird species and abundance in a number of high conservation value Grassy Woodland locations in the ACT. This followed the declaration as 'threatened' under the ACT's Nature Conservation Act, of the Yellow Box/Red Gum Grassy Woodland community, and six bird species including the Brown Treecreeper and the Hooded Robin

Six locations were selected in consultation with Environment ACT: three within Canberra Nature Parks (Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve, Mt Majura NP, and Red Hill NP) and the other three within rural leasehold properties (Gooroo, Symonston including Mt Mugga and Callum Brae - and Castle Hill). Further sites have since been added: Majura Firing Range, Hall, Newline Quarry and Tuggeranong.

The survey results indicated in the systematic lists show that COG's concerns about the decline in woodland bird species were well-founded. Across all woodland study sites, there were only six records of the Brown Treecreeper in 1999-00 and 12 in 2000-01. Seven records of the Hooded Robin in each year came from four of the survey sites; there were no and two records of the Jacky Winter in the two years; no records of the Regent Honeyeater; and one and two records of the Diamond Firetail. While, with the exception of the Regent Honeyeater, there were reasonable numbers of these species in the general records, it is difficult to draw

conclusions about their overall abundance from ad hoc records.

A comprehensive report on results from the Mulligans Flat survey has already been completed and another is in preparation for the Woodland Survey more generally.

# Waterbird Survey overview

The dry conditions in the Lake Bathurst-Lake George systems meant that few surveys were possible and very few waterbirds were recorded in these two years, with many of the occasional visitors or migrants being absent entirely or recorded very infrequently.

# **Greening Australia Project overview**

In February 2000 COG began surveys for 'Birdwatch', a Greening Australia project examining the habitat values of revegetation. Seventy-seven sites were established in COG's area of interest and in addition, 55

sites outside COG's area were included in the survey. Surveys were conducted, in revegetation ranging in age from 14 months to 14 years. The sites were surveyed according to the Atlas protocol (20 mins/ 2 ha) once a season. Eighteen surveys were completed in 1999-2000, and 119 in the following year. The GA records have not been separately reported on in these ABRs but have been included in 'General' records. They will, however, be the subject of a separate project report.

Highlights recorded to date have included several apparently declining woodland species, including Crested Shrike-tit, Diamond Firetail, Hooded Robin, Jacky Winter and Speckled Warbler. More unusual records included that of a single White-browed Babbler in January 1901 (GrM5), and two Painted Button-quail in October 2000 (GrI10).

# SYSTEMATICLIST FOR 1 JULY 1999 TO 30 JUNE 2000

CASUARIIDAE: emu

Emu Dromaius novaehollandiae

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Emus are occasionally recorded in the Tidbinbilla area, but this year's only record is unusual in coming from the north-west of the region, just south of Burrinjuck Reservoir.

General: 1 record: 1/29 Oct Sawyers Gully Rd GrC07 (FyM1).

PHASIANIDAE: quail

Stubble Quail Coturnix pectoralis

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 10 records of 1-5 birds throughout the year, including 3 near-urban records

(Cooleman Ridge GrI15, Stranger Pond GrJ17, Mt Painter GrJ13).

GBS: 8 records of 1-2 birds from Nov to Jan from a site in Curtin (AJR1).

WOO: 1 record: 2/15 Apr CAS GrJ18 (McJ4).

WBS: 2 records of 1 and 5 birds from around LBath in January.

Brown Quail Coturnix ypsilophora

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 5 records, mostly urban or near-urban: 5/28 Aug LGin GrJ12 (A1B1), 1/22 Oct ANU GrK13 (PeH2), 1/31 Oct Googong foreshores GrO18 (McI1), 4/11 Mar LGin GrJ12 (AlB1), 4/15 Jun Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1).

GBS: 6 records of 1-5 birds from Jan to Mar from a site in Curtin (AJR1), incl dy/4wk Feb.

Chukar Partridge Alectoris chukar

Escapee

**General:** A single record of an escaped bird in Dickson on 1 Nov (WiS1).

ANATIDAE: ducks, swan

Plumed Whistling-Duck Dendrocygna eytoni

Vagrant

No records this year. Last recorded unendorsed Oct 1998.

Blue-billed Duck Oxyura australis

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 3 records all from Jerrabomberra Wetlands/ Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14: 3/1 Aug (Mcl1), 3/20 Feb (LuM1), 2/25 Apr (Melt).

Musk Duck Biziura lobata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records from several locations: 2/8 Aug Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11 (WyP1); 2/10 Aug and 2/17 Apr near Murrumbateman GrI06/J06 (HoB3); and 2/31 Oct (McI1), 4/14 May, 4/18 Jun (both CaN1) at Googong Reservoir GrO18.

WBS: No records.

Freckled Duck Stictonetta naevosa

Uncommon, Visitor

The small number of records since 1994-95 has reached a nadir with only 2 records this year.

WBS: 2 records from LBath: 26/1 Nov GrZ08, 1/6 Dec GrY08 (LeM1).

Black Swan Cygnus atratus Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 44 records, including 7 with breeding (1 on, 6 dy) between Aug and Dec . **GBS:** 2 records: 1/1wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and 40/3wk Oct Higgins GrI12 (CoP2). **WOO:** Single record from MUF: 1/26 Sep GrL11 (LiB1).

**WBS:** No breeding recorded.

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 Lbath
 - - - 242 379 602 672 850 0 0 0 0

 LGeo - - - 0

Australian Shelduck Tadorna tadornoides Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 5 records: 80/31 Jul NE corner of LGeo GrT08 (FyM1), 1/15 Aug Bungendore sewage ponds GrS13 (McA2), 3/12 Dec (WyP1) and 4/20 Feb (LuM1) both Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14, and 57/26 Mar The Morass GrZO8 (DoM1).

**WBS:** Although the summer months are normally characterised by high numbers the Dec, abundance for LGeo is exceptionally high. No breeding records.

 Jul
 Aug
 Sep
 Oct
 Nov
 Dec
 Jan
 Feb
 Mar
 Apr
 May
 Jun

 LBath 318
 160
 197
 28
 141
 485
 0
 0
 0

 LGeo
 31

Australian Wood Duck Chenonetta jubata Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 203 records from throughout the year, including 22 breeding records between Sep and Mar. After a drop in records between 1995-96 and 1997-98 there has been a gradual increase to a maximum this year.

**GBS:** Recorded from 13 sites throughout the period. Only possible indication of breeding was birds inspecting hollows in Yarralumla in July (CCR1).

WOO: 14 records; up to 20 birds occasionally reported from all sites except GOO and RED.

**WBS:** Only LGeo record was 34 on 7 Jan (Dec survey) from LGeoS.

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath - - 0 8 55 672 850 0 0 0

Mallard Anas platyrhynchos Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 4 records, all from golf courses in spring: 3 from Gungahlin Lakes, 1 from Yowani. **GBS:** A single bird recorded from a site in Curtin in 4wk Sep (AJR1).

Pacific Black Duck Anas superciliosa Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 178 records, 20 with breeding. Largest number of records for at least 7 years. **GBS:** Recorded from 4 sites throughout the year with breeding (on and dy) at 2 sites. WOO: 7 records of 1-6 birds, from GOO, MUF and SYM only.

WBS: None recorded from LGeo.

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath-- 30 33 22 42 10 0 0 0 0

Australasian Shoveler Anas rhynchotis Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 18 records of 1-24 birds from most local wetlands. No breeding recorded.

WOO: A single record: 2/5 Dec MUF GrL11 (LiB1).

**WBS:** Largest number recorded at LGeo for at least 7 years.

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath-101
 184 672
 104 185 10 0 0 0

 LGeo - 1519- - 0

Grey Teal Anas gracilis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 43 records with a similar number each month, one breeding (ih) record in Oct.

**GBS:** 4 records of 2 birds from Oct to Dec from a site in Curtin (AJR1). **WOO:** 3 records from MUF only: 12/26 Sep, 80/5 Dec and 6 with dy/25 Mar.

WBS

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath - 865 2161 544 265 1750 269 0 0 0

 LGeo - 235 - 135

Chestnut Teal Anas castanea

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 13 records, no breeding. Unusual records include 7/3 Jul Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WyP1), 1/17 Oct (CoE1) and 2/3 Jan (WyP1) Campbell Park GrM13.

**GBS:** Single record of a single bird 2wk Oct from a site in Curtin (AJR1).

**WBS**:

Pink-eared Duck Malacorhynchus membranaceus

Common, Visitor

General: 6 records of 2-12 birds from LGeo, LBath and Kelly Swamp. No breeding.

**WBS:** LBath numbers in Nov are highest since March 1996.

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath
 - 137 780 153 2 0 0 0 0 0

 LGeo
 - 59 - 0

Hardhead Aythya australis

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 17 records, all from expected wetland sites apart from 2/21 Aug GrE10 (WiS1) and 8/29 Oct GrF10 (FyM1) along Mountain Ck Rd, and 8/9 Oct Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WyP1).

WOO: 2 records from MUF: 17/26 Sep and 20/5 Nov (LiB1).

WBS: Just 3 records: LBath: 66/1 Nov Morass, 3/6 Dec Morass; LGeo: 1/7 Jan.

# **PODICIPEDIDAE:** grebes

Australasian Grebe Tachybaptus novaehollandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 91 records from 33 grid cells continues last year's increase and is the most records since 1988-89 when 237 were recorded during the atlas project. Six breeding records: first on/9 Oct intersection Gundaroo Rd and Sutton-Gundaroo Rd GrN09 (DaC1), dy recorded in Nov, Jan and Feb; last on/10 Feb Ledgerton, Mountain Ck Rd GrF10 (FyM1).

WOO: 12/25 Mar MUF GrL11(LiB1) and 1/17 Jun SYM GrL15 DaG2).

**WBS:** No records this year following last year's low numbers.

**Hoary-headed Grebe** *Poliocephalus poliocephalus* Common, Breeding Resident

The number of records remains low in all categories and there were no reports of breeding. **General:** 13 records from 5 grid cells. Largest: 40/1 Aug, 30/20 Feb Jerrabomberra Wetlands

GrL14 (Mcl1, LuM1), all others <16.

**WOO:** 1/26 Sep MUF GrL11 (LiB1).

**WBS:** Both the number of records and individuals remain low.

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath - 0 392 377 237 0 0 0 0 0

 LGeo - 6 - 0

Great Crested Grebe Podiceps cristatus

Rare, Breeding Visitor

First records since Jun 1997.

**General:** 3 records: 1/22 Aug LGin GrJ12 (Mcl1), 1/26 Sep Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK1 1 (WyP1), 2/7 Jan Kellys Swamp, Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (WiS1).

ANHINGIDAE: darter

**Darter** Anhinga melanogaster

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 14 records from urban lakes and wetlands in Canberra (down from 29 records last year which was the most since 1989-90). All were of 1 or 2 individuals with the exception of 16/20 Feb Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (LuM1).

GBS: A single record: 1/4wk May Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

WOO: 1 record: 1/5 Dec MUF GrL11 (LiB1).

#### PHALACROCORACIDAE: cormorants

**Little Pied Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 102 records, which is the most since 1988-89, from 34 grid cells. 79 records (77%) came from Canberra's urban lakes and wetlands. Largest: 32/2 Jul LTug GrJ16 (WiB1), 10/6 Sep Stranger Pond GrJ17 (WhJ1); all others <9 most (71 records (70%)) being of 1 or 2 birds. **GBS:** Single birds from 1wk Aug, 5wk Oct, 4 wk Dec, 2 wk Mar in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). **WOO:** 1/26 Sep (LiB1), 2/25 Mar (LiB1), and 1/25 Mar (HaK1), all MUF GrL11.

**WBS:** The number of records and individuals remains low: 1/1 Nov, 1/6 Dec, 1/2 Jan LBthE GrY8 (LeM1), 3/23 Jan The Morass GrZO8 (DoM1).

Pied Cormorant Phalacrocorax varius

Rare, Visitor

No records this year. Last recorded Jan 1995.

Little Black Cormorant Phalacrocorax sulcirostris

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 67 records from 16 grid cells in all months except Jun. This is the largest number of records since 1988-89. 61 (91%) of these came from Canberra's urban lakes and wetlands. Largest: 20/22 Aug, 18/28 Aug, 15/6 Feb LGin GrJ12 (Mcl1, A1B1); 15/10 Oct Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (WyP1); all others <15, most (34 records (50%)) of 1 or 2 birds.

**GBS:** 12 records. 11 were of up to 6 birds in the cooler months (Apr to early Nov) from Gleneagles GrI16 (WAH1), also 1/4wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**WOO:** 1/26 Sep MUF GrL11 (HaK1).

WBS: Just 1 record: 1/1 Nov (Oct survey) LBthE GrY8 (LeM1)

# **Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 49 records from 17 grid cells with most, 38 records, from spring and summer. This is the largest number of records since 1991-92. 39 (80%) of these records came from Canberra's urban lakes and wetlands. Largest: 10/10 Oct, 8/10 Oct Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (GoJ3, WyP1); all others <8 most of which, 40 records (82%), were of 1 or 2 birds.

GBS: 5 records from 3 sites: 2/3wk Mar, 1/2wk Apr Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1); 4/2wk Oct, 1/2wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (PeH2); 1/3wk Dec Higgins Grl12 (CoP2).

**WOO:** A single record: 2/26 Sep MUF GrL10 (BrM2). **WBS:** No records.

# PELECANIDAE: pelican

# Australian Pelican Pelecanus conspicillatus

Common, Visitor

General: 45 records from 9 grid cells which is similar to last year's slight increase on the previous 3 years. All from, or near, Canberra's urban lakes and wetlands, with 35 of the records coming from Jerrabomberra Wetlands and LBG, Largest: 16/10 Oct, 13/12 Dec, 10/6 Feb Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (GoJ3, WyP1); all others <10 birds.

GBS: 9 records of up to 4 birds from 7 sites in Kambah (4 sites), Curtin, Melba and Macgregor. Abundance (O.0089) although still low is a little higher than last year (O.0042). WBS: A single record: 10/7 Jan LGeoN GrR6 (LeM1).

# ARDEIDAE: herons, egrets, bitterns

# White-faced Heron Egretta novaehollandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 98 records, similar to last year's high level of reporting, from 39 grid cells widely distributed over the lower elevations of the region. 92 (94%) were of 1 or 2 birds all others of 3 or 4 birds; recorded in all months. Breeding: ny/17 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** 63 records from 8 sites which is similar to last year's level of reporting, most (38) from a site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) where it was recorded throughout the year. Largest: 7/2 wk Dec, 5/3 wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 4/2 wk Nov Melba GrJ12 (MoM1), all others <4 birds. WOO: 1/26 Sep MUF GrL11, 1/5 Nov MJF GrNI2.

WBS: Numbers reported are at a low level. 7 records: The Morass GrZ8 - 2/1 Nov, 1/23 Jan, 1/27 Feb, 4/18 Mar, 1/26 Mar (LeM1, DoM1); LBthE GrY8 - 1/6 Dec (LeM1); LGeoS GrR1 I - 3/7 Jan (LeM1).

# Little Egret Egretta garzetta

Rare, Visitor

No records in 1999-00. Last recorded in Jun 1998.

# White-necked Heron Ardea pacifica

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 17 records from 8 grid cells which is similar to last year's level of reporting although the records were a little more dispersed with only 12 coming from Canberra and its environs.

GBS: 1/4wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

#### **Great Egret** Ardea alba

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 13 records: 1 from Black Mtn Peninsula GrK14, the remainder from Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14. Largest: 4/4 Mar Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (GoJ3), all others I or 2. GBS: 1/4wk Jul Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

#### **Intermediate Egret** Ardea intermedia

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 4 records. 1/21 Nov, 1/12 Dec, 2/1 Mar, 1/4 Mar all Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (McJ4, WyP1, MoM3, ScJ3). Also 1 record which had not been submitted for endorsement.

# Cattle Egret Ardea ibis

Uncommon, Visitor

The number of records remains low.

**General:** 2 records: 1/14 Mar Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (ScJ3), 7/28 Apr Junction of Barton Hwy and Gungahlin Drive GrK12 (LeB1).

# Nankeen Night Heron Nycticorax caledonicus

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 4 records: 1/7 Nov Cavan GrF7 (BeC3), 1/10 Nov Stranger Pond GrJI7 (WhJ1),

1/20 Nov Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WyP1), 1/1 Mar Kellys Swamp GrL14 (MoM3).

WOO: 1/26 Sep MUF Gril1 (HoJ1).

# Little Bittern lxobrychus minutus

Rare, Visitor

No records in 1999-00. Last recorded 3 Nov 1994.

# Australasian Bittern Botaurus poiciloptilus

Rare, Visitor

No records in 1999-00. Last recorded 21 Sep 1998.

# THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills

# Glossy Ibis Plegadis falcinellus

Rare, Visitor

First record since 1995-96.

WBS: 3/1 Nov The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

# Australian White Ibis Threskiornis molucca

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** After last year's increase the number of reports is again declining. 36 records from 14 grid cells; most from Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11 (13) and Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (8). Largest: 55/14 Mar Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (ScJ3), 50/28 Nov Newline Quarry GrM14 (VeP1), all others <13 (most, 19 records, of 1 or 2 birds).

**GBS:** The number of records (37 from 9 sites) equals the peak of 1997-98 (37 from 10) after a small decline last year (30 from 8). However, abundance (O.2676) remains similar to last year (O.2602) compared with the large increase in 1997-98 (O.6280). Most records (32) were in Sep-Feb. Largest: 100/2wk Feb, 100/3wk Feb, 60/2wk Dec, 40/3wk Dec Holt GrI12 (DaC1).

**WBS:** The number of records and individuals remain at last year's low figure. 1/1 Nov LBthE GrY8 (LeM1); 3/6 Dec, 10/23 Jan, 9/27 Feb The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1, DoM1).

# Straw-necked Ibis Threskiornis spinicollis

Common, Visitor

**General:** At 18 records from 11 grid cells the number of records remains low. Largest: 45/12 Oct Wellmans Corner GrI11 (HaK1), 38/14 Mar ANU Campus GrK13 (PeH2), all others <20. Only 1 record from a suburban playing field: 11/14 Feb Aranda GrJ13 (HaK1).

**GBS:** 30 records from 9 sites, this continues the decline in numbers of both records and sites since 1994-95 when there were 119 records from 22 sites. Abundance (0.3100) has increased

slightly since last year (O.2917). Most records (22) were in Oct through to Jan. Largest: 125/3wk Nov, 110/2wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), all others <56.

**WOO:** 1/26 Sep MUF GrL11 (C1M1).

WBS: The number of records and birds remain low. 1/6 Dec, 6/23 Jan, 9/27 Feb The Morass Z8 (LeM1, DoM1); 1/7 Jan LGeoS GrR11 (LeM1).

# Royal Spoonbill Platalea regia

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 14 records: 13 from Jerrabomberra Wetlands and 1 from Rose Lagoon. Largest: 4/7 Dec Rose Lagoon GrU4 (LeB1), 4/4 Mar Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (GoJ3). **WBS:** 3 records: 2/1 Nov, 5/2 Jan, 2/27 Feb The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1, DoM1).

# Yellow-billed Spoonbill Platalea flavipes

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 3 records: 1/9 Oct intersection Gundaroo Rd and Sutton-Gundaroo Rd GrN09 (DaC1), 1/1 Mar, 1/4 Mar Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (MoM3, WyP1).

**WBS:** The number of records remain low as they have been since 1991-92. Reported only from The Morass GrZ8: 7/1 Nov, 12/6 Dec, 21/23 Jan, 6/27 Feb (LeM1, DoM1).

# ACCIPITRIDAE: kites, harriers, goshawks, eagles

#### Black-shouldered Kite Elanus axillaris

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A fairly average year for this species, which is almost certainly under-reported.

**General:** 7 records from 7 grid cells of 1-3 birds.

**GBS:** 11 records from 4 sites; 7 records of between 1-3 birds from one site in Curtin, GrJ14, which regularly records them (AJR1).

# Black Kite Milvus migrans

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last record was of a single bird over Kambah in December 1998.

# Whistling Kite Haliastur sphenurus

Continues the pattern of recent years of no records from the suburbs.

**General:** 9 records, all but one of single birds. The exception was 2/19 Jan Paddys River GrH16 (HaS4). One winter record; the rest between November and March.

WOO: 2 records of single birds, both 25 Mar MUF GrL9 (LiB1).

WBS: 1 record of 1 bird LGeoS 7 Jan GrY8 (LeM1).

# White-bellied Sea-Eagle Haliaeetus leucogaster

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Fewer records than in recent years but within normal fluctuation pattern.

General: 1 record of a single bird JWNP 3 Jan GrL14 (WyP1).

WBS: 1 record of a single bird, LBath Morass 1 Nov GrZ8 (LeM1).

**Addendum:** An earlier breeding record for this species has come to light: ny/Nov 1995 Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (see McWilliam and Olsen 2001, *CBN* 26(1): 14)

# **Spotted Harrier** Circus assimilis

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded Apr 1998.

# **Swamp Harrier** Circus approximans

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The usual few records from wetland areas.

**General: 4** records, 3 of single birds at JWNP GrL14 (WyP1, LuM1) and near Rose Lagoon GrV03 (LeB1), and 1 of 2 birds at Wet Lagoon NR GrS02 (FyM1).

# Brown Goshawk Accipiter fasciatus

Common, Breeding Resident

Consistently seen throughout the year in woodland and urban areas at much the usual rate.

General: 30 records of between 1-3 birds. Breeding: on/13 Nov Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1).

**GBS:** 19 records, all of single birds, from 11 sites across Canberra.

WOO: 4 records of 1-2 birds from CAS and SYM.

#### Grey Goshawk Accipiter novaehollandiae

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 1 record of a single bird (white morph) 12 May Westbourne Woods GrK14 (BeR3). First record of this species since 19 Jun 1999.

#### Collared Sparrowhawk Accipiter cirrhocephalus

Common, Breeding Migrant

This year's records continue the upward trend of use of the urban environment by this species. **General:** 13 records of between 1-4 birds. Breeding: on/2 and 17 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1); dy/13 Jan Kambah GrI16 (WiB1).

**GBS:** 55 records from 17 sites of 1-2 birds, throughout the year, including 22 records of a single bird from one site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

WOO: 1 record of a single bird RED 18 Jun GrK14 (PeH2).

WBS: 1 record of a single bird 15 May LBath Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

#### Wedge-tailed Eagle Aquila audax

Common, Breeding Resident

Records are consistent with those of recent years.

**General:** 50 records of 1-5 birds from all regions and in all months of the year. Breeding: ny/17 Oct south of Coppins Crossing GrI14 (FyM1).

**GBS:** 16 records from 10 sites of 23 birds in total, the majority from the south of Canberra and between Jan and Apr.

WOO: 1 record of 1 bird 3 Jun MJF GrN14; 2 records of 1 and 2 birds 5 Dec MUF GrL10.

WBS: 1 record of 1 bird 7 Jan LGeoS GrR1 1 (LeM1).

# Little Eagle Hieraaetus morphnoides

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Numbers fluctuating within historical parameters.

**General:** 14 records in all from both urban and rural locations, 13 of single birds and 1 of 3 birds 26 Jan at Smiths Gap GrR12 (DeD2).

GBS: 5 records of single birds from Curtin, Kambah, and Hackett.

# FALCONIDAE: falcons, hobby, kestrel

#### Brown Falcon Falco berigora

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Numbers again fluctuating within historical parameters.

**General:** 39 records of 1-3 birds from most months of the year, widespread across the ACT. No breeding reported.

**GBS:** 8 records of 1-2 birds from two sites in Curtin and Hughes.

**WOO: 1** record: 1/19 Sep RED GrK14 (AvJ1).

**WBS:** 4 records of 6 birds in total during the second half of the year LBath GrYO8, ZO8.

# Australian Hobby Falco longipennis

Common, Breeding Migrant

An established urban bird of prey, whose numbers are consistent with those of recent years. **General:** 14 records, in all but one case of single birds, seen fairly consistently throughout the year from all parts of the region. Breeding: on/ 10 Oct Bruce Stadium GrK12 (WiB1).

**GBS:** 60 records of 62 birds in total from 18 widely dispersed sites in all months of the year.

WOO: 2 records of single birds 19 Sep and 12 Mar RED GrK14 (PeH2).

#### **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Continues the pattern of low numbers but regular recording of this species.

**General:** 8 records of 12 birds in total, from all parts. No breeding records.

**GBS:** 15 records from 6 sites, all of single birds, mainly in the Dec-Mar period.

#### Nankeen Kestrel Falco cenchroides

Common, Breeding Resident

This species shows an upward reporting trend over the previous two years and continues to be the most commonly reported bird of prey in the Canberra region.

**General:** 84 records of 1-3 birds from throughout the region and in all months of the year. Breeding: dy/ 2 Jan Burra View GrN20 (AnI1).

**GBS:** 46 records of 1-3 birds from 8 widely dispersed sites in most months of the year.

WOO: 4 records of 1-2 birds from CAS, GOO, MJF and SYM. Breeding: ih/ 18 Sep GOO

GrM11 (TaN1).

WBS: 3 records, one each from LGeoN, S and LBath Morass.

# RALLIDAE: rails, crakes, swamphen, moorhen, coot

# **Buff-banded Rail** Gallirallus philippensis

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

No records this year, after 2 records in 98-99 and 6 in 97-98.

# Lewin's Rail Rallus pectoralis

Rare, Breeding Visitor

No records this year. Not recorded since several records from Kellys Swamp in Feb 1991.

# Baillon's Crake Porzana pusilla

Rare, Visitor

No records this year, after 2 records in 98-99 and 3 in 97-98.

# Australian Spotted Crake Porzana fluminea

Rare, Breeding Resident

No records this year, after 2 records in 98-99 and 9 in 97-98.

# Spotless Crake Porzana tabuensis

Rare, Breeding Resident

No records this year, after 1 unconfirmed record in 98-99 and 1 plus 3 unconfirmed in 97-98.

# Purple Swamphen Porphyrio porphyrio

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 94 records of 1-20 birds from throughout the year. Mainly from the urban lakes (LBG and environs incl Jerrabomberra Wetlands (67), GunL (13), LGin (8) and LTug/Stranger Pond(4)) but also 10/31 Jul Wet Lagoon NR, Breadalbane GrS02 (FyM1) and 4/20 Feb The Mullion GrE10 (Born. Five of these records indicated breeding: nb at Jerrabomberra Wetlands in Aug, dy at Stranger Pond and Commonwealth Park in Nov, and dy at ANU and Kellys Swamp in Feb.

#### **Dusky Moorhen** Gallinula tenebrosa

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 109 records of up to 67 birds from throughout the year. As for the Purple Swamphen, most records came from the main urban lake systems, but there were several (9) from elsewhere including Yowani golf course GrLI2, Pine Island and Point Hut GrJ17, Queanbeyan GrN15, Wallaroo Rd Grl11, Mulligans Flat GrL11, The Mullion GrE10 and Ledgerton GrF10. Most of the high counts were from Commonwealth Park. Thirteen records of dy between 27 Oct and 9 Jan were all from either LBG and environs (10) or GunL (3).

# Eurasian Coot Fulica atra

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 108 records of up to 125 birds from throughout the year, though less frequently in late autumn. Most records (94) were from the main urban lake systems, with occasional records from elsewhere including Yowani golf course GrL12, Mulligans Flat GrL11, The Mullion GrE10, Googong Dam GrO18, Murrumbateman GrJ06, Bungendore GrS13, and the Jerangle area GrR25, S25, Q28, R30. Only 2 records of breeding: dy/28 Nov Yowani golf course GrL12 (WyP1) and dy/13 Dec ANU GrK13 (PeH2).

WBS: Just 4 records: 60/1 Nov LBath, 23/6 Dec LBath, 2/7 Jan LGeoS and 16/23 Jan LBath.

# TURNICIDAE: button-quail

#### Painted Button-quail Turnix varia

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records, including 3 of 1-2 birds from Black Mtn GrKI3 in Oct and Feb (all TaN1), also 1/26 Sep Mulligans Flat GrL10 (LiJ1), 2/17 Oct Paddys River TSR GrI18 (FyM1), 2/12 Dec Moores Paddock GrQ21 (BrM2).

# SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies

# Latham's Snipe Gallinago hardwickii

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** Only 2 records, both from Jerrabomberra Wetlands (GrL14): 1/20 Feb (LuM1) and 1/4 Mar (WyP1); same bird?

WBS: 3 records, all from LBathE GrY8: 12/1 Nov, 8/6 Dec, 3/2 Jan (all LeM1).

# Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica

Vagrant

No records in 1999-2000. Last recorded Oct 1996.

# **Little Curlew** *Numenius minutus*

Vagrant

No records in 1999-2000. Last recorded Oct 1997.

# Marsh Sandpiper Tringa stagnatilis

Rare, Migrant

WBS: 2 LBath records: 4/6 Dec LBathW GrYO8 and 4/18 Mar The Morass GrZO8 (LeM1).

# Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia

Uncommon, Migrant

No records in 1999-2000. Last recorded Nov 1997.

# Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos

Rare, Migrant

General: First record since Apr 1994: 2/23 Sep Uriarra Crossing GrG13 (PeB1).

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**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* 

Rare, Migrant

WBS: First record from the area since Oct 1993. 1/6 Dec LBathE GrYO8 (LeM1).

**Red Knot** Calidris canutus

Vagrant

General: A single record: 1/7 Nov Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (LuM1, MaP4, McD1, PeH2, RuB1, VeP1). This is the first record for the region since Oct 1996, and is the first ever record of a Red Knot in the ACT.

**Red-necked Stint** Calidris ruficollis

Rare, Migrant

**WBS:** 5 records: LBathE: 63/1 Nov, 63/2 Jan; Morass: 380/18 Mar. LGeo: 169/7 Jan.

Pectoral Sandpiper Calidris melanotos

Rare, Migrant

No records in 1999-2000. Last recorded Oct 1997.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper Calidris acuminata

Common, Migrant WBS: The Morass: 10/1 Nov, 15/6 Dec. LBathW: 184/6 Dec. LBathE: 40/6 Dec, 5/2 Jan.

Curlew Sandpiper Calidris ferruginea

Uncommon, Migrant

WBS: LBathE: 17/1 Nov. LBathW: 1/6 Dec.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* No records in 1999-2000. Last recorded Sep 1997. Vagrant

RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* 

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: LBath 3/26 Mar (DoM1).

WBS:

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

LBath - 106 137 127 74 29

Banded Stilt Cladorhynchus leucocephalus

Vagrant

No records this year. Last recorded Feb 1998.

Red-necked Avocet Recurvirostra novaehollandiae

Rare, Visitor

No records this year. Last recorded Mar 1998.

CHARADRIIDAE: plovers, dotterels, lapwings

Pacific Golden Plover Pluvialis fulva

Rare, Migrant

**WBS:** LBath: 47/1 Nov, 1/6 Dec, 37/2 Jan (LeM1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 2/31 Jul LGeoN GrT08 (FyM1), 3/26 Mar The Morass GrZO8 (DoM1).

**WBS:** No breeding records.

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun 21 65 LBath 21 0 0 10 32 LGeo 51 40 **Double-banded Plover** Charadrius bicinctus Uncommon, Migrant General: 1 record: 2/20 Nov Strike-a-Light River GrN29 (BoJ1). **WBS:** LBath Morass: 11/30 Apr (DoM1), 87/15 May (LeM1). LGeo: 63/25 Jun (LeM1). **Black-fronted Dotterel** *Elsevornis melanops* Uncommon, Breeding Resident General: 19 records from 10 grid cells, most frequently recorded from Gungahlin Lakes golf course, but also from Bungendore, Tharwa, Mulligans Flat, Paddys River, Strike-a-Light River. Angle Crossing, Queanbeyan River and near Murrumbateman. WOO: 2 records: 3/5 Dec, 1/25 Mar MUF GrL11 (LiB1). **Red-kneed Dotterel** *Erythrogonys cinctus* Uncommon, Visitor No records this year, after records from Kellys Swamp, LBath and LGeo last year. **Banded Lapwing** Vanellus tricolor Rare, Breeding Visitor **WBS**: Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr Mav Jun LBath 11 39 82 0 0 0 0 LGeo 3 0 Masked Lapwing Vanellus miles Common, Breeding Resident General: 90 records but only I with breeding: dy 29 Oct Jerrabomberra Wetlands (LuM1). **GBS:** Records from 24 sites in all months. No breeding records. **WOO:** Records from 2 sites: MUF 3/26 Sep, 10/5 Dec, 7/25 Mar; and MJF 2/12 Feb, 3/3 Jun. **WBS**: Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath-43 41 42 80 77 137 0 2 LGeo 4 LARIDAE: gulls and terns Silver Gull Larus novaehollandiae Common, Breeding Resident General: 33 records from 9 grid cells, mainly from Commonwealth Park and Jerrabomberra Wetlands. **GBS:** Recorded for 7 weeks from Oct to Jan at a site in Curtin only (AJR1). **WBS:** No breeding records. Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun - 710 569 187 68 210 220 0 LBath-9 LGeo-- 265 Rare, Breeding Visitor

Whiskered **Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus* **WBS:** A single record: 2/1 Nov (Oct survey) LBath GrZO8 (LeM1).

# **COLUMBIDAE:** pigeons and doves

Rock Dove Columba livia

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 43 records, 3 from Gundaroo village the remainder from in and around suburban Canberra. One record of breeding activity: co/ 9 Aug ANU GrK13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Recorded from 23 sites (47%) with all values at levels similar to 1998/99. Abundance figures significantly influenced by records from two sites: in Curtin records covered 47 of the 52 weeks and abundance varied from 6 to 35 birds. In Hackett there were records varying between 10 and 40 birds for every week of the year. No reports of breeding.

WOO: A single record: 1/12 Sep MAJ GrM12 (Oval).

# White-headed Pigeon Columba leucomela

Rare. Visitor

Previous reports of this species in 1997/98 (the first for the region) and 1998/99 were from a garden in Waramanga.

General: A single record: 1/22 Mar Kingston GrL14 (WiJ1).

# **Spotted Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Of four reported sightings of this species last year, two from Kambah, were confirmed. **General:** 2 records from Jerrabomberra Wetlands: 1/20 Feb (LuM1) and 1/1 Mar (MoM3). Unconfirmed reports from Kambah, and Watson where the species was reported last year. **GBS:** 2/4wk Jun Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1). Also several unconfirmed records of up to 5 birds from a site in Queanbeyan.

# Common Bronzewing Phaps chalcoptera

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 67 records of up to 14 birds, from across the region. Breeding reports: on/21 Aug Mt Majura/Ainslie ridge GrL13 (WyP1), on/19 Sep Campbell Pk GrM13 (WyP1).

**GBS:** Records from 6 sites (one more than last year) with increases in abundance (A) and in the number of weeks in which the bird was recorded (W). As for last year, most records from a site in Chapman GrJ15 (HoJ1) where up to 7 birds were recorded during 35 of the 52 weeks. **WOO:** 6 records from 3 sites (CAS, MAJ and MUF) in Dec and Mar. **WBS:** A single record: 2/1 Nov (Oct survey) LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

# **Brush Bronzewing** *Phaps elegans*

Rare, Breeding Resident

No records this year. Last recorded Jan 1999.

# Crested Pigeon Ocyphaps lophotes

Common, Breeding Resident

The steady increase in reported sightings of this species continued unabated.

**General:** 132 records from across the region and covering all months. Breeding: ne/8 Sep Weston GrJ15 (LeB1).

**GBS:** Abundance (A) rose last year by one-third, and was up again this year by 24%. The Crested Pigeon is now above the Rock Dove on the GBS table of abundance for the first time. Recorded from 48 of the 49 sites, absent only from a rural site on the Sutton Rd Gr012. Evidence of breeding reported from 9 sites, mainly di or co, but on and dy each from 2 sites. **WOO:** 6 records from 4 sites: MAJ (3 records, 2 in Dec and 1 in Jun), MJF (1 in Feb), MUF (1 in Sep), RED (1 in Mar).

**WBS:** A single record: 1/7 Jan (Dec survey) LGeoN GrR6 (LeM1).

# Diamond Dove Geopelia cuneata

Vagrant/Escapee

Since 1985 there have been 14 confirmed records of this species. 9 were from locations in and around Canberra and, early on at least, these were regarded as aviary escapees. Others were from Namadgi NP, Uriarra Crossing and 'Kirawin' on Mountain Creek Rd.

General: A single record: 1/4 Mar Billy Grace Res, Wee Jasper GrA9 (HaS4).

#### Peaceful Dove Geopelia striata

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records: 1/8 Oct Callum Brae GrL15 (DaG2), 1/30 Apr Cavan GrF7 (BeC3), and 4 records from TSR 57 GrE8 - 2/10 Feb (FyM1) and 2/20 Feb, 1/20 Feb, 1/27 Feb (all BoJ1). **WOO:** 1/11 Dec and 1/18 Mar SYM GrL15 (both DaG2).

Wonga Pigeon Leucosarcia melanoleuca

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 2 records: 1/11 Jul Nursery Swamp track GrG22 (GoJ3), 1/12 Mar Lyrebird Trail,

Tidbinbilla NR GrFl8 (ScJ3).

**CACATUIDAE:** cockatoos

Glossy Black-Cockatoo Calyptorhynchus lathami

Rare, Visitor

General: 5 records of 2-3 birds from Mt Ainslie GrL13/M13 (TaN1, ScB2), Burra Ck

 $GrM21\ (AnI1),$  and near Rose Lagoon  $GrUO4\ (McD1).$ 

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo Calyptorhynchus funereus Common, Breeding Resident

Usually recorded outside the suburban area, this year recorded from many suburban sites.

**General:** 67 records, 3 with breeding: dy/20 Feb Mountain Ck Rd GrF10 (BoJ1), dy/5 Mar Namadgi NP GrD15 (McD1), dy/10 Mar Pine Island GrJ17 (VeP1). Largest flock 150/1 Aug Stromlo Forest GrI14 (FyM1).

**GBS:** Reports of flocks of up to 117 birds from 14 sites, predominantly in autumn to early winter. Abundance (O.4722) up from 1998-99 (O.1118).

WOO: Recorded only from RED: 7/18 Jun GrK15 (PeH2).

# Gang-gang Cockatoo Callocephalon fimbriatum

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 76 records, 2 with breeding: ih/12 Sep and 17 Oct O'Connor GrKi3 (GrT1)

**GBS:** Records from 75% of sites throughout the year; mainly of 1-8 birds but largest 16/3wk Feb in Hughes (AnI1). Abundance (O.7654) down from 1998-99 continuing a decline from 1997-98 (1.0325). Breeding: dy/3 wk May, 1 wk Jun Reid GrL13 (CaJ2)

WOO: Recorded from RED (Sep, Mar, Jun), MAJ (Dec, Mar), and CAS (Feb, Mar).

# Galah Cacatua roseicapilla

Common, Breeding Resident

Canberra's most abundant GBS bird for the third year running.

General: 392 records of up to 140 birds. 11 records with breeding (ih, on, dy).

**GBS:** Recorded from 100% of sites. Abundance (8.3494) up from 1998-99 (7.1187).

Breeding recorded from 12 sites: on/1wk Sep, dy/4wk Oct-2wk Mar.

**WOO:** Recorded from all sites with breeding (dy) recorded at MAJ.

WBS: 2 records of 2 birds from LBath from Oct and Dec surveys.

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**Long-billed Corella** Cacatua tenuirostris

Vagrant/Escapee

General: 3 records: 1/15 Aug 10 km NW of Bungendore GrR1 I (Boil), 1/3 Jun Stirling

GrJ15 (JoD1), 1/27 Jun Macquarie GrJ13 (FyM1).

GBS: Recorded from I site: 1/4 wk May, 1wk Jun Stirling GrJ15 (JoD1).

**WOO:** 1 unendorsed record from SYM.

Little Corella Cacatua sanguinea

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The Little Corella still appears to be increasing in numbers.

**General:** 21 records from around Canberra and from the Murrumbateman — Gundaroo area. **GBS:** Seen in 16% of sites. Abundance (O.0414) almost double that of 1998-99 (O.0209).

Breeding recorded from 1 site: dy/2 wk Feb Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1).

WOO: 1 record: 2/11 Sep SYM GrL15 (DaG2).

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo Cacatua leadbeateri

Escapee

One unendorsed record.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo Cacatua galerita

Common, Breeding Resident

Canberra's second most common GBS bird.

**General:** 394 records, including 4 with breeding: ih/12 Sep, 18 Sep, 9 Oct; dy/28 Nov. GBS: Seen in 100% of sites. Abundance (7.7329) up from 1998-99 (6.9100) continuing a long-term increase. Breeding (all dy) recorded from 5 sites.

**WOO:** 96 records from all sites, including 250/17 Jun at SYM.

**Cockatiel** Nymphicus hollandicus

Vagrant/Escapee

General: 3 records: 1/16 Jan Higgins, 1/22 Jan O'Connor, 1/2 April Hackett (all LeB1).

PSITTACIDAE: lorikeets, parrots

Rainbow Lorikeet Trichoglossus haematodus

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 3 records: 3/1 Aug Ginninderra Ck GrK11 (RoM3), 1/3 Jan Mt Painter GrJ13 (TaN1), 2/22 Mar Jamison Centre GrJ13 (TaN1).

**GBS:** 10 records of 1-3 birds scattered through the year from 6 sites in Ainslie, Hackett, Watson, Aranda, Cook and Macquarie.

Little Lorikeet Glossopsitta pusilla

Rare, Visitor

General: 1 record: 1/11 Dec Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1).

GBS: 2 records: 2/2 wk Feb Hackett GrL13 (LeB1), 2/3 wk Apr Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1).

**WOO: 1** record: 2/5 Nov MJF GrN13 (BoJ1).

Australian King-Parrot Alisterus scapularis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 73 records, incl. 1 with breeding: dy/19 Feb Cotter camp ground GrG14 (PeH2). **GBS:** Seen in 94% of sites. Abundance (2.1331) up on 1998-99 but not yet back to 1997-98 level (2.3418). Breeding recorded from 10 sites, all dy between 3wk Jan and 1wk Apr.

WOO: 10 records from CAS, MAJ and RED.

**Superb Parrot** Polytelis swainsonii

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant General: 92 records between 2 Oct and 23 Jan, 85 of them from Murrumbateman GrI06 (SuR1, HoB3). Others from vicinity of Gundaroo GrN07, N09; Yass GrG04, EO6; Mt Spring GrJ08; and 2 near-urban records from Mt Rogers Gil 11 and Campbell Park GrM13. 37 of the

Murrumbateman records included dy between 13 Dec and 4 Jan (SuR1), and dy were also recorded at Mt Rogers (B iR1).

Crimson Rosella Platycercus elegans

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 705 records including 14 breeding records (ih and on).

**GBS:** Seen in 100% of sites. Abundance (3.5037) similar to 1998-99 (3.5162) but down from

1997-98 (3.9093). Breeding recorded from 7 sites, mainly dy from Dec to Feb. WOO: 168 records from all sites. A single breeding record from MAJ in Dec.

Eastern Rosella Platycercus eximius

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 360 records incl. 11 with breeding: 8 of ih Aug-Oct, on in Nov, and dy Dec-Jan. **GBS:** Recorded from 98% of sites. Abundance (1.5860) up slightly on 1998-99 (1.4740). Breeding recorded from 6 sites.

**WOO:** 110 records from all sites, including 2 breeding records: ih at RED, on at CAS.

WBS: 1 record: 2/18 Mar The Morass GrZO8 (LeM1).

Australian Ringneck Barnardius zonarius

Escapee

No records this year. Last recorded Oct 1998.

Swift Parrot Lathamus discolor

Rare, Migrant

General: 1 record: 10/16 Apr Namadgi NP GrF21 (BoJ1).

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

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 125 records including 2 with breeding (ih/9 Oct, ny/28 Nov).

**GBS:** Recorded from 35% of sites. Abundance (O.2972) up from 1998-99 (O.2593). WOO: 28 records from CAS (22), MJF (3) and RED (3), including on/20 Nov CAS.

WBS: 1 record: 2/2 Jan (Dec survey) The Morass GrZO8 (LeM1).

**Budgerigar** Melopsittacus undulatus

Vagrant/Escapee

No records for 1999-2000. Last recorded Feb 1997.

CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel

Pallid Cuckoo Cuculus pallidus

Common, Breeding Migrant

After 13 years of almost uninterrupted decline in the number of records there was a marked increase this year, almost reaching the peaks of the early to mid-198Os.

General: 93 records, double 1998/99, including counts of 5, 6 and 8 birds. First: 1/21 Aug. The bulk of the records were in Sep (26), Oct (39) and Nov (22), then declining to 1 in Mar. Also 2 unusual winter records: 1/7 Jun 'Gold Creek', Hall Gil1 1 (FyM1), 1/15 Jun Mulligans Flat GrM11 (TaN1). Breeding: dy(Dusky Woodswallow)/18 Jan Hall TSR GrJ10 (FyM1).

GBS: 106 records from 23 sites compared with 9 records from 6 sites last year. Abundance (O.0582) was last at this level in 1985/86 (O.061) falling in the intervening period to an average

of 0.02. First records were at 4 sites in 4wk Aug. Records of 1 or 2 birds then followed in all weeks to 2wk Dec and the last was in 3wk Jan.

**WOO:** 35 records from 7 sites. Most between Sep and Dec: CAS (14), GOO (2), MAJ (3), MJF (3), MUF (9) and SYM (3), but also 1 in Jun at HAL.

WBS: A single record 1/1 Nov The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

Brush Cuckoo Cacomantis variolosus

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 7 records. First: 1/16 Oct Mt Majura GrM12 (TaN1), last: 1/3 Feb Ainslie tip GrL13 (ScB2).

**CBS:** A single record: 1/3wk Sep Hackett GrL13 (LeB1).

WOO: 6 records, 2 from CAS (10 Oct) and 4 from MAJ (3 from 21 Dec and 1 from 25 Mar).

# Fan-tailed Cuckoo Cacomantis flabelliformis

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Number of records (63) similar to last year, including a record of 9 birds on 16 Oct Orroral Valley GrG21 (LiJ1). First: 2/22 Aug Sawyers Gully Rd GrD9 (BoJ1), last: 1/20 May Brooks Hill Res GrR14 (McJ4).

**GBS:** Values for abundance and distribution peaked in 1988/89 (A=0.024; F=23). As with the Pallid Cuckoo, apart from a couple of minor recoveries, these numbers have steadily declined ever since. Unlike the Pallid Cuckoo however there was no turnaround this year for the Fantailed Cuckoo and only one observation was recorded: 1/4wk Sep Hughes GrK15 (Anil).

WOO: Only 3 records (cf 14 last year): 2 from CAS in Sep and Feb, 1 from MAJ in Sep.

# Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo Chrysococcyx basalis

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 62 records. Well up on last year (22) and on the average of the past ten years (16). First: 1/21 Aug Gooromon Ponds Rd GrI11 (HaK1), last: 1/9 Apr Point Hut GrJ17 (MuL1). One breeding record: dy(Superb Fairy-wren)/14 Jan Campbell Pk GrM13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Last year for the first time there were no records. This year there were 18 records, the highest since 1994-95 (28). Recorded from 6 sites, distribution (F) was close to the long term average. First: 1/4wk Jul Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), last: 1/4wk Feb Downer GrLI2 (GoJ3). **WOO:** 5 records: 2 from GOO in Sep, 2 from CAS in Oct and Nov, 1 from SYM in Dec.

# Shining Bronze-Cuckoo Chrysococcyx lucidus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 31 records, a further rise after the two very low years 1996-1998. First: 1/20 Sep Stromlo Forest GrI14 (MoM3), last: 1/11 May Ainslie Pk GrM13 (ScB2).

**GBS:** 8 records from 5 sites. Abundance (O.0039) was down again, distribution (F=10.2) remained steady. Both were below the average for previous years. First: 1/1wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), last: 1/3wk Feb Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

**WOO:** 11 records of single birds: in Sep from SYM (1), MAJ (1) and MUF (4); in Dec from GOO (3) and MUF (1); and in Jun from HAL (1).

# Common Koel Eudynamys scolopacea

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 2 endorsed records: 1/21 Dec Gilmore GrL16 (GrB1) and 1 female/22-23 Jan Bluetts Forest GrI13 (AlB1). Also one unconfirmed record from Kambah.

**CBS:** 14 records from 3 sites in Weston, Kambah and Pearce. First: 1/2wk Nov Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1), last: 1/4wk Jan Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1) and 1/4wk Jan Pearce GrJ15 (BeC1). Also 5 unconfirmed records from sites in Downer, Curtin, Duffy and Kambah.

#### STRIGIDAE: hawk owls

Powerful Owl Ninox strenua

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

No records. Last recorded Jan 1999.

**Barking Owl** Ninox connivens

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded Apr 1998.

**Southern Boobook** *Ninox novaeseelandiae* 

Common, Breeding Resident

An increase over last year's records, which were on the low side but within historical range. **General:** 15 records, all but I of single birds. Breeding: dy/ 13 Dec Higgins Primary School GrI12 (GoJ3).

**GBS:** 59 records of mainly single birds from 17 dispersed sites, mainly in spring and autumn.

#### TYTONIDAE: masked owls

Barn Owl Tyto alba

Rare, Visitor

General: 1 record of a single bird 5 Sep Burra Creek GrM21 (Anil). First since Aug 1995.

# PODARGIDAE: frogmouths

**Tawny Frogmouth** *Podargus strigoides* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The numbers of this species vary widely; however, this year's GBS records are particularly low.

**General:** 9 records of 1-4 birds (17 birds in total), all from locations north of Lake Burley Griffin. Breeding: 6 records; on/2, 17, 30 Oct and dy/14 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1, LuM1, GoP2); on/1 Dec ANBG GrK13 (WiS1); dy/22 Jan Bruce Ridge GrK13 (McI1).

**GBS: 1** record of a single bird 2wk Jun Aranda GrJ13 (GeJ1).

# AEGOTHELIDAE; owlet-nightjars

**Australian Owlet-nightjar** Aegotheles cristatus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

There has been a marked recent increase in the number of records of this species, but from a restricted area.

**General:** 16 records through the year of 20 birds in total, mainly from the Sutton Road area. **GBS:** 44 records of 1-3 birds from one rural site north of Queanbeyan GrO12 (ScG1) throughout most of the year.

# **APODIDAE:** swifts

White-throated Needletail Hirundapus caudacutus

Common, Migrant

Most records continue to be in the Feb-Mar period but one notable WOO record in Spring.

General: 9 records of up to 200 birds, all in the period 7 Feb to 21 Mar.

**GBS:** 20 records from 10 sites in period 3wk Dec to 3wk Mar in which week there were 4 sightings of 20, 12, 5 and 7. Of the 20 records 15 were in Feb and Mar. Largest group 110/1wk Mar. Average group size 12, down from 37 last year.

**WOO:** 2 records: 6/11 Sep SYM (DaG2) and 7/12 Feb MJF (BoJ1).

# **ALCEDINIDAE: kingfishers**

**Azure Kingfisher** *Alcedo azurea* No records this year. Last recorded Nov 1998.

Rare, Visitor

#### HALCYONIDAE: kookaburra, kingfishers

Laughing Kookaburra Dacelo novaeguineae

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** A total of 278 records in all months of the year including 4 breeding records between Sep and Jan: nb/19 Sep Red Hill GrK14 (PeH2), ih/25 Nov Mt. Ainslie GrM13 (ScB2), ny/28 Sep Newline GrM14 (VeP1), dy/14 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Recorded from 32 sites (65%) throughout the year. Abundance (0.2859) up from last two years (0.2602, 0.2302) to levels of previous few years. A single breeding record of dependent young in I wk Jan Weetangera GrJ12 (WoD1).

**WOO:** 57 records through the year at most sites; no breeding records.

WBS: I record: 2/15 May The Morass GrZO8 (LeM1).

Sacred Kingfisher Todiramphus sanctus

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 74 times between 29 Sep and 15 Mar, including 6 breeding records (4 of ih, 2 of on) between 10 Oct and 14 Jan.

**GBS:** From 10 sites a total of 21 records (all of single birds): 14 in the period 3wk Sep to 2wk Dec and the rest in the period 1wk Feb to 1wk Mar apart from a late record in 1wk May. **WOO:** 22 records between 10 Oct and 21 Dec: MUF (10 incl. nb/5 Dec), GOO (5), CAS (4 incl. ih/10 Oct), SYM (2), and MAJ (1).

#### **MEROPIDAE:** bee-eater

**Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus* 

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 17 records between 10 Oct and 15 Mar. Mainly of 1-4 birds but also of 10 and 15 birds at Tharwa/Gigerline GrJ19 (McJ4, WiS1). Breeding: dy/20 Feb Mountain Creek Road GrEO8 (BoJ1).

GBS: Recorded at 4 sites: 1/2wk Oct Curtin (AJR1), 8/5wk Oct Hackett (LeB1), 2/1wk Dec

Kambah (WiB1) and 2/2wk Mar Kambah (VeP1). **WOO:** A single record: 1/25 Mar MAJ (OvA1).

#### **CORACIIDAE:** dollarbird

**Dollarbird** Eurystomus orientalis

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 46 records from 7 Oct to 17 Feb of 1-3 birds; no breeding recorded.

**GBS:** 47 records from 12 sites of which 5 had more than two records. First 1/3wk Oct in Campbell and Hackett GrL13, L14 (RoC1, LeB1), last 3wk Feb in Chapman and Hackett GrI15, L13 (McA1, LeB1). Only breeding record was dy during 4wk and 5wk Jan in Hackett GrL39 (LeB1).

WOO: 2 records: 2/5 Dec MUF and 1/21 Dec MAJ.

MENURIDAE: lyrebird

Lyrebird Menura novaehollandiae Common, Breeding Resident

General: 30 non-breeding records from throughout the year, all from forested areas.

**CLIMACTERIDAE:** treecreepers

**White-throated Treecreeper** *Cormobates leucophaeus* Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 395 records from throughout the region. 2 breeding records: nb/18 Aug Black Mtn GrK13 (GoP2) and cf/13 Jan Mt Ainslie GrL13 (ScB2).

**GBS:** 60 records of 1-2 birds from 4 sites (3 from inner Balcones, **I** from Queanbeyan) largely consistent with the pattern of previous years, although all values lower than the long-term average.

**WOO:** 108 records from most sites throughout the year.

**Red-browed Treecreeper** *Climacteris erythrops* Uncommon, Breeding Resident **General:** 3 records, including one unusual lowland record: 1/3 Jan Warks Rd GrD16 (BoJ1), 3/12 Feb Majura Firing Range GrN12 (FeP1), 2/25 Jun near Brandy Flat Hut GrI24 (GoJ1).

**Brown Treecreeper** Climacteris picumnus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 49 records, including 1 from a suburban reserve: 1/24 Mar Mt Painter GrJ13 (TaN1). 1 breeding record: ih/6 Nov Briarlea Bend, Burra Rd GrL20 (HaS4).

**WOO:** 6 records of 1-2 birds from CAS in Feb-Apr. Significantly, there were no records from MUF this year.

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MALURIDAE: fairy-wren

**Superb Fairy-wren** *Malurus cyaneus* 

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 588 records from throughout the region. 8 breeding records, mainly Aug-Nov. **GBS:** Recorded from 41 sites (84%). All values except W up slightly on last year and the long term average. Breeding recorded from 4 sites, all records of dependent young, but display also recorded from a site in Curtin.

**WOO:** 91 records from most sites throughout the year.

WBS: A record from LBath Morass in Mar.

PARDALOTIDAE: pardalotes, scrubwrens, gerygones, thornbills and allies

**Spotted Pardalote** *Pardalotus punctatus* Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant **General:** 373 records, up on 1998-99, covering all months and from all parts of the region.

Seven reports of breeding, first: nb/16 Jul Molonglo Gorge GrN14 (DeD2).

**GBS:** Recorded from 44 sites (89%). Following the sharp drop in abundance in 1998-99, it rose this year by 147% to a level not achieved since the late 198Os. Peaking Feb-Jun, but recorded regularly throughout the year at sites in Cook, Pearce, Campbell and Hackett. Counts of up to 10 birds at the Cook site and up to 40 birds at a site in Kambah. Breeding, mainly nb in Jul-Aug and on from Aug-Oct, recorded from 3 sites in Chapman, Yarralumla and Kambah. **WOO:** Regularly reported (98 records) although numbers down this year. Absent only from RED in Dec and from MAJ and SYM in Jun. Breeding: nb/18 Sep GOO.

# **Striated Pardalote** Pardalotus striatus

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 446 records, higher than last year by more than 30%. Recorded in all months but peaking slightly Oct-Jan. Indications of breeding confined largely to birds inspecting hollows from late Aug to early Nov, but also dy/21 Nov Jerangle to Numeralla Rd GrQ28 (BoJ1). GBS: Recorded from 41 sites (84%). Following a fall in abundance in 1998-99 there was a recovery this year. However, unlike the Spotted Pardalote, abundance for this species remains below the average of all years of the survey. The seasonal pattern of records varies from year to year. This year the increase began in Jan, peaked in Mar and although falling back slightly remained high until the end of Jun. Breeding from I site: ih/2wk Jul Macquarie GrJ13 (CoD1). WOO: 143 records of mostly 1-6 birds, from all sites and all surveys

# **Pilotbird** Pycnoptilus floccosus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records. 4 of these were of single birds in Nov from Tallaganda SF GrU21 and U29 and Badja SF GrV30 (all FyM1), and 2 were from the Brindabella Ranges: 2/3 Jan GrE15 (Boil) and 2/12 Mar GrF18 (ScJ3).

#### White-browed Scrubwren Sericornis frontalis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 190 records covering all months, of up to 26 birds. Breeding records: nb/18 Oct Mt Rogers GrJ11 dy/12 Dec 'Nundora' GrQ21 (BrM2), cf/18 Jan Stromlo GrJl4 (HaS4). **GBS:** Recorded from 20 sites throughout the year. Both abundance (A) and distribution (F) have steadily increased over the years. After peaking in 1995-96 (O.1644) abundance fell back until this year when it more than doubled to be 36% above the high of 1995-96. Distribution (F=41) also well above the previous highest in 1997-98 (F=36). Breeding: dy/3wk and 4wk Jul Chapman GrJ15 (HoJ1), dy/2wk Oct Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1).

**WOO:** Again reflecting the general lack of suitable habitat, there were just 5 records for the year, all from the same sites as 1998-99, CAS (2), MAJ (1) and RED (2).

# Chestnut-rumped Heathwren Hylacola pyrrhopygia

Uncommon, Resident

No records this year. Last recorded Aug 1998.

# Speckled Warbler Chthonicola sagittata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 78 records (an increase on last year's 46 records) from many parts of the region and from all months. Breeding: dy/24 Dec Frith Rd Acton GrK13 (TaN1).

**GBS:** 1 record from a rural site: 1/3wk Mar Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1).

WOO: 16 records of 1-5 birds: CAS (4 records in Dec, Feb, Mar), GOO (2 in Dec, 1 in Mar), MAJ (1 in Mar, 1 in Jun), MJF (1 in Jun), MUF (1 in Sep), SYM (2 in Dec, 2 in Mar, 1 in Jun). Not reported from HAL or RED.

# Weebill Smicrornis brevirostris

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 207 records this year follows 152 in 1998-99 and 49 in 1997-98. Records were from across the region and in all months, and included counts of up to 30 birds. Breeding: nb/29 Jul, ny/11 Sep and on/2 Oct, all Campbell Pk GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 26 sites, distribution (F) is up by 15%, returning to a level just above the average for all years of the survey. Abundance (A) on the other hand rose by 70% compared with 1998-99 but still remained just below the long-term average. No reports of breeding.

WOO: 126 records, from all surveys with the exception of SYM in Mar.

**Brown Gerygone** *Gerygone mouki*No records this year. Last recorded May 1999.

Rare, Visitor

Western Gerygone Gerygone fusca

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 41 records (40 last year), usually of 1-2 birds, but also 5/9 Oct Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WyP1) and 5/14 Nov Campbell Pk GrM13 (GoP2). First: 1/11 Jul Mt Rogers Gill 1 (B1R1), last: 1/9 Apr Hall GrJ10 (NeG1). Breeding: on/17 Oct Campbell Pk GrM13 (CoE1). **GBS:** Just 1 record, as last year: 1/4wk Nov Hackett GrL13 (LeB1).

**WOO:** 36 records from GOO, MAJ, MJF and MUF during the months Sep to Mar. Not recorded at all from CAS, HAL, RED or SYM. Breeding: cf/26 Sep MUF.

White-throated Gerygone Olivacea

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 94 records (89 in 1998-99), 91 of them during the months Sep to Mar. First: 1/21 Aug Campbell Pk GrM13 (WyP1), last: 1/29 Apr off Mountain Creek Rd GrF10 (SuR1). Breeding: on/17 Oct Campbell Pk GrM13 (CoE1), on/30 Oct Campbell Pk GrM13 (LuM1), nb/13 Nov Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1), ny/28 Nov Campbell Pk GrM13 (LeB1).

**GBS:** 19 records, 7 of them of single birds from 7 sites, but also counts of 2 or 3 birds for 12 of the 15 weeks from 3wk Oct to 4wk Jan from a site in Campbell GrL14 (RoC1). WOO: 67 records from CAS, GOO, MAJ, MJF, MUF and SYM. No records from RED or

WOO: 6/ records from CAS, GOO, MAJ, MJF, MUF and SYM. No records from RED or HAL, and none in Jun.

# Brown Thornbill Acanthiza pusilla

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 291 records, well up on last year. The seasonal pattern showing an increase to Nov, a decline in Dec, increasing again to Apr. Breeding: 9 records (nb, on and dy) between 18 Aug and 5 Jan.

**GBS:** Records from 33 sites (67%). Both abundance (A) and distribution (F) rose to levels well above the average for all previous years. Regular reports throughout the year from 4 sites in Chapman, Yarralumla, Campbell and Kambah. Seasonal pattern showed the usual decline for Oct-Dec, rising then to a peak in Feb and remaining high through to Jun. No breeding reported.

WOO: Just 14 records, but from most sites and seasons.

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

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 254 records, slightly higher than 1998-99. Spring and autumn peaks with lowest number of records in Dec. Breeding: nb/25 Jul Burra Creek GrM21 (Anil); nb at 4 sites in grids 115, K15, L15 and M16 (all HaS4); nb/10 Oct Yankee Hat GrG24 (GoJ3), dy in Oct GrI13 and J13 and in Nov GrJ18.

**GBS:** Recorded at 5 sites in Kambah GrJ16, Curtin GrJ14, Campbell GrL14, and Sutton Rd GrO12. There was an increase in abundance (A) but distribution (F) was down, and both remain below the average for all previous years. Values were influenced by records of up to 8 birds during 19 weeks between 2wk Jan and 2wk Jun Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1).

**WOO:** 86 records. From all surveys at GOO, MAJ and RED; only in Sep from CAS, and only in Sep and Mar from SYM. Breeding: dy/20 Nov CAS.

Yellow-rumped Thornbill Acanthiza chrysorrhoa

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 318 records covering all months with peaks in Nov and Apr. Breeding reported Aug-Oct (nb. on, ny, dy) and again Jan-Feb (dy).

**GBS:** Recorded from 46 sites (94%). All values up apart from group size (G). The seasonal pattern revealed the usual increase from mid-summer through to a peak in Apr/May. Breeding reported from 10 sites. First: nb/1wk Jul Chapman GrJ15 (HoJ1) and Curtin GrJ14 (AlR1). Last ny/1 wk Jan and last dy/3wk Feb both Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

WOO: 28 records, from 3 of the 8 sites in Sep, 4 in Dec, 2 in Mar and 4 in Jun. Most records from GOO, MJF, MUF and SYM. None from CAS.

#### Yellow Thornbill Acanthiza nana

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 37 records from all months, including 14/8 Jan Mundoonen NR GrJ3 (JoM2) and **10/30** Mar Casuarina Sands GrG14 (BeR3). Breeding: dy/25 Oct Gundaroo GrP7 (LaM2). **GBS:** 39 records from 2 sites. Counts of 1 to 3 birds over 37 weeks during Jul-Oct and Jan- Jun in Chapman GrJ15 (HoJ1, and 2/1wk and 2wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

WOO: Recorded only at MUF: 3/25 Mar GrL10 and 2/25 Mar GrL1 I (both BoJ1).

# Striated Thornbill Acanthiza lineata

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 227 widespread records covering all months with peaks in Nov and Apr. Breeding: on/6 Aug Vanity's Crossing GrF15 (MoM3), on/29 Aug Aranda GrJ13 (TaN1), dy/10 Oct Bluetts Forest GrI13 (A1B1).

**GBS:** Reported from only 15 of the 49 sites, most records falling within the period Jan-Mar. Significant falls in all values. Abundance (0.0626) down by 77% to a low last recorded in the early 198Os. No evidence of breeding reported.

**WOO:** 28 records. Only at GOO were there records from all surveys. From 4 sites in Sep, 2 in Dec, 3 in Mar and 4 in Jun. No records from CAS or RED. Largest numbers in Mar and Jun.

# **Southern Whiteface** Aphelocephala leucopsis

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 21 records, of up to 6 birds, from across the region in all months except Jul and Feb. **WOO:** Recorded only at MJF: 6/5 Nov GrN13 (FeP2).

# **MELIPHAGIDAE:** honeyeaters, chat

Red Wattlebird Anthochaera carunculata

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 407 records, including 15 breeding records: first ny/15 Aug, last dy/9 Feb.

**GBS:** Recorded at all 49 sites in all weeks with breeding at 24 sites. The increase in abundance (A) of the last few years continues and is now at its highest level (3.0631). First breeding nb/1wk Aug, last dy/3wk March.

**WOO:** 82 records, from all sites, mostly in spring, summer and autumn. 2 breeding records, both dy/21 Dec MAJ.

#### **Noisy Friarbird** *Philemon corniculatus*

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 235 records. First arrival 1/20 July GrF11 (SuR1), last record 1/7 May Nanima GrK07 (FyM1). 12 breeding records, first on/10 Oct, last dy/18 Mar.

**GBS:** Recorded at all 49 sites, most records between 2wk Aug and 5wk Apr, but single records 1wk, 4wk and 5wk Jul, and 3wk and 4wk June. Now the 20<sup>th</sup> most abundance species,

abundance (1.2292) continues to rise from low levels in 1993-94. Breeding at 9 sites, first nb/2wk Sept, last dy/3wk Mar.

**WOO:** 88 records from spring, summer and autumn surveys. Breeding: on/5 Dec MUF, dy/11 Dec GOO, dy/21 Dec MAJ.

Little Friarbird Philemon citreogularis

Uncommon, Migrant

10 unendorsed records.

**Bell Miner** Manorina melanophrys

Vagrant

General: 4 records from the upper Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2) on 26 Mar and 9 Apr.

Noisy Miner Manorina melanocephala

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 182 records throughout the year. 9 breeding records; first ny/1 Sep, last dy/29 Feb. **GBS:** Recorded regularly throughout the year at 2 sites in Cook, and very occasionally at 5 other sites. Abundance (0.1577) is down slightly on last year. Breeding records from only 1 site in Cook: dy from 4wk Sept to 4wk Nov (TaN1).

**WOO:** 62 records, reported regularly in each season at 4 sites (GOO, MAJ, MJF, MUF) and only in winter at RED. No breeding records.

# Lewin's Honeyeater Meliphaga lewinii

Vagrant

No records this year. Last record (unendorsed) was from Apr 1999.

**Yellow-faced Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus chrysops* Common, Breeding Migrant A relatively high number of over-wintering records this year.

**General:** 350 records, mostly from forested mountain areas. Most records from Sep to early May, with more than usual during Jul and Aug this year. Highest numbers of 1000-2000 birds recorded from Queanbeyan River, Burra and Angle Crossing in April. Just 2 breeding records: nb/20 Nov Strike-a-Light River GrN29 (BoJ1) and cf/25 Nov Boboyan Pines GrH25 (DeD2). **GBS:** Recorded from 46 of 49 sites. Abundance this year increased markedly to 3.6161, lifting the species to 8<sup>th</sup> on the Abundance table and overtaking the Red Wattlebird as the most abundant honeyeater. Over-wintering records were common at many sites in Jun and Jul, with numbers increasing slightly through Sep, then tailing off in Oct. An abrupt increase in numbers in 3wk Mar with records of hundreds of birds at several sites right through Apr. Breeding reported from 1 site in Chapman: dy 1wk-2wk Nov (McAl).

**WOO:** 48 records from 5 sites; 29 in spring, 5 in summer, 12 in autumn, and 2 in winter. **WBS:** I record: 1/7 Jan LGeoN (LeM1).

# White-eared Honeyeater Lichenostomus leucotis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 222 records mostly from forested mountain areas, throughout the year.

**GBS:** Recorded at 22 of 49 sites, but regularly so only at a rural property on Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1). At all other sites there were no records from 2wk Oct to 3wk Mar. Abundance (0.1089) was slightly lower than last year (0.1350) but close to the long term average. No breeding records.

WOO: 16 records, mainly in winter, from 7 sites, but regular only at MAJ.

**Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus melanops* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor **General:** 18 records, 14 of these from Moore's Paddock, upper Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2) throughout the year, including the only breeding records: dy/6 and 22 Feb. Other records were from Molonglo Gorge GrN14, 6/16 July (DeD2) and 2/21 May (GoJ3); Tharwa area GrJ19, 2/20 Aug (WiS1); and Freshford Lane GrI17 2/5 Jan (FyM1).

**GBS:** No records this year.

# **Fuscous Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus fuscus*

Common, Breeding Resident

As with several of the migratory honeyeaters, more records than usual during winter 1999. **General:** 53 records. Those from Jul, Aug and Sep all from urban and lowland areas; all records from Oct-Apr from mountain areas to the south-east and south-west of Canberra. No records in May, 1 in June from Higgins GrJ14. 2 breeding records: dy/5 Oct Hospital Hut GrH25 (DeD2) and co/20 Nov Strike-a-Light River (BoJ1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 24 of 49 sites. No records from 1wk Oct until 1wk Apr. Abundance levels over the years have fluctuated greatly. This year's Abundance (0.2287) was well above that of last year (0.1433) and the previous 2 years (0.0948 and 0.0188). No breeding records.

**WOO:** 13 records, 11 from CAS in Sep, Oct, Apr, and 2 from SYM in Sep.

**White-plumed Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus penicillatus* Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 205 records throughout the year, 5 with breeding, first on/20 Nov, last ny/20 Feb. **GBS:** Records from 26 of 49 sites across 43 weeks of the year. Regular through the year from one site only in Downer (GoJ1). Few records from 6 sites in July-Aug, almost no records from 1wk Sep to 3wk Apr, then more regular records to end of June. Abundance has fluctuated over the years, this year (0.1281) slightly up on last year (0.0784). No breeding records.

WOO: 42 records from 6 sites, regularly at only 2 (CAS, SYM). Breeding: on/20 Nov CAS.

**Brown-headed Honeyeater** *Melithreptus brevirostris* Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 49 records throughout the year, mostly from rural areas, some from the mountains. 1 breeding record: co/20 July Mt Creek Rd GrF11 (SuR1).

**GBS:** Records from 3 sites in Pearce, Cook and a rural site on Sutton Rd. Abundance (0.0108) was similar to last year (0.0083).

**WOO:** 16 records from 5 sites: GOO (6), MJF (4), MUF (4), SYM (1), HAL (1).

# White-naped Honeyeater Melithreptus lunatus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 103 records, largest group 600/16 Apr Orroral Valley GrG21 (LiJ1). 3 breeding records: on/21 Nov Bredbo-Jerangle GrP29 (HoJ1), dy/3 Jan Warks Rd GrE15 (Bal 1), dy/17 Feb Tinderry Range Gr024 (HoJ1).

**GBS:** Records from 26 of 49 sites, but no breeding reported. Birds were recorded at a number of sites during winter and there was little increase in records during Sep-Oct. Almost no records from 3wk Oct until beginning of Apr, then a sudden increase in records with large numbers reported through Apr-May to 1wk June. Abundance (0.9630) was markedly higher than last year (0.3994), probably due to large numbers reported during the autumn migration. **WOO:** Just 11 records from 4 sites: CAS (4 in Sep and 4 in Apr), HAL (1 in Jun), MJF (1 in Jun), SYM (1 in Sep).

**Crescent Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera* Uncommon, Breeding Resident **General:** 20 records, all from mountain or forested areas. No records from mid-Dec to mid-Mar. No breeding reported.

**GBS:** Records from 7 sites, but mostly for only 1-3 weeks of the year. Regular during the winter at only one site in Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1 l). No records at all from end of Sep to end of Feb. No breeding records. Long term annual Abundance is highly variable. This year (A=0.0172) was similar to last year but below the long term average.

**New Holland Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae* Uncommon, Breeding Resident Reported regularly only from a few locations where grevilleas or banksias are abundant. **General:** 35 records throughout the year, most from Commonwealth Park GrL13, Stranger Pond and Pine Island GrJ15, and ANBG GrKI3. Largest number reported 30/16 Apr Cotter Flats track GrE21 (BoJ1). 3 breeding records: ny/ 12 and 18 Aug Commonwealth Park GrL13 (WyP1), and nb/10 Nov Stranger Pond GrJ17 (WhJ1).

**GBS:** Recorded at 8 sites, but regularly at only 3, all in Kambah GrI16, J15, J16 (WAH1, WiB1, VeP1). No records from 1wk Nov to 2wk Jan. Abundance fluctuates; this year (0.1119) was well above last year's and the long term average. No breeding records.

**Eastern Spinebill** *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 159 records, throughout the year from mountain and lowland areas. I breeding record: on/13 Feb Kambah Pool GrI16 (LiJ1).

**GBS:** Recorded from all 49 sites. Regular records throughout the year from only 3 sites in Chapman (HAJ1), Yarralumla (CCR1) and Aranda (GeJ1); otherwise few records between beginning of Nov and 2wk Jan inclusive. Abundance (0.7363) was above that of last year, and above the long term average.

**WOO:** 15 records from 5 sites: GOO (5), MAJ (1), MJF (2), MUF (3) and RED (4), but only in autumn and winter.

# Scarlet Honeyeater Myzomela sanguinolenta

Rare, Visitor

Rare summer visitor, turning up usually at the ANBG. Last records in Oct 1995.

General: 1 record: 1/15 Sept ANBG GrK13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Recorded from one site 1/26 and 28 Sep Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1).

# White-fronted Chat Epthianura albifrons

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Uncommon resident, now rarely reported except at Lake Bathurst.

**General:** 1 record: 2/11 July Old Bredbo to Connollys Gap GrM30 (HoJ1).

**WBS:** 3 records. 2 from LBathE GrY8: 8/1 Nov and 12/2 Feb (LeM1). 1 from LBath Morass: 15/15 May (LeM1).

# **PETROICIDAE:** Australasian robins

Jacky Winter Microeca fascinans

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 27 records of 1 to 3 birds in most months. No breeding recorded.

Scarlet Robin Petroica multicolor

Common, Breeding Resident

The GBS data indicate a decline in the abundance of this species in winter. This corresponds with a rise in Rose Robin recording where the numbers over-wintering are rising.

General: 173 records from across the region in all months, including 1 breeding record: dy/24 Oct Orroral Valley GrG22 (McI1).

GBS: 12 records from 7 sites (14%) in autumn/winter from 3wk Mar to 3wk Jun. Abundance (0.0084) continuing the fall of previous years (0.0398 only 3 years ago).

WOO: 37 records from all sites except HAL and RED. No breeding recorded.

Red-capped Robin Petroica goodenovii

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: a single record: 1/4 Sep Mulligans Flat GrL11 (WyP1).

Flame Robin Petroica phoenicea Common, Breeding Resident

General: 59 records from throughout the year, all non-breeding. Largest numbers 45/12 Sep

Yankee Hat GrG12 (McD1) and 26/25 Jun near Gundaroo GrN07 (JoM2).

**GBS:** 8 winter records, 7 from a site in Curtin and 1 from Downer.

WBS: A single record: 2/25 Jun LBath East GrY8 (LeM1).

Rose Robin Petroica rosea

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 7 records, no breeding. Of the records 4 were rural and between 19 Nov and 5 Mar, whilst 3 were urban and between 29 Apr and 18 May.

GBS: 46 autumn/winter records from 12 sites, none in the period 1 wk Sep to 2wk Mar. This is an increase in abundance from 0.01 last year to 0.02 this year, and from 11% of sites to 24% of sites. See comments under Scarlet Robin.

Pink Robin Petroica rodinogaster

Rare, Breeding Migrant

No records this year. Last endorsed record was in Aug 1997.

Hooded Robin Melanodryas cucullata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 36 records from rural sites throughout the year, including 2 with breeding: dy/5 Oct

Boboyan forest GrH25 (DeD2) and dy/13 Nov Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1).

**GBS:** A single record: 2/1wk Aug from a rural site on Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1).

WOO: 7 records; from GOO (3, incl. di/18 Sep), MJF (3) and MUF (1).

Eastern Yellow Robin Eopsaltria australis

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 92 times in all months but only 1 breeding record: nb/17 Dec Lowden Forest Park. GrW19 (FyM1).

CINCLOSOMATIDAE: whipbird, quail-thrush

Eastern Whipbird Psophodes olivacea

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 21 records during Sep-Apr. As in 1998-99, a significant proportion of these records (9) are from Moore's Paddock, upper Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2). This is one of the few sites outside of the ranges where this species is regularly recorded. 1 unusual urban record: 1/12 Mar Red Hill NP GrK14 (AvJ1).

**Spotted Quail-thrush** *Cinclosoma punctatum* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 6 records, 3 from lowland sites: 1/21 Jan Scabbing Flat GrO15 (FyM1), 1/14 May

`Ladevale Scrub' GrL4 (HoB3), 1/18 May Mt Majura GrM12 (HoB1).

#### **NEOSITTIDAE: sittella**

Varied Sittella Daphoenositta chrysoptera

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 52 records from throughout the year, mostly from lower altitudes. 4 breeding records: dy/24 Oct Mulligans Flat GrL11 (TaN1); on/30 Oct and 14 Nov (LuM1, GoP2), and ny/14 Jan (PeH2), all Campbell Park GrM13.

**GBS:** Only 1 record: 7/3wk Apr Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1). All values dramatically down on the long term average as a result, although values for this species do to fluctuate from year to year. **WOO:** 3 records: from GOO in Sep (1 bird) and Mar (10 birds), from MUF in Mar (1 bird).

#### PACHYCEPHALIDAE: whistlers and allies

**Crested Shrike-tit** *Falcunculus frontatus* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 26 times through the year incl. 2 breeding, both dy at Gooroo GrM12 on

13 Nov and 11 Dec (TaN1).

**WOO:** 2 records: 1/26 Sep MUF, 1/10 Oct CAS.

Olive Whistler Pachycephala olivacea

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 5 non-breeding records of single birds, all in wet forest between 18 Nov and 16 Apr.

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Golden Whistler Pachycephala pectoralis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 128 records without a single breeding record. Although recorded in all months the great majority of urban records occur in autumn and winter months.

**GBS:** Recorded at 34 sites (70%), a similar number of sites to last year, but abundance (0.1745) has increased from last years level of 0.1150 (which was similar to the 1980s) to the typical 0.14 to 0.18 of the previous 4 years. Only 6 records from 3 sites (Campbell, Watson and Kambah) in the summer period Nov to Feb inclusive.

WOO: 13 records from most sites (not CAS or HAL) in Sep and Jun.

**Rufous Whistler** Pachycephala rufiventris

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 242 records without a single breeding record. Of these records only 1 occurred in Jul, 3 in Aug, 4 in the first 3 weeks of Sep and none at all in May or June.

**GBS:** Recorded from an increased number of sites (30 sites = 60%), although abundance (0.0557) is similar to levels of last 3 years but down on the 0.08-0.09 of earlier few years. Only 3 records in Jul and Aug and 1 in Jan.

WOO: 83 records from all seasons and most sites (not HAL or RED); no breeding recorded.

Grey Shrike-thrush Colluricincla harmonica

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 290 records through the year. Only 3 breeding records: ny/6 Nov near Gundaroo GrN05 (WiP1), dy/26 Jan LGin GrJ12 (A1B1) and dy/30 Apr Cavan GrF07(BeC3).

**GBS:** Recorded from a similar number of sites (18 = 35%) to last year, with slightly lower abundance (0.0291 cf 0.0380). This continues the decline since the mid 1980s. Again far fewer birds were recorded in summer months.

WOO: 32 records from all sites except RED; fewer in summer. No breeding recorded.

WBS: A single record: 1/15 May LBath Morass GrZ08 (LeM1).

#### DICRURIDAE: monarchs, flycatchers, fantails

#### Black-faced Monarch Monarcha melanopsis

Rare, Visitor

**General:** A single record: 1/17 Dec Lowden Forest Park GrW19 (FyM1).

**Leaden Flycatcher** *Myiagra rubecula* 

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 74 records in the period between 10 Oct and 18 Mar. This includes 9 breeding records: first 4 (on and nb) in period 7 Nov to 5 Dec (first was on/7Nov Dog Trap Crossing GrG09 (BeC3)) followed by 5 records all of dy between 10 Jan and 6 Feb.

**GBS:** Recordings similar to last year; the same number of sites (11 = 23%) with abundance up slightly (0.0232 to 0.0276). First: 1/2wk Oct Campbell GrL13 (ClS1), last: 1/3wk Mar Hackett GrL13 (LeB1). Records of dy in 1wk and 2wk Feb Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

**WOO:** 20 records between 5 Nov and 15 Apr from CAS (3), GOO (2), MAJ (7), MJF (2), MUF (5, incl. on/5 Dec) and SYM (1).

# Satin Flycatcher Myiagra cyanoleuca

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 5 times in the period 10 Nov to 19 Feb, all from west of the Murrumbidgee, including a single breeding record of ny/2 Jan Orroral Valley GrG21 (LiJ1). **GBS:** 3 records: 1/1wk Nov Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 1/1wk Feb Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1) and 1/4wk Feb Weetangera GrJ12 (WoD1).

**Restless Flycatcher** *Myiagra inquieta* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 41 records through the year including dy/24 Oct Mulligans Flat GrL11 (TaN1).

**GBS:** 8 records, 4 from each of 2 sites in Higgins and Holt, both GrI12 (CoP2, DaC1).

**WOO:** Only I record: 1/26 Sep MUF GrL11.

#### Magpie-lark Grallina cyanoleuca

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** A total of 326 records in all months, including 25 breeding records, first: on/5 Sep Gungahlin Lakes GrK1 I (WyP1), last: dy/1 Feb ANU GrK13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** Recorded at all 49 sites with breeding at 20 (41%). Abundance (2.7097) continues to rise from last two years (2.3729 and 2.2677). First breeding: nb/2wk Aug Reid GrL13 (CaJ2), last: dy/1wk May Pearce GrK15 (KrS1). At least 5 sites recorded double brooding.

WOO: 48 records from all sites except HAL, incl. 1 of breeding: on/5 Dec MUF.

WBS: 4 records of only 1 to 2 birds, all at LBath between Nov and Apr inc (DoM1, LeM1).

# **Rufous Fantail** *Rhipidura rufifrons*

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 16 times between 17 Oct and 26 Mar, no breeding recorded.

**GBS:** 5 records from 3 sites in Cook, Macquarie and Aranda (all GrJ13), all single birds in the period 1wk Mar to 2wk Apr.

**Grey Fantail** Rhipidura fuliginosa

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** A total of 516 records in all months of the year although there is a noticeable decrease in the winter months with only 15 records in Jun and 21 in Jul. Breeding recorded only 6 times, during the period 10 Oct to 16 Jan.

**GBS:** Recorded from 45 (92%) of sites with abundance (0.4421) higher than most recent years (c. 0.32 - 0.36) apart from 1997-98 (0.4817). Fewer records in spring and summer.

Breeding recorded at 3 sites. First: nb/2wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), last: dy/3wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (MDN1).

WOO: Recorded 127 times from all sites, all seasons, but no breeding recorded.

# Willie Wagtail Rhipidura leucophrys

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 272 times in all months of the year but with a noticeable fall off in winter records - 9 in Jul, 6 in May and 5 in Jun. A total of 7 breeding records in the period 12 Oct (ny/Yass GrF03 (HaK1)) to 1 Feb (on/ANU GrK13 PeH2).

**GBS:** Recorded from 39 (80%) sites, the abundance of 0.2430 was higher than last years low of 0.2096 and closer to the >0.25 of previous years. Breeding recorded at 3 sites. First: dy/5wk Oct Page GrJ12 (AlB1), last: dy/4wk Dec Pearce GrJ15 (BeC1).

WOO: 38 non-breeding records from CAS (20), GOO (4), MUF (10) and SYM (4).

WBS: 4 records: 1/7 Jan (Dec survey) LGeoN; 1/27 Feb, 2/18 Mar, 1/15 May LBath.

# Spangled Drongo Dicrurus bracteatus

Vagrant

General: 1 unusual record of a bird in the rainforest gully at ANBG on 11 Feb (BaB1).

# CAMPEPHAGIDAE: cuckoo-shrikes, cicadabird, triller

**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae* Common, Breeding Res/Migrant **General:** 261 records, mostly Sep-Mar, all of single birds or small groups of up to 8 except for 22/20 Mar Aranda Bushland GrJ13 (RoS1) and 22/25 Mar Mulligans Flat GrL11 (HoJ1). Five breeding records, 2 (on, nb) in late Oct, 3 of dy in Jan-Feb.

**GBS:** Records from 46 of 49 sites of 1-8 birds throughout the year but mainly Sep-Mar. Values similar to previous years. Breeding recorded from 5 sites (all dy) during Jan-Mar.

WOO: 74 records from all sites except HAL; only 1 from RED in winter.

# White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike Coracina papuensis No records. Last endorsed record from Jul 1998.

Rare, Visitor

# Cicadabird Coracina tenuirostris

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 4 records, 2 from wet forest areas where the species is usually recorded in our area (1/16 Dec Tallaganda SF GrU22 (FyM1), 1/3 Jan Warks Rd GrEl6 (BoJ1)) and 2 unusual records from woodland sites to the north of the ACT in Feb and Apr, presumably of migrating birds (1/20 Feb TSR 57 GrE8 (BoJ1), 1/25 Apr Bywong GrP11 (CaM3)).

# White-winged Triller Lalage sueurii

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 31 records from Sep-Jan, all but 1 (1/29 Jan Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2)) from the northern half of the region. 3 breeding records: dy/28 Nov Campbell Pk GrM13 (LeB1), on/15 Dec Hall Cemetery Grl11 (MuT1) and dy/14 Jan Campbell Pk GrM13 (PeH2). **GBS:** 3 records from 1 site: 1/4wk Sep, 2wk and 5wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

WOO: 5 records from GOO and MUF during Dec, incl. on/15 Dec GOO GrM11 (TaN1).

## **ORIOLIDAE:** oriole

**Olive-backed Oriole** Oriolus sagittatus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 74 records between Aug and Apr, but mainly Sep to Jan. 5 breeding records, possibly referable to two nests: nb/2 Oct (CoE1), on/30 Oct (LuM1), on/14 Nov (GoP1) all Campbell Park GrM13; and on/25 Nov and 9 Dec NE of Ainslie tip GrL13 (ScB2).

**GBS:** Records of 1-2 birds from 28 sites. First: 1/1wk Sep Chapman GrI15 (McA1), O'Connor GrK13 (Ball) and 2/1wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Last: 1/4wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1) and Hackett GrL13 (LeB1). Breeding recorded from 3 sites: on/2wk Nov-1 wk Dec and ny/2wk-3wk Dec Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1), cf/1wk Feb Higgins GrI12 (CoP2), dy/2wk O'Connor GrK13 (Ball).

WOO: 43 records from most sites, all Sep-Dec except 2/12 Feb MJF (HoJ1).

## ARTAMIDAE: woodswallows, butcherbirds, magpie, currawongs

Masked Woodswallow Artamus personatus

Rare, Visitor

General: 3/21 Nov Jerangle-Numeralla Rd GrR30 (BoJ1), 2/18 May Mt Majura (1-10B1).

White-browed Woodswallow Artamus superciliosus

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

No records. Last recorded Mar 1999.

**Dusky Woodswallow** Artamus cyanopterus

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 119 records between Aug and Apr (mainly Sep-Apr). 7 breeding records.

GBS: 19 records from 8 sites. First: 20/3wk Sep, last 12/2wk May both Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

Values continue to fluctuate, with all statistics slightly higher than in 1998-99.

WOO: 11 records from CAS, GOO, MJF and MUF, incl. dy/12 Feb MJF GrNI3 (FeP1).

WBS: 1 record: 2/2 Jan LBath GrY8 (LeM1).

**Grey Butcherbird** Cracticus torquatus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 75 records, 1 with breeding: dy/2 Jan Ororral Valley GrG21 (LiJ1). **GBS:** 9 records of single birds from 5 widely dispersed sites, all 4wk Mar to 2wk Jun.

WOO: 45 records from CAS, GOO, HAL, MAJ, MJF and MUF.

Pied Butcherbird Cracticus nigrogularis

Rare, Visitor

1999-2000 saw the greatest number of observations of this species (5 records) ever recorded in the COG area.

**General:** 1/10 Jul Kaveny's Rd GrI08 (SuR1), 1/10 Apr 5km N of Sutton GrN09 (NiJ1), 1/7 May TSR 33, 2km W of Gunning GrN01 (FyM1), 1/11 Jun W of Jerrawa GrJ01 (WiS1).

**WOO:** 1/25 Mar MUF GrM10 (BoJ1).

Australian Magpie Gymnorhina tibicen

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 728 records from throughout the region. 54 breeding records, including a very early record of dependent young: dy/6 Jul Majura Firing Range GrN12 (BoJ1).

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites and all weeks. Statistical data show little change from the long term average, as is usual for this very consistent species. Breeding recorded from over half (28) of all sites. First nb: 1wk Jul Chapman GrI15 (McA1), last nb: 3wk Sep Page GrJ12

(A1B1); first dy: 5wk Jul Downer GrL12 (LoE1), last dy: 1wk Mar Queanbeyan GrN15 (LuM1).

WOO: 227 records from all sites throughout the year.

WBS: 7 records from LBath, 1 record from LGeo.

## Pied Currawong Strepera graculina

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 389 records from throughout the region. 11 breeding records during Sep-Jan.

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites and all weeks. All values similar to those of previous years. Breeding recorded from over half (28) of all GBS sites. First nb: 1wk Aug Higgins Gri12 (CoP2), last nb: 1wk Oct Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1); first dy: 5wk Oct Pearce GrJ17 (BeC1) and Higgins GrI12 (CoP2), last dy: 1wk Feb Aranda GrJ13 (HaK1), Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1), Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1 and PeH2).

WOO: 80 records from all sites except GOO from throughout the year.

## **Grey Currawong** Strepera versicolor

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 89 records, usually of 1-3 birds, but rarely up to 5 individuals. 2 breeding records: dy/29 Nov CSIRO Black Mtn GrK13 (LeB1), dy/3 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (WyP1). CBS: Records of 1-3 birds throughout the year, from 11 sites. Breeding recorded from 3 sites

in Campbell GrL14 (RoC1) and Cook GrI13 (BrM2 and TaN1) WOO: 31 records through the year from CAS (5), GOO (1), MAJ (11) and MUF (14).

**CORVIDAE:** ravens

Australian Raven Corvus coronoides

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 415 records, but only 1 with breeding which is surely not representative: dy/28 Nov Farrer Ridge GrK16 (ReG1).

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites and all weeks. Values similar to previous years and the long-term average. Breeding recorded from 8 sites.

WOO: 79 records from all sites throughout the year.

WBS: 2 records from LBath.

Little Raven Corvus mellori

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 61 records of up to 75 birds from throughout the region.

GBS: Records from 10 sites, of up to 80 birds, scattered throughout the year.

WOO: 4 records from CAS of 3-7 birds in Feb and Mar.

WBS: 7 records from LBath, 2 records from LGeo incl. 120 on 7 Jan.

CORCORACIDAE: chough

White-winged Chough Corcorax melanorhamphos

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 143 records. 16 breeding records, mostly from urban reserves and parks.

GBS: Records from 12 sites, mainly in summer and autumn. Values continue to fluctuate,

with all statistics except F and W up on the previous year and the long-term average.

WOO: 32 records throughout the year, from all sites except HAL and RED.

#### PTILONORHYNCHIDAE: bowerbird

Satin Bowerbird Ptilonorhynchus violaceus

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 23 records through the year, mostly from the southern and western parts of the region. Largest group: 50/28 May Chapman GrJ15 (WhJ1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 11 sites in the Weston Creek-Woden-Tuggeranong area except for one garden in Yarralumla. All values up markedly on the long term average and the previous year. Two unusual breeding records: on/4wk Nov and dy/2wk and 3wk Dec Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1), and dy/3wk Feb Holder GrJl5 (AsM1).

WOO: 2 records from RED: 2/12 Mar and 3/18 Jun (PeH2, AvJ1).

ALAUDIDAE: larks

## Singing Bushlark Mirafra javanica

Rare Visitor

No records this year. Last recorded Dec 1998 at Lake George.

## Skylark Alauda arvensis

Common, Breeding Resident

The records show that this grassland bird is less common in the winter months. Is this because it is less noticeable or does it actually move away to congregate in winter flocks?

General: Recorded 16 times between Jul and Jan. No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** 37 records from 2 sites but only 10 records in 6 months from the end Jan to end Jul.

WOO: One record: 1/3 Jun MJF.

WBS: 9 records from LBath and LGeo between 1 Nov and 30 Apr. Largest group 58/2 Feb LBathE GrY8.

MOTACILLIDAE: Pipit

## Richards Pipit Anthus novaeseelandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

Like the Skylark the records show that this bird is recorded less frequently in winter.

General: 55 records including 1 breeding record: fs/28 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (LeB1).

**GBS:** 21 records from 2 sites, one of which also recorded Skylarks. Very few records (6) in the 6 months from end of Jan to end of Jul.

**WBS:** 8 records of 6-20 birds at LBath and LGeo 1 Nov to 25 Jun. Largest group 20/15 May LBath GrZ8.

PASSERIDAE: sparrow, grass-finches

## House Sparrow Passer domesticus

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 111 records including 1 with breeding: nb/12 Oct Murrumbateman GrI06 (HoB1). **GBS:** Recorded in 92% of sites. Abundance (6.0488) has recovered from 1998-99 raising its position to fifth most abundant Canberra GBS bird. Breeding recorded from only 4 sites.

#### **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** Passer montanus

Vagrant

WOO: One unendorsed record.

Zebra Finch Taeniopygia guttata

Rare, Breeding Visitor/Escapee

GBS: 5 records of single birds at a site in MacGregor GrI12 (SuR1), from 3wk Jul - 1wk Oct.

Double-barred Finch Taeniopygia bichenovii

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 26 records of up to 30 birds. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 10 sites. Abundance (A=0.1971) up from 1998-99 (A=0.0793).

Red-browed Finch Neochmia temporalis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 78 records, more commonly in autumn. 1 breeding record: nb/30 Oct Campbell Pk GrM13 (LuM1).

GBS: Recorded from 11 sites, but regularly throughout the year from only 1 site in Isaacs GrK15

(HoA1). Abundance (0.4909) up from 1998-99 (0.3442).

WOO: 1 record: 2/17 Jun SYM.

Diamond Firetail Stagonopleura guttata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 23 non-breeding records, all outside of the suburban area.

WOO: 1 non-breeding record: 2/28 Mar GOO. WBS: 1 non-breeding record: 3/25 Jun LBathE.

**FRINGILLIDAE:** finches

**European Greenfinch** Carduelis chloris

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 10 non-breeding records, mainly from JWNP, but also from Tuggeranong Lakes area,

and  $5 km\ S$  of Williamsdale GrL21 and Bredbo-Jerangle Rd GrP29 (both HoJ1)

European Goldfinch Carduelis carduelis

Common, Breeding Resident

Appears to be declining as a GBS bird species.

General: 102 records including 1 breeding record: dy/29 Jan Point Hut GrJ17 (MuL1).

**GBS:** Records from **14** sites (29%). Abundance (0.1055) almost half that of 1998-99 (0.2004).

WBS: 2 records: 2/2 Jan and 5/25 Jun LBathE GrYO8 (LeM1)

**DICAEIDAE:** mistletoebird

Mistletoebird Dicaeum hirundinaceum

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 100 records, mainly from the warmer months, including 2 breeding records: nb/2 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1), dy/20 Feb Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1).

**GBS:** Records from 9 sites, mainly Sep-Mar. Abundance (O.0537) up from last year (0.0241). WOO: 42 records from all sites except CAS, HAL and RED.

## **HIRUNDINIDAE:** swallow, martins

Welcome Swallow Hirundo neoxena

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 218 times with only 4 breeding records. Fewer records in winter: 6 in Jul, 9 in May and 6 in Jun - those 3 months only contribute 10% of sightings. Breeding as follows: on/7 Sep Vass GrF03 (HaK1), nb/10 Oct Queanbeyan GrQ21 (BrM2), on/12 Oct Gundaroo Rd Grl11 (HaK1) and on/28 Nov Bowning GrC02 (TaN1).

GBS: The recent slow increase in numbers seems to have plateaued with abundance of 0.1986 similar to last year but still way below 0.5384 of 1993/94. Again fewer birds present in winter being recorded in smaller numbers from 4 sites cf. 15 sites (30%) over the whole year.

WOO: Only 5 records from 2 sites, MUF (3) and MJF (2), from Nov to Mar.

WBS: 5 records of up to 15 birds in Jan, Feb and Mar from LBath and LGeo (LeM1, DoM1).

## Tree Martin Hirundo nigricans

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 59 times between 7 Aug and 9 May incl. two breeding records: ny/28 Nov Newline Quarry GrM14 (VeP1) and nb/2 Jan Tharwa GrJ19 (McJ4). No records Jul or

**GBS:** As for last year, 9 records from 5 sites. All records between Sep and May.

WOO: 8 records at three sites: CAS 5 times between 11 Sep and 25 Mar, at MJF on 5 Nov and 12 Feb, at GOO on 18 Sep. No breeding.

WBS: Recorded only on 2 Jan: 50 birds at LBathE and 10 at LBathW, both GrY8(LeM1).

#### Fairy Martin Hirundo ariel

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 3 records only with no breeding recorded. 1/19 Sep and 5/20 Feb at Jerrabomberra Wetlands GrL14 (WyP1, LuM1), 20/13 Feb Fairlight **Rd** GrG12 (BoJ1).

SYLVIIDAE: old world warblers

## Clamorous Reed-Warbler Acrocephalus stentoreus

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 82 records. First return: 1/28 Aug Lake Ginninderra Peninsula GrJ12 (AlB1), last record: 2/12 Mar Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11 (WyP1). Includes 4 breeding records: ny/11 Nov Commonwealth Park GrL13 (WyP1); dy/13 Dec, ny/24 Jan and on/1 Feb all at ANU campus GrK13 (PeH2).

GBS: 3 records of single birds 4wk Sep - 2wk Oct from Gleneagles Estate GrI16 (WAH1).

**WOO:** 2 records of 3 and 4 birds from MJF in Nov and Feb.

# Little Grassbird Megalurus gramineus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 15 records, mostly from JWNP GrL14 and Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11, but also 3/31 Jul Wet Lagoon NR GrS2 (FyM1), 1/26 Sep and 1/15 Jan Yankee Hat walking track GrH25 (both GoJ3).

## Rufous Songlark Cincloramphus mathewsi

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 34 records. First: 1/17 Sep Gold Creek golf course GrK11 (WyP1), last: 1/20 Feb Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1). 1 breeding record: cf/5 Jan Hume TSR GrL16 (FyM1).

**GBS:** A single record: 1/3wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

WOO: 16 records from CAS (9), GOO (4), MJF (1) and SYM (2)in Nov and Dec.

## Brown Songlark Cincloramphus cruralis

Rare, Breeding Migrant

General: 2 records: 1/10 Oct Nanima Rd and Glencoe Rd corner GrK8 (BoJ1), 1/29 Oct Sawyers Gully Rd GrC7 (FyM1).

WOO: 2 records of single birds from SYM on 18 Mar.

**WBS:** A single record: 1/7 Jan (Dec survey) LGeoS GrR11 (LeM1).

#### Golden-headed Cisticola Cisticola exilis

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 15 records throughout the year, from JWNP (9 records), Lake Ginninderra (3), Lake Tuggeranong (1); also 2/Tallaganda Rd GrN10 and 1/Gungahlin Hill NR GrK12 (both DaC1).

## **ZOSTEROPIDAE:** silvereye

Silvereye Zosterops lateralis

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 204 records, usually of 1-10 birds but also flocks of up to 100.

**GBS:** Recorded at 48 of the 49 sites, from all weeks. Abundance (6.7018) well up on 1998-99 (4.9791) restoring the Silvereye to the position of the third most common Canberra GBS bird. Breeding recorded from 8 sites.

**WOO:** 16 records from GOO, MAJ, MUF, and RED, the majority from the autumn survey.

#### **MUSCICAPIDAE:** thrushes

Bassian Thrush Zoothera lunulata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 3 non-breeding records: 3/19 Jul Yankee Hat carpark GrH25 (DeD2), 2/19 Apr Stromlo Forest GrH14 (TaN1), and 2/10 Jun Tidbinbilla NR GrG17 (GoJ3).

Common Blackbird Turdus merula

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 98 records of up to 9 birds throughout the year. No breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 47 of the 49 sites. Abundance (1.8758) up on 1998-99 (1.6442).

Breeding recorded from 10 sites between 2wk Sep and 2wk Jan.

WOO: 3 records, from RED (2) and SYM (1), all in Dec.

## STURNIDAE: starling, myna

Common Starling Sturnus vulgaris

Common, Breeding Resident

This year, Canberra's fourth most common GBS bird.

**General:** 318 records of up to 300 birds, including 16 breeding records between Sep and Feb. **GBS:** Recorded from 46 of the 49 sites. Abundance (6.6368) slightly up from 1998-99 (6.5571) but still less than 1997-98 levels (7.1770) which represented a decline since 1995-96 (9.8804). Breeding recorded from 11 sites between 4wk Aug and 3wk Jan.

WOO: 61 records from all sites including 4 breeding records (from CAS, GOO and MJF).

WBS: 1 record: 10/23 Jan LBath Morass GrZ08 (DoM1).

#### Common Myna Acridotheres tristis

Common, Breeding Resident

This year drops to Canberra's sixth (from fourth last year) most abundant GBS bird.

General: 125 records of up to 20 birds, all within or peripheral to Canberra except 1/2 Dec

Parkesbourne GrU01 (TaN1). Includes 7 breeding records in Oct-Dec period.

**GBS:** Recorded from 48 of the 49 sites. Abundance (4.5234) down from 1998-99 (5.4021) arresting a long-term increase. Breeding recorded from 14 sites between 1wk Sep and 3wk Mar, except for nb/4wk May - 4wk Jun at a site in Chapman (HoJ1).

**WOO:** 25 records from 3 sites: MAJ (14), MJF (1) and RED (10).

## SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 1 JULY 2000 TO 30 JUNE 2001

#### **CASUARIIDAE:** emu

Emu Dromaius novaehollandiae

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The only records of emus this year (3) were all of captive birds from within Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve by non-COG members surveying for the Birds Australia Atlas.

## PHASIANIDAE: quail

Stubble Quail Coturnix pectoralis

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** An apparent influx or irruption of Stubble Quail this year led to a record 41 records (cf an average of 14.2, range 5-30, over previous 10 years). All records, of 1-6 birds, were between 29 Oct and 20 Mar, mainly from northern parts of the region. No breeding recorded. **GBS:** Records from 2 sites (8 records): Curtin in Dec/Jan (AJR1) and Holt in Jan (DaC1). **WBS:** 2 records on 2 Mar: 4 birds from LBathE and 2 birds from The Morass (both LeM1).

Brown Quail Coturnix ypsilophora

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 4 records (cf 10-yr average of 7.4, range 2-14): 2/17 Sep Murrumbidgee GrJ19 (McJ4), 2/9 Dec Barton Hwy GrlO7 (TaN1); groups of 6 and 15 /31 Mar LGin GrJ12 (AlB1). **GBS:** Recorded from a single site in Curtin: 1 record in Jul and 5 in Oct/Nov (AJR1).

WOO: I record: 2/3 Dec CAS (McD1).

## ANATIDAE: ducks, swan

**Plumed Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna eytoni* No records this year. Last recorded Oct 1998.

Vagrant

Blue-billed Duck Oxyura australis

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 5 records from Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 between Nov and Feb only.

Musk Duck Biziura lobata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 23 records from various locations, a 4-fold increase over last year, however, regular counts from Tin Hut Dam (S end of Googong Dam) GrO18 (CaN1) contribute 13 of these records. Breeding (di in Sep, Oct and dy in Jan) reported from Googong Dam.

Freckled Duck Stictonetta naevosa

Uncommon, Visitor

No records. This is the first time in at least 25 years that this species has not been recorded.

Black Swan Cygnus atratus

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 56 records, incl. 9 with breeding in Aug, Oct, Dec and Jun, from JWNP GrL14, LBG GrK13, ANU Campus GrK13, Tidbinbilla NR GrF18, and Bungendore GrS12.

**GBS:** 1 record of a single bird 5wk Oct from a site in O'Connor (Ball).

WOO: A single record from MUF 2/2 Jul (HaK1).

**WBS:** No breeding records.

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath 0 - 19 0 0 0 - 91 192 51 0

Australian Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadornoides</i> Uncommon, Breeding Migrant General: 14 records from various locations around Bungendore, LGeo, JWNP and LBath. A 3-fold increase in records over last year.  WBS:												
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec J	an F	eb N	lar Ap	r May	y Jun	1
LBath	0	-		0	68		-		140		0	6
LGeo	70	-	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australian Wood Duck Chenonetta jubata  Common, Breeding Resident General: 333 records including 22 with breeding. Birds reported from 121 of 780 grid cells (15.5%), the most widely distributed waterfowl.  GBS: Records from 18 sites, breeding (ih) indicated at 2 of them (Yarralumla and Reid).  WOO: 33 records from 9 of the 10 sites (not at RED).  WBS:												
,,25,	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec J	an F	eb M	lar Ap	r May	y Jun	1
LBath	0	-	0	9	18	0	-	20	5	0	0	0
Mallard Anas platyrhynchos Rare, Breeding Resident												
General: 5 records from 5 grid cells.  Pacific Black Duck Anas superciliosa General: 220 records from 11% of the COG grid cells of which 21 were breeding records.  GBS: Records from 9 sites of which 2 reported breeding.  WOO: 13 records from 5 sites, most commonly from MUF. No breeding records.  WBS:												
		_	-						lar Ap		•	_
LBath LGeo	0	-		5		0	-	56	25	-	2	0 -
Australasian Shoveler Anas rhynchotis  General: 26 records from 8 (1%) of COG cells, incl. di/3 Sep Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (CaN1).  WOO: A single record of three birds on 24 Jun from MUF.  WBS:  Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun												
LBath	0	-	0	2		0		1	_	0	0	2
LGeo	0	-	-	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grey Teal Anas gracilis General: 66 records from 4% of grid cells, no breeding. GBS: 9 records through the year from a site in Curtin, incl. dy 4wk Jan. WOO: 6 records from MJF (1), MUF (3) and SYM (2). WBS: No breeding records  Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath 0 - 15 0 166 0 - 106 320 44 80 120 LGeo 220 6 0 0												

Chestnut Teal Anas castanea

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 24 records from 7 grid cells, no breeding. WOO: A single record of 3 birds from MUF 2 Dec.

WBS:

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath 0 2 17 25 0 - 11 0 0 0 0

Pink-eared Duck Malacorhynchus membranaceus

Common, Visitor

General: 12 records from 3 grid cells comprising JWNP-Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (9),

Bungendore Sewage Ponds GrS13 (2), and 3 km NW of Bungendore GrR12 (1).

WBS: No records.

Hardhead Aythya australis

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 34 records from 14 grid cells, twice the number of records of last year. No

breeding.

WOO: Two records only, both from MUF GrL11: 3/17 Sep and 1/24 Jun.

WBS: LGeo: 4/25 Oct. LBath Morass 62/2 Mar (Feb survey).

PODICIPEDIDAE: grebes

Australasian Grebe Tachybaptus novaehollandiae Common, Breeding Resident

General: 116 records from 55 grid cells continues last year's increase but are still far short of the 237 records in 1988-89 during the atlas project. Records were widely distributed over the region and from all seasons: spring (27), summer (30), autumn (40), winter (19). Largest: 39/26 Apr, 22/31 Jan both CSR Readymix, Bungendore GrS12 (DeD2). 13 breeding records: first on/22 Oct Kaveneys Rd GrIO9 (FyM1), last br/24 Mar Long Gully dam GrK16 (BaB1). WOO: 8 non-breeding records of 1-6 birds at 2 sites: MUF (6), MJF (2).

WBS: No records for the second consecutive year.

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliocephalus poliocephalus* Common, Breeding Resident

General: 23 records from 9 grid cells, an increase on last year's 13 records from 5 grid cells.

Largest: 52/26 Apr CSR Readymix, Bungendore GrS12 (DeD2). No reports of breeding.

WOO: 1 record: 2/25 Mar MUF GrL11.

WBS: 1 record: 2/30 Sep LBthE GrY8 (LeM1). This is the smallest number reported at LBath since surveys began there in 1980. For the first time since 1989, when it again began to fill, there were no records from LGeo.

Great Crested Grebe Podiceps cristatus

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 1 record: 1/4 Sep Nerang Pool, Commonwealth Park GrL13 (WyP1).

ANHINGIDAE: darter

Darter Anhinga melanogaster

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 16 records from 6 grid cells. Of these records, 10 came from JWNP GrL14; 3 from other suburban lakes and wetlands in Canberra; 2 from CSR Readymix, Bungendore GrS12; and 1 from Tin Hut Dam, S end of Googong Dam GrO18. Largest: 6/4 Feb, 6/25 Apr both JWNP GrL14 (LuM1, BuM1).

GBS: A single record: 1/2wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

#### PHALACROCORACIDAE: cormorants

Little Pied Cormorant Phalacrocorax melanoleucos

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 95 records from 40 grid cells. Slightly down on last year's 102 records, but grid cells up from 34. Records more widely distributed this year, most coming from the central and NE part of the region and fewer from Canberra's urban lakes and wetlands. Largest: 10/4 Mar Tuggeranong Ck GrJ16 (RoP1). Breeding record: br/24 Nov Mitchell GrL12 (BuM1).

**GBS:** 1/4wk Jan Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**WOO:** 4 records through the year of 1 to 5 individuals from MUF GrL11.

WBS: Record numbers continue to decline: 4/30 Sep LBthE, 4/28 Mar The Morass.

#### Pied Cormorant Phalacrocorax varius

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 1/23 Feb Casuarina Sands GrG14 (BeR3). This is the first record since Jan 95 when 1 was recorded from LGeoS. Also 2 records which were not submitted for endorsement.

**Little Black Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* 

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 39 records from 15 grid cells, down from 67 records last year. Most in spring (13) and summer (16), with few in winter (1) and autumn (9). Largest numbers of individuals (820) were reported from Tin Hut Dam at the southern end of Googong Dam (Gr018).

WOO: 1 record: 2/2 Dec MUF GrL11.

WBS: Just 1 record: 7/25 Oct LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

#### **Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 38 records from 13 grid cells, down from 49 records last year. Most in spring (16) and summer (15), with few in winter (1) and autumn (5). 18 of the records came from Canberra's urban lakes and wetlands. Largest: 7/21 Oct JWNP GrL14 (McJ4).

**GBS:** 3 records: 1/4wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), 1/1wk Oct Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 2/5wk Oct Melba Gil1 1 (DaT1).

## PELECANIDAE: pelican

## Australian Pelican Pelecanus conspicillatus

Common, Visitor

**General:** 17 records from 5 grid cells which, after modest rises in more recent years, brings the reporting rate down to that of 1997-98. 13 of the records came from JWNP and LBG, 2 from Tidbinbilla NR, 1 from Point Hut and 1 from LGin. Largest: 8/21 Oct, 7/18 Jan, 7/4 Feb, 6/8 Oct all JWNP GrL14 (McJ4, GoJ3, LuM1, McI1).

**GBS:** 5 records: 1/3wk Oct Melba GrJ12 (MoM1), 11/3wk Nov, 9/2wk Jun both Melba GrJ12 (DaT1), 1/1wk Oct Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), 1/4wk Jul Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

## ARDEIDAE: herons, egrets, bitterns

## White-faced Heron Egretta novaehollandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 155 records from 73 grid cells which brings the reporting rate up to a level not seen since the completion of the Atlas project in 1988-89. Records were widely distributed over the region. Largest: 31/11 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (BeA2) (see also WBS), 10/18 Feb, 10/8 Mar Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (CaN1), most other records of 1-2 birds. Breeding: on/16 Aug Diddams Close LGin GrJ12 (GoP2) (this is unusually early), dy/31 Jan Tuggeranong Ck GrJ16 (RoP1).

December 2001

GBS: 62 records of 1-6 birds from 11 sites, similar to reporting levels of recent years. Most (42) again came from a site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) where it was recorded throughout the year. **WOO:** 7 records from HAL, MFS and NLN, incl. on/28 Sep, 21 Dec at HAL.

WBS: Recorded only from LBath:

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath
 0
 —
 2
 0
 2
 0
 —
 36
 39
 5
 0
 0

Little Egret Egretta garzetta

Rare, Visitor

No records in 2000-01. Last recorded in Jun 1998.

White-necked Heron Ardea pacifica

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 17 records from 14 grid cells spread over COG's Area of Concern which is similar to the last 2 year's level of reporting. The reported number of birds varied from 1 to 5.

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

**Great Egret** Ardea alba

Uncommon, Visitor

**General:** 12 records, all from JWNP GrL14 except for x/24 Nov Mitchell GrL12 (BuM1), 1/14 Jan Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11 (WyP1), 3/11 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (BeA2). **WBS:** 1/2 Mar LBthW GrY8, 2/2 Mar, 1/28 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

**Intermediate Egret** Ardea intermedia

Rare, Visitor

General: 1/18 Jan JWNP GrL14 (GoJ3). 5 other records not submitted for endorsement.

**GBS:** 1 record which was not submitted for endorsement.

Cattle Egret Ardea ibis

Uncommon, Visitor

The number of records has increased slightly.

General: 4 records from JWNP: 1/15 Jul, x/2 Dec, x/3 Mar, 1/4 Mar (GoJ3, BuM1, ScJ3).

**GBS:** 8 records of 1 or 2 birds from a site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1); 7 of them between 1wk

Jul and 3wk Aug, 1 from 2wk Jun.

WBS: 5/2 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

Nankeen Night Heron Nycticorax caledonicus

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** The number of records has increased slightly over those of the past 6 years: 1/30 Oct Rendezvous Ck, Namadgi NP GrH24 (DeD2), 2/7 Jan LGin GrJ12 (BuM1), x/25 Dec, 3/4 Feb, x/8 Feb, 1/29 Apr all JWNP GrL14 (WaJ2, LuM1, EnJ1, CoE1).

WOO: 1/17 Sep MUF GrL11.

WBS: 1/30 Sep LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

Little Bittern Ixobrychus minutus

Rare, Visitor

No records in 2000-01. Last recorded Nov 1994.

Australasian Bittern Botaurus poiciloptilus

Rare, Visitor

First records since 21 Sep 1998.

**General:** 2 records from Rose Lagoon GrU4: 2/12 Nov, 1/27 Jun (PeH2, ZwM1). There were also 2 records which were not submitted for endorsement.

WOO: 1 record which was not submitted for endorsement.

## THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills

Glossy Ibis Plegadis falcinellus

Rare, Visitor

No records in 2000-01. Last recorded 1 Nov 1999.

Australian White Ibis Threskiornis molucca

Common, Breeding Resident General: 51 records from 29 grid cells which, after last year's small fall, brings the number of records back to that of 1993-94. Most records from the low elevations of the central and NE part of COG's Area of Concern, and most in spring (13) and summer (26), with few in autumn (9) and winter (3). Largest: 100/15 Oct Hume GrL16 (GrB1), 100/19 Nov Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (WiS1). Breeding: ne/19 Nov Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (WiS1), br/16 Dec, 24 Dec Rose Lagoon GrU4 (BaG1, DrP1), br/27 Dec Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (WaJ2).

GBS: 62 records from 11 sites is the largest number yet reported. However, abundance (O.4985) remains below the high point of 1997-98 (O.628) and reflects the smaller group sizes being recorded. 25 of the records came from 2 sites in Holt where numbers of up to 100 birds were regularly recorded, particularly from 5wk Jul - 4wk Aug, and 2wk Feb - 1wk May. WOO: 2/2 Dec, 1/25 Mar MFS GrL11.

WBS: 2 records only: 12/2 Mar, 12/28 Mar both The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

## Straw-necked Ibis Threskiornis spinicollis

Common, Visitor

General: 17 records from 12 grid cells continues last year's low reporting rate. Largest: 64/11 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (BeA2); all others x or <9. Only 2 records from suburban playing fields: 2/4 Feb Hackett Oval GrL13 (LeB1), 2/6 May Eddison Park, Woden GrK15 (PeH2).

**GBS:** 40 records from 10 sites is a slight increase on last year's reporting rate. Most records (31) were in Mar-Jun, and most (31) from sites in Gilmore, Curtin, and Oueanbevan, Largest: 100/2wk Feb Kambah GrJ16 (WiS1), 53/5wk Apr Kambah GrJ16 (PeH2), all others <41. Abundance (O.1660) lower than last year reflecting the smaller group sizes being recorded.

WBS: 2 records only: 32/2 Mar, 73/28 Mar both The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

## Royal Spoonbill Platalea regia

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 10 records; 9 of them from JWNP. Largest: 7/4 Feb JWNP GrL14 (LuM1).

WOO: 1 record: 1/2 Dec MFS GrL11. WBS: 1/28 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

## Yellow-billed Spoonbil1 Platalea flavipes

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 5 records: 1/10 Sep GrXO3 (BeA2), 3/14 Nov Long Rail Gully Rd GrH5 (TaN1),

1/29 Nov Oakvale GrH7 (TaN1), 1/18 Jan, 1/4 Mar both JWNP GrL14 (GoJ3, ScJ3).

WBS: 1 record: 3/28 Mar The Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

# ACCIPITRIDAE: kites, harriers, goshawks, eagles

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Numbers up compared with previous 2 years, but within historical range. No breeding reports.

**General:** 28 records of 1-3 birds, most months, most areas.

**GBS:** 32 records of 39 birds in all, from 7 sites.

**WOO:** 2 records of single birds, 17 Dec TUG, 8 Apr NLN.

Black Kite Milvus migrans

Rare, Visitor

General: 1 record of a single bird, 2 Nov, Kambah (WiB1).

Whistling Kite Haliastur sphenurus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 2 records in Jul and Apr of single birds, a low recording rate for this species.

**GBS:** 1 record of a single bird, 4wk Sep, Kambah (PeH2).

**WOO:** 1 record of a single bird 2 Jul MUF GrL11 (LiB1).

White-bellied Sea-Eagle Haliaeetus leucogaster

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 1 record of 2 birds, 23 Mar, in the vicinity of Red Rocks Gorge, GrI16 (VeP1). This is another species which is probably under-reported.

**Spotted Harrier** Circus assimilis

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 2 records of a species which occurs sporadically in our region: 1/20 Apr Murrumbateman-Gundaroo Rd GrN8 (JoM2); 1/1 May Kellys Swamp GrL14 (RuB1).

Swamp Harrier Circus approximans

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records between Jul and Feb, including 3 from Wet Lagoon GrTO2, continuing the steady trend of low numbers of records of this species.

Brown Goshawk Accipiter fasciatus

Common, Breeding Resident

Consistently seen throughout the year in woodland and urban areas at a considerably increasing rate, though it remains unclear what this means in terms of overall numbers.

**General:** 56 records of mostly single birds from all areas and all months of the year.

**GBS:** 30 records over 29 weeks from 13 widely dispersed sites.

WOO: 5 records of 1-3 birds from GOO, MUF and TUG. Breeding: dy/17 Dec TUG.

WBS: 1 record of a single bird, 25 Oct LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

Grey Goshawk Accipiter novaehollandiae

Rare, Visitor

General: 2 unendorsed records.

Collared Sparrowhawk Accipiter cirrhocephalus

Common, Breeding Migrant

This year's records continue the upward trend of use of the urban and semi-rural environment by this species.

General: 10 records of single birds, from most months of the year.

**GBS:** 90 records of mainly single birds from 18 sites and in all months, an increase in records and sites over last year. Breeding: dy/2,4wk Jan, 4wk Mar, 2wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1).

**WOO:** 2 records; 1 of a single bird 24 Sep RED, 1 of 2 birds 17 Mar SYM.

## Wedge-tailed Eagle Aquila audax

Common, Breeding Resident

Records are well up on those of recent years but within historical parameters.

**General:** 100 records of 1-4 birds, widespread throughout the region in all months of the year. Breeding: ny/17 Sep Coppins Crossing GrI14 (FyM1); dy/29 Oct Jerrabomberra Hill GrM16 (VeP1); dy/7 Jan Krawarree (HeB1).

**GBS:** 21 records of 33 birds in total from 13 widely dispersed sites.

WOO: 2 records, 1 from each of SYM and TUG.

WBS: 1 record, 28 Mar, from LBath Morass GrZ8 (LeM1).

#### **Little Eagle** *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Records of this species have remained stable in recent years, at a fairly low level.

General: 13 records of single birds from mainly rural locations.

**GBS:** 12 records of single birds from 7 sites in Queanbeyan, Kambah and Watson. **WOO:** 3 records of single birds, in Sep, Oct and Jan, all from SYM GrK15 (DaG2).

WBS: 1 record of a single bird LGeoS 31 Jul GrsR9,11 (LeM1).

## FALCONIDAE: falcons, hobby, kestrel

#### Brown Falcon Falco berigora

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Records of this species have remained fairly stable in recent years.

**General:** 59 records of 1-2 birds in most months of the year, mainly from rural sites.

Breeding: ny/21 Oct, Curtin horse paddock, GrJ14 (BaB1).

**GBS:** 26 records of 29 birds, from 3 sites (Curtin, Queanbeyan, Melba) in most months.

WOO: 1 record of a single bird 23 Jul NLN GrK10 (BoJ1).

**WBS:** 6 records from LBathE and The Morass.

## Australian Hobby Falco longipennis

Common, Breeding Migrant

An established urban bird of prey, whose numbers appear to be rising.

General: 29 records of 1-2 birds from both urban and rural sites in most months of the year.

**GBS:** 85 records of 93 birds in total from 21 widely dispersed sites in all months.

## Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Continues to be reported regularly in low numbers.

**General:** 10 records of 1-2 birds from 9 grid cells and from most months of the year.

**GBS:** 19 records of mostly single birds, from 9 sites throughout the year.

**WOO:** 1 record of 1 bird 17 Dec TUG GrJ18 (McJ4).

## Nankeen Kestrel Falco cenchroides

Common, Breeding Resident

This species continues to be the most commonly reported bird of prey in the Canberra region. **General:** 177 records of mainly 1-2 but up to 5 birds from all months and locations. Breeding: ne/2, 28 Dec 'Callum Brae' GrL15 (BaB1); br/22 Oct Long Gully GrK16 (BaB1); ih/10 Sep Dog Trap Road GrO5 (BeC3); ny/22 Oct Dog Trap Road GrHO8 (FyM1); ny/4 Jan, cf/22 Jan, dy/26 Jan Burra Creek GrM21 (AnI1).

**GBS:** 48 records of 51 birds in total from 11 sites; 28 from a single site in Curtin (AJR1). **WOO:** 13 records from 5 sites (TUG, MJF, MUF, HAL and SYM) in spring and summer. **WBS:** 5 records from LBathE. The Morass and LGeoS.

# RALLIDAE: rails, crakes, swamphen, moorhen, coot

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

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** A single record, 1/7 Jan Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11 (WyP1), makes this the fifth year in the last eleven in which this species was recorded.

## Lewin's Rail Rallus pectoralis

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** A record of a single bird from 26-28 Dec at Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 (RuB1), (also 1 unendorsed record from Feb), is the first record of this species since Feb 1991.

## Baillon's Crake Porzana pusilla

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 2 records, 1/23 Sep Kellys Swamp (McJ4) and 1/30 Jan Fyshwick sewage ponds (McD1), both GrL14, makes this the fourth year in the last eleven with records.

## Australian Spotted Crake Porzana fluminea

Rare, Breeding Resident

No records this year. Recent records include 2 in 98-99 and 9 in 97-98.

## **Spotless Crake** *Porzana tabuensis*

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 6 records from Fyshwick sewage ponds GrL14 between 26 Jan and 10 Feb, involving up to 3 adults and 5 dy (RuB1, McD1, GoJ3, LuM1). These observations constitute the first definitive evidence of breeding by this species in the ACT (see Wilson 1999, *Birds of the ACT: two centuries of change*).

## Purple Swamphen Porphyrio porphyrio

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 70 records of 1-20 birds from throughout the year. Mainly from the urban lakes (LBG and environs incl. Jerrabomberra Wetlands (46), LGin (8), GunL (3) and LTug (1)) but also 1 from Yowani golf course GrL12, and several from around Bungendore and Goulburn. Only 2 of these records indicated breeding: dy/9 Jan Nerang Pool GrL13 (WyP1) and dy/1 Mar ANU GrK13 (PeH2).

## **Dusky Moorhen** Gallinula tenebrosa

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 93 records of 1-43 birds from throughout the year, mostly (51) from the main urban lake systems. 15 of these recorded breeding: 2 of nesting birds (on) in Oct, 8 of dy from late Oct to mid-Feb, and 5 in Nov/Dec (unspecified BA Atlas records). Locations where breeding was reported were Jerrabomberra Wetlands/ Kellys Swamp, ANU, Yowani golf course, Gungahlin Lakes golf course and Tidbinbilla NR.

**GBS:** A single record of 2 birds from a site in Curtin GrJ14 1wk Apr (AJR1).

## **Eurasian Coot** Fulica atra

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 104 records of up to 117 birds from throughout the year. Most records (62) were from the main urban lake systems, others coming from Googong Dam, Bungendore and Goulburn districts, and other scattered locations. Six records of breeding included 2 of nesting (on) at ANU in Nov (PeH2), 1 of a nest with eggs at Tidbinbilla NR on 19 Nov (WiS1), dy at Dog Trap Road GrHO8 on 22 Oct (FyM1) and near Hall GrI11 on 16 Jan (HaK1), and another unspecified record on 6 Nov (BA Atlas record).

**WOO:** 3 records: 3/17 Sep and 5/2 Dec at MUF (LiB1, LiJ1), and 2/3 Dec at MJF (HoJ1). **WBS:** For the first time since surveys began there in 1980, no coots were recorded at LBath/LGeo.

## **TURNICIDAE:** button-quail

## Painted Button-quail Turnix varia

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 8 scattered records of 1-3 birds, all seasons: 2/19 Aug Turallo Rg (TaN1), 2/7 Oct Tallerack GrI10 (AlB1), 1/26 Oct Ainslie tip GrL13 (ScB2), 1/21 Dec Gold Creek GrK10 (FyM1), 1/18 Feb GrQ21 (BrM2), 1/14 Mar Black Mtn GrK13 (TaN1), 1/12 Apr Ainslie/ Majura saddle GrM13 (ScB2), 3/22 May O'Malley GrK15 (TaN1).

**WOO:** A single record of 2 birds from MJF (GrN14) on 3 Dec (BaJ1).

## SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies

The dry conditions of the LGeo-LBath systems meant that very few waterbirds were recorded this year, many of the less common visitors being completely absent. These included the: **Bar-tailed Godwit** (last recorded Oct 1996), **Little Curlew** (last recorded Oct 1997), **Marsh Sandpiper** (last recorded Mar 2000), **Ruddy Turnstone** (last recorded Dec 1999), **Red Knot** (last recorded Nov 1999 at Fyshwick sewage ponds, a first record for the ACT, but last WBS record was Oct 1996), **Pectoral Sandpiper** (last recorded Oct 1997), **Curlew Sandpiper** (last recorded Dec 1999), and **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** (last recorded Sep 1997).

Latham's Snipe Gallinago hardwickii

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 7 records from 6 grid cells. More widely reported than last year. **WBS:** LBath 3/28 Nov, 3/28 December; numbers similar to last year.

Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia

Uncommon, Migrant

**WBS:** 1 record: 1/30 Sep LBath, the first record since Nov 1997.

Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos

Rare, Migrant

**General:** A single record, 1/23 Feb Uriarra Crossing GrG13 (PeB1), follows a record from the same location in Sep 1999. Previously not recorded since Apr 1994.

Red-necked Stint Calidris ruficollis

Rare, Migrant

WBS: Just 2 records: LBathE 1/30 Sep, 2/2 Mar (Feb survey).

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata* **WBS:** A single record: LBathE 1/30 Sep.

Common, Migrant

RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* 

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 2 records: 2/11 Mar LBath (BeA2), 1/23 Jun Bungendore Sewage Ponds (GoJ3).

**WBS:** 3 records: 1/30 Sep The Morass, 7/30 Sep LBathE, 1/29 Apr The Morass.

No records for **Banded Stilt** (last recorded Feb 1998) or **Red-necked Avocet** (Mar 1998).

CHARADRIIDAE: plovers, dotterels, lapwings

Pacific Golden Plover Pluvialis fulva

Rare, Migrant

WBS: 1 record: 4/28 Nov LBathE.

Red-capped Plover Charadrius ruficapillus

Common, Breeding Resident

**WBS**:

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath
 0
 27
 10
 53
 0
 77
 0
 0
 0

**Double-banded Plover** Charadrius bicinctus

Uncommon, Migrant

No records. Last recorded Jun 2000.

December 2001

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

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 28 records from 14 grid cells. No breeding records.

**WOO:** 3 records all from MUF GrL11.

Red-kneed Dotterel Erythrogonys cinctus

Uncommon, Visitor

WBS: 1 record: 2/31 Jul LGeoS GrR11 (LeM1).

**Banded Lapwing** Vanellus tricolor

Rare, Breeding Visitor

WBS: 3 records: 4/31 Jul LBathE, 12/30 Sep LBathE, 19/27 Nov LBathW.

Masked Lapwing Vanellus miles

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 124 records from 7.3% of grid cells. Breeding observations well under-represented with only 2 records: on/26 Aug JWNP GrL14 (McI1), dy/25 Sep Belconnen GrJ12 (LeA1). **GBS:** Records throughout the year from 25 sites, with observations of breeding, dy from

5wk Oct to 2wk Dec, from a site in Queanbeyan only. **WOO:** 2 records only: 2/17 Sep MUF, 2/3 Dec MJF.

**WBS**:

Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun LBath 6 - 11 0 61 0 - 28 36 6 0 10

## LARIDAE: gulls and terns

Silver Gull Larus novaehollandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 28 records from 9 grid cells, most commonly from JWNP GrL14. **GBS:** 8 records; 1 from Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) and 7 from Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**WBS:** No breeding records

 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun

 LBath
 0
 -465
 67
 77
 0
 30
 32
 0
 0
 0

 LGeo
 200
 0
 0

Whiskered Tern Chlidonias hybridus

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 1 record: 1/25 Nov Bungendore GrS12 (WiS1). **WBS:** 1 record: 9/30 Sep The Morass GrZO8 (LeM1).

#### COLUMBIDAE: pigeons and doves

Rock Dove Columba livia

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Of the 90 records all but 2 were from Canberra, Queanbeyan and Gundaroo. Others were 1/6 Aug Witts Ck GrW21 (BrM2), x/25 Nov Little Bombay GrY17 (BuM2).

**GBS:** Reported regularly from 9 sites with counts of up to 30, 40 and 50 birds at sites in Curtin, Hackett and Queanbeyan. Abundance fell but remains 18% above the long-term average. Distribution (F) was also down and is now 16% below the long-term measure.

White-headed Pigeon Columba leucomela

Rare, Visitor

One record, this year from a new location. **GBS:** 1/1wk Oct Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1).

**Spotted Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Reports suggest there may already be a resident population in Queanbeyan and that the species is slowly spreading through Canberra. It is important that the bird's status be constantly monitored and members are encouraged to report all sightings.

General: 2/24 Jun Ngunnawal GrL11 (ZwM1). Also 4 unendorsed reports.

**GBS:** Records of single birds from 2 sites in Kambah: 16 Jul GrJ15 (WiB1) and 2 Jun GrJ16 (PeH2). Also from 2 sites in Queanbeyan GrN15: 1-2 birds for 24 of the 52 weeks (LuM1); and 1-3 birds for 35 weeks from 1wk Oct - 4wk Jun (WaK1). Also 1 other unendorsed record.

**Common Bronzewing** *Phaps chalcoptera* 

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 105 records from all months but most during Oct-Feb. No reports of breeding. **GBS:** Records from 6 sites close to bushland. A site in Chapman (HoJ1) accounted for many of the records with counts of up to 12 birds for 46 weeks. A site in Holder (AsM1) recorded up to 4 birds for 44 weeks 4. 13 records from 4 other sites in 7/1wk Apr Hackett (MiP4).

WBS: 2/28 Nov LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

**WOO:** 14 records of 1-2 birds from HAL, MAJ, MJF, MUF and TUG.

## **Brush Bronzewing** *Phaps elegans*

Rare, Breeding Resident

No records this year. Last recorded Jan 1999.

Crested Pigeon Ocyphaps lophotes

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 237 records (133 last year), most from the NW of the region through to Canberra and Queanbeyan. Some E to Tarago, Bungendore and Ballalaba and S to Burra Creek and Michelago. Breeding: ne/1 Jul Weston GrJ15 (LeJ1), on/29 Nov Dog Trap Rd GrH9 (TaN1), on/4 Feb Jamison Centre GrJ13 (FyM1), ny/18 Mar Cook GrJ13 (FyM1); also br/7 Oct - 4 Nov Farrer GrK16 (BaB1).

**GBS:** Reported from 51 of 55 sites, with counts of 10-16 birds not unusual. Largest: 26, 29/1wk-3wk May Queanbeyan GrN15 (WaK1) and 31/2wk May Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). Abundance (A) has risen each year since 1986-87, this year by 8%.

**WBS:** 3 records: 2/25 Oct and 2/28 Nov LBathE GrY8, 2/28 Mar Morass GrZ8 (all LeM1). **WOO:** 26 records from all seasons, from MAJ(2), MUF(2), NLN(9), SYM(4) and TUG(9).

**Diamond Dove** *Geopelia cuneata* One unendorsed GBS record.

Vagrant/Escapee

Peaceful Dove Geopelia striata

Rare, Breeding Resident

**General:** 8 records during the period 24 Sep to 22 Apr. All from locations where this species has been recorded previously — 'Callum Brae' GrL15 (4), Gigerline GrJ19 (2), Cavan GrF7 and TSR 57 nr 'Kirawin' GrE8.

**GBS:** 1 record: 1/1wk Jul Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1). **WOO:** 1 record: 1/17 Sep MUF GrL10 (BoJ1).

Wonga Pigeon Leucosarcia melanoleuca

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 15 records of up to 4 birds and covering all months. Principally (11 records) from Namadgi NP and the Brindabella Ranges but also from Tallaganda SF and Deua NP in the east of the region.

**CACATUIDAE:** cockatoos

Glossy Black-Cockatoo Calyptorhynchus lathami

Rare, Visitor

General: 1 record: 3/20 Nov Gibraltar Falls GrG18 (GoP2).

**Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus funereus* Common, Breeding Resident Continued growth in records from suburban sites.

**General:** 132 records. Largest flock 100/16 Sep Bluetts Forest GrI13 (A1B1). 4 breeding records: dy/8 Nov Pine Island GrJ17 (WhJ1), dy/18 Feb Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (PeH2), dy/10 Mar Molonglo River GrH13 (NeS1), dy/12 May Hardy Rd GrO20 (BrM2).

**GBS:** Records from 20 sites, most consistently and largest numbers (up to 130 birds) from sites in Gilmore (GrB1) and Duffy (WiM1). Abundance (O.6541) up from 1999-2000 (O.4722).

Gang-gang Cockatoo Callocephalon fimbriatum

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 108 records, including 2 breeding records: dy/18 Feb Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (PeH2), dy/28 Jun Burra Ck GrM21 (AnI1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 75% of sites. Abundance (O.7241) down from 1999-2000, continuing u decline from 1997-98 (1.0325). Breeding: ih/3 wk Nov Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1).

WOO: 7 records from CAS (1 in Mar), MUF (1 in Mar), RED (5 in Sep and Dec).

Galah Cacatua roseicapilla

Common, Breeding Resident

Canberra's most abundant GBS bird for the fourth year running.

**General:** 707 records, of up to 60 birds, including 9 breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from all 55 sites. Abundance (7.8520) down from 1999-2000 (8.3494) but still above the long-term average. Breeding recorded from 11 sites.

**WOO:** 161 records from all sites, and in all seasons. Breeding recorded from MAJ and TUG in Sep.

**WBS:** 7 non-breeding records from LBath and The Morass.

**Long-billed Corella** Cacatua tenuirostris

Vagrant/Escapee

GBS: 14 records of a single bird between 3wk Sep and 3wk May from a site Downer (GoJ3).

Little Corella Cacatua sanguinea

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The Little Corella appears to be continuing to increase in numbers in the Canberra region.

**General:** 18 records including 2 breeding records: on/29 Nov 11 km SSW of Murrumbateman GrH8 (TaN1), on/1 Dec 4.5 km NW of Murrumbateman GrH5 (TaN1).

**GBS:** Records from 13 sites. Abundance (O.1354) much greater than 1999-2000 (O.0414). WOO: 2 records from SYM in Sep and Oct, incl. ih/3 Sep.

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo Cacatua leadbeateri

Escapee

General: 1/26 Aug Gundaroo GrO7 (MaD1), and 1 unendorsed record from the same place.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo Cacatua galerita

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 770 records of up to 200 birds. Just 4 breeding records between Aug and Dec. **GBS:** Recorded from all sites. Abundance (7.4273) slightly down from 1999-2000 (7.7329)

but still above the long-term average. Breeding recorded from 4 sites.

**WOO:** 132 records from all sites; no breeding reported.

**WBS:** 3 records from The Morass: 6/30 Sep, 30/2 Mar (Feb survey), 7/28 Mar.

December 2001

Cockatiel Nymphicus hollandicus

Vagrant/Escapee

**General:** 1 record: x/8 Nov RAAF Fairbairn GrM14 (ScK1).

GBS: 5 single-bird records from a site in Queanbeyan 2wk Sep - 2wk Jan GrN15 (WaK1).

PSITTACIDAE: lorikeets, parrots

Rainbow Lorikeet Trichoglossus haematodus

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 29 records. 27 of them of 1-8 birds from Aug-May in Hawker GrI12, incl dy/8, 14 Dec (all LeA1). Also 1/7 Dec GrGO5 (TaN1), 2/22 May Yass golf club GrFO3 (HaK1). GBS: Recorded sporadically from 2 sites: 3 records of 1-8 birds in Page GrJ12 (A1B1), 4 records of single bird in Cook GrJ14 (TaN1).

Little Lorikeet Glossopsitta pusilla

Rare, Visitor

General: 1 record: 5/14 Oct Hawker GrI12 (LeA1).

Australian King-Parrot Alisterus scapularis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 173 non-breeding records of usually 1-5, but up to 22, birds.

**GBS:** Seen in 53 of 55 sites. Abundance (2.3635) up on 1999-2000 (2.1331). Breeding, all

dy between 3wk Jan and 2wk Mar, recorded from 10 sites.

**WOO:** 13 records from CAS (1), MAJ (8), NLN (1) and RED (3).

Superb Parrot Polytelis swainsonii

Uncomrnon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 56 records between 15 Sep - 5 Jan; 7 of them from the Hall-Fraser area GrI10-J11; 1 from Mt Ainslie GrM13; the remainder from around Murrumbateman. 9 breeding records: ih, on, ny from several sites around Murrumbateman, dy from Mt Rogers in Fraser.

GBS: 2 records: 6/4 wk Dec, 5/1wk Jan Melba GrJ11 (DaT1).

Regent Parrot Polytelis anthopeplus

Escapee

**GBS:** 1 record: 1/2wk Aug Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

Crimson Rosella Platycercus elegans

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 1227 records including 17 breeding records.

GBS: Recorded from all sites. Abundance (3.7082) up from 1999-2000 (3.5037) but has not

yet returned to 1997-98 levels (3.9093). Breeding recorded from 10 sites. **WOO:** 251 records from all sites incl. ih at MJF and RED in Dec.

Eastern Rosella Platycercus eximius

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 625 records including 7 breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites. Abundance (1.5782) similar to 1999-2000 (1.5860). Breeding recorded from 6 sites.

WOO: 153 records from all sites incl. ih from MAJ in Sep and ih from RED in Dec.

**WBS:** 3 records of 2 birds from LBath Morass in Sep, Nov and Apr.

**Australian Ringneck** Barnardius zonarius

Escapee

No records in 2000-2001. Last recorded Oct 1998.

Swift Parrot Lathamus discolor

Rare, Migrant

No records in 2000-2001. Last recorded Apr 2000.

Red-rumped Parrot Psephotus haematonotus

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 171 records including 4 breeding records.

GBS: Recorded from 18 sites (33%). Abundance (O.1434) significantly down from 1999-

2000 (O.2972) continuing a long-term decline.

WOO: 41 records from CAS (10), HAL (3), MJF (5), NLN (15), RED (3) and TUG (5).

**Budgerigar** Melopsittacus undulatus

Vagrant/Escapee

GBS: 1 record: 1/1 wk Feb Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1).

Peachface Lovebird Agapornis roseicollis

Escapee

GBS: 1/1wk Jan Kambah GrJ16 (PeH2), and 1 other unendorsed record.

CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel

Pallid Cuckoo Cuculus pallidus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 161 widespread records. This is the largest number of records since the final year of the ACT Atlas project 1988-89. First 1/13 Aug TSR 48 Nelanglo GrO5 (WiP1), last 1/25 Feb Burra Creek GrM21 (Anil). Includes 8/30 Sep Tharwa GrJ19 (WiS1), 6/15 Oct Hume GrL16 (GrB1) and 6/30 Oct Royalla GrL19 (WiS1). Breeding: dy(Yellow-faced Honeyeater)/30 Jan Cook GrJ13 (FyM1), dy(White-plumed Honeyeater)/3 Feb Wallaroo Rd G1110 (AlB1).

**GBS:** Records from 20 sites. First 1/4wk Aug Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1), last 1/4wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (BrM2). Abundance (A) last year reached its highest point since the first half of the 198Os. This year it fell back to the generally lower levels of the 199Os and was close to the average for all previous years of the survey. Breeding: dy(Yellow-faced Honeyeater)/4wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (BrM2).

WBS: 1/25 Oct LBathÉ GrY8 (LeM1).

**WOO:** Total of 56 records; 30 in spring from all sites but NLN and TUG, incl. 5/7 Oct SYM GrK15 (DaG2); and 26 in summer from all but NLN.

Brush Cuckoo Cacomantis variolosus

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 17 records this year from 13 observers. Widely spread across the region. First 1/16 Sep Bluetts Forest GrI13 (A1B1), last 2/29 Mar Tidbinbilla NR GrF17 (LiJ1).

WOO: 1/2 Dec MUL GrL11 (HaH1).

Fan-tailed Cuckoo Cacomantis flabelliformis

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 105 records from all months, but more than half in spring, 23 in summer, 15 in autumn and 9 in winter. Widely spread across the whole region. No reports of breeding.

**GBS:** 15 records from 10 sites compared with the single record last year. However, the measure of abundance (A) remains 45% below the average for all previous years of the survey. Reports were confined to two periods, 5wk Jul - 3wk Oct and 4wk Jan - 2wk Apr.

**WOO:** 9 records of single birds, 5 in spring at CAS (1) MAJ (2), MUF (3) and TUG (1); and 2 in Mar at HAL and SYM.

**Black-eared Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx osculans* One unconfirmed report.

Rare, Visitor

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo Chrysococcyx basalis

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 84 records, up from 64 last year and 22 in 1998-99. First 1/8 Aug Mundays Lane GrIO8 (HaK1), last 1/22 Apr Tharwa sandwash GrJ19 (TaN1). 3 breeding records: dy(Buffrumped Thornbill)/27 Oct Yass/Wee Jasper Rd GrCO7 (FyM1), dy(Superb Fairy-wren)/2 Dec Campbell Pk GrM13 (McI1), dy(White-plumed Honeyeater)/17 Feb corner of Point Hut and Tidbinbilla Roads GrI18 (McJ4).

**GBS:** 1/4wk Aug Kambah (WiS1), 1/2wk Sep Kambah (VeP1) and 9 records 2wk Oct - 3wk Dec at a site in Curtin (AJR1). Abundance (A) remains 38% below the average for all previous years of the survey. Breeding: dy(Superb Fairy-wren)/2wk-3wk Feb Garran (JoN1). **WOO:** 9 records of single birds during the spring surveys at GOO, HAL, MJF, MUF (4), RED and SYM. And 11 records of single birds during the summer surveys at GOO, HAL, MAJ, MJF (2), MUL, NLN (3), RED and SYM.

WBS: 1 record: 1/25 Oct LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

## Shining Bronze-Cuckoo Chrysococcyx lucidus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 47 records, 35 during the 3 months of spring, 9 in Dec, and only 3 after that. First 1/31 Aug 'Bowylie', Gundaroo GrO8 (TaN1), last 1/31 Mar Brooks Hill Res GrR14 (McJ4). **GBS:** 16 records from 5 sites. Up on last year but still 22% below the average figure for all previous years of the survey. First 1/3wk Sep Chapman GrI15 (Will) and Queanbeyan GrN15 (LuM1), last 1/1wk Dec Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1).

**WOO:** 14 records of 1 or 2 birds during the spring surveys at GOO (2), HAL (3), MAJ (2), MJF (3), MUF (2), RED and SYM. 3 during summer surveys: MUL (2) and MJF.

Common Koel Eudynamys scolopacea

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 1/29 Dec Cook GrJ13 (FyM1).

**GBS:** 9 records from 4 sites: 1/3wk Dec, 1wk Jan Kambah (McD1, WiS1), 1/3wk Dec Melba (DaT1), 1/2wk, 4wk Nov, 2wk, 3wk Dec Hackett (LeB1). Also 31 unendorsed records from 15 sites.

**WOO:** 1 unendorsed report.

Channel-billed Cuckoo Scythrops novaehollandiae

Vagrant

GBS: 1/1wk Dec Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1). Also 1 unendorsed report.

STRiGIDAE: hawk owls

No records of Powerful Owl (last recorded Jan 1999) or Barking Owl (Apr 1998).

Southern Boobook Ninox novaeseelandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

Reported at a steady rate. No breeding reported, though studies by J. Olsen show otherwise. **General:** 34 records of mainly single birds from widely dispersed sites and from most months.

**GBS:** 52 records of mainly single birds from 19 sites.

**WOO:** 1 record of a single bird 24 Sep RED GrK14 (PeH2).

TYTONIDAE: masked owls

Barn Owl Tyto alba

Rare, Visitor

5 unendorsed records.

PODARGIDAE: frogmouths

Tawny Frogmouth Podargus strigoides Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 5 records of 1-2 birds, between Nov and May.

GBS: 29 records from 4 sites of 1-3 birds, 23 records from one site in Cook GrJ13 (BrM2).

**WOO:** 1 record of a single bird 3 Dec CAS GrJ18 (McD1).

AEGOTHELIDAE: owlet-nightjar

Australian Owlet-nightjar Aegotheles cristatus Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 17 records, all of single birds, principally from the Sutton Road area. **GBS:** 15 records from 2 sites, 14 from a site on Sutton Rd, all of single birds.

APODIDAE: swifts

White-throated Needletail Hirundapus caudacutus Common, Migrant

General: 27 records; including a single early record on 9 Dec at Farrer GrK16 (1301), the

remainder, of up to 100 birds, in the period 20 Jan to 8 Apr.

GBS: 32 records from 14 sites in the period 2wk Jan - 4wk Mar. 18 of the 32 records were in

March and 10 of these were in the third week of March.

ALCEDINIDAE: kingfishers

Azure Kingfisher Alcedo azurea Rare, Visitor

General: A single record: 1/17 Jun Witts Ck GrW21 (BrM2).

HALCYONIDAE: kookaburra, kingfishers

Laughing Kookaburra Dacelo novaeguineae Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 448 times throughout the year but only 5 breeding records: ih/12 Oct Springfield GrYO4 (DeD2); dy/30 Nov, 2 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1, McI1); dy/6 Dec Gungahlin CNP GrK12 (FyM1); and dy/30 Jan ANU GrK13 (PeH2).

**GBS:** recorded from 40 sites (73%). Abundance (O.2243) has dropped slightly from last year to level of previous 2 years. 3 breeding records: ny/2wk Dec Hackett GrL12 (MiP4), dy/4wk Dec O'Connor GrK13 (Ball), and dy/2wk, 4wk Mar Macquarie GrJ13 (LaS1).

**WOO:** Recorded 74 times throughout the year at all sites. No breeding recorded.

WBS: 1 record: 2/28 Dec LBathE GrYO8(LeM1).

Sacred Kingfisher Todiramphus sanctus

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 67 records of 1-3 birds between 1 Sep and 10 Apr. Only 1 breeding record: cf/25 Jan Mt Ainslie (ScB2).

**GBS:** A total of 12 records of single birds from 9 sites; 3 records in Oct, the others in the period of 4wk Jan - 1wk Mar.

**WOO:** 10 records: MJF (1 in Sep); CAS (2 in Oct); and MUF (4), GOO (2), NLN (1) all in Dec.

MEROPIDAE: bee-eater

**Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus*Common, Breeding Migrant General: 23 records of up to 16 birds between 30 Oct and 23 Mar. No breeding recorded.

**WOO:** 4 records from TUG: 1/16 Sep; 4, 1, and 1 at 3 sub-sites 17 Dec (GrI18-J18).

## **CORACIIDAE:** dollarbird

**Dollarbird** Eurystomus orientalis

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

Breeding records have dwindled to nothing. Is this due to lack of observation or tree hollows?

General: 49 records in the period 8 Oct to 3 Mar. No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** 48 records from 17 sites. First: 1/1wk Oct in Campbell GrL13 (CIS1), last: 4wk Mar

Hackett GrL13 (MiP4). No breeding recorded.

WOO: 1 record of 2 birds at MAJ (GrM12) on 21 Dec.

## **MENURIDAE:** lyrebird

Lyrebird Menura novaehollandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 33 records throughout the year. No breeding recorded.

# **CLIMACTERIDAE:** treecreepers

**White-throated Treecreeper** *Cormobates leucophaeus* Common, Breeding Resident General: 536 records from throughout the region including 2 breeding records: nb/29 Oct Jerrabomberra Hill GrM16 (VeP1) and nb/30 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1).

**GBS**: Records of 1-4 birds from 4 sites (3 from Belconnen, 1 from Kambah) largely consistent with the pattern of previous years, though all values are lower than the long-term average.

**WOO:** 155 records from all sites throughout the year. No breeding reported.

**Red-browed Treecreeper** *Climacteris erythrops* Uncommon, Breeding Resident General: 13 records, all from Namadgi area except 4/11 Dec Tallaganda SF GrV19 (MoM3).

**Brown Treecreeper** Climacteris picumnus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 72 records from throughout the region including 1 breeding record: cf/24 Sep 'Bibaringa' GrH15 (HaS4).

Bibaniiga Giff13 (flas4).

WOO: 12 records, 8 from CAS and 4 from NLN. Again no records from MUF.

## MALURIDAE: fairy-wren

Superb Fairy-wren Malurus cyaneus

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 1043 records from throughout the region. Only 9 breeding records during Oct-Feb. GBS: Recorded from 42 sites (76%). All values slightly higher than the long-term average.

Only 1 breeding record: dy/1wk Feb Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1).

WOO: 118 records from all sites throughout the year.

WBS: 1 record of 5 birds from LBath on 28 Dec.

## PARDALOTIDAE: pardalotes, scrubwrens, gerygones, thornbills and allies

**Spotted Pardalote** Pardalotus punctatus

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 446 records compared with 375 last year and 262 in 1998-99. Covered all months with highest number in Sep (52) and lowest in Jun (18). Just 2 breeding records: nb/3 Oct upper Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2), nb/10 Oct O'Connor GrK13 (TaN1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 48 of 55 sites (87%). A slight drop in abundance (A) but the level remained above the average figure for all previous years of the survey. Usual decline in numbers late spring to early autumn. Breeding reports: nb/3wk Sep Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1), ny/4wk Dec Yarralumla GrK14 (CCR1).

**WOO:** Recorded at all sites and all seasons: spring (53), summer (15), autumn (18) and winter (25). Included counts of 22, 25 and 32/24 Sep CAS GrJ18 (McD1).

**Striated Pardalote** *Pardalotus striatus* 

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** 689 records. Rising numbers through early spring to a peak in Oct (114 records), then after Jan (100) falling steadily to the lowest monthly total in Jun (19). 18 breeding records including ih/21 Sep to 5 Dec, co/22 Oct Black Mtn GrK13 (GrT1), first on/25 Nov O'Connor GrK13 (GrT1), last on/24 Feb Hawker GrI12 (LeA1), first ny/15 Oct Burin. *Ck* GrM2 I (AnI1), last ny/17 Jan GrR12 (HaK1).

**GBS:** Records from 41 sites (75%). Abundance (A) has fluctuated over the past 4 years and a rise last year (112%) was followed this year by a fall of 29% to a level 34% below the average value for all preceding years of the survey. Most records in the spring months Sep to Nov. **WOO:** 214 records from all sites; in spring (59 records), summer (61), autumn (39) and

Pilotbird Pycnoptilus floccosus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 1/1 Oct Corin Rd GrE19 (TaN1), 1/17 Feb Fishing Gap trail GrF18 (McJ4).

White-browed Scrubwren Sericornis frontalis

winter (32). Breeding indications: di and ih/3 Dec RED.

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 364 records compared with 190 last year. Evenly distributed over all months. Only 1 breeding record: nb/27 Jul Duffy GrI14 (JoD1).

**GBS:** 286 records from 27 sites (49%), most in summer and autumn. Abundance (A) fell slightly this year, however the overall upward trend continues, from O.055 in 1984-85 to 0.2130 this year. Distribution (F) also continues to rise climbing from 12% in 1984-85 to 49% this year. Breeding: dy/2wk Sep Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1), dy/3wk Nov Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2).

WOO: Only 4 records: 1/24 Sep CAS, 1/3 Dec RED, 1/10 Dec NLN and 2/23 Jun CAS.

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren Hylacola pyrrhopygia

Uncommon, Resident

**General:** 2 records: 2/26 Nov Mundoonen NR GrJ3 (JoM2); and 2/7 Apr Shoalhaven River GrZ16 (TaN1), another new location for this species in our region.

Speckled Warbler Chthonicola sagittata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 108 records, another increase and the largest number since 1988-89 the last year of the ACT Atlas project. Covering all months and from many parts of the region. Including: 6/5 Nov TSR 57, Mountain Creek Rd GrE8 (BoJ1), 6/10 May Mt Ainslie GrL13 (ScB2). Two breeding records: dy/22 Oct Bluetts Forest GrI13 (A1B1), dy/12 Jan Bungendore Rd GrR12 (DeD2).

GBS: Records from only 2 sites: 4/3wk Jun Cook GrJ13 (BrM2), 1/1wk Jan, 3wk Feb, 3wk-4wk Mar Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1). Both abundance (A) and distribution (F) well down. WOO: 27 records from all sites except MJF and HAL, in all seasons. Included counts of 4/3 Sep SYM, 4/24 Sep RED, 5/27 Jan SYM and 4/30 Jun MAJ.

**Weebill** *Smicrornis* brevirostris

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 436 records, up on 209 last year. Breeding: nb/30 Nov Campbell Pk GrM13 (CoE1), ne/14 Jan Kelly Rd GrL21 (HoJ1).

GBS: 461 records from 32 sites (58%), mainly in spring and autumn. Values for abundance (A) and distribution (F) up again this year, abundance being just above the average for all previous years. No breeding records. **WOO:** 196 records from all sites and all seasons, of up to 30 birds.

Western Gerygone Gerygone fusca

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 43 records (42 last year and 40 in 1998-99). First: 2/6 Sep Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1), last: 2/25 Mar Hall GrJ11 (BeD1). Breeding: dy/17 Feb Old Joe trig GrM11 (TaN1).

GBS: 6 records of single birds from 4 sites. First: 1/2wk Oct Hackett GrL13 (LeB1), last: 1/2wk May Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

WOO: 46 records from all sites except SYM, RED and CAS. Most (26) in summer, with 17 in spring and 3 in autumn.

White-throated Gerygone Gerygone olivacea

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 135 records. First: 1/17 Sep MUF GrL10 (BoJ1), last: 1/5 Apr Campbell Park GrM13 (MoM3) and Burra Ck GrM21 (AnI1). Breeding: nb/16 Oct Bungendore Rd GrR12 (DeD2).

GBS: Just 2 records of single birds from sites in Chapman and Holt. The long-term downward trend continues with abundance (A) and distribution (F) now at their lowest levels. WOO: 78 records from all sites except TUG, in spring (32), summer (33) and autumn (13).

**Brown Thornbil1** Acanthiza pusilla

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 554 records through the year (291 last year, 176 in 1998-99). Breeding: ny/18 Oct TSR 49 GrM5, cf and dy/21 Oct Brooks Hill Res GrR14, dy/20 Nov Smokers Gap GrF19.

GBS: Recorded from 40 sites (73%). Overall A and F values steadily increasing from A=O.111, F=29 in 1984-85 to A=O.3832, F=73 this year. No breeding reported.

WOO: 28 records from all sites except NLN, and all seasons. Breeding: ny/30 Sep MJF.

WBS: 2/25 Oct LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

**Buff-rumped Thornbill** Acanthiza reguloides

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 392 records (254 last year), 6 with breeding (nb, cf, dy) from 18 Nov to 11 Feb.

**GBS:** 44 records from 8 sites, mainly in summer and autumn.

WOO: 111 records from all sites, and all seasons, incl. nb/16 Sep TUG GrK18 (McJ4).

Yellow-rumped Thornbil1 Acanthiza chrysorrhoa

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 617 records (318 last year) from all months with a peak in Oct. 17 breeding records: first nb 30 Jul, first dy 10 Sep, last dy 7 Jan.

**GBS:** Recorded from 50 of 55 sites (91%). Breeding reported from 9 sites including nb/1wk Aug Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1), there was double nesting in this nest.

WOO: 68 records from all sites, incl. nb/6 Aug TUG and nb/17 Sep MUF. WBS: 3/31 Jul Morass GrZ8, 4/25 Oct LBathE GrY8, 2/9 Jun Morass GrZ8 (all LeM1).

#### Yellow Thornbill Acanthiza nana

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 91 records throughout the year (compared with 37 last year), Incl. 30/11 Jul

Casuarina Sands GrG14 (BeR3). No reports of breeding.

GBS: 65 records from 9 sites, incl. 1-3 birds for 47 of 52 weeks in Chapman GrJ15 (Hall). Abundance (A) and distribution (F) up on last year and both well above the average figures for all previous years of the survey. 1 breeding record: nb/5wk Jul Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1).

WOO: 3 records: 2/11 Jul CAS, 4/25 Mar MUF and 1/8 Apr NLN.

WBS: 3 records from LBathE GrY8: 3/25 Oct, 3/28 Nov, 5/28 Dec (all LeM1).

## Striated Thornbill Acanthiza lineata

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 363 records (227 last year). Breeding: nb/31 Aug Gundaroo GrO8 (TaN1), ny/27 Oct Uriarra TSR GrH14 (FyM1), and 5 records of dy from 14 Oct to 18 Nov.

GBS: A total of 79 records from 20 sites, mainly in summer and autumn. Following the plunge in the values of abundance (A) and distribution (F) last year there was a small turnaround bringing both values back closer the averages for all previous years.

WOO: 61 records from all sites except NLN. Largest numbers of birds recorded in winter. Breeding: nb/17 Sep MUF, on/19 Sep GOO..

## Southern Whiteface Aphelocephala leucopsis

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 32 widespread records from all months (compared with 21 last year). 1 report of

breeding activity: nb/3 Sep Tin Hut Dam GrO18 (CaN1).

**WOO:** 2 records: 3/30 Sep MJF GrN13 (TaN1), 1/7 Oct SYM GrK15 (DaG2).

## MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters, chat

## Red Wattlebird Anthochaera carunculata

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 678 records including 28 breeding records, first 18 Aug, last 18 Mar.

GBS: Recorded at all 55 sites in all weeks with breeding at 25 sites. Abundance (2.5757) was lower than the record high of last year (3.0631), but still above the long term average of 1.9236. First breeding nb/3wk Aug, last dy/1wk March.

WOO: 79 records from all 10 sites, mostly in spring, summer and autumn. Largest number of individuals in autumn 22/24 Mar RED. No breeding records

## Little Wattlebird Anthochaera chrysoptera

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from the coast, last confirmed records almost 2 decades ago (Wilson 1999, Birds of the ACT: two centuries of change) with unconfirmed reports in the 1980s and 1996. **GBS:** Recorded at one site in Cook GrJ13 over 3 weeks in Aug (TaN1).

## Noisy Friarbird Philemon corniculatus

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 308 records. First arrival a few weeks later than usual on 1 Sep, last record 2/3 June. 12 breeding records, also starting later than usual, first on/30 Nov, last dy/13 Mar. GBS: Recorded at 53 of 55 sites, arriving later than usual, first record 1wk Sep, most records finishing in 4wk Apr, but a few until 4wk May. Abundance (O.6503) halved from last year (1.2292) but still above the low levels in 1993-94 and the long term average of 0.3311. Breeding at 15 sites, first nb/2wk Nov, last dy/4wk Feb.

WOO: 69 records from all sites except CAS, with the majority of records (47) in the summer surveys. No breeding records.

Little Friarbird Philemon citreogularis

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 3 records, 2 from farm properties north of Murrumbateman GrGO5 and GO6 in Dec, and 1 breeding record from the headwaters of Sullivans Creek dy/17 Feb GrM11 (all TaN1).

**WOO:** One unendorsed record 1/2 Dec at MUF.

Regent Honeyeater Xanthomyza phrygia

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 1 record from the Shoalhaven River Warri Bridge GrZ15, 4 Feb (WhJ1).

**Bel1 Miner** Manorina melanophrys

Vagrant

**General:** 2 unendorsed records from an area on the Queanbeyan River (GrQ21) where they have been reported in the last 2 years.

Noisy Miner Manorina melanocephala

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 307 records throughout the year. 8 breeding records, first co/10 Sept, last ny/11 Jan.

**GBS:** Recorded from 12 sites, but consistently throughout the year from only 1 site in Cook. Abundance (O.2143) was higher than last year (O.1577) and above the long term average (O.1545). Breeding records from only one site in Holt, dy from 4wk Oct to lwk Nov.

**WOO:** 89 records making this the most commonly recorded honeyeater in the WOO surveys. Recorded regularly in each season at 5 sites (GOO, MAJ, MUF, NLN, SYM), only in spring and summer at MJF, in winter at CAS, and not at all at RED, HAL or TUG. Largest number 19/25 Mar sub-site 16 MUF. 1 breeding record nb/16 Sep MAJ.

Lewin's Honeyeater Meliphaga lewinii

Vagrant

General: I record from Tallaganda SF GrV19 3/11 Dec (MoM3), and 2 unendorsed records.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater Lichenostomus chrysops

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 530 records, mostly from forested mountain areas, mostly from Sep to early May. Large flocks recorded in the spring return migration, 1900/17 Sep Shoalhaven Valley GrW23 (BrM2). Highest numbers recorded during the Autumn outward migration, 5000/5 and 14 Apr Burra Ck GrM21 (AnI1). Only 1 breeding record: cf/7 Jan, Yankee Hat car park GrH25.

**GBS:** Recorded from 48 of 55 sites in all weeks. Small numbers were recorded at many sites during Jul-Aug with higher numbers from 1wk Sep until 4wk Nov. Few records from I wk Nov to 3wk Mar then abrupt increase with hundreds of birds recorded at some sites through Apr. Small numbers during May and Jun. Abundance this year (2.7807) was very close to the long term average but lower than last year (3.6161). It is the 10<sup>th</sup> most abundant species and still the most abundant honeyeater, just ahead of the Red Wattlebird. No breeding records.

**WOO:** 50 records from all sites, the majority (31) in spring. No breeding records.

White-eared Honeyeater Lichenostomus leucotis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 340 records mostly from forested mountain areas, throughout the year. 2 breeding records, ny/3 Nov Bywong GrP11 and dy/19 Jan Yass valley GrL5.

**GBS:** Recorded at 28 of 55 sites, but the only regular records all year are from a rural property on Sutton Rd GrO12. At all other sites there were no records from 3wk Sep to 1wk Apr. Abundance (O.0885) was lower than the last 2 years (O.1089 and O.1350) and below the long term average (O.1086). No breeding records.

**WOO:** 25 records from 5 sites (GOO, MAJ, MUF, SYM, TUG), the majority of records (17) in winter and none in summer. No breeding records.

**Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus melanops* Uncommon, Breeding Visitor **General:** 23 records. 15 of them from upper Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2) throughout the year, including the only breeding record dy/12 Mar; 7 of them from Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1), and 1 from the railway east of Gilmore GrL16 6/9 July (GrB1).

GBS: Recorded at one rural site on Sutton Rd (GrO12) from 2wk Jul to 1wk Sep.

**Fuscous Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus fuscus* Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 68 records, first 3 Aug and until Oct mostly from urban areas. All records from Oct-Apr were from mountain areas to the SE and SW of Canberra. Few records May and June. 6 breeding records, first nb/18 Sep Namadgi GrI22, last ne/11 Feb Namadgi GrK23. **GBS:** Recorded at 19 of 55 sites. Almost no records from 1wk Oct until 2wk Apr. Abundance levels over the years have fluctuated greatly. This year's Abundance (O.0901) was less than half that of last year (O.2287) and below the long term average (O.1641). No breeding records.

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus* Common, Breeding Resident General: 225 records from throughout the year in urban and rural areas. 8 breeding records, first dy/23 Sep, last dy/22 Feb.

**GBS:** Records from 19 of 55 sites scattered across 42 weeks of the year. Regular at only 2 sites in O'Connor GrK13 and Downer GrL12 for most of the year except Jan-Mar. No records at any site between 1wk Jan and 1wk Mar. Abundance has fluctuated over the years but this year (O.0788) is down on last year (O.1281) but still above the long term average (O.0585). **WOO:** 60 records from 8 sites (not HAL or RED) in all seasons, most consistently at CAS.

**Brown-headed Honeyeater** *Melithreptus brevirostris* Common, Breeding Resident **General:** 76 records throughout the year, mostly from rural areas, some from the mountains. Breeding: dy/31 Jan Tuggeranong Ck GrJ16 and dy/10 Mar Bungendore-Tarago Rd GrW10. **GBS:** Records from 3 urban sites in Holt, Curtin and Cook, irregular throughout the year, and more regular records from 2wk Jan to 3wk Mar at a rural site on Sutton Rd (GrO12). Abundance (O.0277) double that of last year (O.0108) but very close to the long term average. **WOO:** 28 records from 8 sites (not NLN or RED) in all seasons, most regularly from GOO, MJF and MUF. 1 breeding record: ny/24 Mar HAL.

**White-naped Honeyeater** *Melithreptus lunatus* Common, Breeding Migrant **General:** 158 records from all months but mostly Sep-Apr. Largest numbers during autumn migration: 2400/16 Apr and 1500/17 Apr in upper Shoalhaven Valley (BrM2). 4 breeding records: dy/20 Jan GrG27, dy/28 Jan GrF19, dy/8 Feb GrG22 and cf/11 Feb GrK25.

**GBS:** Records from 28 of 55 sites. Over-wintering records at a few sites during Jul-Aug, then an increase in the number of birds and records with the return migration during Sep-Oct. No records from 4wk Nov - 4wk Apr, then a sudden increase in numbers through April to 2wk May. Almost no records in June. Abundance (O.3094) was only one-third of the high of last year (O.9630) but still 50% above the long term average.

**WOO:** 5 records from 3 sites (GOO, MUF, TUG), all in Sep.

**Crescent Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera* Uncommon, Breeding Resident **General:** 49 records, 24 from an urban garden in Farrer, the remaining 25 mostly from mountain areas, no breeding. Most records in Jul, Aug, May and Jun, only 14 from Sep-Apr.

**GBS:** Records from 8 sites, with more regular reports during winter and the following autumn than usual. No records at all from 2wk Oct until 4wk Apr. 1 breeding record: di/3wk Aug from a site in Kambah GrJ15 (WiB1). Long term annual Abundance is highly variable. This year (O.0335) was well above last year (O.0172) and the long term average (O.0273).

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae* Uncommon, Breeding Resident General: 33 records throughout the year, some from the usual locations at Commonwealth Park GrL13, Stranger Pond and Pine Island GrJ17, and ANBG GrK13, with others from the Murrumbidgee and Shoalhaven Rivers, and Brindabella and Tallaganda Ranges. No breeding. GBS: Recorded at 7 sites, all of them in the Kambah-Weston Creek area (GrI15, 116, J15, J16), except for 1 record in Holt GrI12. No records from 4wk Nov to 3wk Feb. Abundance for this species fluctuates and this year (O.0939) was slightly below last year (O.1119) but still double the long term average. No breeding records.

## Tawny-crowned Honeyeater Phylidonyris melanops

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from coastal areas, last reported in Sep 1994.

**General:** 1 record from a garden in Chapman GrI15, 1/17 Sept (HoJ1).

Eastern Spinebil1 Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 357 records, throughout the year from mountain and lowland areas. 2 breeding records, nb/13 Sep Ginninderra Ck GrG11 and cf/26 Jan Queanbeyan River GrN15.

**GBS:** Recorded from 53 of 55 sites, in all weeks but less commonly from Nov-Feb. Breeding records at 3 sites, all dy; 3wk Nov, 3-4wk Jan, 1wk Apr and 2wk May. Abundance (O.7732) continues the increase of the last few years and was almost double the long term average.

**WOO:** 14 records from 7 sites (not CAS, NLN or TUG), most (15) in winter or spring.

White-fronted Chat Epthianura albifrons

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Uncommon resident, now rarely reported except at Lake Bathurst.

**General:** 8 records, 5 from Bungendore sewage ponds GrS13 during Feb and Mar, also 12/11 Mar LBath GrY7, 4/26 Apr Sutton Rd GrO12, and 5/26 Apr Bungendore wetlands GrS12.

**WBS:** 5 records, 3 from LBathE GrYO8 in Jul, Sep and Dec, 1 from LBathW in Nov, and 1 from The Morass GrZO8, in Apr.

#### PETROICIDAE: Australasian robins

**Jacky Winter** *Microeca fascinans* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 30 records in most months, incl. on/10 Sep near Wee Jasper GrA10 (LeA1).

**WOO:** 2 single birds recorded at GOO GrM11 on 19 Sep.

Scarlet Robin Petroica multicolor

Common, Breeding Resident

After last years decline the abundance of this species appears to be climbing to the previous levels without a similar decline in Rose Robin recording.

**General:** 261 records in all months. 1 breeding record: on/6 Sep Gooroo GrM11 (TaN1). **GBS:** 46 records from 17 sites (30%). Abundance (O.0252) up from last year (O.0084). Few records from mid-Sep to mid-Apr.

**WOO:** 61 records through the year of mainly 1 or 2 birds (2 records of 3 birds) at all sites except RED. A single breeding record: ny/19 Sep GOO.

Red-capped Robin Petroica goodenovii

Rare, Breeding Visitor

**General:** 4 records, all from the north of our area. 3 from Lynfield Park - Pine Hill area GrLO2: 2/12 Oct, 1/8 Jan and 1/25 Feb (TaN1); and 1/8 Jan Lambton GrNO7(JoM2).

Flame Robin Petroica phoenicea

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 86 records in most months, all non-breeding. Largest numbers 20/9 Jul Googong

GrO18 and 18/21 May Lambton GrNO7 (JoM2).

GBS: 12 records from 3 sites in Curtin, Melba and Kambah during the winter period.

Rose Robin Petroica rosea

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

This species has maintained its recent winter increase in abundance.

**General:** 32 non-breeding records, generally split into rural records in the period Nov to Mar and urban in the remaining months apart from 1/11 Jun near Caloola GrJ23.

**GBS:** 52 records from 10 sites, none in the summer period 3wk Sep to 3wk Mar. Abundance (O.0239) similar to last year.

Pink Robin Petroica rodinogaster

Rare, Breeding Migrant

General: 2 unendorsed records from Kosciusko NP.

**GBS:** 1/25 Apr and 1/17 May Melba Ga11 (DaT1). 2 further unendorsed records.

Hooded Robin Melanodryas cucullata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 48 records incl. 2 of breeding at Gooroo GrM11: ne/6 Sep and on/19 Sep (TaN1). GBS: 2 birds recorded in 1wk and 4wk March at a rural site on Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1). WOO: 7 records from 3 sites: CAS (2/24 Mar), GOO (1/19 Sep, 1/15 Dec, 3/23 Jun), MJF

(1 at 2 sub-sites on 30 Sep, 1/3 Dec).

Eastern Yellow Robin Eopsaltria australis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 131 times in all months but without a single breeding record.

WOO: Just 1 record: 1/30 Sep MJF.

POMATOSTOMIDAE: babblers

White-browed Babbler Pomastomus superciliosus

Rare, status uncertain

**General:** First record in our region since the 1950s: 1/12 Jan 'River View', 13 km NW of Gundaroo GrMO5 (TaN1). [See Taws 2001, *CBN* 26(2): 43.]

CINCLOSOMATIDAE: whipbird, quail-thrush

Eastern Whipbird Psophodes olivacea

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 19 records from 2 Aug to 8 Apr, from Deua NP, northern Brindabella Ranges, Shoalhaven River, Tallaganda SF, Tidbinbilla NR and upper Queanbeyan River area (GrQ21).

Spotted Quail-thrush Cinclosoma punctatum

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 19 records mostly from higher altitudes or the ranges to the east of the ACT, but

includes: 2/19 Nov Mundoonen NR GrJO3 (JoM2).

NEOSITTIDAE: sittella

Varied Sittella Daphoenositta chrysoptera

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 77 records, most from lower altitudes, incl. nb/16 Sep Majura Lane GrN11 (TaN1), on/29 Oct Googong Dam GrO18 (CaN1), and nb/10 Dec Campbell Pk GrM13 (TaN1).

GBS: 4 records of 2-6 birds from 3 sites in Cook, Kambah and O'Connor during winter and

autumn. As in 1999-2000 all values are well down on the long term averages.

**WOO:** 10 records from 7 sites (not CAS, MAJ, or RED) throughout the year.

#### PACHYCEPHALIDAE: whistlers and allies

Crested Shrike-tit Falcunculus frontatus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 31 times through the year, no breeding.

**WOO:** 1 record: 1/23 Sep NLN GrJ11 (BoJ1).

Olive Whistler Pachycephala olivacea

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 4 records, all Mar-Jun in wet forests of the Brindabella and Tallaganda Ranges.

**Golden Whistler** *Pachycephala pectoralis* 

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 245 records, no breeding. Recorded in all months but mainly in urban areas in winter.

**GBS:** Recorded at 78% of sites (up from 70% last year) whilst abundance (0.1774) is similar to the levels of 4 of the last 5 years. A single breeding record of dy in 1wk Nov appears rather early for successful breeding and may possibly be courtship feeding.

**WOO:** 18 records from 8 sites (not MJF or NLN), all of single birds except 2/3 Sep SYM.

Rufous Whistler Pachycephala rufiventris

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 423 records, with very few from the colder months. 2 breeding records: dy/25 Feb GrQ21(BrM2) and dy/24 Mar Gooroo GrM11(TaN1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 38% of sites (60% last year), but with very few records from winter and summer months. Abundance (0.0310) has declined again from 0.05-0.06 of last 4 years and 0.08-0.09 of earlier years., A single breeding record of dy/3wk Feb Pearce GrJ15 (BeC1).

**WOO:** 112 records from all sites except RED. No breeding recorded.

WBS: 2 records: 2/25 Oct and 3/28 Dec at LBathE GrYO8 (LeM1).

Grey Shrike-thrush Colluricincla harmonica

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 455 records through the year. Only 2 breeding records: nb/30 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1) and dy/12 Mar upper Queanbeyan River GrQ21 (BrM2).

**GBS:** Recorded from 34% of sites (cf 35% last year). Abundance (0.0436) is up on last year but still down on the levels of the 1980s. Fewer records in Dec and Jan.

WOO: 61 records through the year from all sites except RED. No breeding recorded.

WBS: 2 records of single birds on 25 Oct and 28 Dec LBathE (LeM1).

## DICRURIDAE: monarchs, flycatchers, fantails

Black-faced Monarch Monarcha melanopsis

Rare, Visitor

General: 3 unendorsed records from Tallaganda SF in Dec.

GBS: 1 immature bird, 24 Mar Queanbeyan GrN15 (WaK1), and 1 other unendorsed record.

Leaden Flycatcher Myiagra rubecula

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 121 records, all in the period 12 Oct to 15 Mar except for 1 late record on 22 Apr. 8 breeding records: nb/5 Nov near Kirawin GrE08 (BoJ1), ne/20 Jan and ny/16 Feb Campbell Park GrM13 (CoE1), the other records of dy from 27 Nov to 17 Feb.

**GBS:** 29 records from 12 sites from 3wk Oct to 2wk Apr. Abundance (A) and distribution (F) similar to last 2 years. A single breeding record of dy 3wk-4wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (BrM2). **WOO:** 15 records from 8 sites (not CAS or RED) in Dec and Jan.

Satin Flycatcher Myiagra cyanoleuca

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 8 times in the period 22 Oct - 1 Apr, incl. nb/3 Dec Orroral GrG21 (LiJ1).

**GBS:** Single records from 3 sites: 1/2wk Nov Melba GrJ12 (MoM1),1/2wk Nov Holder GrJ15 (AsM1), 1/1wk Mar Melba GrJ11 (DaT1).

Restless Flycatcher Myiagra inquieta

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 55 records of 1-4 birds through the year, no breeding.

WOO: 5 records of single birds from CAS in Jul (3), HAL in Dec and TUG in Jun.

Magpie-lark Grallina cyanoleuca

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** Recorded 636 times through the year including 21 breeding records. First breeding: on/8 Sep Oxley GrJ16 (LeA1), last breeding dy/25 Feb near Williamsdale GrM20 (BrM2). **GBS:** Recorded at 98% of sites with breeding at 42%, similar figures to last year (100% and 40%). Abundance (2.4625) lower than last year (2.7097) but slightly higher than previous 2 years. Breeding recorded from nb/3wk Aug Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) until dy/1wk Mar Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2). 4 sites recorded double nesting and 1 site triple nesting.

**WOO:** 69 records through the year from all sites, but no breeding recorded.

WBS: 1/30 Sep and 4/25 Oct The Morass GrZO8; and 2/25 Oct LBathE GrYO8 (all LeM1).

Rufous Fantail Rhipidura rufifrons

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** Recorded 17 times between 12 Nov and 21 Apr; no breeding.

**GBS:** 9 records from 6 sites, all of single birds except for 1 record of 2 birds. 4 records in the period 1wk to 3wk Nov incl., the other 5 in 1wk Mar to 2wk Apr incl.

Grey Fantail Rhipidura fuliginosa

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

**General:** A total of 845 records in all months but with a noticeable decrease in winter with only 29 records in May, 15 in Jun, 32 in Jul and 30 in Aug. Breeding recorded 13 times in the period 7 Oct (nb) to 8 Apr (dy).

**GBS:** Recorded from 50 sites (91%), mainly Jan-May. Only 1 breeding record: dy 3wk Dec and 3wk Jan Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). Abundance (0.3417) is down from last year (0.4421) but more in keeping with other recent years.

**WOO:** 184 records from all sites, 69 of them from spring surveys, 52 in summer, 50 in autumn and only 13 in winter. No breeding recorded.

WBS: Recorded only at LBathE GrY08: 2/25 Oct and 4/28 Dec (LeM1).

Willie Wagtail Rhipidura leucophrys

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 518 records from all months but with a fall off in winter - 11 records in July, 25 in August, 21 in May and 9 in June. A total of 19 breeding records in the period 23 Sep to 18 Jan.

GBS: Recorded from 76% of sites. Abundance (0.1962) is low, continuing the downward trend of the past 10 years. Breeding records from 1 site in Curtin: nb/1wk-2wk Oct, ne/5w1 Oct, ny/1wk-2wk Nov (AJR1).

WOO: 45 records from all sites except RED. 1 breeding record: dy/17 Dec TUG.

WBS: 5 records from LBath-Morass:- 1/30 Sep, 2/25 Oct, 3/28 Nov, 4/28 Dec and 1/9 Jun.

#### CAMPEPHAGIDAE: cuckoo-shrikes, cicadabird, triller

**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae* Common, Breeding Res/Migrant **General:** 396 records, mostly during Sep-Apr, all of single birds or small groups of up to 10 Six breeding records between 27 Oct and 31 Mar.

**GBS:** Records from 51 sites (93%) of single birds to small groups (max of 10 individuals) recorded throughout the year, but mainly Sep-Apr. Values similar to those of previous years. Breeding recorded from 5 sites (all dy) during Jan-Feb.

WOO: 88 records from all sites, throughout the year, but most from spring (32) and summer (34) surveys. No breeding recorded.

WBS: 1 record of a single bird from LBathE 25 Oct.

# White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike Coracina papuensis

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 1998.

Cicadabird Coracina tenuirostris

Uncommon, Migrant

**General:** 2 records: x/6 Dec Tallaganda SF GrU19 (CrM1), and 1/20 Dec Honeysuckle Ck area GrH20 (PfD1).

#### White-winged Triller Lalage sueurii

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 56 records between 24 Sep and 11 Mar, mostly from the northern half of the region. 4 breeding records: nb/5 Nov nr Woodlawn Mine GrWO8 (PeH2), on/8 Dec and ny/13 Dec Murrumbateman area GrI06, 108 (TaN1), and ny/18 Jan 'Strathearn' GrN8 (TaN1).

**GBS:** 10 records from 2 sites: 1/4wk Sep Curtin (MoM3), and 1-9 birds from 4wk Sep to 3wk Nov Curtin (AJR1).

WOO: 10 records from GOO (2), HAL (2), MJF (5) and NLN (1); 1 in Sep, 9 in Dec.

ORIOLIDAE: oriole

## Olive-backed Oriole Oriolus sagittatus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 86 records between 17 Sep and 3 Jun, but mainly Oct-Dec, mostly from the northern part of the region. Mainly single birds but up to 5. No breeding recorded.

**GBS:** Records of 1-3 birds from 26 sites. First 1/2wk Aug O'Connor GrK13 (Bail), Last 1/1wk May Hughes GrK15 (AnI1).

WOO: 41 records from all sites except RED, all spring or summer except 1/8 Apr NLN.

## ARTAMIDAE: woodswallows, butcherbirds, magpie, currawongs

Masked Woodswallow Artamus personatus

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 1 record: x/8 Oct 'Callum Brae' GrL15 (BaB1).

GBS: 2 records in 1wk Oct: 3/Page (A1B1) and 10/Hackett (LeB1).

White-browed Woodswallow Artamus superciliosus
General: 1 record: x/8 Oct 'Callum Brae' GrL15 (BaB1).

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

**GBS:** Single records from 5 sites all 1wk Oct: 300/Cook (TaN1), 20/Curtin (AJR1), 30/Hackett (LeB1), 20/Melba (MoM1), 42/Page (A1B1).

**Dusky Woodswallow** Artamus cyanopterus

Common, Breeding Migrant

**General:** 130 records between 28 Aug and 3 May (mainly Sep-Feb). 9 breeding records. **GBS:** 22 records from 7 sites, mostly during Mar-Apr. First 20/1wk Oct Gilmore (GrB1), last 5/5wk Apr Aranda (HaK1) and 2/5wk Apr Hackett (LeB1).

WOO: 13 records from 6 sites (CAS, GOO, MJF, MUF, SYM, TUG); not in winter.

WBS: 1 record from LGeoS: 2/31 Jul.

#### **Grey Butcherbird** Cracticus torquatus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

**General:** 121 records throughout the year, including 2 breeding records: nb/3 Sep 8km S of Tharwa GrJ20 (TaN1) and ne/30 Oct Royalla GrL19 (WiS1).

**GBS:** 43 records of single birds from 9 sites; all but 4 records during Feb-Jun.

WOO: 35 records from 7 sites (not MJF, RED or SYM), all seasons.

WBS: 1 record: 1/28 Mar The Morass GrZ08 (LeM1).

## Pied Butcherbird Cracticus nigrogularis

Rare, Visitor

**General:** 4 records, all from around Murrumbateman GrHO5, 1106, 1407 between 13 Nov and 5 Dec (all TaN1). Possibly the same bird?

#### Australian Magpie Gymnorhina tibicen

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 1307 records from throughout the region, including 100/5 Sep Dairy Flat Rd GrL14 (LeB1). 60 breeding records between 25 Jul and 17 Jan.

**GBS:** Recorded from all 55 sites. All values again similar to long term averages. Breeding recorded from over half (29) of all sites. First nb/3wk Jul Queanbeyan (LuM1), last nb/2wk Aug Watson (MuT1), first dy/4wk Sep Curtin (AJR1), last dy/2wk Feb Aranda (HaK1). **WOO:** 321 records from all sites throughout the year, including 3 of breeding: dy/16 Sep TUG, ny/16 Sep MAJ and dy/3 Dec MJF.

**WBS:** 7 records of up to 40 birds from LBath-Morass.

## Pied Currawong Strepera graculina

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 729 records from throughout the region. 19 breeding records during Sep-Feb.

**GBS:** Recorded from all sites. All values similar to those of previous years. Breeding recorded from over half (35) of all sites. First nb/1wk Aug Aranda (HaK1), last nb/3wk Oct Chapman (HAJ1), first dy/2wk Sep Chapman (McA1), last dy/3wk Feb Reid (CaJ2) and Curtin (MoM3).

WOO: 92 records from all sites except GOO. Breeding: dy/21 Dec MAJ.

#### **Grey Currawong** Strepera versicolor

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 131 records, usually of 1-3 birds and occasionally up to 8, but also 20/8 Apr Square Rock GrF19 (McJ4) and 15/13 Apr Hawker GrI12 (LeA1). 9 breeding records between 2 Sep (on) and 17 Jan (dy).

**GBS:** Records of 1-3 birds throughout the year, from 22 sites. 2 breeding records: dy/3wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and 3wk Jan Sutton Rd GrO12 (ScG1).

WOO: 27 records, most from MAJ (11) and MUF (12), but also from GOO, MJF, SYM and TUG.

**CORVIDAE:** ravens

Australian Raven Corvus coronoides

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 712 records, incl. 6 breeding records between 16 Aug (on) and 8 Nov (dy).

GBS: Recorded from all sites. Statistical values similar to previous years and the long-term average. Breeding recorded from 9 sites.

WOO: 153 records from all sites throughout the year, 1 breeding record: nb/16 Sep TUG.

**WBS:** 3 records from LBath.

Little Raven Corvus mellori

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 72 records from throughout the region. 2 breeding records: dy/11 Oct Orroral Rd

GrG21 (IrJ1) and dy/29 Oct Yaouk GrD26 (GrT1).

**GBS:** 7 records from 3 sites, scattered through the year.

**WOO:** 2 records, of 2 and 9 birds, from NLN on 10 Dec (BoJ1).

WBS: 7 records from LBath-Morass, including a flock of 200 on 2 Mar and ny/25 Oct.

CORCORACIDAE: chough

White-winged Chough Corcorax melanorhamphos

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 208 records, 17 with breeding, mostly from rural sites.

**GBS:** Recorded from 17 sites. Values continue to fluctuate, with all statistics up on the long-term average. Most records during Jan-Aug. 1 breeding record: dy/2wk Feb Cook (BrM2).

**WOO:** 34 records from most sites (not RED or TUG) throughout the year. No breeding.

## PTILONORHYNCHIDAE: bowerbird

Satin Bowerbird Ptilonorhynchus violaceus

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 84 records incl. 1 breeding record: on/9 Dec Mugga Way, Red Hill GrK14 (Horn. GBS: Recorded from 15 sites in the Weston Creek-Woden-Tuggeranong area and from 1 garden in Yarralumla. Similar pattern to previous years. All statistical values show massive increases on the long term average. Breeding recorded from 3 sites: nb/5wk Sep Curtin (MoM3), dy/3wk Dec Isaacs (MaC2), and dy/3wk Jan-3wk Feb Chapman (HAJ1).

**ALAUDIDAE: larks** 

Singing Bushlark Mirafra javanica

Rare Visitor

General: 2 unendorsed records.

Skylark Alauda arvensis

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 23 records, 20 of them in the period 29 Jul to 22 Dec, then 3 further records all from around Adaminaby on 29 Apr. No breeding.

GBS: Recorded 27 times from a single site in Curtin GrJ14, up to 5 birds, mainly in winter and spring (AJR1).

WBS: 5 records from LBath-Morass show more birds present in spring-summer: 1/31 Jul, 12/27 Nov, 35/28 Nov, 10/2 Mar and 3/29 Apr (LeM1, DoM1).

## **MOTACILLIDAE: Pipit**

Richards Pipit Anthus novaeseelandiae

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 87 times, twice with breeding: cf/10 Dec Bredbo Station GrM30 and

cf/14 Jan Michelago GrL21 both HoJ1). Fewer records in winter.

GBS: Recorded 11 times from Jul-Feb at 1 site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

WOO: 4 records: 2 from MJF (30 Sep and 3 Dec), CAS (22 Oct), and TUG (17 Dec).

**WBS:** 8 records of up to 10 birds from LBath-Morass.

## PASSERIDAE: sparrow, grass-finches

House Sparrow Passer domesticus

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 251 records including 5 breeding records. **GBS:** Records from 50 sites, breeding from 9.

**WOO:** 7 records from NLN (1 in Sep, 3 in Dec) and TUG (3 in Dec).

Zebra Finch Taeniopygia guttata

Rare, Breeding Visitor/Escapee

**GBS:** A single record: 2/3wk Feb Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1).

**Double-barred Finch** *Taeniopygia bichenovii* 

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 73 records including 1 breeding record: on/22 Oct Melrose Grove GrL17 (GrB1). **GBS:** 40 records from 8 sites. Abundance (0.0784) down, continuing a long-term decline. WOO: 6 records of up to 4 birds, all from SYM (1 in Sep, 2 in Jan, 2 in Mar, 1 in Jun).

**Red-browed Finch** *Neochmia temporalis* 

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 228 records. 3 breeding records incl. dy/15 Feb Melrose Reserve GrL17 (FyM1). GBS: 72 records from 8 sites, 40 from 1 site in Isaacs (HoA1). Abundance (0.3233) down from 1999-2000 (0.4909). Breeding from another site in Isaacs: dy/5wk Jan, 3wk Feb (MaC2).

**WOO:** 7 records from SYM (3 in Jan, 2 Mar), HAL and RED (both in Jun)

Diamond Firetail Stagonopleura guttata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 51 records including two with breeding: nb/7 Oct Michelago area GrL21 (HoJ1), nb/10 Dec Bredbo area GrM30 (HoJ1).

WOO: 2 records: 1/21 Dec HAL, 2/23 Jun GOO. WBS: 1 record: 2/2 Mar LBathE GrY8 (LeM1).

FRINGILLIDAE: finches

**European Greenfinch** Carduelis chloris

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 12 non-breeding records, five from Jerrabomberra Wetlands.

**European Goldfinch** Carduelis carduelis

Common, Breeding Resident

**General:** 165 records, no breeding.

GBS: Recorded from 16 sites (29%). Abundance of 0.1795 represents a recovery from 1999-

2000 (0.1055) but is still below the long-term average. **WOO:** 4 records, 1 each from MJF, MUF, NLN, and TUG. **WBS:** 3 records from LBath-Morass: 2/31 Jul, 15/30 Sep and 3/28 Dec.

#### DICAEIDAE: mistletoebird

Mistletoebird Dicaeum hirundinaceum

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 137 records including 2 breeding records: ny/12 Jan Dicks Creek GrMO6 (TaN1), dy/10 Mar Bungendore/Tarago Rd GrXO9 (BoJ1).

**GBS:** Recorded from 9 sites (16%). Abundance (O.0365) down from 1999-2000 (O.0537) **WOO:** 52 records from all sites except RED, 33 (63%) from the summer surveys.

### HIRUNDINIDAE: swallow, martins

Welcome Swallow Hirundo neoxena Common, Breeding Resident **General:** Recorded 337 times, with 9 breeding records in the period 3 Oct to 24 Dec.

GBS: Records from 20 sites (36%) cf 30% last year. Abundance (O.2319) has increased slightly from the level of the previous two years (c. O.20), but is still way below the 1993-94 level (O.5384). The decrease in winter numbers this year was not as noticeable as last year.

**WOO:** 8 records from 4 sites: MJF (1), MUF (1), NLN (3), TUG (3).

WBS: 1 record: 4/9 Jun LBath- Morass.

## Tree Martin Hirundo nigricans

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 99 records, but just 1 in July, 2 in April, 1 in May and 0 in June. 2 breeding records: on/28 Oct near Yankee Hat GrH24 (GoJ1), br/5 Nov Newline Quarry GrM14

**GBS:** 7 records from 3 sites: no records from Feb to Jun.

**WOO:** 28 records from 6 sites (CAS, HAL, GOO, MJF, MUF, NLN).

## Fairy Martin Hirundo ariel

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 18 records, 2 with breeding: on/22 Oct Dog Trap Rd GrHO8 (FyM1) and ny/22 Dec near Murrumbateman GrIO8.(TaN1).

WOO: 1 record of 3 birds from MJF on 3 Dec.

## SYLVIIDAE: old world warblers

Clamorous Reed-Warbler Acrocephalus stentoreus

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 85 records between Sep and Mar (mostly Oct-Feb). 3 breeding records: nb/22 Oct Dog Trap Rd GrH8 (FyM1), ny/8 Nov ANU GrK13 (PeH2) and dy/7 Jan Gungahlin Lakes golf course GrK11 (WyP1).

**GBS:** 7 records from a site in Gleneagles Estate, Kambah 2wk Sep-4wk Nov (WAH1).

WOO: 2 records from MJF: 3/30 Sep and 5/3 Dec.

**WBS:** 2 records from LBath: 2/28 Nov and 5/28 Dec.

## Little Grassbird Megalurus gramineus

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 6 records of single birds between Dec and Feb, from JWNP GrL14 (3), Point Hut GrJ17, Yankee Hat GrH25 and Rose Lagoon GrU04.

Rufous Songlark Cincloramphus mathewsi

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 41 records between 8 Jul and 6 May, but mostly Oct-Jan. 2 breeding records: cf/14 Jan Kelly Rd GrL22 (HoJ1) and dy/1 Feb 'Huntly' GrH13 (TaN1).

WOO: 14 records from 5 sites (CAS, HAL, GOO, MJF, NLN), mainly in Dec.

December 2001

Brown Songlark Cincloramphus cruralis

Rare, Breeding Migrant

General: 3 records: 1/22 Oct Dog Trap Rd GrG4 (FyM1), 1/4 Dec nr Murrumbateman GrG6

(TaN1), 7/17 Jun Ballalaba GrX21 (BrM2).

Golden-headed Cisticola Cisticola exilis

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 33 records between 8 Aug and 27 May (mostly Nov-Mar). 1 breeding record: cf/25

Nov 'Luxor' GrJ09 (AlB1).

**GBS:** 11 records from 5wk Oct to 3wk Feb from a site in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

**WBS:** 1 record of a single bird at LBathE on 2 Mar.

ZOSTEROPIDAE: silvereye

Silvereye Zosterops lateralis

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 366 records, incl. flocks of up to 200 birds in Apr. 2 breeding records: dy/18 Feb Tidbinbilla NP GrF18 (PeH2), dy/11 Mar Weston GrJ15 (LeB1).

GBS: Records from all 55 sites, breeding recorded from 8. Abundance (6.5065) down very slightly from 1999-2000 (6.7018).

WOO: 35 records from 7 sites (not GOO, HAL, TUG); no breeding reported,

**WBS:** 1 record of 3 birds from LBathE on 28 Dec.

MUSCICAPIDAE: thrushes

Bassian Thrush Zoothera lunulata

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 1 record: 1/2Aug Little Bombay GrY16 (TaN1).

Common Blackbird Turdus merula

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 295 records including 2 breeding records, both cf, in Oct.

**GBS:** Recorded from 53 sites (96%). Abundance (1.8570) similar to 1999-2000 (1.8758).

Breeding recorded from 17 sites between 2wk Sep (nb) and 3wk Feb (dy).

**WOO:** 12 records from MAJ (2), NLN (5), RED (1) and TUG (4).

STURNIDAE: starling, myna

**Common Starling** Sturnus vulgaris

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 577 records of up to 500 birds, including 57 breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 50 sites (91%). Abundance (5.9484) down from 1999-2000 (6.6368) continuing a long-term decline since 1995-96 (9.8804). Breeding Recorded from 10 sites. WOO: 125 records from all sites including 3 breeding records from MJF, MUF and TUG.

WBS: 1 of 10 birds from The Morass on 29 Apr.

Common Myna Acridotheres tristis

Common, Breeding Resident

This year Canberra's fifth most abundant GBS bird, up from sixth last year.

General: 319 records, mostly of 2-10 birds, but largest 32/6 May Eddison Park GrK15 (PeH2) and 30/28 Feb Mt Pleasant GrL14 (PoA1). 20 breeding records.

**GBS:** Recorded from 53 of 55 sites (96%). Abundance (5.1530) up from 1999-00 (4.5234), continuing a long-term increase in abundance. Breeding Recorded from 14 sites.

WOO: 51 records from 7 sites (not CAS, GOO or MUF), including 3 breeding records from TUG.

## TABLE 2. GARDEN BIRD SURVEY STATISTICS - 1999-2000

Values for A, F, W, R and G for 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 (Year 19), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (Years 1-18).

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
<sup>1</sup> Galah	8.3494	34.3	100.0	0.7	52	0.0	83.98	9.1	9.94
+ 2 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	7.7329	77.8	100.0	3.4	52	0.0	88.12	40.3	8.78
<sup>3</sup> Silvereye	6.7018	13.3	98.0	1.3	52	0.0	72.84	6.7	9.20
<sup>4</sup> Common Starling	6.6368	-43.8	93.9	-3.5	52	0.0	65.65	-10.4	10.11
5 House Sparrow	6.0488	-18.5	91.8	-5.4	52	0.0	69.69	-7.2	8.68
+ 6 Common Myna	4.5234	101.7	98.0	64.1	52	0.3	79.35	114.9	5.70
<sup>7</sup> Pied Currawong	4.2952	7.1	100.0	1.5	52	0.0	90.78	17.2	4.73
<sup>8</sup> Yellow-faced Honeyeater	3.6161	37.4	93.9	7.8	51	0.4	32.13	20.3	11.25
<sup>9</sup> Crimson Rosella	3.5037	25. 5	100.0	1.4	52	0.0	92.07	21.7	3.81
10 Australian Magpie	3.2893	25.9	100.0	0.6	52	0.0	91.97	10.0	3.58
+ <sup>11</sup> Red Wattlebird	3.0631	64.7	100.0	3.2	52	0.0	91.42	26.8	3.35
12 <sub>Magpie-lark</sub>	2.7097	40.1	100.0	1.9	52	0.0	87.63	22.4	3.09
+ <sup>1</sup> 3 Australian King-Parrot	2.1331	72.2	93.9	33.8	52	1.2	57.02	83.3	3.74
+ <sup>14</sup> Crested Pigeon	2.0946	542.4	98.0	220.1	52	69.6	69.39	444.7	3.02
15 Common Blackbird	1.8758	9. 6	95.9	5.1	52	0.0	81.76	15.3	2.29
16 Rock Dove	1.6634	44.3	46.9	-9.7	52	0.0	20.85	20.1	7.98
17 Yellow-rumped Thornbill	1.6447	8.7	93.9	7.3	52	0.0	45.54	23.5	3.61
18 Eastern Rosella	1.5860	7.4	98.0	1.7	52	0.0	64.17	11.4	2.47
+ 19 Australian Raven	1.3691	52.6	100.0	8.4	52	0.0	59.24	31.1	2.31
20 Noisy Friarbird	1.2292	24.4	100.0	6.9	44	-1.4	50.22	28.0	2.45
21 White-naped Honeyeater	0.9630	30. 7	53.1	-4.2	34	5.9	7.20	-8.8	13.38
22 Superb Fairy-wren	0.7989	16.1	83.7	24.1	52	0.0	27.06	19.4	2.95
23 Gang-gang Cockatoo	0.7654	19.1	75.5	7.4	52	0.4	28.54	35.2	2.68
+ 24 Eastern Spinebill	0.7363	38.5	100.0	14. 7	52	1.2	43.42	35.9	1.70
25 Spotted Pardalote	0.7141	18.2	89.8	17.5	52	0.1	33.07	21.3	2.16
<sup>26</sup> Striated Pardalote	0.5855	-7.4	83.7	12.0	52	0.0	29.67	5.3	1.97
27 Red-browed Finch	0.4909	42.4	22.4	-19.0	49	16.4	4.53	-7.9	10.83
+ 28 Yellow-tailed Blk-Cockatoo	0.4722	1828.3	28.6	595.3	28	609.9	3.20	1453.5	14.74
29 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.4608	-20.1	93.9	-0.01	52	0.2	32.97	-8.5	1.40
30 Grey Fantail	0.4421	26. 9	91.8	12.4	52	0.3	27.70	22.6	1.60
3 Weebill	0.4076	-4.9	53.1	12.9	52	0.3	16.95	2.5	2.40

 $\begin{array}{l} A \ (abundance) = mean \ number \ of \ birds/site/week \\ F \ (distribution) = \% \ of \ sites \ with \ record(s) \\ W \ (weeks) = number \ of \ weeks \ with \ record(s) \end{array}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} R \; (recording \; rate) = \% \; of \; observer \; weeks \; with \; record(s) \\ G \; (group \; size) = mean \; number \; of \; individuals/observation \end{array}$ 

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
32 White-winged Chough	0.3361	13.2	24.5	-2.9	38	-11.5	4.34	10.4	7.75
- <sup>3</sup> Straw-necked Ibis	0.3100	-30.5	18.4	-10.5	22	2.1	1.48	-31.3	20.97
+ 34 Brown Thornbill	0.3100	54.6	67.3	75.0	52	3.1	20.31	95.7	1.53
- 35 Red-rumped Parrot	0.2972	-32.1	34.7	-16.0	51	-1.0	7.15	-25.5	4.16
36 Laughing Kookaburra	0.2859	-26.6	65.3	-12.4	52	0.0	17.55	-19.4	1.63
+ <sup>37</sup> Satin Bowerbird	0.2824	309.8	22.4	116.7	52	103.9	9.76	289.9	2.89
+38 Australian White Ibis	0.2676	160.7	18.4	105.6	25	106.4	1.82	185.4	14.68
39 Willie Wagtail	0.2430	-22.0	79.6	-5.6	52	0.0	20.60	-13.1	1.18
+ 40 Fuscous Honeyeater	0.2287	42.4	49.0	33.8	27	1.0	7.59	48.7	3.01
+ 41 White-browed Scrubwren	0.2252	168.4	40.8	117.7	52	15.8	12.81	164.4	1.76
42 Welcome Swallow	0.1986	-13.7	30.6	-17.6	48	-2.7	6.46	-7.2	3.08
+ 43 Double-barred Finch	0.1971	40. 7	20.4	-7.1	46	22.3	4.88	44.1	4.04
+ 44 Golden Whistler	0.1745	26.0	69.4	20.5	40	-8.9	15.13	29.6	1.15
+ 45 Little Raven	0.1700	159.3	20.4	161.1	13	50.0	0.69	65.2	24.64
+ 46 Pacific Black Duck	0.1587	168.4	8.2	7.4	39	66.8	3.06	126.6	5.19
47 Noisy Miner	0.1577	2.2	14.3	-24.7	47	-5.9	3.60	-22.1	4.38
48 White-plumed Honeyeater	0.1281	-24.6	53.1	16.3	43	-10.0	6.01	-23.9	2.13
+ <sup>49</sup> Grey Currawong	0.1198	52.2	22.4	-34.1	52	6.7	8.92	34.3	1.34
50 White-throated Needletail	0.1188	-44.8	22.4	-5.4	12	5.4	1.03	-8.2	11.48
+ 51 New Holland Honeyeater	0.1119	172.2	16.3	44.3	42	52.7	3.60	109.2	3.11
52 White-eared Honeyeater	0.1089	0.4	44.9	-18.9	51	33.8	7.49	-10.0	1.45
- <sup>53</sup> European Goldfinch	0.1055	-69.3	28.6	-43.0	40	-20.4	3.50	-65.6	3.01
54 Masked Lapwing	0.0986	8.8	49.0	35.5	48	3.4	6.70	35.1	1.47
55 Australian Wood Duck	0.0784	-32.0	26.5	26.7	39	12.5	3.01	9.1	2.61
- 56 Striated Thornbill	0.0626	-73.3	30.6	-16.6	29	-39.9	2.91	-54.3	2.15
5 <sup>7</sup> Olive-backed Oriole	0.0616	11.9	57.1	42.4	34	-0.2	5.57	9.5	1.11
+ 58 Pallid Cuckoo	0.0582	68.0	46.9	60.1	17	-20.5	5.22	65.7	1.11
<sup>59</sup> Dusky Woodswallow	0.0567	26.3	16.3	27.9	15	8.4	0.94	24.4	6.05
+ <sup>60</sup> Skylark	0.0567	66.1	4.1	109.4	30	97.8	1.82	138.0	3.11
- 6 <sup>1</sup> Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.0557	-50.8	10.2	-34.9	25	-37.5	1.77	-40.6	3.14
- 62 Rufous Whistler	0.0557	-53.6	61.2	1.7	38	-21.6	4.78	-51.8	1.16
+ 63 <sub>Mistletoebird</sub>	0.0537	153.3	18.4	41.4	36	42.4	4.63	144.1	1.16
+ 64 White-faced Heron	0.0508	82.9	16.3	13.2	44	65.0	3.10	79.8	1.63
+ 65 Common Bronzewing	0.0453	135.6	12.2	41.0	39	50.6	2.56	103.5	1.77
+ 66 Little Corella	0.0414	57.5	16.3	191.9	27	107.7	1.72	131.1	2.40

A (abundance) = mean number of birds/site/week
F (distribution) = % of sites with record(s)
W (weeks) = number of weeks with record(s)

$$\label{eq:Radiative} \begin{split} R \; & (\text{recording rate}) = \% \; \text{of observer weeks with record}(s) \\ G \; & (\text{group size}) = \text{mean number of individuals/observation} \end{split}$$

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	w	dW%	R%	dR%	G
67 Dollarbird	0.0355	-45.6	24.5	-29.2	18	-22.1	2.32	-41.1	1.53
68 White-throated Treecreeper	0.0320	-43.3	8.2	-56.2	35	-24.8	2.91	-41.1	1.10
69 Australian Hobby	0.0306	-18.8	36.7	6.5	37	-0.3	2.96	-4.9	1.03
70 Southern Boobook	0.0296	-30.5	34.7	4.5	29	-26.0	2.91	-26.4	1.02
Grey Shrike-thrush	0.0291	-65.5	36.7	-10.3	39	-19.4	2.71	-64.0	1.07
+ 72 Collared Sparrowhawk	0.0281	95.2	34.7	87.0	34	34.2	2.71	100.3	1.04
+ <sup>73</sup> Yellow Thornbill	0.0276	95.6	4.1	-45.9	37	112.1	1.92	162.5	1.44
74 Leaden Flycatcher	0.0276	-13.1	22.4	8.3	18	-25.0	1.92	-15.3	1.44
<sup>75</sup> Nankeen Kestrel	0.0271	-0.1	16.3	-29.8	32	-0.5	2.27	-3.9	1.20
+ 76 Rose Robin	0.0232	112.2	24.5	108. 5	20	22. 5	2.27	123.8	1.02
+ 77 Australian Owlet-nightjar	0.0227	1491.7	2.0	24.5	35	967.8	1.72	1158.0	1.31
+ <sup>78</sup> Black Swan	0.0202	1177.9	4.1	363.4	2	44.0	0.10	84.3	20.50
<sup>79</sup> Crescent Honeyeater	0.0172	-38.3	14.3	8.9	19	-12.8	1.28	-35.1	1.35
80 Richards Pipit	0.0172	-6.6	4.1	2.2	21	25.6	1.03	23.5	1.67
81 White throated Gerygone	0.0158	-29.4	16.3	-19.8	17	-25.6	0.94	-54.8	1.68
82 Flame Robin	0.0153	9.1	4.1	-51.7	7	-45.5	0.39	-42.5	3.88
8 Silver Gull	0.0118	-98.4	2.0	-79.4	7	-64.0	0.34	-64.6	3.43
+ 84 Wedge tailed Eagle	0.0113	47.2	20.4	95.7	12	10.8	0.79	48.5	1.44
+ <sup>85</sup> Common Koel *	0.0108	666.0	14.3	317.1	9	237.5	0.94	580.7	1.16
- 86 Brown-headed Honeyeater	0.0108	-64.2	6.1	-19.8	6	-58.6	0.30	-59.6	3.67
+ 87 Little Black Cormorant	0.0103	205.8	4.1	164.2	12	285.7	0.59	340.5	1.75
88 Sacred Kingfisher	0.0103	-13.4	20.4	1.1	15	-7.9	1.03	-6.9	1.00
89 Brown Goshawk	0.0094	-28.1	22.4	1.7	15	-32.0	0.94	-22.4	1.00
90 Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0094	-7.9	12.2	-1.1	12	-17.2	0.89	-8.9	1.06
+ 91 Brown Quail	0.0089	2245.3	2.0	826.5	6	1700.0	0.30	1626.3	3.00
92 Australian Pelican	0.0089	-57.2	14.3	39.4	7	-36.4	0.44	-19.4	2.00
<sup>93</sup> Tree Martin	0.0089	-70.0	10.2	45.5	8	-36.8	0.44	-25.9	2.00
- 94 Scarlet Robin	0.0084	-84.5	14.3	-57.5	7	-76.3	0.59	-83.8	1.42
+ 95 Peregrine Falcon	0.0074	62. 5	12.2	49.7	13	34.5	0.74	78.5	1.00
96 Rainbow Lorikeet	0.0074	-42.3	12.2	99.8	9	-37.0	0.49	-25.7	1.50
+ 97 Spotted Turtle Dove *	0.0069	648.2	4.1	174.9	8	336.4	0.39	365.1	1.75
- 98 Black-shouldered Kite	0.0064	-65.6	8.2	-34.5	10	-61.5	0.54	-63.9	1.18
- 9º Rainbow Bee-eater	0.0064	-59.3	8.2	7.9	4	-23.4	0.20	-26.6	3.25
100 Great Cormorant	0.0049	15.0	8.2	133.1	6	17.4	0.30	38.4	1.67
+ 101 Stubble Quail	0.0044	394.1	2.0	206.4	8	620.0	0.39	580.5	1.13

A (abundance) = mean number of birds/site/week
F (distribution) = % of sites with record(s)
W (weeks) = number of weeks with record(s)

$$\label{eq:conditional} \begin{split} R \; & (\text{recording rate}) = \% \; \text{of observer weeks with record}(s) \\ G \; & (\text{group size}) = \text{mean number of individuals/observation} \end{split}$$

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
- 102 Brown Falcon	0.0044	-43.2	4.1	-61.9	8	-45.9	0.39	-41.8	1.13
+ 103 Grey Butcherbird	0.0044	199.1	10.2	128.4	7	106.6	0.44	211.0	1.00
+ 104 Grey Teal	0.0039	217.1	2.0	234.4	4	227.3	0.20	245.3	2.00
- 105 Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0039	-55. 8	10.2	-11. 7	8	-45.9	0.39	-55.1	1.00
106 Restless Flycatcher	0.0039	-25.4	4.1	-48.0	8	-26.2	0.39	-21.2	1.00
- 107 Varied Sittella	0.0034	-93.1	2.0	-81.7	1	-94.9	0.05	-94.7	7.00
- 108 Little Eagle	0.0025	-55.6	6.1	-28.9	5	-56.7	0.25	-52.0	1.00
109 Rufous Fantail	0.0025	-28.9	6.1	-30.6	3	-53.9	0.25	-24.9	1.00
110 Zebra Finch	0.0025	4.4	2.0	23.0	5	42.9	0.25	87.1	1.00
+ 111 Little Pied Cormorant	0.0020	44.7	2.0	0.1	4	56.5	0.20	74.7	1.00
+ 112 Little Lorikeet	0.0020	126.1	4.1	202.8	2	157.1	0.10	180.1	2.00
- <sup>IB</sup> Satin Flycatcher	0.0015	-63.6	6.1	-11.4	3	-55.7	0.15	-56.9	1.00
- 114 White-winged Trifler	0.0015	-90.4	2.0	-77.9	3	-75.3	0.1S	-24.1	Leo
115 Clamorous Reed-Warbler	0.0015	-31.9	2.0	27.0	3	-1.8	0.15	3.3	1.00
+ 116 Long-billed Corella	0.0010	103.6	2.0	256.5	2	350.0	0.10	447.5	1.00
- 117 Hooded Robin	0.0010	-66.3	2.0	51.4	1	-75.7	0.05	-71.1	2.00
1 <sup>18</sup> Mallard	0.0005	13.4	2.0	258.1	1	20.0	0.05	21.7	1.00
- 119 Chestnut Teal	0.0005	-83.6	2.0	559.2	1	-48.6	0.05	-45.4	1.00
+ 120 Darter	0.0005	1071.4	2.0	1072.9	1	800.0	0.05	1071.4	1.00
121 White-necked Heron	0.0005	-21.1	2.0	29.3	1	-28.0	0.05	-12.2	1.00
+ 122 Great Egret	0.0005	162.9	2.0	239.9	1	157.1	0.05	239.0	1.00
+ 123 Swamp Harrier	0.0005	410.8	2.0	534.3	1	260.0	0.05	410.8	1.00
- 124 Brush Cuckoo	0.0005	-33.5	2.0	7.2	1	-48.6	0.05	-32.0	1.00
- 125 Fan-tailed Cuckoo	0.0005	-96.2	2.0	-87.4	1	-95.0	0.05	-96.0	1.00
- 126 Tawny Frogmouth	0.0005	-95.8	2.0	-50.6	1	-92.5	0.05	-92.1	1.00
- 127 Speckled Warbler	0.0005	-96.5	2.0	-66.1	1	-94.2	0.05	-93.4	1.00
- 128 Western Gerygone	0.0005	-91.6	2.0	-70.1	1	-91.0	0.05	-90.8	1.00
+ 129 Scarlet Honeyeater	0.0005	241.3	2.0	307.2	1	200.0	0.05	241.3	1.00
- 130 Rufous Songlark	0.0005	-90.7	2.0	-16.4	1	-83.3	0.05	-86.0	1.00

For both Table 2 and Table 3, an indication of the status of a species for the GBS year relative to the average for all previous GBS years is provided as a + or - prefix when dA% and dR% are both larger than  $\pm 25\%$ . This may or may not be indicative of a general increase or decline. In cases where A and R values are small, this indicator may be misleading or erroneous.

n/a in columns listing percentage change indicates that there have been no records of that species in previous years so no comparisons can be made.

<sup>\*</sup> indicates a species for which both endorsed and unendorsed records contribute to the statistics. \*\* indicates a species for which there were only unendorsed record(s).

## TABLE 3. GARDEN BIRD SURVEY STATISTICS - 2000-2001

Values for A, F, W, R and G for 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (Year 20), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (Years 1-19).

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
I Galah	7.8520	24.0	100.0	0.7	52	0.0	84.11	8.7	9.34
+ 2 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	7.4273	64.0	100.0	3.2	52	0.0	87.80	36.9	8.46
<sup>3</sup> Silvereye	6.5065	9.2	100.0	3.3	52	0.0	71.66	4.6	9.08
4 Common Starling	5.9484	-48.5	90.9	-6.4	52	0.0	58.83	-19.3	10.11
+ <sup>5</sup> Common Myna	5.1530	118.1	96.4	56.1	52	0.3	81.38	107.9	6.33
6 House Sparrow	5.0013	-32.0	90.9	-6.1	52	0.0	66.83	-10.7	7.48
7 Pied Currawong	4.1212	2.3	100.0	1.5	52	0.0	89.98	15.2	4.58
+ 8 Crimson Rosella	3.7082	31.0	100.0	1.4	52	0.0	91.45	19.5	4.06
+ 9 Australian Magpie	3.3258	25.6	100.0	0.6	52	0.0	91.95	9.4	3.62
10 Yellow-faced Honeyeater	2.7807	3.6	87.3	-0.2	52	2.4	31.66	17.3	8.78
+ 11 Red Wattlebird	2.5757	33.9	100.0	3.0	52	0.0	89.35	22.2	2.88
12 Magpie-lark	2.4625	24.7	98.2	-0.1	52	0.0	83.77	15.6	2.94
+ 13 Australian King-Parrot	2.3635	84.4	96.4	34.9	52	1.1	57.82	78.1	4.09
+ 14 Crested Pigeon	2.2604	439.3	92.7	171.5	52	63.6	69.98	345.1	3.23
15 Common Blackbird	1.8570	7.9	96.4	5.3	52	0.0	78.36	9.6	2.37
16 Yellow-rumped Thornbill	1.6809	10.6	90.9	3.5	52	0.0	38.20	2.3	4.40
17 Eastern Rosella	1.5782	6.4	100.0	3.7	52	0.0	58.32	0.6	2.71
+ 18 Australian Raven	1.3920	51.0	100.0	7.9	52	0.0	62.31	35.6	2.23
19 Rock Dove	1.3904	17.9	43.6	-15.7	52	0.0	18.07	3.0	7.69
20 Superb Fairy-wren	0.8788	26.6	76.4	11.8	52	0.0	26.83	17.3	3.28
+ 21 Eastern Spinebill	0.7732	42.5	96.4	9.7	52	1.1	46.42	42.6	1.67
22 Gang-gang Cockatoo	0.7241	11.6	70.9	0.5	52	0.4	23.73	10.4	3.05
23 Spotted Pardalote	0.6709	9.9	87.3	13.1	52	0.1	34.13	23.8	1.97
+ 24 Yellow-tailed BlkCockatoo	0.6541	1261.4	36.4	573.8	45	763.6	4.40	1109.6	14.86
25 Noisy Friarbird	0.6503	-35.0	96.4	2.6	39	-12.5	33.63	-15.5	1.93
+ 26 Australian White Ibis	0.4985	347.8	20.0	112.1	37	189.3	2.60	270.6	19.18
+ 27 White-winged Chough	0.4809	60.8	30.9	22.7	46	7.8	5.83	47.5	8.25
28 Weebill	0.4621	8.1	58.2	23.0	52	0.3	20.55	24.1	2.25
29 White-throated Needletail	0.4407	109.6	25.5	7.6	10	-12.4	1.34	19.5	32.84
30 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.4356	-23.6	92.7	-1.2	52	0.2	29.35	-18.2	1.48
31 Striated Pardalote	0.4155	-34.1	74.5	-0.9	52	0.0	23.82	-15.7	1.74
+ 32 Brown Thornbill	0.3832	85.8	72.7	81.8	52	2.9	22.22	103.9	1.72

A (abundance) = mean number of birds/site/week R (recording rate) = % of observer weeks with record(s)

F(distribution) = % of sites with record(s) G(group size) = mean number of individuals/observation <math>W(weeks) = number of weeks with record(s)

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
+ <sup>33</sup> Satin Bowerbird	0.3639	354.1	27.3	148.0	52	93.3	9.06	214.0	4.02
34 Grey Fantail	0.3417	-3.3	90.9	10.6	52	0.3	22.94	0.3	1.49
35 Red-browed Finch	0.3233	-8.3	14.5	-47.0	46	8.3	3.02	-38.4	10.71
36 White-naped Honeyeater	0.3094	-58.7	50.9	-7.9	34	5.6	5.95	-24.2	5.20
37 Welcome Swallow	0.2319	1.4	36.4	-1.2	52	5.6	6.92	-0.2	3.35
- <sup>38</sup> Laughing Kookaburra	0.2243	-41.6	72.7	-1.8	52	0.0	14.47	-32.8	1.55
39 Noisy Miner	0.2143	38.7	21.8	16.5	51	2.4	5.20	14.0	4.12
+ 40 White-browed Scrubwren	0.2130	133.1	49.1	146.6	52	14.9	11.99	127.7	1.78
- 41 Willie Wagtail	0.1962	-36.3	76.4	-9.1	52	0.0	16.60	-29.5	1.18
-42 European Goldfinch	0.1795	-45.9	18.2	-62.9	49	-1.4	3.73	-62.0	4.81
43 Golden Whistler	0.1774	26.4	78.2	34.3	40	-8.4	14.76	24.4	1.20
+ 44 White-browed	0.1727	1339.6	9.1	620.2	1	-17.4	0.21	324.7	82.40
45 Straw-necked Ibis	0.1660	-62.2	18.2	-10.9	24	11.2	1.68	-20.7	9.90
+ 46 Masked Lapwing	0.1501	65.0	43.6	18.5	52	11.8	8.01	58.5	1.87
- 47 Red-rumped Parrot	0.1434	-66.7	32.7	-20.1	41	-20.3	3.86	-59.2	3.72
+ 48 Little Corella	0.1354	400.1	23.6	283.8	44	220.3	2.81	252.1	4.82
+ 49 Common Bronzewing	0.1291	526.2	10.9	22.9	51	91.9	4.32	225.2	2.99
50 Australian Wood Duck	0.1266	11.8	32.7	54.1	52	49.0	4.57	65.0	2.77
- 51 Striated Thornbill	0.1044	-53.7	36.4	-0.1	34	-28.0	3.31	-46.4	3.15
+52 Pacific Black Duck	0.0998	55.0	16.4	114.5	40	65.2	2.64	83.7	3.78
<sup>53</sup> Grey Currawong	0.0943	16.7	40.0	19.7	52	6.4	8.13	20.3	1.16
+ <sup>54</sup> New Holland Honeyeater	0.0939	109.5	12.7	9.9	36	27.4	2.47	36.0	3.80
55 Fuscous Honeyeater	0.0901	-45.1	34.5	-7.3	31	15.9	4.23	-19.1	2.13
56 White-eared Honeyeater	0.0885	-18.5	50.9	-7.1	50	28.9	7.42	-10.4	1.19
<sup>57</sup> Dusky Woodswallow	0.0872	91.6	12.7	-1.8	13	-6.4	0.92	21.0	9.45
- 58 White-plumed Honeyeater	0.0788	-53.0	34.5	-24.9	42	-11.6	4.78	-38.7	1.65
- <sup>59</sup> Double-barred Finch	0.0784	-45.2	14.5	-33.6	32	-15.9	1.68	-51.6	4.68
- 60 Silver Gull	0.0713	-90.1	3.6	-61.7	7	-62.7	0.34	-64.4	21.25
- 61 Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.0713	-35.2	14.5	-5.5	25	-36.2	1.84	-36.9	3.86
+ 62 White-faced Heron	0.0549	89.6	20.0	37.7	47	70.4	2.60	44.5	2.11
+ <sup>63</sup> Yellow Thornbill	0.0545	267.8	16.4	122.2	47	154.4	2.77	248.2	1.97
- 64 Little Raven	0.0507	-28.6	5.5	-35.7	7	-21.3	0.29	-32.1	17.29
65 Olive-backed Oriole	0.0444	-19.8	47.3	15.2	32	-6.0	4.07	-20.5	1.09
- <sup>66</sup> Grey Shrike-thrush	0.0436	-46.4	34.5	-15.2	41	-14.4	4.03	-44.6	1.08
67 Australian Hobby	0.0390	4.7	38.2	10.3	43	15.9	3.56	14.9	1.09
+ 68 Collared Sparrowhawk	0.0386	155.2	32.7	68.6	41	59.0	3.77	164.9	1.02

$$\begin{split} &A \ (abundance) = mean \ number \ of \ birds/site/week \\ &F \ (distribution) = \% \ of \ sites \ with \ record(s) \\ &W \ (weeks) = number \ of \ weeks \ with \ record(s) \end{split}$$

$$\label{eq:Radiation} \begin{split} R \; & (\text{recording rate}) = \% \; \text{of observer weeks with record}(s) \\ G \; & (\text{group size}) = \text{mean number of individuals/observation} \end{split}$$

## Canberra Bird Notes 26(4)

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
+ 69 Spotted Turtle-Dove *	0.0373	2917.0	9.1	460.7	46	2031.7	2.64	2513.8	1.41
+ 70 Mistletoebird	0.0365	59.2	16.4	23.3	30	16.1	3.40	66.3	1.07
71 Crescent Honeyeater	0.0335	22.4	14.5	10.3	28	29.4	2.47	27.7	1.36
72 Rufous Whistler	0.0310	-73.4	38.2	-36.6	32	-33.2	2.56	-73.5	1.21
73 Brown-headed Honeyeater	0.0277	-5.4	7.3	-3.7	17	21.0	0.80	12.3	3.47
74 Pallid Cuckoo	0.0268	-25.2	36.4	20.2	16	-24.4	2.47	-24.2	1.08
75 White-throated Treecreeper	0.0264	-52.1	7.3	-59.7	35	-23.8	2.47	-48.8	1.07
76 Skylark	0.0260	-26.4	1.8	-11.8	27	69.3	1.13	37.7	2.30
77 Scarlet Robin	0.0252	-51.2	30.9	-5.2	29	2.4	1.93	-44.8	1.30
+ 78 Rose Robin	0.0239	106.7	18.2	46.4	22	33.1	2.18	102.1	1.10
<sup>79</sup> Dollarbird	0.0235	-63.1	30.9	-9.3	22	-3.7	2.01	-47.7	1.17
80 Southern Boobook	0.0231	-44.9	34.5	3.8	27	-30.1	2.18	-44.0	1.06
81 Nankeen Kestrel	0.0214	-21.2	20.0	-12.6	36	11.9	2.01	-14.5	1.06
+ 82 Tawny Frogmouth	0.0205	84.1	7.3	80.8	26	104.1	1.22	104.0	1.69
+ 83 Common Koel *	0.0184	865.1	34.5	764.3	11	266.7	1.68	833.8	1.10
+ 84 Grey Butcherbird	0.0180	1000.4	16.4	243.0	20	458.8	1.80	1037.6	1.00
85 Black shouldered Kite	0.0164	9.1	12.7	4.0	29	15.5	1.34	7.6	1.22
86 Leaden Flycatcher	0.0164	-48.1	21.8	4.8	19	-19.8	1.22	-46.0	1.34
+ 87 Wedge-tailed Eagle	0.0138	75.3	23.6	115.8	17	56.0	0.88	61.6	1.57
88 White-winged Triller	0.0138	-5.4	3.6	-58.9	9	-23.0	0.42	-52.7	3.30
89 Flame Robin	0.0130	-7.6	5.5	-33.6	12	-4.2	0.50	-24.9	2.58
90 Brown Goshawk	0.0126	-1.9	23.6	7.0	26	19.9	1.22	1.9	1.03
+ 91 Brown Falcon	0.0122	59.3	5.5	-47.4	21	45.6	1.09	64.6	1.12
92 Australian Pelican	0.0096	-52.1	7.3	-30.5	5	-53.7	0.21	-61.5	4.60
+ 93 Peregrine Falcon	0.0088	87.3	16.4	94.9	17	72.7	0.80	84.7	1.11
94 Richard's Pipit	0.0084	-54.4	1.8	-54.5	11	-35.1	0.46	-45.7	1.82
+ 95 Grey Teal	0.0071	414.4	1.8	165.2	9	557.7	0.38	485.4	1.89
96 Tree Martin	0.0071	-74.9	5.5	-24.1	7	-43.6	0.29	-50.3	2.43
97 Fan-tailed Cuckoo	0.0067	-45.3	18.2	18.0	13	-31.2	0.63	-46.2	1.07
98 Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0067	-22.5	9.1	-20.8	11	-23.7	0.67	-21.4	1.00
99 Varied Sittella	0.0067	-85.8	5.5	-49.0	4	-78.5	0.17	-81.0	4.00
- 100 Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0063	-37.9	7.3	-41.2	14	-2.6	0.59	-39.4	1.07
+ 101 Australian Owlet-nightjar	0.0063	147.4	3.6	119.0	15	203.2	0.63	185.0	1.00
+ 102 Long-billed Corella	0.0059	1049.9	1.8	179.8	14	2560.0	0.59	2538.8	1.00
- 103 Rainbow Lorikeet	0.0059	-53.1	3.6	-43.6	7	-50.0	0.29	-55.2	2.00
+ 104 Masked Woodswallow	0.0055	710.7	3.6	1056.9	1	137.5	0.08	392.1	6.50

 $\begin{array}{l} A \ (abundance) = mean \ number \ of \ birds/site/week \\ F \ (distribution) = \% \ of \ sites \ with \ record(s) \\ W \ (weeks) = number \ of \ weeks \ with \ record(s) \end{array}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} R \; (recording \; rate) = \% \; of \; observer \; weeks \; with \; record(s) \\ G \; (group \; size) = mean \; number \; of \; individuals/observation \end{array}$ 

Species	A	dA%	F%	dF%	W	dW%	R%	dR%	G
105 Little Eagle	0.0050	-6.6	12.7	50.0	12	7.0	0.50	0.7	1.00
- 106 Sacred Kingfisher	0.0050	-57.6	16.4	-19.0	8	-50.6	0.50	-54.6	1.00
+ 107 Superb Parrot	0.0046	206.9	1.8	21.6	2	18.8	0.08	30.3	5.50
+ 108 Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	0.0046	43.1	1.8	-25.6	9	151.5	0.38	110.0	1.22
+ 109 Golden-headed Cisticola	0.0046	90.2	1.8	62.4	11	171.4	0.46	171.4	1.00
110 Rufous Fantail	0.0042	22.9	10.9	25.6	6	-5.0	0.38	16.6	1.11
+ 111 Stubble Quail	0.0038	248.1	3.6	392.5	7	375.0	0.34	343.4	1.13
+ 112 Cattle Egret	0.0038	27.2	1.8	114.8	8	590.9	0.34	639.7	1.13
+ 113 Brown Quail	0.0034	306.5	1.8	475.2	6	850.0	0.25	691.3	1.33
- 114 Speckled Warbler	0.0034	-74.9	3.6	-37.4	5	-69.6	0.21	-70.4	1.60
+ 115 Clamorous Reed-Warbler	0.0029	37.5	1.8	11.6	7	129.3	0.29	104.6	1.00
- 116 Western Gerygone	0.0025	-54.7	7.3	10.6	6	-43.6	0.25	-50.8	1.00
+ 117 Cockatiel	0.0021	63.4	1.8	-30.7	5	90.0	0.21	103.1	1.00
118 Great Cormorant	0.0017	-61.2	5.5	45.6	3	-41.8	0.13	-42.3	1.33
- 119 Hooded Robin	0.0017	40.6	1.8	31.3	2	-49.3	0.08	-48.9	2.00
+ 120 Little Wattlebird	0.0013	1638.1	1.8	752.1	3	1325.0	0.13	1638.1	1.00
+ 121 Pink Robin *	0.0013	180.0	5.5	433.7	3	185.0	0.13	239.5	1.00
122 Satin Flycatcher	0.0013	-68.0	5.5	-20.6	2	-69.6	0.13	-62.2	1.00
+ 123 Dusky Moorhen	0.0008	647.6	1.8	1372.7	1	850.0	0.04	1214.4	2.00
+ 124 Peachface Lovebird *	0.0008	28.4	3.6	115.6	2	22.6	0.08	40.9	1.00
+ 125 Channel billed Cuckoo *	0.0008	1806.8	3.6	1852.6	2	1800.0	0.08	1806.8	1.00
126 White throated Gerygone	0.0008	96.2	3.6	-81.9	2	-91.1	0.08	-95.8	1.00
+ 127 Black faced Monarch *	0.0008	424.2	3.6	695.9	2	375.0	0.08	424.2	1.00
128 Zebra Finch	0.0008	-64.5	1.8	8.2	1	-72.1	0.04	-69.6	2.00
129 Black Swan	0.0004	-83.6	1.8	73.3	1	-29.6	0.04	-25.0	1.00
+ 130 Darter	0.0004	537.2	1.8	567.8	1	533.3	0.04	537.2	1.00
131 Little Pied Cormorant	0.0004	-69.9	1.8	-10.9	1	-62.0	0.04	-64.3	1.00
132 White-necked Heron	0.0004	-32.1	1.8	13.4	1	-26.9	0.04	-24.8	1.00
+ 133 Intermediate Egret **	0.0004	2153.7	1.8	2214.5	1	1800.0	0.04	2153.7	1.00
+ 134 Black Kite	0.0004	436.9	1.8	477.2	1	375.0	0.04	436.9	1.00
135 Whistling Kite	0.0004	-23.1	1.8	45.0	1	-17.4	0.04	-16.8	1.00
136 White-headed Pigeon	0.0004	7.3	1.8	1627.3	1	72.7	0.04	56.1	1.00
+ 137 Diamond Dove **	0.0004	721.4	1.8	788.5	1	850.0	0.04	721.4	1.00
+ 138 Peaceful Dove	0.0004	133.2	1.8	234.1	1	111.1	0.04	133.2	1.00
+ 139 Regent Parrot	0.0004	1863.7	1.8	1869.1	1	1800.0	0.04	1863.7	1.00
140 Budgerigar	0.0004	-69.0	1.8	-53.8	1	-69.8	0.04	-67.2	1.00
+ 141 Barn Owl	0.0004	26.1	1.8	92.2	1	18.8	0.04	33.6	1.00
142 Tawny.crowned Honeyeater	0.0004		1.8	n/a	1	n/a	0.04		1.00

#### DATA, METHODOLOGIES, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Sources of data

#### General records

All records which were not the product of a specific COG survey are included as `General' records. Data from the Greening Australia Birdwatch Project are also included here, as are records from COG's area of concern which have been submitted to Birds Australia as part of its Atlas project.

#### Garden Bird Survey (GBS)

GBS data are derived from standard charts on which participants record observations on a weekly basis at sites throughout suburban Canberra. Observers record the maximum number of each species seen at any one time during a week within a radius of 100 metres of their home or workplace. Descriptions of the Garden Bird Survey have been made by Hermes (1981), COG (2000) and Veerman (2002).

Statistical values for measures of abundance (A), distribution (F), weekly presence (W), recording rate (R), and group size (G), together with the percentage change in these values when compared with the average of all the previous GBS years are shown on pp. 178-185. The methods used to calculate these values are described below.

#### 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, say, Eastern Spinebills recorded 1106, the average number of that species seen each week, at each site, over the full year (A) would be 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, say, was recorded at least once at 9 of them, the value of F for the year is 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 **for a migrant such as the** Dollarbird, 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 was 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. For example, if the calculated G value for the Silver Gull was 134.3, it is an indication that the Silver Gull was usually observed in sizeable flocks.

Correction to GBS statistics in 1996-97 ABR (CBN 24: 99-142).

There was a small error in all the values of F% in the 1996-97 ABR. As there were 43 sites for the year, all values of F% should have been a simple percentage of 43 but they were not. All the statistical values were calculated when there were 42 charts but then were redone when another chart was received. Strangely the F% shown in the

ABR remained based on 42 charts but all the other values shown are based on the data from 43 charts. The difference is small and for some species F% should be slightly higher and for others it should be slightly lower. This error was rectified in Philip Veerman's (2002) Canberra Birds: A Report on the first 18 years of the Garden Bird Survey and COG (2000) Birds of Canberra Gardens.

#### Woodland Survey (WOO)

Data are collected systematically following protocols which have a sound statistical basis. Nine sub-sites (plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high complexity are set up at each site, and surveys are conducted seasonally (typically four times a year). 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 also being recorded. Although not specified in the Woodland survey protocol, some surveyors conduct additional surveys at their sites (see Table 4). Records from these additional surveys are included in the WOO records so numbers of records across sites are not strictly comparable.

Surveys at Mulligans Flat (24 sub-sites) commenced in 1995, and include sites in Grassy Woodland as well as other habitats. Castle Hill, Gooroo, Majura Nature Park, Red Hill and Symonston sites were added in 1998; the Majura Firing Range was added in 1998/99 (10 sub-sites); and was followed in 2000 by Hall, Newline Quarry, and Tuggeranong.

Table 4. Woodland survey dates

Site	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
CAS	11/9/99	11/12/99	25/3/00	11/7/00
	10/10/99	3/12/00	15/4/00	23/6/01
	20/11/99	12/02/00	24/3/01	
	24/9/00			
	22/10/00			
GOO	18/9/99	11/12/99	28/3/00	15/6/00
	19/9/00	30/1/99	24/3/01	23/6/01
		15/12/00		
HAL	24/9/00	17/12/00	25/3/01	18/6/00
				16/6/01
MAJ	12/9/99	21/12/99	25/3/00	25/6/00
	16/9/00	21/12/00	31/3/01	30/6/01
MJF	5/11/99	12/2/00		3/6/00
	30/9/00	3/12/00		
MUF	26/9/99	2/12/00	25/3/00	2/7/00
	17/9/00		25/3/01	24/6/01
NLN	23/9/00	10/12/00	8/4/01	23/7/00
				1/7/01
RED	19/9/99	12/12/99	12/3/00	18/6/00
	24/9/00	3/12/00	24/3/01	24/6/01
SY M	11/9/99	11/12/99	18/3/00	17/6/00
	3/9/00	27/1/01	17/3/01	23/6/01
TUG	16/9/00	17/12/00	25/3/01	6/8/00
				17/6/01

## Waterbird Survey (WBS)

Data on the number of waterbirds present are collected during monthly surveys of Lake Bathurst (including The Morass) and Lake George, when those lakes contain water. The survey typically involves visits to three locations at Lake Bathurst and to two locations at Lake George.

In the 1999-01 period, while inspections were made relatively frequently, surveys were only done when water conditions permitted on the following dates:

Lake George North, South: 7 Jan 00; 25 Jun 00; 31 Jul 00; 25 Oct 00; 27 Nov 00; 28 Dec 00.

Lake Bathurst East: 1 Nov 99; 6 Dec 99; 2 Jan 00; 26 Jun 00; 30 Sep 00; 25 Oct 00; 28 Dec 00(dry); 2 Mar 01 (almost dry); 28 Mar 01 (dry); 9 Jun 01 (dry).

Lake Bathurst West: 6 Dec 99; 2 Jan 00; 27 Nov 00; 2 Mar 01.

The Morass: 1 Nov 99; 6 Dec 99; 2 Jan 00; 23 Jan 00; 27 Feb 00; 18 Mar 00; 30 Apr 00; 15 May 00; 25 Jun 00; 31 Jul 00; 30 Sep 00; 25 Oct 00; 2 Mar 01; 28 Mar 01; 29 Apr 01; 24 Jun 01.

In the tables of waterbird numbers, the figures which are underlined indicate that the lake was only partly surveyed. The symbol "-" indicates that no surveys were undertaken at any site at the lake for the month.

#### Explanatory notes on the text

The names and sequence of birds in the Systematic List conform to The Taxonomy and Species of Birds of Australia and its Territories (Christidis & Boles 1994).

The status shown for each species in this report has been revised by COG's Rarities Panel for this publication but must be considered as a 'work in progress' and not a final determination. Some of the Panel's

decisions on the status of individual species have been based on information from sources other than COG's databases and hence may not strictly accord with database records. The Panel would appreciate any comments readers may wish to make on the subject.

As applicable, information for each species in the Systematic List is in the sequence: General Records (General), Garden Bird Survey (GBS), Woodland Survey (WOO) and Waterbird Survey (WBS). For some species, there may also be a brief general commentary preceding the data summary.

As a general rule 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 K 13 and the observer was Jacquie Winter. (A full list of observers and their observer codes is provided on p. 190) 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(White-plumed Honeyeater)/18 Dec. The Birds Australia data record presence only, with the symbol 'x', and not abundance; they also do not specify the nature of the breeding reported. In these ABRs, BA breeding records are indicated by 'br' unless further details have been obtained from the observers.

The words 'record(s)' and 'observation(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 sometimes 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 Taylor (1987) (CBN 12: 8-13).

Abbreviations  General  ad adult  ANBG Australian National Botanic Gardens  ANU Australian National University  BA Birds Australia  CAS Castle Hill  CBN Canberra Bird Notes  Ck creek  CNP Canberra Nature Park  CSIRO Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.  The abbreviation is followed by the location, e.g. CS1RO Black Mtn  esc escapee (status as confirmed by the COG Rarities Panel)  E East  f female  GA Greening Australia  GBS Garden Bird Survey  GOO Gooroo  Gr COG grid cell (number)  GunL Gungahlin Lakes  Hs Homestead	misc MJF Mt MUF N NLN NP nr NR NZ Pk R Ra Rd/rd RED Res S SF SP SYM TSR TUG UNIC unsp W	miscellaneous (records) Majura Firing Range Mount/Mountain Mulligans Flat North Newline Quarry National Park/Nature Park near Nature Reserve New Zealand Park River Range Road Red Hill Reserve South State Forest sewage ponds Symonston Travelling Stock Reserve Tuggeranong University of Canberra, Bruce unspecified West
Hwy Highway imm immature incl including/inclusive juvenile JWNP Jerrabomberra Wetlands Nature Park km kilometre LBath Lake Bathurst LBG Lake Burley Griffin LGeo Lake George LGin Lake Ginninderra LTug Lake Tuggeranong male MAJ Mt Majura max maximum	WBS WL WOO wk  Breedin cf co di dy ih nb ne ny on	Waterbird Survey wetlands Woodland Survey week

List of contribu	itors
Observer Code	Name
AJR1	Allen family
MB1	'Barbara Allan
A1R1	Richard Allen
AnB1	Bernice Anderson
AnC1	Carol Anderson
AnE1	Eric Andrew
AnI1	Ian Anderson
AsM1	Margaret Aston
AvJ1	John Avery
Bal1	Ian Baird
BaB1	Barry Baker
BaG1	Graham Barwell
BaG3	Geoff Barrett
BaJ1	Joe Barr
BeA2	Alistair Bestow
BeC1	Catherine Bennett
BeC3	Chris Bellamy
Be131	Darryl Beaumont
BeR3	Rosemary Bell
BiD1	Darryl Binns
BiG1	Greg Binns
B1J2	John Blyth
BIR1	Rosemary Blemings
BoJ1	Jennifer Bounds
BoM1	Margaret Boots
BoS2	S Bond
BrK1	Karen Brown
BrM1	Mike Braysher
BrM2	Muriel Brookfield
BrT1	Thelma Brown
BuC3	Charles Buer
BuM1	Martin Butterfield
BuM2	Margaret Burgmann
CaJ2	June Carnahan
CaM3	Margaret Cameron
CaN1	Nathan Carroll
CaR1	R & C Cannon
CCR1	Cannon family
ChJ2	Jill Chamberlain
C1M1	:Mark Clayton
C1S1 C1S3	Sylvia Cleland Stephen Clark
C103	Stephen Clark

Observer Code	Name,
CoD1	Del Cowley
CoD2	David Cook
CoE1	Elizabeth Compston
CoG1	Guy Cotsell
CoJ1	Jim Collett
CoP2	Collier family
CrM1	Mike Crowley
CzF1	Frances Czwalinna
DaB2	Billie Daley
DaC1	Chris Davey
DaG2	Geoffrey Dabb
DaT1	Tony Daukus
DeD2	Dianne Deans
DoD1	David Donato
DoM1	Mike Doyle
DrM1	M Drury
DrP1	Penny Drake-Brockrnan
DwB1	Dwyer family
ElN1	Nevin Ellis
EnJ1 EvD1	Jan England David Everitt
FeP1	Paul Fennell
FoA1	Alan Ford
Frll	Ian Fraser
FrK1	Ken Freeman
FrT1	Terry Friebe
FyM1	Malcolm Fyfe
GeJ1	Jean Geue
GiP1	Peter Ginnane
G1S1	Sylvia Gleeson
GoC1	Carl Gosper
GoC1	Chris Goldspink
GoJ3	John Goldie
GoP1	Peter & June Gotham
GoP2 GrB1	Phyl Goddard Bill Graham
GrC1	Catherine Grenfel1
GrG1	Gina Gregory
GrM1	Margaret Groves
GrT1	Tom Green
HaH1	Horst Hahne
Hall	Ian Harpley

Observer Code	Name	Obser
		McA2
НаЈ6	John Hall	McD2
HAJ1	Holland family	Mcl1
HaK1	Kay Hahne	McJ2
HaL1	Lee Halasz	McJ4
HaS4	Stuart Harris	MDN MeK
.HeB1	Bill Hetherington	MiP4
HoA1	Ann Howarth	MiS1
HoB1	Bill Horrigan	MoA.
'HoB3	Brian Hooley	MoE1
:HoJ1	Jack Holland	MoM
HuJ1	John Hutchings	MoM
HuN2	Neville Hunter	MoT1
IoA1	Anne1'Ons	MuL
IrJ1	Janet1rons	MuT1
JoD1	Delia Johnson	NeC1
JoF1	Fiona Johnson	NeG1
JoM1	M Johnstone	NeS1
JoM2	Murray Johnson	NiJ2
JoN1	Nina Johnson	IOW
KiM1	Mildred Kirk	OvA1
KoC1	Chris Konovalov	PeB1
KoL l	Lana Kosseck	PeH2
KrS1	Shirley Kral David Landon	PfD1
LaD1 LaD3		P1NK
	Doug Laing	ReD1
LaM2	Malcolm Lawrie	(ReG
LaR4	Russ Lamb	RoB1
LaS1	Sue Lashko	RoC1
LeA1	Adam Leavesley	RoD1
LeB1	Brendan Lepschi	RoM3
LeJ1	John Lepschi	RoJ4
LeM1	Michael Lenz	
LiB1	Bruce Lindenmayer	RoP1
LiP1	Paddy Lightfoot	RoS1
LiJ1	Joan Lipscombe	RuA1
LJT1	Lipscombe family	RuB1
LoE1	Eve Lorigley	SaT1
LuH1	Hans Lutter	ScA1
LuM1	Maria Lukacs	ScB2
LuN1 LuN1	Noel Luff	ScG1
MaC2	Carol Macleay	ScK1
MaP4	Peter Marsack	ScJ3
		SmA
MaR1	Richard Mason	SmF1
MaS2	Stuart Magee	

Observer Code	Name
McA2	Alison McKenzie
McD1	David McDonald
Mcl1	Ian McMahon
McJ2	Jonette McDonnell
McJ4	Julie McGuiness
MDN1	McDonald family
MeK1 MiP4	Krystii Melaine Miller family
MiS1	Suzanne Mitchell
MoA2	Alan Morris
MoE1	Euan Moore
MoM1	Mike Moncur
MoM3	Martyn Moffat
MoT1	Terry Moore
MuL1	Louise Muir
MuT1	Terry Munro Carol Newman
NeC1	
NeG1	Gail Neumann
NeS1	Susan Newbery
NiJ2	James Nicholls
IOW1	Peter Ormay
OvA1	Anthony Overs
PeB1	Barrie Pennefather
PeH2	Harvey Perkins
PfD1	David Pfanner
P1NK	Noelene Plummer
ReD1	D Rentz
(ReG1	Gillian Redmond
RoB1	Bill Robertson
RoC1	Cecily Rowell
RoD1	Doug Ross
RoM3	Margaret Robertson
RoJ4	Jenny Rothschild
RoP1	Peter Roberts
RoS1	Susan Robertson
RuA1	Alison Russell-French
RuB1	Bob Rusk
SaT1	Tony Saunders
ScA1	Anthony Scott
ScB2	Brian Scales
ScG1	Gutta Schoefl
ScK1	Ken Schaefer
ScJ3	John Schmelfcske
SmA1	Alastair Smith
SmF1	Fran Smith

Observer Code	Name	Observer Code	Name
SuA1	Anne Sutherns	WeR1	Richard Webb
SuR1	Richard Summerrell	W1111	Jean Whatman
TaD2	David Taylor	WiB1	Brendan Wilson
TaH1	Hazel Taylor	WiD1	Denis Wilson
TaJ3	Joy Tansey	WiD2	David Winterbottom
TaN1	Nicki Taws	WiH1	Helen Wilson
TaT1	Tony Taffe	WiJ1	Jim Wilson
ThR1	Richard Thackway	WiM1	Margaret Windle
TuG1	Graham Turner	WiP1	Pauline Wicksteed
VaT1	Therese Van Der Heul	WiS1	Steve Wilson
VeP1	Philip Veerman	WoD1	Don Wood
WAH1	Wright family	WrH1	Hazel Wright
WaJ2	John Walter	WyP1	Patrick Wyllie
WaK1	Kathy Walter	ZwM1	Marnix Zwankhuizen
WeDI	David Webb		

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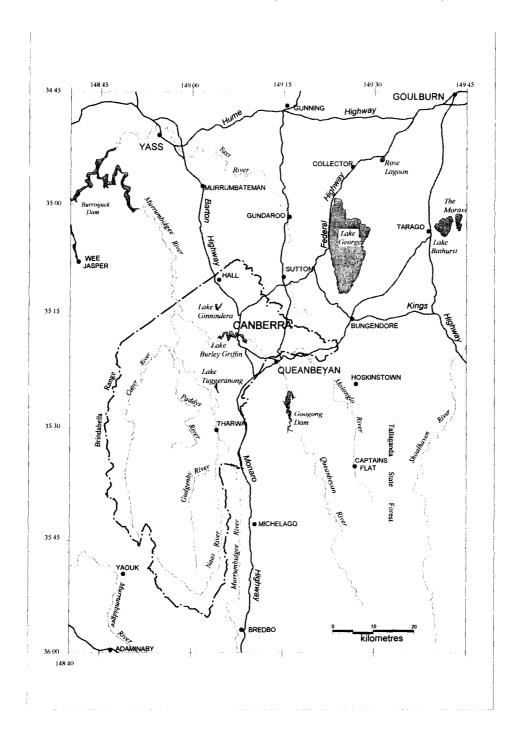
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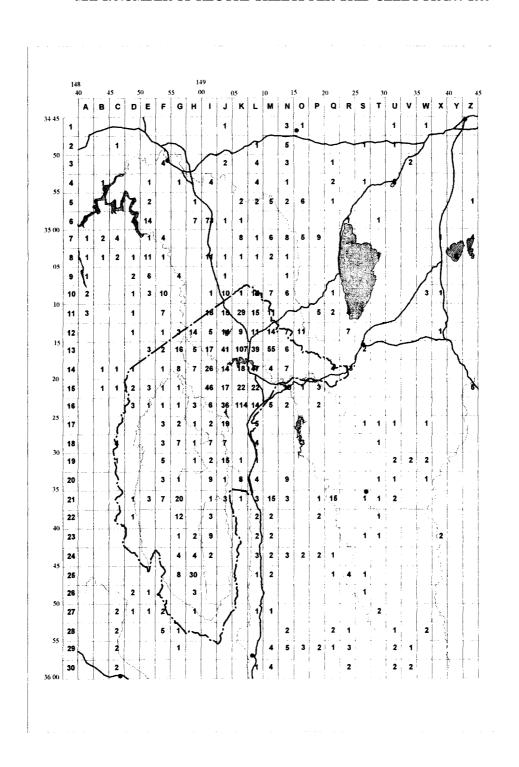
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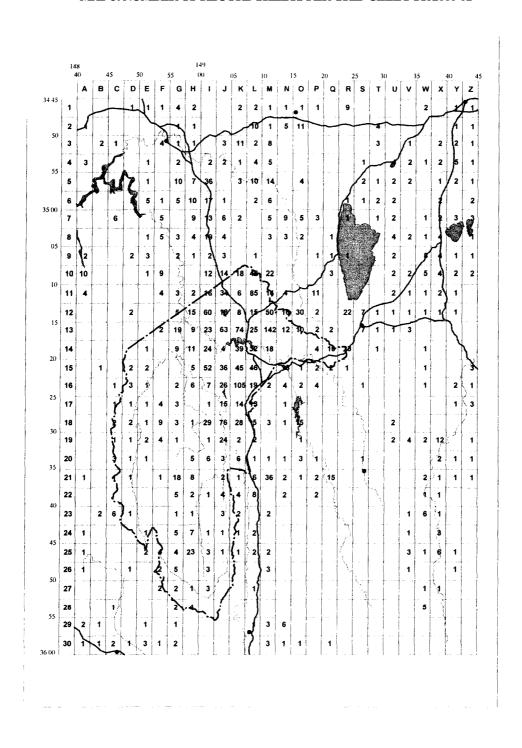
## MAP 1: THE CANBERRA REGION (COG'S AREA OF INTEREST)



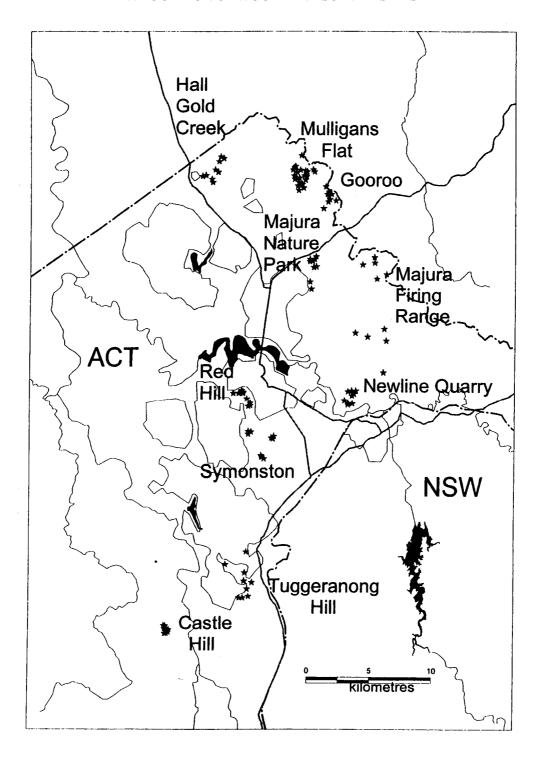
## MAP 2: NUMBER OF RECORD SHEETS PER GRID CELL FOR 1999-2000



## MAP 3: NUMBER OF RECORD SHEETS PER GRID CELL FOR 2000-01



MAP 5: LOCATION OF WOODLAND SURVEY SITES



#### APPENDIX 1. List of 'unusual' birds (July 1998)

The list is made up of unusually occurring or 'rare' species for which there have been confirmed sightings in COG's region within the last twenty-five years. The list does not include species which have been classified purely as escapees, for example, Princess Parrot Polytelis alexandrae or Red-capped Parrot Purpureicephalus spurius.

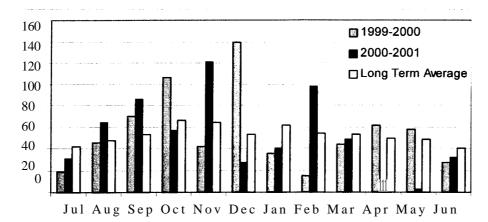
Magpie Goose Anseranas semipalmata Plumed Whistling-Duck Dendrocygna eytoni Freckled Duck Stictonetta naevosa Pied Cormorant Phalacrocorax varius Intermediate Egret Ardea intermedia Australasian Bittern Botaurus poicilopttlus Black-necked Stork Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus Osprey Pandion haliaetus Letter-winged Kite Elanus scriptus Square-tailed Kite Lophoictinia isura Black Kite Milvus migrans Spotted Harrier Circus assimilis Grey Goshawk Accipiter novaehollandiae Grey Falcon Falco hypoleucos Black Falcon Falco subniger Brolga Grus rubicunda Lewin's Rail Rallus pectoralis Spotless Crake Porzana tabuensis Black-tailed Native-hen Gallinula ventralis Little Button-quail Turnix velox Red-chested Button-quail *Turnix pyrrhothorax* Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica Little Curlew Numenius minutus Eastern Curlew Numenius madagascariensis Marsh Sandpiper Tringa stagnatilis Wood Sandpiper Tringa glareola Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos Ruddy Turnstone Arenaria interpres Pectoral Sandpiper Calidris melanotos Painted Snipe Rostratula benghalensis Bush Stone-curlew Burhinus grallarius Grey Plover Pluvialis squatarola Banded Lapwing Vanellus tricolor Gull-billed Tern Sterna nilotica Caspian Tern Sterna caspia White-winged Black Tern Chlidonias leucopterus Diamond Dove Geopelia cuneata Bar-shouldered Dove Geopelia humeralis Long-billed Corella Cacatua tenuirostris

Musk Lorikeet Glossopsitta concinna Swift Parrot Lathamus discolor Blue Bonnet Northiella haematogaster Blue-winged Parrot Neophema chrysostoma Black-eared Cuckoo Chrysococcyx osculans Common Koel Eudynamys scolopacea Channel-billed Cuckoo Scythrops novaehollandiae Barking Owl Ninox connivens Sooty Owl Tyto tenebricosa Masked Owl Tyto novaehollandiae Grass Owl Tyto capensis White-throated Nightjar Eurostopodus mystacalis Fork-tailed Swift Apus pacificus Azure Kingfisher Alcedo azurea Red-backed Kingfisher Todiramphus pyrrhopygia Variegated Fairy-wren Malurus lamberti Chestnut-rumped Heathwren Hylacola pyrrhopygia Brown Gerygone Gerygone mouki Little Wattlebird Anihochaera chrysoptera Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater Acanthagenys rufogularis Little Friarbird Philemon citreogularis Lewin's Honeyeater Meliphaga lewinii Painted Honeyeater Grantiella picta Tawny-crowned Honeyeater Phylidonyris Black Honeyeater Certhionyx niger Scarlet Honeyeater Myzomela sanguinolenta Crimson Chat Epthianura tricolor Pink Robin Petroica rodinogaster Grey-crowned Babbler Pomatostomus temporalis Black-faced Monarch Monarcha melanopsis Spangled Drongo Dicrurus bracteatus

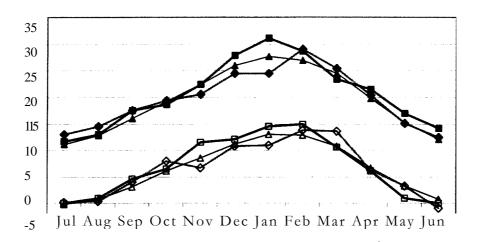
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike Coracina papuensis Pied Butcherbird Cracticus nigrogularis Singing Bushlark Mirafra javanica White-backed Swallow Cheramoeca leucosternus

## APPENDIX 2. Rainfall and temperature for 1999-2001

Rainfall and temperature data from Canberra Airport were obtained from the Canberra office of the Bureau of Meteorology. Rainfall for 1999-00 was 661 mm, which is well above the long-term average of 630 mm, with October and December being particularly wet. The 2000-01 rainfall of 618 mm was slightly below the long-term average, with November and February being the wettest months and April and May unseaonably dry. The most unusual weather feature for the period was a heavy fall of snow for several hours over the entire city on 28 May 2000. The first three months of 1999-00 were somewhat warmer than the average, while the summer months were slightly cooler; by contrast the summer of 2000-01 was considerably warmer than the average.



Monthly rainfall (mm) for 1999-01 and long-term averages



Monthly average maximum and minimum temperatures ( C) for 1999-01 and long-term averages

Canberra Bird Notes is published by the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc and is edited by Harvey Perkins and Barbara Allan. Major articles of up to 5000 words are welcome on matters of the distribution, identification or behaviour of birds occurring in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding area. Contributions on these topics should be sent to Harvey Perkins, 42 Summerland Circuit, Kambah ACT 2902, or via email to <a href="mailto:harvey.perkins@anu.edu.au">harvey.perkins@anu.edu.au</a>. Short notes, book reviews and other contributions should be sent to Barbara Allan, 47 Hannaford Street, Page ACT 2614 or via email to <a href="mailto:allanbm@ozemail.com.au">allanbm@ozemail.com.au</a>. If you would like to discuss your proposed article in advance, please feel free to contact Harvey on 6231 8209 or Barbara on 6254 6520.

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