

canberra bird notes

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CANBERRA ORNITHOLOGISTS GROUP

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ANNUAL BIRD REPORT: 1 JULY 2009 TO 30 JUNE 2010

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

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Annual Bird Report (ABR) is a summary of COG's entire database records of birds recorded in the Canberra region during the year in question. The report makes this information readily available to all COG members and the general public, and draws attention to significant changes or trends in the distribution or abundance of species.

COG's area of interest ('the Canberra region') is defined as the area bound by parallels of latitude 34° 45' and 36° 00' S and meridians of longitude 148° 40' and 149° 45' E (see Map 1, p. 75). This encompasses an area of 13,675 sq km, of which the ACT, at 2,357 sq km, is only 17.2%. For COG's purposes of data analysis and reporting, the area is divided into a grid of 780 cells, each of 2.5 minutes of latitude and longitude (3.5 x 4.5 km). Each cell is identified by an alphanumeric code: A-Z across the region from west to east and 1-30 from north to south (see Map 2, p. 76). Elevations in the ACT range from 450 m above sea level to 1,911 m at the top of Mt Bimberi, and the ACT proper is about 130 km from the sea.

Records maintained by COG are categorised according to survey type used to collect the data, for which the methodology used may vary. The majority of records are from general bird watching, surveying and atlassing done by COG members and are designated ABA (Australian Bird Atlas) records. Incidental observations (INC) made while driving, or when not specifically bird watching, can also be submitted. Specialised COG surveys such as the Garden Bird Survey (GBS), Woodland Survey (WOO), and Waterbird Survey (WBS) are well established. COG's assistance with Greening

Australia's 'Birdwatch' project provides further records designated GA. Additionally, records from COG's area of interest that are submitted to Birds Australia (BA) are provided to COG under an agreement between the two organisations. These records are designated BA.

A full breakdown of the contribution of each survey type (except for the GBS) to the total records collected is provided in Table 1 (pp. 59-63). However, for the purposes of the species texts in the Systematic List, records from all these surveys are considered collectively and summarised under the heading 'General'. In the Systematic List, WOO has been used to indicate combined records from WOO proper (see Woodland Survey protocol on p. 68) and extralimital records collected by standard ABA protocols in the course of conducting the Woodland Surveys. The Garden Bird Survey (GBS) is, as usual, dealt with separately because records are collected on a weekly basis rather than shorter time periods.

COG asks that any sightings of birds considered to be "unusual" in the Canberra region (see Appendix 2, p. 80) are fully described, preferably on an Unusual Bird Report Form, and submitted for assessment by the COG Rarities Panel. Only reports accepted by the panel become endorsed COG records. All records of unusual birds in this ABR have been so endorsed unless indicated otherwise. The list of unusual birds is reviewed from time to time and is published at <http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/>.

The names and sequence of birds, in this list and in the Systematic List in this report

conform to *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (Christidis & Boles 2008).

The year in context

The ABR summarises all the records held in the COG databases but cannot be considered a comprehensive or necessarily accurate reflection of the real situation. Many factors influence the level and consistency of reporting of the many and varied bird species in the region. Several of the major variable influencing factors on this year's ABR are mentioned briefly here. The effects of these influences need to be taken into account when attempting any interpretation of the data in the ABR.

Geographical variables such as temperature, rainfall, and water levels in the main lakes of the region can have a very significant effect on bird demographics. The 2009-10 year was significantly wetter than the previous year, and was considerably warmer than the long term average, with December, February march and May the months with significant rainfall, and almost no rain in January (see Appendix 1, p. 79).

In the eight years since the January 2003 bushfires habitat regrowth in the wet forests areas in the ranges to the west and south of Canberra, with more evidence (e.g. Eastern Whipbird and Red-browed Treecreeper) that resident species are gradually returning to their previous haunts.

As well as the 88 Garden Bird Survey charts, there were 127 contributors of records from all surveys from COG or persons whose data were provided to COG via Birds Australia (see list pp. 73-74). This is a slight increase over the 113 observers last year, but a decrease from 137 in 2006-07. There is a slight "evening out" of the number of records submitted by individuals. In previous years, 50% of "general" records were provided by the top 10 contributors, but this year 50% of records are provided by the top 13 contributors.

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

Summary and highlights

In 2009-10, 234 bird species were recorded in our area. (This total excludes unendorsed records, as well as those species which are regarded as semi-captive at places such as Tidbinbilla NR; it includes, however, aviary escapees and some feral domestics.)

Year	species	grid cells	sheets	observers
01-02	217	327	1985	157
02-03	227	191	1566	117
03-04	222	177	1827	116
04-05	216	176	1957	107
05-06	233	204	2229	129
06-07	233	194	2421	137
07-08	232	263	2400	113
08-09	235	280	2421	113
09-10	234	235	2427	127

Totals were again boosted in part by COG's fifth "bird blitz" (271 sheets) held on 24-25 October 2009, an annual survey inaugurated in 2005 to encourage members to undertake surveys (see Allan 2008). The number of record sheets submitted by season is as follows: spring 943, summer 536, autumn 497, and winter 451. The higher observer effort in spring has a significant impact on the abundance of species reported for that season.

The 2427 sheets submitted this year are fewer than for last year (2530) with a decrease in the area covered — 235 grid cells (280 last year) which is 30% of the 780 grid cells, 6% fewer than last year. The most frequently surveyed cells were:

- L14 (180 sheets cf 131 last year) Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR, Molonglo Reach and Fyshwick Sewage Ponds (FSP).
- I13 (142 cf 109) last year, including part of the Pinnacle NR.

- K13 (114 cf 94 last year) Acton including ANU and ANBG
- L11 (111 cf 95) including part of Mulligans Flat NR.
- J13 (95 cf 40) including parts of The Pinnacle NR and Macquarie, with 30 observations by a single observer around the Macquarie Oval
- M11 (76 cf 71) Goorooyarroo NR
- I15 (70 cf 90) including Cooleman Ridge, which included 13 incidental (INC) reports mostly by one regular observe
- M12 (67 cf 70) Mt Majura NR.
- J19 (61 cf 42) Tharwa Sandwash, Namadgi Visitors Centre including 23 observations by a single observer from the Naas Valley.
- M13 (60 cf 85) Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park NR

Table 1, pp. 59-63, shows the number of “general” records per species. The five most frequently recorded species were, in order, the Australian Magpie, Crimson Rosella, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Australian Raven (down from 3rd last year), and Superb Fairy Wren – all easily identifiable species. Eighteen species were recorded only once. These include a lonely escaped Zebra Finch, and “rare” honeyeater species taking refuge in the drought: Singing, White-fronted and Spiny-cheeked.

Highlights

The Red-backed Kingfishers were back for the 3rd year in succession along Ginninderra Creek Gr111 in West Macgregor. The sighting of a Spangled Drongo at Jerrabomberra Wetlands may relate to a returning individual as this species was seen in the same area last spring. A single Pink Robin was seen in the ANBG on 6th April and is the first record since 2005/06. Large numbers of Rufous Songlarks and above average numbers of Brown Songlarks were a feature of spring 2009.

Up to 7 Black-tailed Native-hens were seen at Kellys Swamp, and others at Norgrove Park, Lake Ginninderra, West Macgregor and Uriarra HS Dam. This no doubt relates to the

dry conditions inland. The dry conditions might also have had an impact on several other water birds: White-necked Herons were widely reported, and Black-winged Stilts were reported more than normal, yet records of Eastern Great Egret and other egrets were down on average.

Banded Lapwing breeding was recorded in the ACT for the first time since 1982. Further highlights from the Waterbird Survey are listed on p 6.

Grey Butcherbirds figured prominently in the GBS this year, with abundance and recording rates 5 times the long-term means.

The numbers of Common Myna are down slightly from last year, but despite this, the Myna has moved from the 14th most abundant species last year to 13th species this year, due to the downward movement of other species. The Canberra Indian Myna Action Group (CIMAG) trapping activities on this species continues. CIMAG claims that a minimum of 32,000 Common Mynas have been removed up to June 2010 (CIMAG 2010).

Lowlights

Continuing dry conditions on Lakes George and Bathurst reduced the number of wader species observed, missing species including:

- Ruddy Turnstone (last seen Dec 1996)
- Bar-tailed Godwit (6 records Oct 2007)
- Marsh Sandpiper (4 records last year)
- Common Sandpiper (last seen Nov 2008)
- Red Knot (last seen Nov 1999)
- Long-toed Stint (last seen Dec 2002)
- Pectoral Sandpiper (last seen Aug 2006)

The number of Crested Shrike-tits is well down this year, with no breeding records. Sightings of Eastern Yellow Robins are the lowest in over 5 years with only one breeding record. Yellow-faced Honeyeater numbers are down, moving the species from 17th to 25th in rank in the General survey and down 33% in abundance in the GBS. Similarly Noisy Friarbirds have slipped from 23rd to 32nd in ranking in the General survey and are down 42% in abundance in the GBS.

Breeding

There were 1595 breeding activity records, up from 1345 (19% increase) last year. Of the now 192 species of bird with recorded breeding activity in the COG region, 128 (67%) did so in 2009-10. That total of breeding records is based solely on formal breeding records and does not include the many species for which juveniles, almost certainly bred in COG's area of interest, were recorded. It does include, however, all potential breeding records, including "inspecting hollows" and "display" as described in the COG breeding codes (see p 71). Records also include the BA code (br) which excludes "circumstantial" evidence such as "inspecting hollow" or "display". The following list shows the number of breeding events for each species, and the percentage of that behaviour of the total number (1595) of breeding observations for 2009-10:

Behaviour	Count	%
• Dependent young	405	32.3
• On nest	256	30.5
• Inspecting hollow	160	12.3
• Nest building	130	10.2
• Breeding (BA)	118	9.1
• Nest with young	109	8.8
• Carrying food	64	5.4
• Display	34	2.8
• Copulation	14	1.1
• Nest with eggs	9	0.8
• Faecal sac	1	0.1

Garden Bird Survey (GBS) overview

The Garden Bird Survey (GBS) completed 29 years of collection in 2009-10. A total of 88 sites provided charts, an increase of 6 over 2007-08. This reflects 20 "additions" (represented by 17 new sites and 3 resumed sites) and 14 ceased sites from 2008-09. Representation continues to increase in Tuggeranong other than Kambah (7 sites in Year 29 rather than 6 in Year 28) but has dropped from 5 sites in Year 28 to 2 in Gungahlin-Hall.

No work sites were reported but 6 on-going sites reported from the hinterland, which can

broaden the diversity of species observed. There is a wide variety of types of suburban Canberra garden sites which can also produce "atypical" data including sites which include a large component of horse paddocks or Canberra Nature Park, and sites beside Lakes, in Tuggeranong and Jerrabomberra, next to Ginninderra Creek in Giralang, and in a large suburban block containing a large pool (which contributed to high numbers of ducks and other water birds).

The number of weeks observed per observer in 2009-10 averaged 39.5, ranging from 6 to 52 weeks (20 sites reported for 50 or more weeks. This shows a slight increase in "high-week" sites compared to 2008-09. Overall, observers devoted 3516 observer-weeks to their reporting in 2009-10 compared with 3356 in 2008-09 (5% increase).

A total of 169 species were observed in 2009-10 which was 4 more than in 2008-09. This is the highest number of species recorded in any year: a very surprising result in view of many other reports of decreased diversity in SE Australia as birds followed the rain towards the interior. The only species added to those reported at least once in the GBS in previous years was the Australian Figbird.

Seventy one species were recorded breeding (an increase of 7 species over 2008-09), with breeding activity from 66 sites (an increase of 6 on 2007-08, continuing a recent tendency).

The abundances of the observed birds, measured by the 'A' statistic, retain a broadly similar pattern to 2008-09 for most of the commonly recorded species. The ten most abundant species were the same in both years (although changing a little in positions within the group). The Common Myna continued to decline in abundance (as measured by A) but rose from position 14 to position 13 as a result of larger decreases in the value of A for other species. Details of these and other changes are in the species accounts.

Four species were observed at least once by every observer in both of the past two years

(Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Australian Magpie and Red Wattlebird). Crested Pigeon, Pied Currawong, Crimson Rosella and Magpie-lark were reported at 87 (i.e. all except one) sites in 2009-10. 49 species (an increase of 6 on 2008-09) were observed by at least one observer in every week of the year.

Among the 46 most abundant species (defined as $A \geq 0.2$), 8 species increased at least 100% over the average of all previous years. Four of these were water birds (reflecting the relatively recent uptake of sites with large areas of water) as well as Little Corella, Noisy Miner, Crested Pigeon and Buff-rumped Thornbill. Of the same population, the only species displaying reductions of at least 50% compared to the average of all previous years were Noisy Friarbird, House Sparrow and Common Starling (the latter two continuing to show a decline as in recent years).

Species recorded in the GBS and no other survey include: Barbary Dove, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Intermediate Egret, Peachface Lovebird, White-headed Pigeon, Hybrid Crimson Eastern Rosella and Princess Parrot

Woodland Survey overview

In 1998, COG began systematic monitoring of bird species and abundance in a number of high conservation value Grassy Woodland locations in the ACT. Six locations were initially selected; Mulligans Flat, Mt Majura, Red Hill, Gooroo (north), Symonston and Castle Hill. The following locations have since been added: Majura Firing Range (1998-99, and from 2004); Hall/Gold Creek, Newline and Tuggeranong Hill (all 2000); Lambrigg (2001-March 2003); Campbell Park (2003); Goorooyarroo (south) (2004); Naas (2004); Kama in the Molonglo Valley (October 2005); and Jerrabomberra (Dec 2006).

Part of the reason for the Woodland Survey is to monitor declining and threatened birds in Yellow Box/Red Gum grassy woodlands. The Project now has 142 monitoring points

(sites) at 15 locations. A number of sites (generally nine plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high complexity are monitored at each location. Each site is surveyed for 10 minutes with all birds seen or heard recorded, and other birds outside the plot in the same habitat within a 100 m radius also being recorded. Surveys are done each season in September, December, March and June.

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

The latest statistical analysis of data from December 1998 to December 2008 covered the fifteen ongoing monitoring locations in the Project, as well as a separate analysis of sites with 10 years of surveys (drawn from 66 sites at the 6 foundation locations). The report included a comprehensive history of the Project, and commentary on the results from two (2) other bird monitoring projects in the region to the north of the ACT, the Cowra Woodland Bird Monitoring Program and Greening Australia's Birdwatch Survey.

The latest analysis showed longitudinal trends in occupancy rate for 55 species (34 woodland-dependent and 21 non-woodland dependent):

- 15 species (9 woodland-dependent) showed some evidence of a declining trend
- 25 species (17 woodland-dependent) showed no overall change, and
- 15 species (8 woodland-dependent) showed an increasing trend.

Further work is being undertaken in 2011 to determine the relationship between bird responses (trends in abundance, such as declines, increases) and habitat both at the site level and between sites. This will be a pilot exercise using approx. 10 selected bird species, which will look at factors such as

habitat attributes and features as well as related factors, e.g. changes in grazing pressures. It is anticipated that this will shed more light on why changes in bird abundance are taking place in these grassy woodlands, e.g. why declines in abundance of some species are occurring, so that management actions can be better informed.

COG continues to provide access to its Woodland Project data for other research projects, including a current PhD study at the ANU on woodland birds with focus on ACT threatened species.

Species which figure more prominently this year in Woodland Survey sightings than in other COG surveys include:

- Noisy Miner (45% of sightings in WOO)
- Western Gerygone (44.3%)
- Weebill (41.5%)
- White-throated Gerygone (39.6%)
- Mistletoebird (39%) and
- Striated Pardalote (37.6%).

Waterbird Survey overview

Lake George was surveyed only once on 10 April 2010. Water appeared on the eastern side from Feb 10 onwards and by the end of June less than 1/3 of the eastern side was under water (see Figure 1).

Lake Bathurst and the Morass were surveyed on the following dates: 19 Jul, 16 Aug, 19 Oct, 22 Nov, 30 Dec, 27 Jan, 22 Feb, 19 Mar, 25 Apr, 16 May, 30 June.

In April, May and June 1/3 of southern Morass was covered with water, but the main lake remained dry, with the same conditions in May and June. There were 46 observation sheets returned covering 12 survey periods covering the entire year. For the purposes of this ABR, Waterbird Survey records have been incorporated in General accounts.

Despite the low levels of water, there were some highlights:

- Largest concentration of Chestnut Teal seen for many years: 900 birds sighted 10 Apr Lake George, on the southeast Panhandle to Rocky Pt GrT09 (LeM1)
- Plumed Whistling-Duck: 2 records, the first report since Jan 2008, and before that April 1998
- Australasian Grebe: double the number of breeding records when compared with last year
- Swans: double the number of breeding records when compared with last year
- Common Greenshank: first record since Jan 2006
- Curlew Sandpiper: first record since 2004



Figure 1: Lake George on 7 July 2010 showing limited coverage on the east side

Adapted from www.nearmap.com

SYSTEMATIC LIST FOR 1 JULY 2009 TO 30 JUNE 2010**CASUARIIDAE: emu****Emu** *Dromaius novaehollandiae* 3¹

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Four records this year is above average (mean of 1.3 over previous 10 years). One of the records was of a single bird on 27 Dec (McD1) not far from Tidbinbilla, and another two (of 3 and 2 birds) were from the Pierces Creek area - a known location for occasional emu records - on 15 Aug (MaM4) and 1 Jan (MoM3). All these records are presumably of birds, or the offspring of birds, that had escaped from Tidbinbilla NR where there is a captive population. The fourth record, however, of a single bird on 10 May (KaJ1) is more unusual and more interesting in coming from Plains Road near Hoskinstown (GrS16), well to the east, and is more likely to represent a truly wild bird.

PHASIANIDAE: quail etc**Stubble Quail** *Coturnix pectoralis* 11

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 20 records continues the average reporting levels (mean for the previous ten years is 19.1 records, with a range of 2-43). Following similar trends to the previous year, six of the records were in spring, 11 in summer, and 3 in autumn. Seven of the records were from LBath (WBS) in Dec, Jan, Feb and Mar. The remaining 13 records were from scattered locations across 10 grid cells, with one coming from the higher elevation of Rendezvous Creek in Namadgi NP GrH24 (BuM1). The number of birds reported was relatively low (range 1-3, mean 1.4). No breeding recorded.

GBS: Just 2 observations of a single bird on 4wk Dec and 1wk Jan from a rural site in Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora* 12

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 15 records, from throughout the year, is close to the average reporting rate (mean 12.2 records over the previous ten years, range 2-32). Records were fairly scattered, from 9 grid cells, but mostly not too far from Canberra. The number of birds reported ranged from 1 to 12 (mean 2.4) with a single breeding record dy/10 May Coppins Crossing GrI13 (BuM1).

GBS: 5 observations of single birds from across the year; from sites in Curtin (AJR1), Florey (BrJ3) and a rural site in Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus* 14

Escapee

General: Small roaming flocks present throughout year in Narrabundah/Griffith area, maximum aggregation 28 in May, Brockman St, Narrabundah GrN15 (DaG2). Four separate broods noted, from which some chicks survived, probably all being included in the 28.

ANATIDAE: ducks, swan**Plumed Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna eytoni* 21

Rare, Visitor

General: Two records: 15/31 Dec Bungendore GrS13 (AnF1) and 2/22 Feb. LBath S Morass GrZ08 (LeM1). These are unusual records for the COG area of interest. Last recorded: Jan 2008 GrX27 and before that 23 Apr 1998 GrL14 Kingston Foreshore.

¹ This number is the Birds Australia System Order Number, not the RAOU Number.

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata* 23

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 10 records from 3 grid cells: Yerrabi Pond GrL11, Dunlop Pond GrI11 and Googong Dam GrO16. Recorded throughout the year, similar to last year. Largest concentration 12/2 May Yerrabi Pond (RaB1). Breeding reported from Yerrabi Pond with dy/6 Oct to 2 May, so possibly more than one brood.

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa* 24

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 3 records from JWNR GrL14 of one bird seen 1-5 Sep (SmA1 and MaD4).

Black Swan *Cygnus atra* 26

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 179 records from 23 grid cells, similar to previous years. Present all year with most recordings during the spring. Largest number 125/14 Mar LBG GrL14 (COG outing). 80 breeding records, double the number from last year, from all seasons of the year from 12 grid cells, similar to last year.

GBS: Records from 7 sites ranging from observations over a couple of weeks in Curtin GrJ14 (AlR1) to records covering 38 weeks at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). 4 breeding records, Jerrabomberra (HaL2), Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2), Harrison GrL11 (ReD2) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides* 30

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 24 records from 11 grid cells, similar number of grid cells to last year but only half the number of records; seen throughout the year. Largest concentration 480/10 Apr LGeo GrT09 (LeM1). A single breeding observation dy/22 Oct BSP GrS13 (HoS1).

GBS: A single bird seen over 1 wk Feb Turner GrK13 (MiP1).

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata* 32

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 469 records from 89 grid cells, an increase in the number of records from a similar number of grid cells compared to last year. Recorded throughout the year with 47% of observations during the spring. Largest concentration: 150/30 Dec LBath GrY07 (LeM1). 47 breeding records from 22 grid cells with dy first reported 1 Sep Point Hut GrJ18 (RaB1). Breeding statistics: ih 9, on 3, ne 1, dy 33, br 1.

GBS: Records from 29 sites with sites at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2) with observations for more than 40 weeks. Highest numbers 270/1 wk Jan Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) Breeding (all but one dy) recorded at 6 sites including Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus* 33

Common, Visitor

General: 18 records from 4 grid cells with 15 from JWNR and surrounds GrL14. A continuing decline in the number of records. Records between 9 Jul and 1 Jan. Maximum 30/24 Oct QSP GrN15 (DaG2). No breeding records.

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos* 37

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

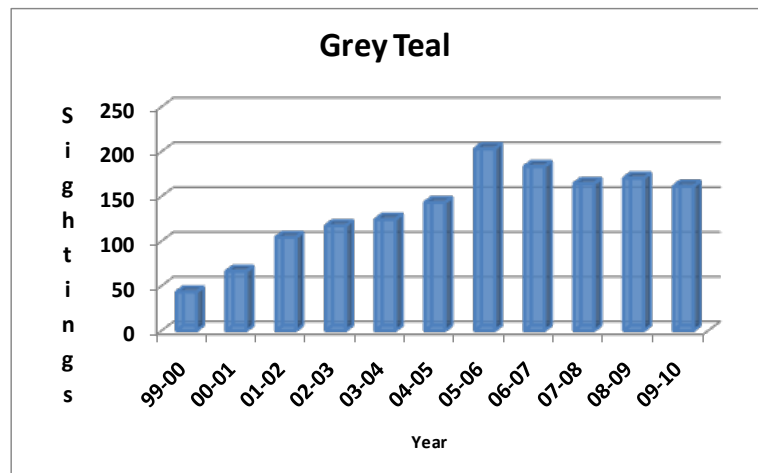
General: 73 records from 12 grid cells, similar to last year, 71% from JWNR GrL14. Present throughout the year with greater numbers during the spring and summer. Greatest number 60/20 Jan JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). No breeding records.

GBS: 4 birds seen over 3 wk Jan Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2).

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis* 39

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 161 records from 38 grid cells, a slight decrease in the number of records from last year with a reduction in the number of grid cells observed, continuing a slow decline in the number of records since 2005-06. Recorded throughout the year with 51% of records during the spring. The largest concentration was 150/10 Apr LGeo (LeM1) and 120/24 Oct QSP GrN15 (DaG2). There were only 3 breeding records, a decrease from 6 last year. 2 records on two consecutive days from Mulligan's Flat GrL11 17-18 Mar (CoF1) and from the large dam on Gooromon Ponds GrI11 (HaK1) on 8 Apr; all of dy.



GBS: Records from 6 sites with Giralang GrK12 (McD4) having 22 observations.

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea* 40

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 42 records from 11 grid cells, an increase in the number of records from the same number of grid cells. 50% of records from JWNR GrL14. 72% of records from the spring and summer. Largest concentration 900/10 Apr LGeo GrT09 (LeM1), the largest number seen for many years. A single breeding record dy/31 Mar JWNR GrL14 (CoE1).

GBS: Recorded from 2 sites. In Curtin GrJ14 (ArJ1) 2 birds were recorded during 4 wk Oct and at Murrumbateman GrI8 (BlJ1) up to 6 birds were reported during all weeks in April.

Northern Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* 43

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: A single record 3/7 Jan Ray Morton Park, Queanbeyan GrN15 (PeH2), possibly the domestic form. No breeding records.

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa* 44

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 325 records from 63 grid cells similar to last year. 75% of records during the spring and summer. Largest concentration 173/19 Mar LBath S Morass GrZ08 (LeM1). 35 breeding records between 12 Sep and 31 May, an increase over last year. 12 of these were probably of a single event at Norgrove Park, Kingston.

GBS: Recorded from 20 sites with the most records from Giralang GrK12 (McD4) 46 weeks. Breeding reported from 5 sites: Giralang GrK12 (McD4), Curtin GrJ14 (ArJ1), Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4), Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) and Latham GrI12 (WLC1).

Hardhead *Aythya australis* 45

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 64 records from 18 grid cells similar to previous years. 85% of records during the spring and summer, with a maximum of 230/26 Dec JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). No breeding records.

GBS: Records from 2 sites: Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) over 25 weeks and Harrison GrL11 (ReD2) over 7 weeks.

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis* 46

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 28 records from 5 grid cells, the largest increase in the number of records and grid cells since 2003-04. FSP continues to be the most likely spot to see this species. Birds were also reported from the following locations; 1/24 Oct The Sanctuary Tidbinbilla NR GrF18, 2/28 Dec

BSP GrS13 and 6/3 Jan Yowani Golf Course GrL12. Largest concentration 10/1 Sep and 1 Jan FSP/JWNR GrL14 (SmA1 and AnF1 respectively). Most likely to be recorded during the spring/summer (82% records). No breeding records.

Domestic duck

General: No records but see Northern Mallard

Domestic goose

General: 10 records from 3 grid cells. 7 records from LGin GrJ12, a single record from LBG east basin and from JWNR GrL14 and a record from Stranger Pond, Bonython GrJ17. No breeding records.

Muscovy duck

General: 4 records from 3 grid cells. Maximum 5/25 Feb Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (CuR1). Also observed 2/24 Oct House of Reps Gardens GrL14 (BeR3) and 1/7 Jan Ray Morton Park Queanbeyan GrN15 (PeH2).

PODICIPEDIDAE grebes

Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae* 49

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 164 records from 41 grid cells, similar to last year. Reported throughout the year with the largest concentration 90/12 Jan JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). There were 26 breeding records, well up from the 12 records last year, the first on/17 Oct Kenny GrL12 (LaS1) and the last record dy/6 Jun, Belconnen Golf Course Holt GrI12 (WiT1)

GBS: Recorded from 3 sites: Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) with observations over 24 weeks; Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) with observations over 21 weeks and a single record dy/2 wk Dec; and Burra GrM21 (AnI1) with observations over 13 weeks and a breeding record on/5 wk Jan.

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus* 51

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 42 records from 11 grid cells, another slight increase following the pattern from last year. Reported in all seasons although 90% from the spring and summer. Largest concentrations 130/26 Sep, 160/26 Dec, 90/31 Dec and 80/1 Jan all from JWNR GrL14 (AnF1), up from last year. No breeding records.

Great-crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* 52

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 3 records from 3 grid cells. 1/6 Dec Acacia Inlet GrK13 (HeS1), 5/19 Mar LBath GrZ08 (LeM1) and 2/14 Jun Gooromon Ponds Creek, Dunlop GrI11 (CoE1)

COLUMBIDAE: pigeons and doves

Rock Dove *Columba livia* 54

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 107 records from 19 grid cells (4.41%) in all months compared with 95 records from 15 grid cells last year. Abundance: mean 17.17, median 7; max: 100 JWNR GrL14 on 29 Aug (HeS1), 4 Sep (SmA1) and 16 Sep (SmA1); also 100 recorded at Campbell Park GrM13 20 Mar (AnI1). Breeding: no records, for the second year in a row.

GBS: It was the 20th most frequently recorded GBS species, down from 17th last year and 14th the year before that. Recorded from 42 sites across all weeks (41 sites last year). Abundance: (A=1.3003) is 6.8% higher than the long-term average; max: 100/2wk May Latham GrI12 (WLC1). Breeding not recorded.

White-headed Pigeon *Columba leucomela* 56

Rare, Visitor

General: No records. Last recorded Sep 2007.**GBS:** A single sighting 1/4wk Apr Red Hill (WaR4). Throughout the 29 years of the survey there have been 22 sightings of this species, generally at a single site.**Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis* 60

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 13 records of 1-2 birds in 7 grid cells compared with 17 records from 8 grid cells last year. Breeding not recorded.**GBS:** 1-6 birds recorded from 25 sites (21 sites last year). It is the 57th most recorded species. Abundance ($A=0.1069$) is up on last year ($A=0.0810$) and nearly 8 times the long term average; max: 6/2wk Jun Fraser GrJ11 (WaS1). Recorded in all weeks. Breeding not recorded.**Common Bronzewing** *Phaps chalcoptera* 63

Common, Breeding Resident

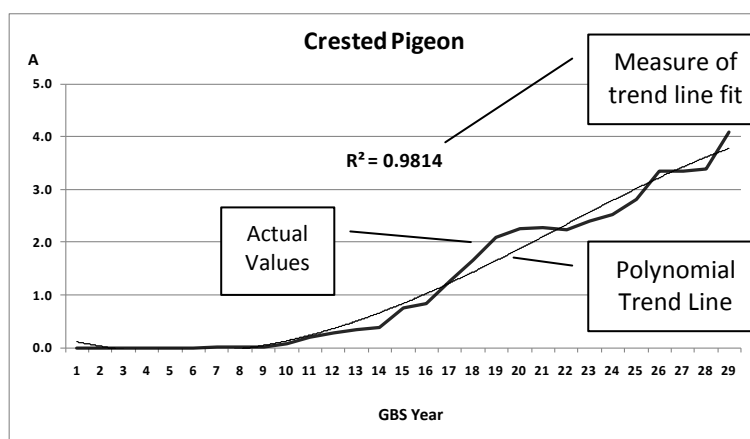
General: 137 records (24 WOO) from 51 grid cells compared with 152 records (23 WOO) from 69 grid cells last year. Recorded throughout the year. Recording rate 5.64%, mean 1.8 and median 1; max 8/5 Jul International Arboretum GrJ14 (DaC1) and 8/23 Apr Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1). Breeding: 3 records: first, nb/21 Oct Mount Rogers GrJ11 (COF1) and last, on/15 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (HoJ1).**GBS:** Up to 4 birds recorded from 18 sites, in all months. Abundance ($A=0.041$) is down from ($A=0.0557$) last year. The data may be skewed by just 3 rural sites (Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and Wamboin (GrQ13) (MDN1) which provide a large majority of the records. Breeding: one record, dy/4wk Jan Chapman GrI15 (HoJ1).**Brush Bronzewing** *Phaps elegans* 64

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: Two records which continues a recent pattern of low numbers of records from scattered locations: 1/24 Oct Naas Valley Fire Trail GrI27 (HoS1) and 1/3 Dec Bendora Dam Road GrD17 (MoM3). Breeding not recorded.**Crested Pigeon** *Ocyphaps lophotes* 66

Common, Breeding Resident

This species continues to increase in abundance.

General: 566 records (68 WOO) from 75 grid cells compared with 514 records (79 WOO) from 96 grid cells last year. Recording rate 23.3%, mean 4.25 median 2, max 85/2 Mar Rivett GrI15 (HoJ1). Breeding: 7 records (15 records last year), first nb/19 Sep Majura Nature Park 2 GrM12 (WaK1) and last, nb/20 Mar Kaleen (Myna Survey) GrK12 (AlB1).**GBS:** The 3rd most reported bird in the GBS, up from 6th position last year and 7th the year before. There were records from all sites. Abundance ($A=4.0873$) is up on last year ($A=3.3832$) and a 245.25% increase on the long term average; max: 61/2wk Jun. Breeding (including di) recorded from 27 sites and in all months with a peak in Sep and Oct.**Diamond Dove** *Geopelia cuneata* 72

Vagrant/Escapee

General: No records this year after a run of small numbers of records in most recent years.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata* 73

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 14 records (1 WOO) from 4 grid cells compared with 16 records (5 WOO) from 7 grid cells last year. Records were generally of 1-2 birds, with highest 4/12 Jul Newline Quarry GrN14 (HoS1). Not recorded after 20 Jan Newline Paddock M14 (GiM3). Breeding not recorded.

GBS: No records compared with 10 records from a single site in Deakin last year.

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia picata* 75

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 2 records, 1/13 Sep Bendora Road GrE16 (MaM4) and 1/18 Oct Tinderry Range GrO24 (COF1). This is down from 4 records of single birds in 4 grid cells last year but follows a recent pattern of records of low numbers from widely distributed locations.

PODARGIDAE: frogmouths**Tawny Frogmouth** *Podargus strigoides* 88

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 27 records, of 1-5 birds, from 13 widespread grid cells, similar to last year. Over half of the records came from the spring months when the birds were breeding. Breeding: 14 records, first on/7 Sep The Pinnacle NP GrI13 (BrJ3) and last dy/15 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (HoJ1).

GBS: Records from 10 sites compared with 11 sites last year. A large majority of records were from rural site Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Breeding: 14 records from 3 sites, first nb/4wk Aug Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and last, dy/2wk Jan Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

CAPRIMULGIDAE: nightjars**White-throated Nightjar** *Eurostopodus mystacalis* 91

Rare, Breeding Migrant

No records. Last recorded JWNR GrL14 in Mar 2007.

AEGOTHELIDAE: owl nightjar**Australian Owlet-nightjar** *Aegotheles cristatus* 96

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 10 records (4 WOO) all of single birds from 9 grid cells compared with 13 records (3 WOO) from 11 grid cells last year. Continues the pattern of low level reporting of this species. Breeding not recorded.

GBS: 4 records of single birds from 3 sites (Ainslie, Burra and Carwoola) compared with 9 records from 3 sites last year. Breeding not recorded.

APODIDAE: swifts**White-throated Needletail** *Hirundapus caudacutus* 101

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 8 records compared with 3 records last year: first, 4/18 Dec The Pinnacle NP GrI13 (BrJ3); last, (and max) 100/8 Mar Kambah GrJ16 (FrM1).

GBS: Recorded 11 times from 10 sites compared with 8 times from 7 sites last year: first, 4/3wk Dec Giralang GrK12 (McD4); last, 1/3wk Mar Griffith GrL14 (EmL1). Max: 70/4wk Feb Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus* 103

Rare, Migrant

General: 2 records from 2 grid cells compared with no records last year: 25/11 Jan Dickson GrL13 (ReJ5) and 11/12 Jan Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1).

GBS: 4 records from 4 sites compared with 3 records from 2 sites last year: first, 2 records in the same week - 15/2wk Jan Watson GrL12 (WaK1) and 11/2wk Jan Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1).

ANHINGIDAE: darter**Australasian Darter** *Anhinga melanogaster* 102

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 102 records, compared with 103 last year. Abundance ranged from 1-65 birds, with a mean of 3.14. Records came from 14 grid cells, though primarily from Molonglo Reach GrL14 and environs, with a smattering of other records from most urban ponds, lakes and rivers. Darters were recorded in all seasons: spring (34 records); summer (33); autumn (27); with far fewer records in winter (8). Breeding was recorded only from the Molonglo Reach site this year, with four records, commencing with on/1 Sep (AlB1) to dy/14 Mar (COG field trip) though it is probable the breeding season extended beyond that date as the report on the COG excursion mentioned birds were still sitting (Holland, 2010). It also indicated that the clearing of willows and other vegetation from the northern bank had not affected darter breeding.

GBS: 30 records, compared with 9 last year, of 1-4 birds, from all months save Jun and Sep. Darters were recorded from 7 sites, most near water bodies, in Isaacs, Greenway, Jerrabomberra, Watson, Giralang, Gleneagles and Latham. With an abundance value $A=0.0125$, more than 6 times the long term average, the darter is being recorded with a degree of frequency in suburbia, even at some distance from water bodies.

PHALACROCORACIDAE: cormorants**Little Pied Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos* 197

Common, Breeding Resident

The number of records of this species continues to remain high.

General: 177 records (2 WOO) from 37 grid cells, a similar pattern to that of the preceding four years. The birds were recorded from most urban lakes and wetlands, as well as further afield. They were reported in all seasons: spring (78 records), summer (39), autumn (42), and winter (18). There were 11 breeding records, from the now-usual sites at Yowani golf course (in association with Australian White Ibis and Great Cormorants) and Molonglo Reach (in association with darters and other cormorants) but also from Carwoola, the Molonglo near the RSPCA and Lake Burley Griffin West Basin. The earliest breeding record was di/24 Oct LBG West Basin GrK13 (BoC4), and the latest dy/26 Mar Yowani GrL12 (LeM1). Abundance ranged from 1-30, mean 2.69.

GBS: 196 records, a huge increase over last year's 111 records. The species was recorded from 13 sites, though was fairly regular in only two, in Jerrabomberra and Giralang, near water bodies. Abundance ranged from 1-13 birds; the species was recorded in every week of the year.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* 198

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 77 records, down from last year's 101, and recorded from fewer grid cells (18, compared with last year's 23). Records came from urban lakes, rivers and wetlands, as well as rural areas. Abundance ranged from 1-20 birds, mean 3.3. They were reported in all seasons: spring (40), summer (24), autumn (10), winter (3). There were only two breeding records: on/14 March Molonglo Reach GrL14 (COG excursion); and ny/14 Mar Yowani GrL12 (LeM1). Anecdotal evidence suggests more widespread breeding sites, including along the Cotter.

GBS: 43 records, from most months, but with the majority of records between Sep and Feb. Numbers ranged from 1-38. The species was recorded from only five sites, and was fairly regular only in one at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), a suburban site close to a body of water. Of note was the Lake Tuggeranong record of 38/4wk Jan Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2). The abundance value $A=0.0444$ is up massively on the long term value.

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* 199

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 66 records, a similar number to the preceding five years. Numbers reported ranged from 1-150, the latter recorded (in association with a breeding event) 17 Mar Black Mountain Peninsula (MaR4), with the mean of 10. Birds were recorded from 18 grid cells, but particularly those containing the urban lakes. As usual, there were fewer records in winter (5) than in spring (25), summer (17) or autumn (19). There were seven breeding records from two sites, Yowani Golf Course GrL12 and Black Mountain Peninsula GrK13, ranging from on/3 Jan to dy/17 Apr Yowani (LeM1). Holland (2010) also recorded two Great Cormorant nests with birds in breeding plumage on them in the course of a COG excursion along Molonglo Reach on 14 Mar.

GBS: 34 records, from 5 sites, between 2wk Sep and 2wk May. Most sightings were from 2 sites near bodies of water in Giralang and Jerrabomberra. Numbers ranged from 1-12 birds. The abundance value $A=0.0387$ is up an astonishing 834% since the GBS began.

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius* 200

Rare, Visitor

General: 5 records from 4 grid cells, of 1-4 birds. The species has been recorded every year since 2001, with the most reliable location to observe them being Aspen Island, in Lake Burley Griffin. One record from Lake Ginninderra this year.

GBS: No records this year.

PELECANIDAE: pelican**Australian Pelican** *Pelecanus conspicillatus* 204

Common, Visitor

General: 52 records, the lowest number since 2001-02. Numbers reported ranged from 1-19 birds, with a mean of 2.5. The majority of records came in the spring (65.4%) No pelicans were recorded after 14 Mar and one can probably assume their absence was attributed to the wet conditions in the arid zone where the species largely breeds, though there are generally fewer records of this species here in autumn and winter. Pelicans were relatively restricted in their distribution, being recorded in only 10 grid cells. 80% of records came from the JWNR and environs, with other locations including LGin, Uriarra Crossing, Tharwa Sandwash and Point Hut.

GBS: 23 records, of 1-7 birds, from 6 sites, between 3wk Sep and 1wk Feb, mainly from Jerrabomberra. The abundance value of $A=0.0117$ is down 30% against the long-term value.

ARDEIDAE: herons, egrets, bitterns**Australasian Bittern** *Botaurus poiciloptilus* 206

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 27 Jun 2001.

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* 207

Rare, Visitor

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

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica* 213

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 37 records from 22 grid cells is a high reporting rate (mean of 16.3 over past 10 years, range 5-29). They were widely distributed and from all seasons: spring (24), summer (11), autumn (1), winter (1). Two reports of 3 birds, one of 2, all other records of single birds.

GBS: 6 records from 3 sites: two of single birds in Sep and Oct in Curtin (AJR1), one of a single bird in Nov from a rural site in Carwoola (BuM1), and three of 1 or 2 birds in Dec, Feb and Jun from a rural site at Gundaroo (NiA1).

Eastern Great Egret *Ardea alba* 214

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 9 records from 5 grid cells, all of single birds. This is a significant drop from the relatively high reporting rate for the last 3 years, and is lower than the average of 21.7 for the past 10 years. Six of the records were from JWNR, with single records from Mackellar Pond GrJ12 and Yerrabi Pond GrL11, and a single WBS record from LBath. All records between 10 Oct and 19 Mar.

GBS: 27 records of a single bird and one of 2 birds from a site in Giralang most weeks from Jul to Feb (McD4).

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia* 215

Rare, Visitor

General: No records. Last recorded Jan 2009. There are records from 8 of the past 10 years, with a mean of 3.9 records per year.

GBS: 2 observations of a bird in 1wk and 3wk Mar at a site in Greenway (LTug) (HaA2).

Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis* 217

Uncommon, Visitor

General: Just 3 records from 3 grid cells, continuing a decline over recent years from a high of 23 in 2006-07 (mean for previous 10 years is 8.5): 6/17 Nov LGin GrJ12 (CuR1), 2/14 Mar Molonglo River GrL14 (COG) and 5/3 May Point Hut pond GrJ17 (RaB1).

GBS: 3 records from 2 sites: 1/2wk Sep and 1/1wk Oct from Giralang (McD4), 1/2wk May from Jerrabomberra (HaL2).

White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae* 222

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 143 records (incl 8 WOO and 10 WBS) from 50 grid cells. This is an increase on last year and brings the reporting rate back to just above average (mean 136.5 over past ten years, range 88 to 212). They were reported in all seasons: spring (48), summer (49) and autumn (29), with, as is usual, the lowest number in winter (17). Most records were of 1-3 birds, but larger groups of up to 45 birds were recorded during the WBS at LBath and LGeo in March and April. Three breeding records: on/20 Sep Naas Valley (McJ4), nb/6 Mar LGin (AlB1), and co/24 Jun LGin (AWB1).

GBS: 132 records from 15 sites is also an increase on last year and a return to more normal reporting rates. Groups of up to 4 birds were reported. The most consistent sites with records regularly throughout the year were at Giralang (McD4), Hoskinstown (KaJ1), and Jerrabomberra (HaL2). No breeding reported this year.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* 223

Rare, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 25 Oct 2008, with records from just two of the past ten years.

Nankeen Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus* 226

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 12 records from 5 grid cells (close to the mean of 13.2 for the past ten years). The majority came from JWNR (7 records of 1 to 2 birds), with two records of 8 birds from LGin, and single records of 1 or 2 birds from Norgrove Park GrL14, Giralang Pond GrK12 and Gearys Gap GrR09. All records between 24 Oct and 27 Feb.

GBS: 24 records from 2 sites: 1/2wk Dec Curtin (AJR1); and regular records from a site in Giralang from Jul to Jan, mostly of single birds but including two observations of 2 birds (Oct and Nov) and one of 6 birds in 1wk Jan (McD4).

THRESKIORNITHIDAE: ibises and spoonbills**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* 228

Rare, Visitor

General: A single record this year, 1/7 Nov Kellys Swamp (WiT1), continues a rapid decline in records over the past three years (from 38 in 2006-07, then 22, to 10 last year). This compares to a mean for the past ten years of 9.1, with no records for three of those years.

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca* 229

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 131 records (incl 8 WOO and 1 WBS) from 27 grid cells continues a steady increase in records for this species, which is now being reported about three times more than ten years ago. A majority of records came from the various urban wetlands, but there were no records from any of the landfill 'tips' where large numbers of this species often congregate. As in previous years the majority were reported in spring (65) and summer (56), with fewer in autumn (7) and winter (3). Numbers reported ranged from single birds, through small groups, up to large congregations, mean 20.1, median 4 with the largest being 350/8 Jan Yowani Golf Club GrL12 (LeM1) where they were breeding. There were 8 breeding records from this site beginning with ne/25 Oct (CuR1), ny from early Jan to mid Mar, and dy on 17 Apr (all LeM1).

GBS: 146 records from 17 sites reflects an increase in reports of this species as seen for the general records. The most consistent sites with records throughout the year were at Giralang (McD4), Jerrabomberra (HaL2), and Murrumbateman (BIJ1). The largest number reported was 35/2wk Jan Jerrabomberra (HaL2); this site also recorded the only breeding activity with co/1wk Dec.

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis* 230

Common, Visitor

General: 66 records (incl 1 WOO and 3 WBS) from 21 grid cells is close to average (mean 52.9, range 19 to 123 over past ten years). 52 (79%) of the records from parks and reserves in Canberra, 34 of which came from the JWNR. The records distant from Canberra were from Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1), TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1), Bungendore GrS13 (COF1), and the three WBS records from LBath. They were reported in all seasons: spring (37), summer (21), autumn (3) and winter (5). The largest numbers reported were: 200/12 Sep North Jacka GrK10 (NiA1), 80/12 Sep South Jacka GrK10 (LiB1), and 52/26 Dec JWNR GrL14 (AnF1); all other records fewer than 50.

GBS: 13 records from 8 sites is a big drop on recent years, and is the lowest, in terms of both reports and sites, for at least ten years. Records were grouped in Jul/Aug (6 records) or Dec-Feb (6) with a single record of a single bird in Jun. The largest group was: 80/5wk Jul Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia* 231

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 25 records (incl 1 WBS) from 6 grid cells. After last year's high, this is a return to more typical reporting rates (mean 23.3, range 12 to 47 over past ten years). 18 of the records were from JWNR, two were from Norgrove Park, Kingston, and there were single records from Mackellar Pond GrJ12, Yerrabi Pond GrL11, Stromlo Forest Park Dam GrI14, BSP, and LGeo (WBS). Most records (17) were in spring, 6 in summer, and 2 in autumn. Following last year's successful breeding at Kellys Swamp (Butterfield, 2009, Compston 2009), another breeding attempt in Nov-Dec was unsuccessful. Breeding records were: br/13 Nov (SmA1), co/17 Nov (LeM2), br/29 Nov (SmA1), on/10 Dec (BuM1), on/11 Dec (LeM2) and br/16 Dec (WaJ2). A note to Canberrabirds email list by Elizabeth Compston on 19 Dec suggests the birds abandoned their nesting sometime between the 16th and 19th Dec.

GBS: 2 records from 2 sites: 4/2wk Nov Turner (MiP1), 2/2wk Jan Giralang (McD4).

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes* 232

Uncommon, Visitor

No records. Last recorded 26 Mar 2009, with records from nine of the past ten years and a mean of 8.8 records per year.

ACCIPITRIDAE: kites, harriers, goshawks, eagles**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus axillaris* 234

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

The Black-shouldered Kite is an irruptive species, its abundance generally associated with the availability of its preferred food source (rodents).

General: 26 records, 24 of single birds and 2 of 2. This is well down on the last “good” year for the species, 2004-05, with its 93 records; it is down too on the ten-year average for the species of 43.7. Records came from 13 widespread grid cells, covering both urban and rural grasslands. There was a marked seasonal distribution, with 65.4% of records in spring, and no records from Jan-Apr. No breeding has been recorded since 2005-06.

GBS: A remarkable 34 records, a welcome increase on last year’s 2. Mostly single birds were recorded, with four records of two from 7 widespread sites, mainly adjacent to grasslands. Records were spread fairly evenly throughout the year, with the exception of autumn (only one record). With a current abundance of $A=0.0108$, the species is over 25% down on its long-term average, however, and probably a result of the increasing urbanisation of Canberra.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* 240

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 8 records, all of single birds save 2/17 Oct Googong Dam GrO17 (AnI1). This is on a par with recent years. Sea-Eagles were recorded between Sep and Mar, from seven widespread grid cells near water. From observations on COG’s chat line, undoubtedly more birds are observed, but the records do not find their way to the databases. No breeding recorded.

GBS: One record of a single bird, 1wk May, from a site in Jerrabomberra near a body of water. Sea-Eagles are infrequently recorded in suburbia.

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus* 241

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 40 records, of 1-2 birds, from only 6 grid cells. Numbers of this species have fluctuated over the past decade with the ten-year average being 27.4. This year 37 of the records (92.5%) came from Kellys Swamp and environs, and probably concerned the same birds. There were single records from the Tinderries, Wamboin, and Woodstock NR. Birds were not recorded in Nov, Apr or Jun. Most records came in spring (55%) and summer (27.5%), though note that over 38% of the year’s datasheets were also submitted in spring. No breeding was formally recorded; however a post to the COG chatline on 17 Dec indicated there was a nest with two young along Jerrabomberra Creek, as in previous years.

GBS: No records. Generally not seen in suburbia.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* 243

Rare, Visitor

General: One record, possibly in error, from Kellys Swamp, 25 Oct. An occasional visitor from the inland, particularly in drought years. The species has been recorded in 6 of the previous 10 years.

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus* 244

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 88 records (5 WOO), of 1-3 birds, mean 1.25, broadly comparable with the results for the previous four years. Birds were recorded in all months, with the usual peaks in spring (54.6% records) and summer (28.4%). They were recorded in 42 widespread grid cells, most commonly from urban or urban fringe nature reserves. 7 breeding records, involving five breeding events, from di/12 Sep Moncrieff GrK10 (RoM4) to dy/14 Jan Urila GrI20 (BuM1). Records were unfortunately not submitted for other known breeding sites.

GBS: 27 records, 26 of single birds, and one of two, between 4wk Jul and 4wk Apr, and from 14 sites. The abundance value $A=0.0080$ is down 32.63% on the long-term average, but the possibility of confusion with the other common *Accipiter*, the Collared Sparrowhawk, cannot be ruled out.

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus* 245 Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 38 records, mostly of single birds, with only 3 records of 2. The species was recorded in every month except Nov, with 42.1% of records from Sep-Oct. Sparrowhawks were recorded from 20 mainly urban grid cells. Only one breeding record: dy/24 Feb Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1).

GBS: 66 records, an increase on last year's 54. Most records were of single birds, with only 2 of 2. Recorded from 30 sites, and recorded fairly evenly throughout the year, in all months. The abundance value, $A=0.0193$, is close to the long-term average, and the sparrowhawk remains one of our more common urban raptors. There was one possible indication of breeding: di/3wk Apr Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae* 247 Rare, Visitor

General: One record, 1/1 Sep Kellys Swamp GrL14 (SmA1). The species is generally recorded once or twice in most years.

GBS: One record of a single bird 1wk Dec Turner GrK13 (MiP1).

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis* 248 Rare, Visitor

This species is an irregular visitor to COG's region, being recorded in eight of the previous ten years.

General: 3 records, all of single birds: 7 Jan Carwoola GrR17 and "Hillview" Jinden Creek GrW28 (both PeH2); and 18 Jun Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1).

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans* 249 Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 11 records, all of single birds. The "Swampie" has been recorded in 9 of the previous 10 years, with a ten-year average of 5.9 records per year. Its appearance this year was strongly seasonal, with all records between Sep and Dec. 10 records came from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR GrL14; the one exception was 10 Dec Uriarra Crossing area GrG13 (HoS1). No breeding was recorded.

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax* 252 Common, Breeding Resident

To date, the iconic "Wedgie" appears to be coping adequately with Canberra's urban sprawl. The paucity of breeding records may tell a different story, though University of Canberra research into raptor breeding in our area always points to far more breeding events than are recorded by COG members (see, for example, J. Olsen et al, 2009).

General: 131 records (3 WOO), with a range 1-3 birds, mean 1.48. This compares well with a mean of 97.4 records p.a. over the previous ten years. Birds were recorded from 67 widespread grid cells (28.5% of those for which records were submitted) and over virtually all land uses. The birds were recorded in all months and showed a more even seasonal pattern than many raptors, with spring accounting for 36.6% of records, summer 24.4%, autumn 15.3% and winter 23.7%. Breeding was recorded 5 times, from ny/15 Aug Stony Creek NR (MaM4) to ny/24 Oct Mt Mugga GrL15 (DaG2) and Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1).

GBS: 94 records, mostly of one or two birds, but note 4/3wk Jan Isaacs GrK16 (MaC2) and 5/2wk May Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Recorded in all months and from 22 widespread sites. The A value of 0.0387 was up 19.09% on last year and nearly 200% above the long-term average. One breeding record: co/4wk Jun Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides* 253 Uncommon, Breeding Resident

For a species reported as being in severe decline in the ACT (Olsen et al 2008, 2009, COG 2008), this is again a surprising number of records, and may be the consequence of the many warm exhortations to COG members to submit all records of this species declared "vulnerable" in the ACT in 2008. Misidentification cannot be ruled out entirely, however.

General: 67 records (2 more than last year), of 1-3 birds, mean 1.17. Recorded from 19 grid cells, though half the records come from GrL14 which includes JWNR. The remainder were widespread, with multiple records from The Pinnacle NR, Newline Quarry, TSR 48, Lyneham, Lake Bathurst and West Macgregor. The last-named was the site of the only positive breeding record: on/24 Oct GrH11 (CuR1), where the birds have bred previously. Two birds were also recorded as displaying: di/10 May CSIRO Gungahlin GrK12 (DaC1). Little Eagles were recorded in all months save June, with the highest numbers of records coming in spring (43.3%) and summer (29.9%).

GBS: 17 records of single birds, from 6 sites. Regular in none. All records were of single birds save 2/4wk and 3/5wk Jan Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1). Birds were not recorded in Aug-Sep or Nov-Dec. With an abundance value of $A=0.0057$, the species is just above (4.23%) the long-term average.

FALCONIDAE: kestrel, falcons, hobby

Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides* 254

Common, Breeding Resident

Our most commonly recorded raptor, just nudging the Wedge-tailed Eagle for top spot. It is unsurprising that these two species are arguably the most visually distinctive raptors in our region.

General: 168 records (10 WOO), the highest number since the previous bumper year of 2000-01 which saw 195 records. Range 1-3 birds, mean 1.23. Kestrels were recorded in all months, albeit with a strong seasonal pattern: spring (54.8% of records); summer (25%); autumn (12.5%); and winter (7.74%). The birds were recorded over 66 widespread grid cells, principally on the urban fringes and in rural grasslands. The number of records compares well with the annual average of 118, over the previous ten years. There were only three breeding records: co/10 Oct Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (HoJ1); co/10 Oct Campbell Park GrM13 (WiT1); and br/22 Nov Callum Brae GrL15 (SmA1).

GBS: Sixty-one records, 58 of single birds and 3 of 2 birds. This is a huge increase on last year's 24 records, perhaps partly explained by the increasing number of rural garden bird sites. Kestrels were recorded from 16 sites, mainly from the urban fringes outwards, and in all months save Feb. The abundance value of $A=0.0182$ is nevertheless down 15.72% on the long-term average.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora* 255

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 83 records (5 WOO), with a range of 1-4 individuals, at a mean of 1.28. This represents a steady increase over previous years, the mean number of records for the previous 10 years being 54.1 p.a. Records came from 37 widespread grid cells, almost exclusively from urban fringe nature reserves to rural areas. While the Brown Falcon was recorded in all months, 54.2% of records came in the spring, followed by summer (18.1%), autumn (13.3%) and winter (14.5%). No breeding was recorded. This species has been recorded breeding in only two years of the past ten, though research by Olsen et al shows otherwise.

GBS: As in 2008-09, there were only 5 records, 4 of single birds and 1 of 2. Four sites were involved, in Curtin, Turner, Burra and Gleneagles. Records came from Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov and Mar. The Brown Falcon is increasingly the least urban of our raptors; its abundance level is down 71.26% on the long-term average.

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis* 256

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: Records for this largely urban raptor have dropped from a high of 68 in 2006-07 to 31 records this year but remain within historic parameters. The range was 1-3 birds, mean 1.23. Its seasonal distribution was patchy, as befits its partially migratory status. There were no records in Aug, Feb or after Apr, the majority (41.9% of records) coming in spring, followed by 35.5% in summer. Recorded from 26 widespread grid cells from the suburbs to the urban fringes and beyond. 2 breeding records: on/5 Oct Pine Ridge GrI12 (DaC1); and nb/24 Oct Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). Another breeding event was mentioned on the COG chat line, with birds observed copulating in

Haig Park on 17 Oct. Their nest tree was subsequently felled by the local authorities, with the RSPCA officer in attendance reporting on 23 Dec that there was no sign of recent use of the nest.

GBS: 59 records, of 1-3 birds. Recorded throughout the year, though only one record in the Jun-Jul period. Hobbies were recorded in 18 exclusively suburban sites from all parts of Canberra. The abundance value of $A=0.0196$ is down both on last year and down 42.53% against the long-term average. One breeding record: on/5wk Oct Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) where the species has regularly bred.

Black Falcon *Falco subniger* 258

Rare, Visitor

General: One record of a single bird, 10 Apr Lake George GrU09 (LeM1). This inland raptor has been recorded in our area in eight of the previous ten years, albeit infrequently.

GBS: A surprising 3 records of a single bird, in Aug, Dec, and Jan, from inner Canberra: Turner GrK13 (MiP1).

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* 259

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 23 records (no WOO), continuing the steady decline in the number of records of this species over the previous five years. Range 1-3 birds, mean 1.26. No birds were recorded in Jul-Aug or Jan. 41.7% of records came in spring and 33.3% in autumn. Birds were recorded from 19 widespread grid cells, both urban and rural. No breeding was recorded, though University of Canberra research shows otherwise.

GBS: 11 records, all of single birds except for one record of 2/4wk, 5wk Oct Burra GrM21 (AnI1). There were no records for Nov-Dec, or Jun. Records came from 4 widespread sites in Kambah, Curtin, Burra and Giralang, none of which recorded the birds regularly. At $A=0.0037$, the abundance value for the Peregrine is down 25.31% on the long-term average.

RALLIDAE: rails, crakes, swamphen, moorhen, coot

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio* 262

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 220 records (incl 1 WBS) from 20 grid cells. This is the highest reporting rate on record (mean 130.6, range 70 to 191 over previous ten years). The urban lakes and their associated tributaries and wetlands again account for most records, 96% this year. There were just 9 records away from Canberra, and all were from around LBath. The mean number of individuals reported per record was 8.9, the largest number reported was 57/30 Jul Point Hut Pond GrJ17 (RaB1). Records from all seasons: spring (103), summer (58), autumn (31) and winter (28). There were 27 records of breeding (12% of all records) including on, dy and br, over an extended period from Aug right through to Jun, with first dy/23 Aug Gordon GrJ17 (RaB1) and last dy/15 Jun LTug GrJ16 (PeH2).

GBS: 120 records from 4 sites. Regular records throughout the year from three sites in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), LJerr, NSW GrM16 (HaL2), and Giralang GrK12 (McD4); and one site in Latham GrI12 with just 2 records of single birds in Nov and Dec. Most records were of 1-4 birds, but the site in Jerrabomberra regularly reported between 8 and 21 birds. Breeding observed only at Jerrabomberra with dy from 2wk Oct through to 2wk Apr.

Lewin's Rail *Lewinia pectoralis* 267

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 6 records, all from JWNR, in Aug, Sep and Feb (SmA1, MaD4). The species has been recorded in 7 of the previous 10 years with an average of 2 records per year.

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis* 268

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 7 records from 2 grid cells is close to the average reporting rate (mean 6.0 over past ten years, range 0-19). This species has been recorded from 10 of the past 11 years. Six of the records were from Norgrove Park in Kingston between 21 Sep and 1 Nov. The other record was of an unusual suburban record from Fadden on 2 Nov (ReJ5).

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* 271

Rare, Visitor

General: 36 records from 4 grid cells – this is the second highest recording rate in ten years (41 in 2006-07, with a mean of 9.5 over ten years, range 0-41). The species has been recorded in 8 of the past 11 years. All but three records were from either JWNR or Norgrove Park, both GrL14; other records were from Giralang wetlands (CIM1, RoM3) and West Belconnen Pond in Dunlop GrI11, the latter representing the only breeding record (dy/1 Nov, CuR1). All records were between 2 Sep and 10 Jan, and of up to 5 birds (average of 1.6).

Australian Spotted Crake *Porzana fluminea* 272

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 7 records from 2 grid cells cf (mean 6.9, range 0-24 for the previous 10 years). The species has been reported in 9 of the past 11 years. All records, of 1-2 birds, were from JWNR or FSP GrL14, between 28 Sep and 16 Jan, except 1/24 Oct West Belconnen Pond in Dunlop GrI11 (CuR1). No breeding reported.

Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis* 274

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 14 records this year is again above average (mean 9.7, range 0-32 for the previous 10 years). The species has now been recorded from 10 of the past 11 years. Eight of the records were from Norgrove Park in Kingston, and six were from JWNR, both GrL14, and all records were of 1-3 birds between 21 Sep and 3 Apr. One of these records indicated breeding: br/29 Nov JWNR (SmA1).

Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis* 279

Rare, Visitor

General: A record 55 sightings this year, from 4 grid cells. The species was previously recorded in low numbers in 2007-08, 2002-03 and 2001-02, but this year saw an influx of a small number of birds which persisted from mid Sep to early Jan. The first bird was recorded at Norgrove Park in Kingston GrL14 on 19 Sep (ANF1), and up to 2 birds were recorded from this site right through to 1 Jan (PeH2). A group of up to 7 birds was reported regularly from JWNR between 26 Sep (AnF1) and 27 Dec (LeM2, WaK2, WaJ2). Other records of single birds came from LGin on 1 Oct (HiR1), 25 Oct (BrJ3) and 27 Oct (HoS1); other reports from Uriarra HS Dam on 1 Oct and 12 Dec and West Macgregor GrH11 on 24 Oct not presented for appraisal. This influx was no doubt related to the dry conditions inland, and, according to reports to the Birding-aus email list, the species was also showing up unexpectedly in October in the Blue Mountains and Capertee Valley, and the Mt Annan Botanic Gardens near Sydney; and in large numbers in the Port Pirie and other areas of mid-north South Australia.

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa* 281

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 199 records from 25 grid cells is higher than average (mean 138.6, range 93 to 190 for previous ten years). The urban lakes and their associated tributaries and wetlands account for most records, a high 93% this year. The 14 records from locations away from Canberra include several from Uriarra HS Dam, Tidbinbilla, Googong dam, Gearys Gap, Goulburn, and Tarago (no records from either WBS or WOO). The average number of individuals reported per record was 6.9, max 79/25 Feb Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (CuR1). There were 11 records of breeding (down on 20 last year but up on 7 of three years ago) all of dy or br between 19 Oct and 27 May, a more extended

breeding season than most. As well as at the major urban wetlands, breeding was reported from Yowani Golf Club and Uriarra HS Dam.

GBS: 108 records from 3 sites. Regular records throughout the year from 3 sites in Jerrabomberra NSW GrM16 (HaL2), Giralang GrK12 (McD4) and Latham GrI12 (WLC1). Most records were of 1-4 birds, but the site in Jerrabomberra regularly reported between 9 and 19 birds. Breeding observed at Jerrabomberra with dy from 4wk Oct through to 4wk Feb; and from Giralang with dy 4wk Nov and 1wk Jan.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra* 282

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 192 records (incl 2 WBS) from 29 grid cells. This is typical of recent reporting rates (cf 194 last year; mean of 160.9, range 107 to 217 over previous ten years). The urban lakes and associated tributaries and wetlands account for most records, a high 89% this year (up on 81% last year and 82% in 2007-08). The 21 records from locations away from Canberra include several from Uriarra HS Dam, Tidbinbilla, Namadgi Visitors Centre, Kowen Forest, Gundaroo, Bungendore, Goulburn, Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03, and LBath (WBS). The average number of individuals reported per record was 23.3, the largest number reported being a relatively low 150 (cf 618 last year) at Yerrabi Pond on 24 Oct (MuS2). Only 6 of the records reported 100 birds or more. Local breeding was again evident this year, with 10 records, all of on, dy or br between 24 Oct and 17 Apr, from several locations including 7 records from the ponds at Dunlop (CuR1 in Oct, CuR1 and FeP1 in Jan-Apr), 2 from Uriarra HS Dam GrG13 (SmA1), and a single record from Yowani Golf Course in Lyneham (CuR1).

GBS: 75 records from 4 sites. Regular records throughout the year, of up to 111 birds, from two sites, one in Greenway (LTug) GrJ16 (HaA2), the other at Jerrabomberra NSW GrM16 (HaL2). Also 4 records of 2-5 birds from Aug to Nov from a site in Harrison (ReD2), and 4 records of 1-2 birds in Jul from a site in Giralang (McD4). Breeding observed only at Jerrabomberra with dy from 4wk Nov to 4wk Apr.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE: stilts, avocet

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* 290

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 28 records from 4 grid cells is the second highest recording rate in 10 years (32 in 2001-02, with a mean of 15.3 over ten years, range 5-32). 25 records (89%) were from JWNR, the other three from Gundaroo (NiA1), Kenny (McD4) and LBath (WBS, LeM1). 21 records (75%) from spring, 3 from summer, 1 from autumn and 3 from winter. All records of 1 to 6 birds with the exception of 14/29 Aug JWNR GrL14 (HeS1), giving an average abundance of 2.8. No breeding records.

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae* 291

Uncommon, visitor

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

CHARADRIIDAE: plovers, dotterels, lapwings

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* 293

Rare, Migrant

No records. Last recorded 27 Oct 2008, with records from 6 of the past 10 years.

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus* 299

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 4 records, all WBS from three locations around LBath, is slightly lower than the mean of 5.8 for the past ten years. 22/30 Dec, 15/19 Mar (LeM1), and 2/16 May, 2/30 Jun (MaD4).

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus* 300

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 2 records, both WBS from two locations around LBath, is similar reporting to previous years - 1/19 Mar (LeM1), 2/30 Jun (MaD4).

Black-fronted Dotterel *Elseyaornis melanops* 306

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 60 records from 16 grid cells is fairly typical of recent reporting levels. Includes 2 WBS records from LBath in May and Jun, the former reporting a high count of 22 birds (MaD4). All other records were of 1 to 6 birds. Records from all seasons: spring (31), summer (21), autumn (4), and winter (4). No breeding recorded.

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus* 308

Uncommon, Visitor

General: 22 records from 2 grid cells. 21 of the records were of up to 6 birds from JWNr between 16 Aug and 13 Nov (SmA1, HoS1, BuM1, MaD4, FyM1), the other record being from Uriarra HS Dam on 1 Oct (SmA1).

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolour* 309

Uncommon, Breeding Visitor

General: 28 records from 7 grid cells. 19 records of up to 4 birds reported regularly from Throsby GrL11/M11 by various observers – see (Boekel 2010). Also reported from the LBath area (GrY07, Z08, Z07) with the largest concentrations 47/30 Dec GrZ07 and 21/27 Jan same area (both LeM1). 12 breeding records, all but one from the 2 pairs at Throsby. First breeding reports in the ACT since 1982. Also a report of a pair with dy/24 Oct LGeo GrR09 not presented for appraisal.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles* 310

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 233 records from 55 grid cells. An increase from the 166 records last year from the same number of grid cells. Reported throughout the year. Generally in pairs but when reported in groups of 3-5 probably with dependent young of the year. As usual the very low number of breeding records (3) does not reflect the breeding status of the birds in the COG area of interest. Largest concentration 148/10 Apr LGeo GrT09 (LeM1). Large numbers also reported from LBath - ranging from 29/22 Feb (LeM1) to 84/30 Jun (MaD4), also 39/24 Oct JWNr GrL14 (FyM1).

GBS: Records from 28 sites with a breeding event at Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2), on/3 wk Sep.

ROSTRATULIDAE: painted snipe

No records of

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

Rare Visitor

SCOLOPACIDAE: snipe, sandpipers and allies

No records of

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* (last recorded Dec 1996)

Rare, Migrant

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

Vagrant

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* (4 records last year)

Rare, Migrant

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

Rare, Migrant

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* (last recorded Nov 1999)

Rare, Migrant

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta* (last recorded Dec 2002)

Rare, Migrant

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

Rare, Migrant

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis* (last recorded Sep 1997)

Rare, Migrant

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii* 316

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 28 records from 7 grid cells, similar to last couple of years but not up to the 45 records from 7 grid cells in 206-07. 23 record from JWNR GrL14. Records also from Nursery Swamp GrH22, Dunlop West GrI11, Tantangeria Plain GrA23, Uriarra HS Dam GrF13 and LBath Mulwaree bridge at Tarago GrX08. Earliest record 4/1 Sep JWNR GrL14 (SmA1) and last record 2/27 Jan LBath GrX08 (LeM1). Largest concentration 23/25 Dec JWNR GrL14 (AnF1)

GBS: Records from Giralang GrK12 (McD4) with up to 5 birds in any one week. 8 records over a 21 week period between 25 Sep and 12 Feb. This is a new site backs on to Ginninderra Creek.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* 333

Rare, Migrant

General: A single record 1/4 Oct JWNR GrL14 (PeH2). First record since 2 Jan 2006 also at JWNR.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* 345

Rare, Migrant

General: 2 records; 1/1 Sep (SmA1) and 1/3 Sep (BuM1) both from JWNR GrL14 most likely the same bird. Similar to previous years.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* 350

Common, Migrant

General: 22 records from various observers all from JWNR GrL14, of between 1 and 5 birds from 30 Aug (SmA1) through to 29 Nov (also SmA1). An increase in the number of records from previous years.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* 352

Rare, Migrant

General: 2 records; 2/16 Sep (SmA1) and 1/17 Sep (MaD4) most likely the same birds. First records since 21 Aug 2006 at LBath. Not recorded in the ACT since Aug 2004.

TURNICIDAE: button-quail**Painted Button-quail** *Turnix varius* 364

Rare, Breeding Resident

General: 6 records, from 6 grid cells, is fairly typical reporting for this species (mean 5.0 range 0-13 over previous 10 years). Records were from Mulligans Flat, Mt Majura, Black Mountain, Yowani Golf Course, Cotter Hut GrD24 and Yerrabi Track GrH26, all between 6 Sep and 7 Feb. No breeding reported.

Little Button-quail *Turnix velox* 366

Rare, Migrant

General: 1 record: 1/3 Dec Urambi Hills GrJ16 (HoS1). Following 3 records last year, this is only the third year in 11 that the species has been recorded.

LARIDAE: gulls and terns

No records of:

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (last record 7 Nov 2005)

Rare, Visitor

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* (last record 1 Aug 2005)

Rare, Visitor

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus* 385

Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 9 records from 3 grid cells, similar to previous years. All records from between 24 Sep and 3 Nov. In addition to observations from JWNR GrL14 there was a single record nearby of 6/24 Sep Turf Farm Puddle, Fyshwick GrM14 (SmA1) and 2/24 Oct Dunlop Ponds GrI11 (CuR1). Largest concentration of 13-15 birds 28-29 Sep at JWNR.

Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae* 403

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 73 records from 11 grid cells, similar to previous years. Recorded throughout the year. Largest concentration 360/10 Apr LGeo S GrT09 (LeM1). No breeding records.

GBS: Records from 4 sites ranging from a single observation of 1 bird 2 wk Sep Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) to observations over 16 consecutive weeks Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2).

CACATUIDAE: cockatoos**Glossy Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus lathami* 409

Rare Visitor

General: 6 records of 1-6 birds this year from 3 grids compared with 7 records last year and 20 records in 2006-07. Most records in Mt Ainslie/Mt Majura NP although there was also one record from 'Timbertops' east of Bungendore. Records from 26 July to 30 Jun. No breeding records.

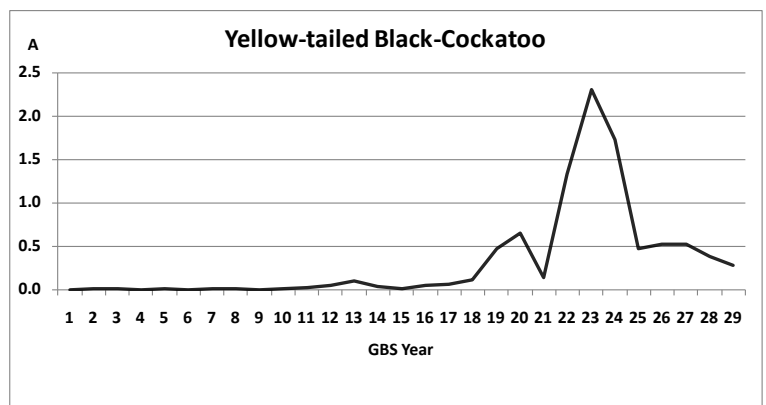
GBS: Mean abundance $A=0.0065$ ($A=0.0077$ in 2008-09). Recorded from 2 sites: 8/2wk Jul, 2/3wk Jul, 1/3wk Dec Burra GrM21 (AnI1), and 3/1wk Jul, 3/1wk Aug and 4/1wk Nov Melba GrJ12 (MoM1). Mean abundance and reporting rate over 4 times the long-term mean and reporting rate. No breeding records.

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus* 410

Common Breeding Resident

General: 64 records this year from 39 grids (16.6%) compared with 98 records last year and 62 records in 2007-08. Reporting rate 2.6%. Numbers reported: mean 4.97, median 3, max 62/16 Aug Pierces Ck GrF15 (MaM4). 3 breeding records (six last year) from dy/2 Dec Tinderry Rd GrQ24 (BuM1) to dy/27 Jan LBath S GrY08 (LeM1).

GBS: Records from 65 sites (74%) from all weeks of 1-30 individuals. Mean abundance ($A=0.2702$) was 15.3% lower than the long-term mean, 28.6% lower than 2008-09 ($A=0.3784$) and much lower than the peak abundance after the 2003 bushfires ($A=2.2998$ in 2003-04). This represents a return to earlier levels of abundance. Reporting rate 132% higher than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 3 sites (compared with 6 sites last year) commencing with dy/1 wk Nov Giralang GrK12 (McD4) and concluding with dy/1 wk Apr Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

**Gang-gang Cockatoo** *Callocephalon fimbriatum* 413

Common Breeding Resident

General: 104 records from 42 grid cells (17.9%) from all months, compared with 125 last year. 15 (14.4%) were WOO. Reporting rate 4.3%. Numbers reported: mean 3.2, median 2, max 25/3 Jun Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). 6 breeding records (2 last year) commencing with ih/4 Oct Red Hill GrK14 PeH2 and concluding with dy/26 Apr Narrabundah Hill GrI15 (HoJ1), with an early start to the next breeding season ih/27 Jun Red Hill GrK14 PeH2.

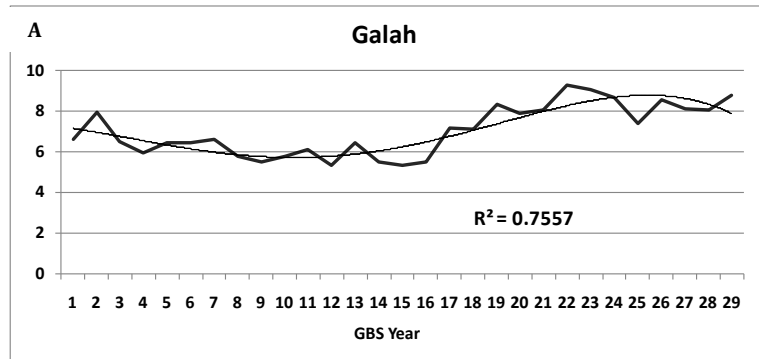
GBS: Records from 60.2% of sites from all weeks of 1-30 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=0.756$) was 24.3% lower than 2008-09 ($A=0.998$) and well below levels of 2003-04 ($A=1.1505$). Abundance and reporting rate just above long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 7 sites (compared with 8 last year) from dy/1wk Jul to dy/2wk May Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3). Last record ih/2wk Jun Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Lophochroa leadbeateri* 414

Escapee/Vagrant

General: No records this year after 12 records of a single bird in 2007-08.**GBS:** No records (last recorded in 2008-09).**Galah** *Eolophus roseicapilla* 415

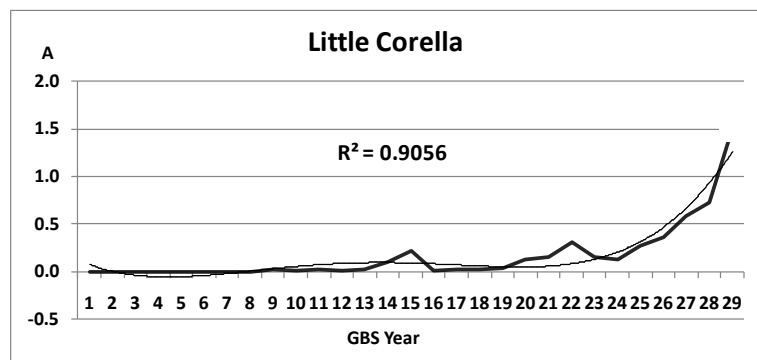
Common Breeding Resident

General: 972 records from 115 grid cells (48.9%) from all months, compared with 838 in the previous year. 255 (26.2%) were WOO. Reporting rate 40.0%. Numbers reported: mean 8.67, median 4, max 1500/6 Mar Bungendore Truck Stopping Lane GrS13 (McD1). 41 breeding records (39 last year) commencing with ih/11 Jul Campbell Park GrM13 (WiT1), concluding with dy/27 Jan Cook GrJ13 (McI1) with a copulation record in April co/22 Apr ANU GrK13 (LeM1).**GBS:** Records from all sites in all weeks of 1-200 individuals. Most abundant species recorded in the GBS. The mean abundance ($A=8.7702$) was higher than last year ($A=8.0724$) and 25% above the long-term mean. Reporting rate (84.4) 6.2% higher than long-term mean. Breeding records from 26 sites (compared with 14 last year) from ih/5 wk Jul Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) to dy/2 wk Mar GrJ11 Fraser (WaS1), with some early season inspection of hollows in April and a report of nb/4wk Jun Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).**Long-billed Corella** *Cacatua tenuirostris* 416

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 12 records (2 WOO) from 4 grid cells (1.7%) compared with 11 in 2008-09. Abundance: mean 4.83, median 1.5, max 40/1 Nov Norgrove Pk Kingston GrL14 (LeM1). One breeding record: on/4 Oct Red Hill GrK15 (PeH2).**GBS:** Records from 5 sites (5.68%), the same as last year. Recorded in 17 weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.0077$) was higher than 2008-09 ($A=0.006$) and about 3.5 times higher than the long term mean. Records were of 1-6 individuals. Reporting rate (0.48) over 3 times the long-term mean. No breeding records.**Little Corella** *Cacatua sanguinea* 418

Breeding Resident

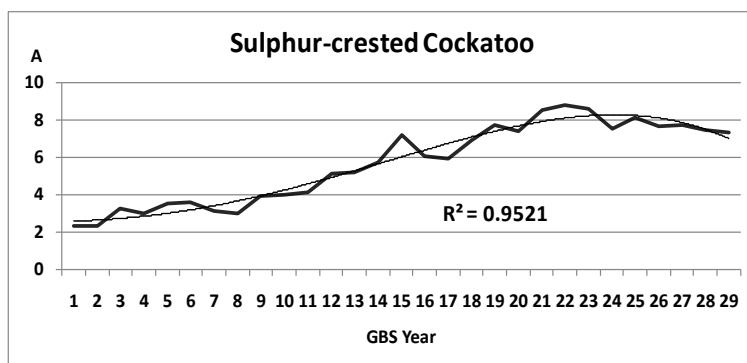
General: 125 records from 35 grid cells (14.9%), compared with 78 last year. Once confined to the southern suburbs, many records are now from the northern suburbs. 23 (18.4%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5.2%. Numbers reported: mean 8.95, median 3, max 208/10 May L Tug GrJ16 (RaB1). 2 breeding records (same as last year): nb/12 Sep South Jacka GrK10 (LiB1), ih/17 Oct South Throsby GrL11 (DaC1).**GBS:** The mean abundance ($A=1.5273$) was 111% higher than 2008-09 ($A=0.7226$) continuing a long term increase (almost 11 times the long-term mean). Records from 48.8% of sites of 1-150 individuals from all weeks. Reporting rate (13.3) over 4.5 times the long term mean. No breeding records.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita* 419

Common Breeding Resident

General: 960 records from 133 grid cells (56.6%) from all months, compared with 865 last year. 253 (26.4%) were WOO. Reporting rate 39.6%. Numbers reported: mean 6.7, median 3, max 500/13 Jun Bungendore Trucking Stop GrS13 (McD1). 54 breeding records (26 last year) commencing with ih/29 Jul Campbell Pk GrM13 (HoS1) and last dependant young: dy/10 Mar LGin GrI13 (AlB1) with several early inspecting hollows in June.

GBS: 2nd most abundant species recorded in the GBS. Records from 100% of sites from all weeks of 1-200 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=7.3734$) was 1.77% lower than last year ($A=7.5060$), but 31.2% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate (84.9) 20.6% higher than long-term mean. Breeding records from 9 sites (compared with 10 last year) from dy/1 wk Jul- 1 wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

**Cockatiel** *Nymphicus hollandicus* 420

Rare Vagrant

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

General: 2 records (2 last year) both of 2 birds on the same day in different locations in Gorooyarroo NP: 2/24 Oct Gorooyarroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1)

GBS: Recorded from 2 sites (3 in 2008-09): 1/1 wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1), 1/2-4 wk Jan Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

PSITTACIDAE: lorikeets, parrots**Rainbow Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus haematodus* 421

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 35 records from 9 grid cells (3.8%) compared with 25 last year mostly from Hawker, The Pinnacle NR and adjacent suburbs. Numbers reported: mean 2.5, median 2, max 6/18 Mar The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1). Three breeding records (5 last year): from ih/18 Sep The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1), to on/18 Nov Fadden GrK16 (HoS1).

GBS: The mean abundance ($A=0.1590$) was 28.9% lower than 2008-09 ($A=0.2238$), and 4 times higher than the long-term mean. Records from 17% of sites of 1-8 individuals from 52 weeks, with most records coming from Scullin, Page, Macquarie and Aranda. Reporting rate over 3.5 times the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 1 site (same as last year): dy/4wk Dec Scullin GrI12 (FeP1).

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna* 424

Rare Visitor

General: 4 records (last recorded in 2007-08): 2/22 Nov Sweeneys TSR GrU11 (LeM1), 2-4/24,28 Dec Dickson GrL13 (ReJ5), 1/7 May Deakin GrK14 (OvA1).

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

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla* 425

Rare Visitor

General: No records, 5 last year.

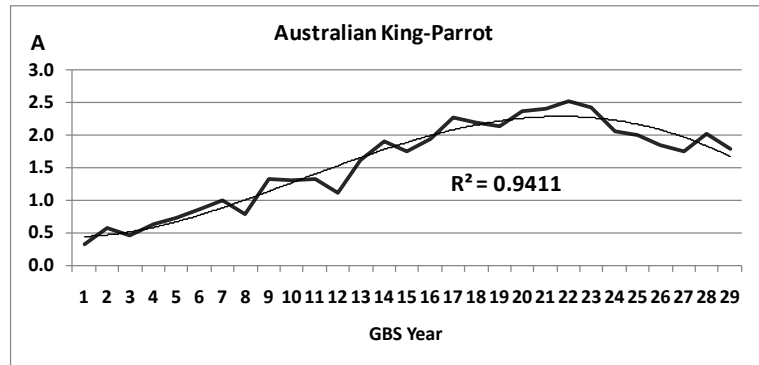
GBS: No records (three records in 2008-09).

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis* 430

Common Breeding Resident

General: 139 records from 36 grid cells (15.3%) from all months, compared with 147 last year. 23 (16.5%) were WOO. Reporting rate 5.7%. Numbers reported: mean 3.49, median 2, max 20/15 Oct ANBG GrK13 (AWB1). 3 breeding records (seven last year): ih/19 Sep Majura NP GrM12 (WaK1), dy/26 Jan Jamison GrJ13 (AlB1), ih/21 Mar Majura NP GrM12 (WaK1).

GBS: 12th most abundant species recorded in the GBS, done from 11th in 2008-09. Records from 86.4% of sites from all weeks of 1-60 individuals. The mean abundance ($A=1.7975$) was 11.4% lower than 2008-09 ($A=2.0286$) and 2002-2003 ($A=2.5261$) but 16.9% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate (50.4) 23.6% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 17 sites (compared with 7 last year) from ih/1 wk Oct Deakin GrK14 (RoD2) to dy/2 wk Mar Weston GrJ15 (EyC1).

**Superb Parrot** *Polytelis swainsonii* 432

Rare Visitor

General: 93 records from 18 grid cells (7.7%) compared with 71 in the previous year with 86% of records from spring and summer. 4 (4.3%) were WOO. Reporting rate 3.8%. Numbers reported: mean 5.55, median 3, max 52/26 Dec Macquarie GrJ13 (AnF1). 9 breeding records (3 last year) commencing with ih/17 Oct Throsby North GrM11 (BoC4) and Throsby South GrL11 (DaC1) to dy/28 Dec Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

GBS: Records from 30.7% of sites of 1-18 individuals from 31 weeks (generally in spring and early summer, with few records before September and after January). The mean abundance ($A=0.1638$) was 4.13% higher than 2008-09 ($A=0.1573$) and almost 8 times higher than the long-term mean reflecting the increase in post-breeding movement of birds into urban Canberra. Reporting rate (3.9) 9 times higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 4 sites (compared with 3 last year): dy/3 wk Nov Cook GrJ13 (BrM2) to dy/3 wk Dec at three sites in Holt, Aranda and Page.

Princess Parrot *Polytelis alexandrae*

Escapee

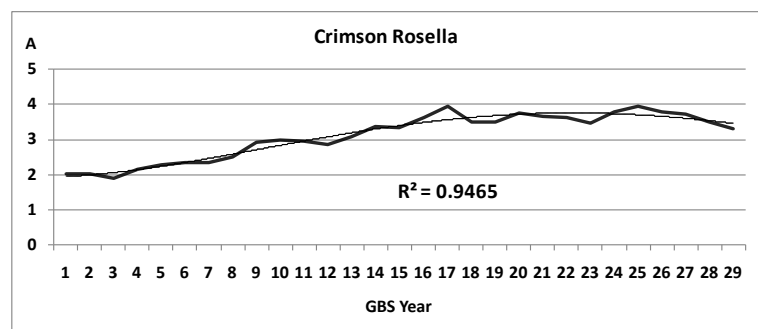
GBS: One record: 1/1 wk Apr Scullin GrI12 (FeP1)

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans* 436

Common Breeding Resident

General: 1132 records from 156 grid cells (66.4%) from all months, compared with 1203 last year. 335 (29.6%) were WOO. Reporting rate 46.6%. Numbers reported: mean 4.6, med 3, max 33/14 Nov North Kenny GrM11 (LaS1). 48 breeding records (42 last year) commencing ih/8 Aug Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) and concluding with dy/4 JanT ih/2 Jun Nicholls GrK11 (COF1).

GBS: 6th most abundant species recorded in GBS, down from 5th in 2008-09. Records of 1-30 individuals from 98.86% of sites from all weeks. Mean abundance ($A=3.35$) was 4.5% lower than 2008-09 ($A=3.51$) but 8.5% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate (87.8) 9.1% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 14 sites (compared with 15 last year) from ih/5 wk Jul Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) to dy/3 wk Apr Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).



Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius* 437

Common Breeding Resident

General: 785 records from 100 grid cells (42.6%), from all months, compared with 730 in the previous year. 213 (27.1%) were WOO. Reporting rate 32.3%. Numbers reported: mean 4.7, median 4, max 40/14 Nov North Throsby GrM11 (BoC4). 28 breeding records (36 last year) commencing with ih/5 Aug Cooleman Ridge GrI15 (BuM1) and concluding with dy/16 Dec TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1) with an early record in Jun ih/11 Jun Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: 18th most abundant bird in the GBS, down from 15th in 2008-09. Records of 1-14 individuals from 96.6% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance (A=1.3945) was 14.6% lower than 2008-09 (A=1.6332) and 8.9% lower than the long-term mean. Reporting rate (55.9) 3.6% lower than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 9 sites (compared with 10 last year) from ih/5 wk Jul Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) to dy/4 wk Jan from sites in Florey and Macgregor.

Crimson-Eastern Rosella Hybrid

GBS: Records of single birds from 3 sites: 11 records at GrM16 Jerrabomberra (HaL2), 10 records at GrJ15 Weston (MaA2) and one record from GrK12 Giralang (McD4)

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor* 444

Rare Visitor

General: One record (5 last year): 7/23 May Murrumbateman GrI07 (BoJ1).

GBS: Recorded from 2 sites (same as in 2008-09): 4/4 wk Aug Watson GrL12 (WaK1), 4/4 wk Apr Turner GrK13 (MiP1).

Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus* 445

Common Breeding Resident

General: 369 records from 61 grid cells (26%), from all months, compared with 321 in the previous year. 48 (13%) were WOO. Reporting rate 15.2%. Abundance: mean 6.26, median 4, max 50/11 Feb West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). 20 breeding records (13 last year) commencing with ih/8 Aug Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) and concluding with dy/30 Dec LBath GrZ07 (LeM1) and an early inspecting hollow record ih/2 Jun Nicholls GrK11 (COF1).

GBS: Records of 1-66 individuals from 45.5% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance (A=0.5341) was 38.7% higher than 2008-09 (A=0.3850) and 26.2% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate (10.7) 22.8% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 1 site (5 last year) dy/3 wk Dec Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella* 458

Rare Vagrant

General: Two records (last recorded in 2007-08): 1/8 Oct Googong GrM18 (RoP5), 1/24 Oct Kowen GrO15 (BuM1).

Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus* 452

Escapee/Rare Vagrant

General: No records. Last recorded Jun 2005.

GBS: One record: 1/5 wk Jul Giralang GrK12 (McD4)

Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* 872

Escapee

General: No records. Last recorded Oct 2006.

GBS: Recorded from one site: 1/2 wk Aug Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

Peachface Lovebird *Agapornis roseicollis*

Escapee

GBS: One record: 1/2 wk Aug Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1)

CUCULIDAE: cuckoos, koel**Eastern Koel** *Eudynamys orientalis* 465

Uncommon, Migrant

General: 28 records of single birds from 11 grid cells compared with 9 records from 3 grid cells last year: first, 1/22 Oct Wanniasa GrK16 (HeS1); last, 1/7 Mar Macquarie GrJ13((AnF1). Breeding: 3 records; first, dy/6 Jan Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1); last, dy/20 Feb Page GrJ12 (AlB1).

GBS: 1-2 birds recorded from 42 sites compared with 24 sites last year. Abundance ($A=0.0762$) is almost double that of last year ($A=0.0414$). First was 1/3wk Oct Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) and last 2/3wk Mar Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3).

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae* 467

Vagrant

General: 3 records of a single birds in two grid cells compared with no records last year: first, 1/6 Nov Symonston GrL15 (MaD4); last, 1/2 Jan Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1).

GBS: 5 records of 1 bird from 4 sites. First was 1/3wk Nov GrJ13 (TaN1) and last 1/1 Wk Jan GrL12 Lyneham (LeM1).

Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites basalis* 468

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 128 records (12 WOO) from 52 grid cells compared with 95 records from 51 grid cells last year. First was x/1 Aug Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1) and last, 1/17 Feb TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1). Records mostly of single birds, max 5/24 Oct Namadgi NP GrI23 (BeD1). Two breeding records: dy/24 Oct Goorooyarroo Nature Reserve GrM11 (McD4) and dy/30 Jan Wamboin GrP12 (CoE1).

GBS: Recorded from 7 sites during 22 weeks compared with 5 sites during 11 weeks last year. First, 1/2wk Aug Gundaroo GrO07 (NiA1); last, 1/2wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Abundance ($A=0.0054$) is 32.41% down on the long-term average. Breeding, 1 record: co/2wk Sep Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chalcites osculans* 469

Rare, Visitor

General: 2 records: 1/2 Oct O'Connor GrK13 (ReJ5) and 1/29 Dec Hoskinstown GrS16 (McK1).

Shining Bronze-cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus* 470

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 54 records (3 WOO) from 33 grid cells compared with 41 records from 29 grid cells last year. The majority of records were of single birds. First 1/6 Sep Mulligan's Flat GrL11 (McD4), last 1/20 Jan Lowden Forest Park GrW19 (BoJ1). There was another record which might have been of an early arriver, or even a stayer: 1/30 Jun Mt Ainslie NR GrM13 (BoJ1). Breeding: a single record, dy/18 Dec The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: 10 records from 5 sites compared with 9 records from 3 sites last year. Abundance: (0.0028) is 56% down on the long term average. First, 2 records of single birds in 2wk Oct: Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1) and Turner GrK13 (MiP1); last, 1/4wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Pallid Cuckoo *Cacomantis pallidus* 472

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 165 records (27 WOO) of 1-5 birds from 64 grid cells compared with 144 records of 1-3 birds from 64 grid cells last year. First was 1/1 Aug Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1) and last 1/27 May GrL14 (AWB1). Abundance: recording rate 6.8%, mean 1.23 and max: 5/14 Sep Mulligans Flat Bird Walk GrL11 (LaD1). Breeding: two records, co/9 Sep Hall TSR GrJ10 (CuR1) and di/16 Sep Page Oval GrJ12 (AlB1).

GBS: 1-2 birds recorded from 17 sites compared with 12 sites last year. First, 4 sightings in 1/2wk Aug in Cook, Carwoola, Wamboin, and Gleneagles); last, 1/3wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Abundance ($A=0.0236$) is 15.78% down on the long term average. Breeding: 3 records with first di/1wk Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and last, dy/2wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis* 474

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 108 records (5 WOO) from 69 grid cells compared with 96 records from 56 grid cells last year. Abundance: recording rate 4.45%, mean 1.29 and max 7/24 Oct Namadgi NP GrI23 (BeD1). First, 1/14 Aug ANGB GrK13 (HoS1); last, 1/28 Jun Majura Firing Range 8 GrN12 (FeP1). Despite the large number of records during the breeding season, no breeding recorded in either of the past two years.

GBS: 27 records from 11 sites compared with 14 records from 5 sites last year. First 1/1wk Aug Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and last 1/4wk Jun Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1). A single breeding record: dy/3wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus* 475

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 16 records from 16 grid cells compared with 11 records from 10 grids last year. First, 1/24 Oct Nursery Swamp Track GrG22 (WaK2); last, 1/20 Jan Tinderry QBN River GrR25 (COF1). Breeding not recorded.

GBS: 1 record of a single bird compared with 3 records from 3 sites last year and 15 records from 3 sites the year before that: 1/1wk Nov Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

STRIGIDAE: hawk owls**Powerful Owl** *Ninox strenua* 478

Rare, Breeding Resident

No records this year, although the Australian National Botanic Gardens-frequenting bird has apparently returned to terrorise the possums and gliders since. Powerful Owls have been recorded in our region in 6 of the previous 10 years. They are believed to be resident in Tallaganda SF and have also been recorded in the Brindabella Range and Tidbinbilla.

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens* 480

Rare, Visitor

No records. The most recent endorsed record for this species comes from Shepherds Lookout in Apr 1998. The Rarities Panel concedes that some of the reports to it based on calls might indeed be Barking Owls but in an urban environment there are just too many alternatives that go “woof woof” in the night to be confident of identification based on call alone.

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae* 481

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 18 records, range 1-3, average 1.56, and from 14 grid cells, both urban and rural. This species has a distinct seasonal pattern with 16 of the records coming in spring, 2 in autumn, and none in winter or summer.

GBS: 104, with a range of 1-4 birds, from 23 grid cells and in all months except Jun. Abundance A=0.0364; down nearly 9% on the long-term average. One breeding event recorded: dy/1wk- 4wk Jan Turner GrK13 (MiP1).

TYTONIDAE: masked owls**Eastern Barn Owl** *Tyto javanica* 487

Rare, Visitor

GBS: Two records: 1/3wk May Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1) and 1/2wk Aug Swinger Hill GrK15 (YoL1).

ALCEDINIDAE: kingfishers**Azure Kingfisher** *Ceyx Azureus* 490

Rare, Visitor

General: No records this year. Last report May 2008 Shoalhaven River.**HALCYONIDAE: kookaburra, kingfishers****Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae* 493

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 351 records (53 WOO) from 108 grid cells is similar to last year. Reporting rate 14.5%. 10 breeding records is an increase over 4 from last year but still does not reflect the common breeding status of this species in the ACT, with first ih/22 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and last dy/31 Jan Campbell Park GrM13 (McI1).**GBS:** Similar to the previous 5 years with reporting from 53 sites, 9 of which recorded regular observations throughout the year. There were 9 breeding records from 5 sites, including the 5th year in succession at a site in Watson GrL12 ih/2wk Oct to on/1wk Jan (WaK1). The earliest breeding behaviour noted was ih/4wk Aug in Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) with the latest records being dy/4wk Jan in both Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) and Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).**Red-backed Kingfisher** *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius* 497

Rare, Visitor

General: For the 3rd year in a row, Red-backed Kingfishers were recorded by the same observer (CuR1) along the Ginninderra Creek 2/13 Dec (GrI11), although this year no breeding activity was noted. There was an earlier spring record on 1 Nov from the FSP (GRL14) but it was not presented for appraisal.**Sacred Kingfisher** *Todiramphus sanctus* 498

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 138 records from 50 grids is a considerable drop in records following 6 years of steady increase (last year: 204 records from 77 grids). The first spring birds (2) were seen at JWNR on the 21 Sept (HeS1) while the latest records were noted during a COG outing along the Molonglo River on the 14 Mar (COF1). Breeding: earliest ih/24 Oct Goorooyarroo NR GrM11 (BoJ1) and latest cf/8 Dec Campbell Park GrM13 (HoS1).**GBS:** 49 records from 14 sites through the period 3wk Sep to 2wk Mar is the highest recording rate in the last ten years. This contrasts with the above drop in general records. The Hoskinstown GrS17 site (KaJ1) again provided a large portion of the annual records (18) and the only breeding record (dy/2wk Jan).**MEROPIDAE: bee-eater****Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus* 501

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 59 times from 28 grid cells is similar to the previous 3 years. The earliest record was 1/16 Sep Cavan TSR GrE08 (COF1) with many records from mid-October onwards. The largest spring flock totalled 37 birds over West Macgregor GrH11 on the 15 Oct (CuR1). The latest record was 2/10 Mar Coppins Crossing GrI13 (MoM3). One breeding record: cf/22 Nov LBath N GrY07 (LeM1).**GBS:** 7 records from 4 sites between 1wk Oct (Ainslie GrL13, LeM1) and 4wk Feb (Jerrabomberra GrM16, HaL2) represents the lowest total in 7 years. The latter site provided the only records of small flocks – 5/2wk Jan and 6/2wk Feb.

CORACIIDAE: dollarbird**Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis* 602

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 68 records from 25 grid cells including 8 WOO. A notable early record was 1/14 Sep Mulligans Flat GrL11 (LaD1) with the last migrant noted on 11 Feb GrL14 (AWB1). Two late summer groups of six birds were recorded at both the JWNR GrL14 (26 Jan; AnF1) and Point Hut Pond GrJ17 (26 Jan AWB1). 5 breeding records: earliest on/20 Oct Kambah Pool GrI16 (HeS1) and latest dy/8 Jan Red Hill GrK15 (EmL1).

GBS: 54 records from 19 sites including an extremely early migrant (or possibly overwintering bird) in Ainslie GrL13 (DoC1) in 2wk Aug with the latest record from 5wk Jan in Burra GrM21 (AnI1). 4 breeding records from four sites: ih/2wk Nov Watson GrL12 (WaK1), dy/1wk Jan Scullin GrI12 (FeP1), dy/2wk Jan Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH2) and dy/3wk Jan Macquarie GrJ13 (LaS1).

MENURIDAE: lyrebird**Superb Lyrebird** *Menura novaehollandiae* 508

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 31 records from 21 grid cells represents a similar decrease to that noted last year (40 records, 30 grid cells in 2008/09 and 51 records, 31 grid cells in 2007/08). Typically the majority of ACT records were from Namadgi NP and Tidbinbilla NR with 9 records for these areas on the "Blitz" weekend (24/25 Oct) alone. A notable record was of 12 birds along the Camel Back Trail, Tidbinbilla GrF17 on the 19 June (RoM4). No breeding records.

CLIMACTERIDAE: treecreepers**White-throated Treecreeper** *Cormobates leucophaea* 511

Common, Breeding Resident

A common breeding resident in forests at all altitudes in COG's area of interest.

General: 401 records from 111 grid cells (47% of those surveyed) from all months of the year. For the second year in a row, the number of records is 13% lower than the previous year. 80 (20%) were WOO. Reporting rate 16.5%. Almost half (48%) of records from spring (incl. the Blitz). Numbers reported: mean: mean 1.7, max 10/17 Jan Blundells Creek Road GrD15 (COG Outing), 85% of records were 1-3 birds. 1 breeding record (4 last year): cf/24 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AIB1).

GBS: Abundance ($A=0.0759$) is 19% higher than last year and 36% higher than the long-term mean. Reporting rate ($R=5.94\%$) higher than last year and above the long term mean. Recorded from 11% of sites, over all weeks but one. Mean group size 1.28, all of 1 to 3 birds plus 1 record of 5/2wk Jun Burra GrM21 (AnI1). No breeding recorded.

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythrops* 513

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A species of the wet gullies of the Brindabellas.

General: 3 records compared with 6 last year, 8 in 2007-08, 15 in 2006-07, 7 in 2005-06, none in 2004-05 and 2 in 2003-04. Two were from the Brindabellas and one from Tallaganda State Forest. Observed in Oct, Dec and Jan. Reporting rate 0.12%. 2 records of 2 birds and 1 of 1 bird. No breeding records.

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus* 514

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

This species is listed as vulnerable in the ACT owing to the loss of its woodland habitat.

General: 74 records (101 last year) from 18 grid cells (26 last year), in all months, with 15 (20%) WOO. Almost 50% from 3 grid cells (I13, N14 and O05) that are frequently surveyed. Reporting rate 3%. Numbers reported: mean: 3.81 (last year 3.14), max 12. 70% of the records of 1-4 birds. 9 breeding records (9 last year) from cf/05 Oct Central Molonglo GrI12 (DaC1) to dy/17 Feb TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1).

PTILONORHYNCHIDAE: bowerbird**Satin Bowerbird** *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus* 522

Common, Breeding Resident

Of Australia's 10 species of bowerbirds this is the only one found in COG's area of interest, and this area is near the western edge of its distribution at this latitude.

General: 56 records (65 last year) from 29 grid cells (37 last year), 12% of those surveyed. Recorded in all months, with 68% of records from spring and summer. Reporting rate 2.31%, numbers reported: mean 2, max 10/04 Jul Glendale Depot, Namadgi GrI23 (HeS1). 77% of reports were 1 or 2 birds. 1 breeding record (2 last year): nb/25 Oct Mt Pleasant NR GrL14 (MaR4).

GBS: Recorded at 29 sites (33%), reporting rate ($R=6.14\%$) 30% higher than the long-term mean, in all weeks of the year. Abundance ($A=0.1172$) 7% lower than last year but 5% higher than the long-term figure. The mean group size was 1.91, max 10/2-3wk May at a site in Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1). No clear seasonal pattern, but (as the past two years) recorded in most weeks at a site at Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4). 3 breeding records (4 last year) from 2 sites: nb/4wk Jul and 2wk Oct Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4); and cf/2wk Oct Kambah GrI18 (PeH2).

MALURIDAE: fairy-wren**Superb Fairy-wren** *Malurus cyaneus* 527

Common, Breeding Resident

A common breeding resident throughout much of COG's area of interest, especially in dense understorey.

General: 851 records from 152 grid cells (65% of those surveyed), from all months, figures similar to the previous year. 106 (12.5%) were WOO. 6th most frequently observed species, down from 5th last year. Reporting rate 35%. Numbers reported: mean: mean 6.0, median 4, max 65/24 Oct JWNR GrL14 (FyM1). 21 breeding records (13 last year) commencing with br/24 Aug Newline GrN14 (SmA1) and concluding with dy/09 Jan Wallaroo Rd GrH09 (BoC4).

GBS: The mean abundance ($A=1.6340$) was 17% higher than last year's figure and 97% higher than the long-term mean, maintaining the trend of recent years. Records from 76 sites (86%) from all weeks. Most records of 1-5 birds with a mean group size of 3.7, max 23/4wk Dec Latham GrI12 (WLC1). Reporting rate 44.2% was 10% higher than long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 15 sites (4 last year) from di/3wk Aug Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1) to co/3wk Apr Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

ACANTHIZIDAE: scrubwrens, thornbills and allies**Pilotbird** *Pycnoptilus floccosus* 552

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 4 records of 1-3 birds from 3 adjoining grid cells, the same number as last year. 3/24 Oct New Chums Rd GrD16 (DrA2) and 3 records from Warks Rd/Blundells Ck Rd GrD15 & GrE15(MaD4). Almost certainly under-recorded, perhaps due to lack of observer effort in the species montane forest habitat. No breeding records.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis* 556

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 247 records (4 WOO) from 87 grid cells, compared with 293 records from 109 grid cells last year. Most records of fewer than 10 birds with a maximum of 16/19 Jun Fishing Gap Trail, Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (McD4). Breeding: 7 records (6 last year), first dy/24 Oct Rocky Crossing Rd, crossing Gudgenby River GrI22 (PeH2) and dy/24 Oct Nursery Swamp Car park GrH22 (PeH2), last dy/24 Jan Wamboin GrP12 (McD1).

GBS: Recorded from 31 sites and in all months, similar to last year. Numbers 1-6. Abundance ($A=0.2227$) is 66.8% higher than the long-term average. 11 breeding records from 4 sites: first dy/1wk Aug Turner GrK13 (BoC4) and last co/2wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren *Calamanthus pyrrhopygia* 562

Uncommon, Resident

General: Another good year for this species with 4 records (8 last year) of 1-3 birds from 3 grids. Has been recorded the past 3 years. Single record of 2 birds from Mt Tennant (lower slopes) GrJ19 (LuN1), 2 records from Wamboin GrP12 of 1 bird (CoE1) and 3 birds (WaK2) and 1 record of 3 birds from Pierces Creek GrF15 (MaD4). The Pierces Creek record may reflect that vegetation in the area had reached a suitable stage for the species since being burnt in the 2003 fires, but as the area appears to be rarely visited by birders, the heathwrens may have been present for some time before being detected.

Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittata* 567

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 156 records (46 WOO 29.5%) from 34 grid cells, compared to 137 from 45 cells last year. 88% of the records of 1-3 birds, maximum count: 9/15 Jun Tharwa Sandwash GrJ19 (RaB1). 6 breeding records (2 last year): first dy/29 Sep The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3) and, last dy/19 Mar Jerrabomberra GrL16 (BoJ1).

GBS: 10 records of 1-4 birds from two rural sites: Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1). The latter rural site accounted for 9 of the records. No breeding.

Weebill *Sericornis brevirostris* 568

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 562 records (233 WOO) from 70 grid cells, compared with 600 records from 88 grid cells last year. Woodland survey accounted for 41.5% of records, one of the highest ratio of WOO-to-General records for any species. The majority of records are of 10 birds or fewer with highest 35/28 Sep Majura Firing Range South GrN13 (FeP1). 9 breeding records: first nb/08 Aug Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1) and last dy/05 Mar Gordon GrK18 (RaB1). Also one winter record for the new breeding season.

GBS: Records from 46 sites (same as last year) with A=0.7986, 5% lower than last year and 63% higher than the long term average. Most records are of 10 birds or fewer, with the highest count 18/2wk Jun in Turner GrK13 (MiP1). Breeding: 2 records (none last year): nb/5wk Dec Macgregor GrI12 (WLC1) and nb/2 wk Mar Latham GrI12 (WLC1).

Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki* 569

Rare, Visitor

General: 6 records, all of a single bird, first reports since 2006-07. First seen 17 Jul ANBG GrK13 (BoJ1). This record endorsed by the Rarities Panel. Last seen 04 Aug at the same location (SmA1).

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca* 573

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 88 records (39 WOO) from 23 grid cells, similar to last year, with first 1/22 Aug "Tallerack", 4.5 km NE of Hall GrI10 (AlB1) and last 1/27 Jun Hall Gold Creek 4 GrJ11 (RoA1). 5 winter records (none last year). Most records are of 1-2 birds: max 5/05 Oct Hall Gold Creek GrJ11 (NeG1) and 18 Oct Kinleyside/Gold Creek Lease GrK10 (BoJ1). Breeding: no records, same as last year.

GBS: 5 records of single birds from 3 sites, the same as last year: first 1/3wk Jul Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and last 1/3wk Oct from Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). No breeding.

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone albogularis* 578

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 212 records (84 WOO) from 46 grid cells, compared with 167 records (63 WOO) from 52 grids last year. First 1/05 Sep Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1) and last 1/27 Jun Gooroo NR GrM11 (TaN1). Mostly 1-5 birds: max 10/28 Dec Callum Brae NR GrL15 (HeS1). 2 breeding records (4 last year): first on/15 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (HoJ1) and last nb/29 Nov Mulligans Flat NR GrL11 (BrJ3).

GBS: 1-3 birds recorded from 7 sites: first 2/2wk Aug Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and last 1/2wk April Burra GrM21 (AnI1).

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata* 580

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 210 records (38 WOO) from 89 grid cells, last year 236 (32 WOO) from 113 grid cells. The majority of records were of 10 birds or fewer with a maximum of 21/19 Jun Ashbrook Trail, Tidbinbilla NR GrF18 (McD1). 13 breeding records (9 last year): first nb/16 Sep Cavan TSR 57 GrE08 (COG Outing) and last dy/30 Nov The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: Recorded from 20 sites (22 last year) with $A = 0.2915$, 6% higher than last year and 37% higher than the long term average. Most records of 1-10 birds but there were some larger counts with a maximum of 20. 2 breeding records (none last year): dy/2 wk Aug Latham GrI12 (WLC1) and dy/4 wk Sep Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1).

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana* 581

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 54 records from 26 grid cells, a decrease from last year of 75 records from 38 grid cells. Most records were of 1-10 birds, with a maximum 27/16 May Lake Bathurst E basin GrY08 (MaD4). Breeding: 2 records (2 last year): cf/24 Oct The Pinnacle NR GrJ13 (BrJ3) and dy/22 Feb Lake Bathurst E basin GrY08 (LeM1).

GBS: 26 records from 7 sites, compared to 20 records from 5 sites last year. Highest count was 6/1wk Jun Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). 15 records came from a site in Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) between Nov and May (13 last year). No breeding recorded.

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa* 582

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 618 records (93 WOO) from 108 grid cells compared with 596 records (112 WOO) from 144 grid cells last year. Most records are for 10 birds or fewer, with highest 52/30 Jun Lake Bathurst North Morass GrZ07 (MaD4). Breeding: 47 records, up from 27 last year, first nb/5 Jul Farrer Ridge GrK16 (HeS1), last dy/23 Dec Point Hutt Water Quality Pond GrJ17 (RaB1). Also 3 winter records for the new breeding season.

GBS: Records from 68 sites (57 last year) with $A = 1.5304$, 11% higher than last year and almost 8% higher than the long term average. Most records of 20 birds or fewer with max 28/2wk Jun Curtin GrJ14 (MoM3). 37 breeding records from 11 sites: first nb/2wk Jul Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1 and last on/3 wk May Isaacs GrK15 (MiF1).

Chestnut-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza uropygialis* 583

Rare, vagrant

General: No records, last recorded June 2007.

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides* 584

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 390 records (127 WOO) from 72 grid cells, compared with 384 records (110 WOO) from 110 grid cells last year. Most records are of 15 birds or fewer, with max 40/24 Oct Elm Grove GrL10 (DaC1). 20 breeding records compared to 9 last year, first ny/26 Sep Black Mountain GrK13 (BoC4) and last dy/08 Feb The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3). Also one winter record for the new breeding season.

GBS: Recorded at 13 sites (15 last year) from all weeks except one, with $A = 0.2546$, 22% higher than last year, and more than twice the long term average. Numbers: mostly fewer than 10, highest, 20/1wk Dec Burra GrM21 (AnI1). 1 breeding record: ny/2 wk Nov Latham GrI12 (WLC1).

Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla* 589

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 251 records (19 WOO) from 100 grid cells, compared with 277 records (9 WOO) from 118 grid cells last year. The low WOO number probably reflects the lack of a shrub understorey in many WOO sites. Nearly all records of fewer than 10 birds, with highest counts 20/24 Oct Concrete Crossing Recreation Reserve GrF15 (MoM3) and 21/19 Jun Ashbrook Trail, Tidbinbilla NR GrF18

(McD1). 8 breeding records (3 last year): first nb/26 Sep Black Mountain GrK13 (BoC4) and last dy/05 Dec Castle Hill GrJ18 (McD1).

GBS: Recorded in 42 sites (38 last year), with $A=0.3137$, 15% higher than last year but below the long term average. All records of 1-6 birds, except 10/5wk Sep Wamboin GrQ13 (McD1). Breeding: 13 records (5 last year) from nb/1wk Jun Turner GrK13 (MiP1) to dy/2wk May Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis* 591

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 84 records (8 WOO) from 29 grid cells, down from 97 records (18 WOO) from 43 grid cells last year. Most records of 1-9 birds but also 22/30 Jun Lake Bathurst GrZ07 (MaD4) and 15/16 Jan Wamboin GrP12 (McD1). 5 breeding records: from br/01 Jun Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1) to dy/27 Jan Lake Bathurst GrZ08 (LeM1).

GBS: 2 records from 2 sites, the first in at least 10 years.

PARDALOTIDAE: pardalotes

Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus* 594

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 435 records (77 WOO) from 128 grid cells, a reduction from 592 records (126 WOO) from 148 grid cells last year and 582 records (129 WOO) from 146 grid cells the year before. All records of 1-17 birds except for 44/24 Mar Lyneham Ridge GrK12 (LeM1). 8 breeding records (11 last year): first br/04 Aug ANBG GrK13 (SmA1) and last ih/9 Dec Yerrabi Track Boboyan Trig GrH26 (BuM1). Observed throughout the year and, like last year, 47% of records were in spring (205).

GBS: Recorded in 67 sites, compared to 63 last year, with $A=0.6880$, 30% lower than last year but slightly higher than the long term average. Records ranging from 1-22. 6 breeding records from 4 sites: first ih/3wk Jul Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) and last on/4wk May Weston GrJ15 (MaA2).

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus* 597

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: A slight increase with 814 records (306 WOO) from 133 grid cells compared with 774 records (253 WOO) from 173 grid cells last year, but fewer than the 877 records of the previous year. 86% of records are of 1-10 birds with highest 100/14 Nov North Jacka GrK10 (LiB1). Observed throughout the year with a peak of 367 records in spring (45% of records). 29 breeding records (22 last year): from ih/12 Sep South Kenny GrL12 (DaC1) and nb/12 Sep South Jacka GrK10 (LiB1) to ih/21 Apr Turallo NR GrS13 (COG Outing).

GBS: Recorded in 66 sites (60 last year), with $A=0.5995$, 8.7% lower than last year but close to the long term average. Most records of 1-10 birds with highest 25/3wk Feb Yarralumla GrK14 (OnP1). 33 breeding records (22 last year) from 2 sites: first ih/2wk Jul Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1) and last ih/2wk Mar Watson GrL12 (WaK1).

MELIPHAGIDAE: honeyeaters and chats

Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* 598

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, common in gardens during autumn and winter.

General: 132 records (10 WOO) from 48 grid cells, similar number of records to last year but from 20 fewer grids. Spread throughout the year, but fewer in summer. No breeding records..

GBS: Recorded from 83% of sites, similar to last year. Recorded in all weeks but fewer in period October to February. Abundance ($A=0.0.5273$) was 11% more than last year and just below the long term average. 3 breeding records: dy/1 wk Oct Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3), dy/4wk Nov to 2wk Dec Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1) and dy/3wk Dec to 2wk Jan Aranda GrJ13 (OrP1).

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii* 601

Vagrant

Usually found in Tallaganda forests in the east of the region, rare further west. No records this year.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops* 608

Common, Breeding Migrant

Migratory species with spectacular autumn departure in large flocks, returning in spring to breed mainly in the mountains.

General: 404 records, down from 534 last year, from 149 grid cells (174 last year), but still the most of any honeyeater. 34 WOO, down from 51 last year but the reporting rate is similar to those of the last 10 years. There were 8 records in July and August, but with a big increase in records from early Sep and 63% of all records from spring. Largest number recorded during spring migration 98/24 Oct Naas Valley GrJ22 (PeH2). Autumn movement seemed to start in late March, largest number recorded during autumn migration 500/16 Apr Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2). 9 records in May and 6 records in June, the last being 1/28 June Majura Firing Range GrN12 (FeP1). 5 breeding records (up from 1 last year), nb/24 Oct Shanahans Mountain GrI26 (HoS1).

GBS: Recorded at 76% of sites in all weeks, the same as last year. Overwintering records from only 4 sites during Jul, many fewer than last year (24), but similar to the previous year (2). First records for spring return migration were similar to last year, 20/4wk Aug Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) but increase in numbers at most sites not until 2wk Sep. Many records until 4wk Sep, then very few records through Nov-Feb. Main autumn migration started in a fairly desultory way 22/4wk Mar, about the same time as last year and picked up in 1 wk Apr, and continued until 5wk Apr, with the largest flock 500/2 wk Apr Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). In contrast to last year, records continued through May-Jun. Abundance ($A=1.9568$) was 32% below last year. The species is the 12th most abundant bird in the GBS, and 2nd honeyeater behind Red Wattlebird. 1 breeding record: ny/5wk Jan from a rural site at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens* 609

Vagrant

Rare vagrant from the inland. Only 3 previous records in Wilson (1999) and 1 in 2006-07. A single record this year: 1/24 Oct LBG West Basin GrK13 (BoC4).

Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera* 613

Vagrant

Rare vagrant from coastal districts.

General: 2 record of single birds at the ANBG GrK13: 10 Jul (MoM3) and 9 Feb (LeM1).

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

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis* 614

Common, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, generally irregular in the suburbs.

General: 253 records (31 WOO) from 105 grid cells, down from 320 records from 135 grids, although 8 more WOO records than last year. 38% of records from spring but only 22% from autumn and 27% from winter. Nearly all WOO records in June. 4 breeding records (2 last year but 10 the year before), first dy/25 Oct Cotter Hut Rd GrF21 (AlB1) and last dy/23 Jan Wamboin GrP12 (McD1).

GBS: Recorded at 47.5% of sites, similar to last year. As for last year, almost no records from suburban sites between 1wk Sep and 4wk Mar, but records continued during this time from rural sites at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1), Burra GrM21 (AnI1) and to a lesser degree, Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). Abundance ($A=1.260$) was higher than last year ($A=0.09471$) but the same as the year before ($A=0.1236$). This is still above the low of several years ago, probably due to the inclusion of more rural sites which adds records during the summer months. No breeding records this year, after 1 last year.

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops* 616 Uncommon, Breeding Visitor
Uncommon in the region, found along drier mountain valleys, in Apple Box woodland.

General: 15 records from 5 grid cells, less than half the number of records than last year, and from 2 fewer grid cells. Most records (9) from Tinderry area GrQ21 and P21 (BrM2) between 8 Jul and 2 May, max 15. Only one urban record: 1/22 Jul Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1). 5 records from the Murrumbidgee R near Camp Cottermouth, between 26 July and 5 June (MaD4). 2 breeding records, both dy from Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2) on 19 Jan and 17 Feb.

GBS: 24 records from 5 sites, all between 1wk Jul and 1wk Sep: for 9 weeks in Jul-Aug Giralang GrK12 (McD4), and for 6 weeks in Jul-Aug Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), also sightings in Aranda, Isaacs, and Chapman.

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus* 621 Common, Breeding Resident
Altitudinal migrant, breeding in the mountains over summer.

General: 57 records (3 WOO) from 33 grid cells, about half the number of records of last year (but similar to the year before) from fewer grid cells. As with last year, about a third of the records coming from Blitz surveys in the mountains in Oct. Highest number 40//25 Oct Smokers Gap Fire Trail GrF21 (LuN1). Only 1 breeding record (4 last year and 8 the previous year): br/1 Nov JWNR GrL14 (RaL1).

GBS: Recorded at 15% of sites, similar to last year. Records from 1wk Jul-3wk Sep then only a single record, 15/3wk Oct Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) until 2wk Apr-4wk Jun. Groups of 7-12 seen from 1wk May to 4wk June at Turner GrK13 (MiP1). Abundance levels over the years have fluctuated greatly. This year ($A=0.0424$) was twice that of last year ($A=0.01460$) but still 64% below the long term average.

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus* 623 Common, Breeding Resident
Non-migratory honeyeater of woodlands in lowland areas.

General: 233 records (37 WOO) from 45 grid cells, 28% fewer records than last year and from 26 fewer grid cells. Recorded throughout the year in urban and rural areas. 16 breeding records (same as last year: first on/24 Oct West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1) to last dy/8 Apr Yerrabi Pond GrL11 (AlB1)).

GBS: Recorded at 40% of sites, down a little on last year. In direct contrast to last year most records from the majority of sites were during Jul-Aug then very few for the rest of the season. Most consistent records 2 sites, Greenway GrJ18 (HaA2) and Giralang GrK12 (McD4). Abundance has fluctuated over the years and this year ($A=0.0859$) was 42% of last year and 42% below the long term average.

White-fronted Honeyeater *Purnella albifrons* 624 Rare, Vagrant
Very rare vagrant from inland. First record for ACT of 1 bird at JWNR Jun 2007, then a single bird in Kambah from Jul-Sep 2007. No records this year.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys* 625 Uncommon, Vagrant
Rare species for the region, more common in coastal forests. Records for the region usually come from the upper Queanbeyan River (GrP21-Q21), but 1 record from 2006-07 was from Captains Flat GrS21. No records this year or last year.

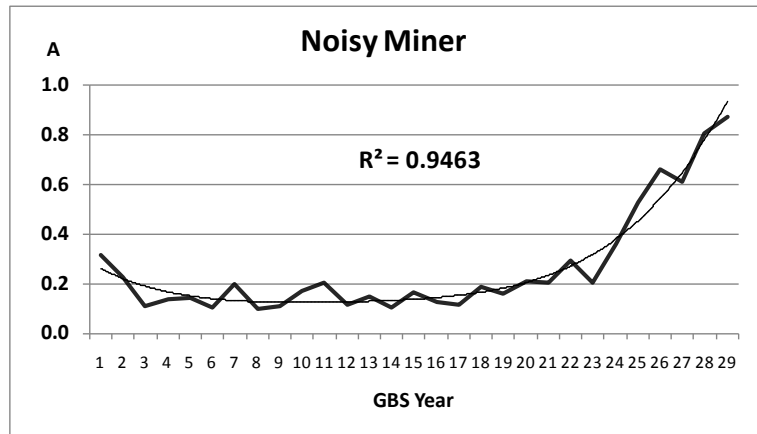
Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala* 626

Common, Breeding Resident

Common sedentary species of woodlands.

General: 473 records from 67 grid cells, slightly more than last year, but from 8 fewer grid cells. 213 records (45%) from WOO, by far the most commonly reported honeyeater in the Woodland Survey. 34 breeding records (16 last year): first nb/9 Aug Mt Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1) and last dy/1 Jun ANU GrK13 (LeM1), with an early next season event nb/13 Jun Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

GBS: Recorded at 36% of sites (40% last year), and consistently throughout the year from 9 suburban sites, and one rural site similar to last year. Abundance has been increasing over the last few years and this year (0.8754) was 8% up on last year and more than double the long term average. Breeding recorded at 3 sites: 2 broods, the first Sep-Oct and the second in late Oct-Nov in Watson GrL12: (WaK1), the same as last year. The other two breeding events: cf/2-3wk Oct Hughes GrK15 (BeR3) and dy/2wk Oct to 2wk Nov Macarthur GrL16 (AHF1).

**Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater** *Acanthagenys rufogularis* 629

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. Last endorsed records Sep-Oct 2004.

General: 1 record, 1/28 Feb Mt Ainslie GrM13 (LeM1).

Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia* 632

Rare, Breeding Visitor

Rare summer visitor to the region. Last previous records: Apr 2005 from ANU, Sep 2008 from Cooleman Ridge.

General: A single record, 1/29 Aug Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3).

GBS: A single record: 1/1wk Sep Florey GrJ12 (BrJ3).

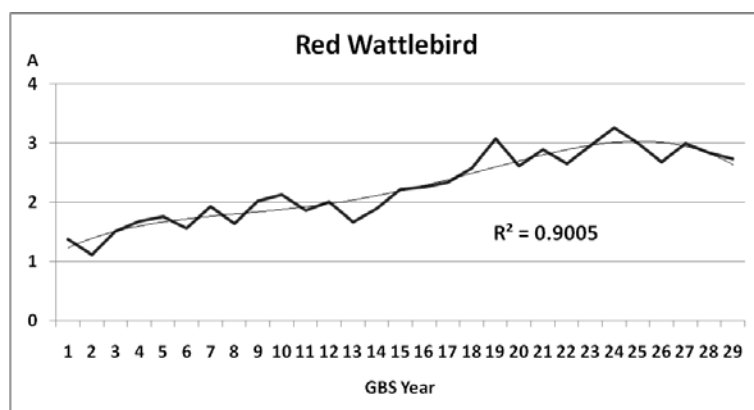
Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata* 633

Common, Breeding Resident

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

General: 823 records (117 WOO) from 142 grid cells, a little more than last year, but from 25 fewer grid cells, 60% of records from spring and summer. Largest number recorded 75/8 Apr West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). 22 breeding records, about half the number from last year, but similar to the year before: first nb/3 Sep Black Mt GrK13 (AWB1) with breeding generally recorded until 28 Jan with a distant last dy/26 May Page GrI13 (AlB1), much later than usual.

GBS: Recorded at all of the 88 sites in all weeks with breeding at 45 sites. The abundance value (2.7213) was similar to last year and maintains the high A-values of the last few years. The Red Wattlebird remains the 8th most abundant species in the GBS and the most abundant honeyeater. First breeding record nb/2wk July Giralang GrK12 (ReM1) and last dy/3wk Feb in Deakin GrK14 (RoD2) and in Aranda GrJ13 (RAJ1).



Crimson Chat *Epthianura tricolor*

Vagrant

Very rare vagrant to the region from inland districts. First definite record for the ACT was in 2004-05. No records this year.

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albigrons* 643

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Uncommon resident, now rarely reported except at Lakes George and Bathurst.

General: 28 records from 11 grid cells, a little more than last year. 17 records from the Lake Bathurst area Grids Y07 and Z08 (twice that of last year) and 5 records from Stromlo Forest Park GrI14 mainly in Oct and Nov. Other records: 2/17 Sep Gundaroo Common GrO07 (NiA1) 2/10 Oct Coppins Crossing GrI13 (LaJ5), records in Oct and Nov at Mountain Creek Rd GrG13 (HoS1, SmA1), 2 records from Lake George on 10 Apr GrU09 and GrT09 (LeM1), and 1 from Scott NR GrX13. A single breeding record; cf/27 Oct L Geo GrU09 (LeM1).

Black Honeyeater *Sugomel niger* 645

Rare, Vagrant

Rare vagrant from inland. Only 1 early record (Wilson 1999). 15 records in 2006-07 from MULNR Grids L11, M10 -11, Bellmount Forest GrO05 and Queanbeyan GrN15.

General: 4 records: 3 records of probably the same bird from West Macgregor GrI11 in late October (SmA1 and HoS1), 1/18 Sep ANBG GrK13 (HoS1), 1/16 Oct Farrer GrK16 (ReG1).

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta* 648

Rare, Summer Vagrant.

Rare vagrant from coastal districts. 2 records in 2006-07, 2 in 2008-09.

General: 2 record: 19 Oct LBath N GrY07 (FrM1), 28 Mar Gooroo S GrM12 (HoS1),

GBS: A single record 2wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1)

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus* 653

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Altitudinal migrant, reported mostly during the winter months.

General: 17 records from 5 grid cells, a slightly higher number than in previous years, but from 5 fewer grid cells. 65% of records in winter. 12 records from ANBG GrK13, a reliable location in winter, with all the other records from JWNR, except 2 records from Norgrove Park in mid-September.

GBS: 12 records from 5 sites (1 last year and 4 the year before). All records except 1 from 5wk May to 4wk Jun: 2 sites in Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1 & LiB1), and in Aranda J13 (RoS1), Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH1) and Macgregor GrI12 (WiR3).

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae* 654

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

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

General: 102 records from 9 grid cells, with almost 75% of records in spring and summer. 44% more records than last year, about the same as the year before. 52 from grevillea plantings at JWNR GrL14, 14 from Norgrove Park GrL14, 27 records from ANBG GrK13, and 3 from Point Hut Water Quality Pond GrJ18 (RaB1). 1 breeding record, from JWNR GrL14: br/1 Nov(RaL1).

GBS: Recorded at 7 sites, and regularly over 27 weeks from Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH1) and over 15 weeks in Gilmore GrK17 (GrB1). Abundance for this species fluctuates greatly and this year (0.0242) was 30% more than last year (A=0.0185), but 32% lower than the long term average.

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*

Vagrant

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

Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris* 659

Common, Breeding Resident

A species of drier forests at all altitudes.

General: 106 records (23 WOO) from 47 grid cells throughout the year, about 25% fewer records as last year. Average group size 4, with max 16/30 Jun LBath E GrY08 (MaD4). 2 breeding records: dy/dy/21 Nov The Pinnacle GrJ13 (BrJ1), dy/27 Jan LBath N GrZ07 (LeM1).

GBS: Recorded at 5 sites, most frequently from 3 rural sites, at Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and Burra GrM21 (AnI1) similar to last year. The other records from 2 suburban sites were single records: 2/1wk Sep Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1) and 1/4wk Dec Cook GrJ13 (TaN1). Abundance ($A=0.0515$) was very similar to the last 3 years and still well above the long term average largely due to the influence of the rural sites.

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus* 661

Common, Breeding Migrant

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

General: 118 records (1 WOO) from 47 grid cells, just over half of last year but WOO records even more reduced, from 8 last year and 25 the year before. 3 records in Jul-Aug indicate few overwintering birds, (a return to more normal levels compared to the 17 records last year). Two thirds of records from spring, with 53 of these coming from the mountain areas visited during the Blitz in Oct. Only 7 records in May and 5 in Jun, slightly more overwintering birds than last year. Highest number recorded was 300/2 May Tinderry GrQ21 (BrM2). 3 breeding records (half last year's and a quarter of the year before): first dy/24 Oct Fishing Gap Trail GrF18 (AlB1) and last dy/3 Feb Warks rd GrD16 (BuM1).

GBS: Records from 27% of sites, less than last year 32% and the year before (42%). 5 records in Jul-Aug of over-wintering birds. Very few (13) records in the return migration period in spring, then no records until autumn migration from 1wk Apr to 3wk May. Only two records after this indicate almost no birds overwintering at the end of this season in contrast to the previous year. Abundance ($A=0.0930$) was 25% lower than last year and 41% below the long term average.

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis* 663

Rare, Vagrant

Very rare vagrant from inland districts. One bird at ANU May-Jul 2007. No records this year.

Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus* 666

Common, Breeding Migrant

Common summer migrant mostly to the lowland woodland regions.

General: 323 records from 75 grid cells, 27% fewer records than last year from 20 fewer grid cells, but similar to the previous year. 86 WOO, a 40% decrease on last year, bringing it to the 3rd most reported honeyeater in the Woodland Survey. There appears to be no overwintering birds this year, with the first record on 28 Aug and a large increase in records from that date. Most records in spring and summer (84%). Few records late in the season, 6 in April, none in May, and 2 in late June, suggesting the last could be overwintering birds. There is little evidence of any significant autumn migration this year with sightings of groups of only 10 13 and 21 (all WOO) seen on 31 Mar with the max 21/31 Mar Majura Firing Range GrN13 (FeP1). Only 11 breeding records, less than half of the 26 last year: first nb/25 Oct Mt Pleasant NR GrL14 (MaR4), last dy/23 Jan Tinderry NR GrN22 (AnI1).

GBS: Recorded at 81% of sites, similar to last year. First return 1/3wk Aug Isaacs GrK15 (HoA1). Last records by 2wk Jun at 2 sites Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1) and Murrumbateman GrI08 (BlJ1). Abundance ($A=0.4002$) is slightly less than last year ($A=0.4493$) and about 50% lower than the long term average. Breeding at 12 sites, 4 more than last year. First breeding record nb/3wk Oct Latham GrI12 (WLC1), last breeding, dy/1wk Mar Scullin GrI12 (FeP1).

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis* 667

Uncommon, Migrant

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

General: 3 records: first x/1 Nov Iron Mines Rd Gunning GrK03 (SpB1) and the last 1/22 Nov Mulligans Flat GrL11 (McD1)).**GBS:** 1 record: 1/4wk Feb O'Connor GrK13 (DoM1)**Painted Honeyeater** *Grantiella picta* 671

Vagrant

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

General: 5 records probably of the same 2 birds between 22 Sep and 21 Dec at TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1). A single breeding record nb/17 Nov at the site, but apparently without success.**GBS:** No records this year. 1 record last year in Turner GrK13.**POMATOSTOMIDAE: babblers****Grey-crowned Babbler** *Pomatostomus temporalis* 672

Vagrant

General: No records this year. Last endorsed record at Duntroon Golf Course, GrM14, during the three years from 2004-05, the first endorsed records since 1968.**GBS:** No records.**White-browed Babbler** *Pomatostomus superciliosus* 674

Vagrant

General: No records this year. Recorded in 2005-06 and 2006-07 at Aranda Bushland GrJ13/K13, first general records since the 1950s. Remains located in nest of Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae* 12 Dec 2003, Black Mountain Nature Reserve GrK13 (Trost et al. 2008 and J. Olsen pers com.) and in nest of Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* in the Canberra region during the 2002-2003 period (Olsen et al. 2008). Another record (previously unpublished): remains in a nest of a Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus*, 1 Dec 2002, Lyneham (J. Olsen pers com).**GBS:** No records.**EUPETIDAE: whipbird, quail-thrush****Spotted Quail-thrush** *Cinclosoma punctatum* 678

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A bird of the dry forests. Number of records far below last year, and similar to the annual mean (8) in the decade prior to the 2003 Canberra region wildfires.

General: 10 records (18 last year) from 10 grid cells most in Namadgi NP. Recorded Oct, Dec, Apr and May, all records of 1 or 2 birds plus 3/6 May Eighty Acres, Namadgi NP GrE21 (MaM4). Recording rate 0.4%. Despite being a resident species, no breeding recorded.**GBS:** No records.**Eastern Whipbird** *Psophodes olivaceus* 682

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

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

General: 21 records, the same as last year, from just 9 grid cells (6 last year): 13 records from Namadgi NP, 4 from the Tinderry Range and 4 from elsewhere, in Oct-Feb, Apr and May. Max 5/29 Dec Blundells Creek Road GrE15 (MaD4). The 21 records this and last year are more than twice the number of records over the long-term and similar to the years just before the 2003 fires: 19 in 2000-01; 21 in 1999-2000 and 14 in 1998-99. Recording rate 0.9%. Despite being a resident species, no breeding recorded.**GBS:** No records.

NEOSITTIDAE: sittella**Varied Sittella** *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* 686

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 62 records, similar to last year's 65 and lower than the 101 in 2005-06, from all months. Recorded in 25 grid cells (11% of those surveyed). Recording rate 2.6%. Numbers reported: mean: mean 3.7, median 3, max 20/24 Oct Goorooyarroo NR south GrM12 (ReD2). 16 breeding records (5 last year) from nb/1 Sep The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) to dy/5 Mar Shepherds Lookout GrH12 (AlB1).

GBS: 6 records (12 last year) from 1 urban and 2 rural sites: Cook GrJ13 (TaN1), Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1), with abundance ranging from 2 to max 12/1wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). 1 breeding record: dy/1 wk Feb Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

CAMPEPHAGIDAE: cuckoo-shrikes, cicadabird, triller**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae* 688

Common, Breeding Res/Migrant

A widespread, easily identified, largely summer migrant.

General: 525 records, 24% more than the previous year (424), from 97 grid cells (117 last year), 41% of those surveyed. 102 (19%) WOO. Recorded from all months with only 33 winter records cf 260 in spring, 154 in summer and 78 in autumn. Recording rate 21.6%. Mean number reported 2.0, median 2. Just 2 records of more than 10 birds: 12/2 Jan Callum Brae GrL15 (AnI1) and 16/17 Feb TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1). 15 breeding records (13 last year), from di/28 Aug Newline Quarry GrN14 (HoS1) to dy/28 Jan The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: Recorded from 77% of sites in all weeks of the year. Abundance ($A=0.3146$) was 38% higher than last year though 34% below the long-term mean. Recording rate 21.4%, 30% higher than last year and 30% lower than the long-term mean. Mean abundance 1.5, most observations of 1 to 3 birds with max 6/5wk Oct Latham GrI12 (WLC1). 7 breeding records (2 last year) from 4 sites: from nb 1/wk Dec Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) to dy/3wk Mar Macgregor GrI11 (WLC1).

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis* 689

Rare, Visitor

The patchy continental distribution of this nomadic species means that it is only occasionally recorded in the Canberra region. The usual pattern of low numbers of records of this rare species continued this year. The two GBS records are unusual.

General: 7 records (3 last year), all from Newline Paddocks & Quarry area, 6 of 1 bird plus 2/20 Jun Newline Quarry GrM14 (LaS1). No breeding recorded.

GBS: 2 records: 1/2wk Sep Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and 2/1wk Feb Turner GrK13 (MiP1). No breeding recorded.

Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris* 691

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

This elusive species was recorded more frequently in the past than it is now.

General: 6 records (2 last year) from widely separated locations across COG's area of concern. 5 of 1 bird plus 2/20 Jan Majura Firing Range south GrN13 (HoS1). First observation was 1/25 Oct Newline Quarry GrM14 (RoD2) and last 1/20 Mar Nursery Creek Namadgi NP GrG22 (TaN1). No breeding recorded.

GBS: No records.

White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii* 692

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

A species declared 'vulnerable' in the ACT in Dec 2003. More records than in recent years.

General: 124 records, continuing the high number recorded last year (also 124), from 32 grid cells (13% of those surveyed) cf 47 grid cells last year. Recording rate 5.1%. First 2/8 Sep The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and last 2/2 Mar Brandy Flat Track GrI23 (LaD1). Numbers reported: mean 2.7,

median 2, only 10 records of 10 or more birds, max 17/24 Oct West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). 19 breeding records (8 last year, and 17 the year before) from nb/15 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (HoJ1) to ny/30 Jan Birchmans Estate, Wamboin GrP12 (CoE1).

GBS: 28 records from 5 sites (4 sites last year) from 1/2wk Sep Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) to 4/3wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Most records of 1 or 2 birds, plus 2 records of 2 birds and 2 of 4 birds. No breeding recorded.

PACHYCEPHALIDAE: whistlers and allies

Crested Shrike-tit *Falcunculus frontatus* 695

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 12 records (26 last year and 37 the previous year) from 7 widely separated grid cells. No records from the previously regular sites at Campbell Park and Newline Quarry. 50% of records from the summer months. 11 records of 1 bird, plus 2/24 Oct Crace (CIM1). Despite being classified as a breeding resident, no breeding records this year (1 last year).

GBS: No records.

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea* 696

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

No records this year, 2 records last year.

Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis* 699

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 161 records (160 last year) from 51 grid cells (22% of those surveyed) from all months. 40% of the records from spring, 29% from autumn, 23% from winter but only 7% from summer. Recording rate 6.6%. Numbers reported: mean 1.8, median 1, max 10/24 Oct Warks Road (LiB1). No breeding records.

GBS: Records from 55% of sites during 37 weeks. Abundance ($A=0.0902$) 37% lower than the long-term mean but similar to last year's figure. Recording rate 8.1%, 33% lower than the long-term mean. Most records of 1 or 2 birds, with 2 records of 3. Only 3 records in the Nov-Feb period. The decrease in summer records is even greater than observed for the General Records. This is to be expected for the more urban, lower altitude environments covered by the GBS. No breeding records.

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris* 702

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 458 records from 122 grid cells, a little lower than last year's 512 records from 165 grid cells. Records from all months except Jul; most birds moved away from COG's area of concern during winter (only 2 records). 115 (25%) WOO. Recording rate 18.9% (similar to last year's 20%). Numbers reported: mean 2.0, median 1, 4 records of 10 or more, max 15/25 Oct Cotter Hut Rd GrD23 (AnI1) and 15/17 Nov Scottsdale GrL28 (FiM1). 10 breeding records from widely separated localities from di/11 Oct Mulligans Flat NE GrM10 (McD4) to dy/8 Feb TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

GBS: The mean abundance ($A=0.0609$) was 35% below the long-term mean but 16% above last year's figure. Records from 31% of sites during 44 weeks. Recording rate 4.3%, 44% below the long-term mean. Mean group size 1.4, all records of 1 or 2 birds, plus 2 records of 3 birds and 2 of 4 birds. No breeding records of 6 last year from a single site.

Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica* 707

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 346 records from 124 grid cells (fewer than last year's 416 records from 154 grid cells) in all months, with 53% of the records from spring, a proportion boosted by the October ACT Birding Blitz. Reporting rate 14.3%. Numbers reported: mean 1.5, median 1, max 8/18 Oct Tinderry Range GrO24 (AnI1). 2 breeding records (3 last year): on/11 Dec Radcliff Estate GrP16 (CoE1) and ny/13 Dec Carwoola GrP16 (BuM1)

GBS: Abundance ($A=0.0677$) 13% lower than the long-term mean. Records from 13 sites (15%), covering all weeks. Reporting rate 5.3%, 23% below the long-term figure. All records of 1 or 2 birds, mean group size 1.3. No breeding recorded cf 1 breeding record last year.

ORIOLIDAE: oriole

Australasian Figbird *Sphecotheres vieilloti* 709

Very rare, vagrant

GBS: Three records of a single female or first year bird that was observed at a property at Curtin GrJ15 from 28 Nov to 18 Dec (Canberra Ornithologists Group 2010. The endorsed Unusual Bird Report was submitted by Richard Allen.) This normally coastal species is an addition to the bird list covering COG's area of concern.

Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus* 711

Common, Breeding Migrant

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

General: 146 records from 47 grid cells (20% of those surveyed), more than the 120 records from 48 grid cells last year. 36 (25%) were WOO. Recording rate 6.0% (last year 4.7%). Mean number reported 1.4, all records of 4 or fewer birds plus 8/19 Sep Callum Brae NR (SmA1). Recorded from across the region. First 1/5 Aug Cooleman Ridge (BuM1) and last 1/1 May Campbell Park GrM13 (AnI1), plus an unusual winter record 1/29 Jun Jerrabomberra 7 GrL16 (BoJ1). 6 breeding records (just 2 last year) from di/11 Sep Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) to dy/17 Jan TSR 48 GrO05 (LeM1).

GBS: Recorded at 49% of sites (33% last year) in 43 weeks, recording rate 7.6%, all records of 1-4 birds, mean group size 1.3. Abundance ($A=0.0981$) 56% higher than last year and 70% above the long-term mean. First 1/3 wk Aug Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1), very late records of a single bird from two sites at Watson GrL12 (MuT1 & WaK1) in the last week of June. Breeding records from 6 sites (none last year) from on/5wk Oct Latham GrI12 (WLC1) to dy/4 wk Jan Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).

ARTAMIDAE: woodswallows, butcherbirds, magpie, currawongs

Masked Woodswallow *Artamus personatus* 713

Rare, Visitor

22 records (8 last year) from 17 widely dispersed grid cells (8 last year). Recorded in Sep, Oct and Dec, with first 6/13 Sep Cook GrJ13 (TaN1) last 4/30 Dec Lake Bathurst area GrZ07 (LeM1). Numbers reported: mean 26.7, median and mode 10, max 150/24 Oct Naas Valley Fire Trail GrI27 (HoS1). As last year, no breeding recorded.

GBS: 1 record (last year 4 records from 3 sites): 10/3wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). No breeding recorded.

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus* 714

Uncommon Breeding Migrant

A significant irruption, although not as great as in 2006-07 (72 records) but similar in magnitude to the 2002-03 irruption (55 records).

General: 57 records from 32 grid cells (13.6% of those surveyed) contrasting with just 15 records from 9 grid cells last year. Recording rate 2.4%. Numbers reported: mean 44, median 20, 6 records of 100 or more, max 500/24 Oct Naas Fire Trail GrI27 (HoS1). Records from all months in the Sep to Mar period, first x/1 Sep Iron Mines Rd GrK03 (SpB1) and last 40/6 Mar LGin Pen GrJ12 (AlB1). 16 breeding records from 9 grid cells (just 1 breeding record last year) from nb/16 Dec TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1) to dy/8 Feb TSR48 GrO05 (LeM1).

GBS: 7 records from 6 sites from 4/3wk Aug Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) to 40/4wk Oct Cook GrJ13 (TaN1), max. 56/3wk Oct Ainslie GrL13 (LeM1). No breeding recorded.

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus* 716

Common, Breeding Migrant

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

General: 248 records from 66 grid cells (28% of those surveyed), fewer than the 285 records from 88 grid cells last year, from all months except Jul, with nearly half the records (48%) from Spring, boosted by the annual Blitz. This year's figure over 3 times the annual mean of 76 recorded during the 1900s. Recording rate 10.2%. Numbers reported: mean 7.9, median 4, max 50/18 Dec The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1). 42 breeding records cf 30 last year, from nb/13 Sep Namadgi NP Visitors' Centre GrJ19 (FrM1) to dy/15 Feb Shepherds Reserve GrH12 (BuM1).

GBS: Higher than the long-term figures on most parameters. Abundance ($A=0.1141$) 50% higher than the long-term mean and 53% higher than last year. The proportion of sites at which recorded (20%) 33% higher and recording rate (1.6%) 32% higher than the long-term means. Recorded in 25 weeks from 6/3wk Aug Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) to 2/4wk Jun Giralang GrK12 (McD4). Mean group size 7.3, ranging from 1 to max 20/3 wk Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). 1 breeding record: dy/2wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus* 719

Common, Breeding Resident

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

General: 195 records from 65 grid cells (28% of those surveyed), fewer than the 222 records from 82 grid cells last year. Although present in all months, 34% of records from spring and 32% from autumn, with just 17% in both summer and winter. 62 records (32%) WOO. Recording rate 8.0%. Mean 1.3, all records of 1 or 2 birds plus 6 of 3 and 5/24 Oct Gossan Hill NR GrK12 (BoC4) and 5/3 Apr Callum Brae GrL15 (AnI1). 5 breeding records (just 1 last year), from on/6 Sep Mt Taylor GrJ15 (FrM1) to dy/12 Dec North Throsby GrM11 (BrJ3).

GBS: As in recent years, far above the long-term means on key parameters. Recorded at 38% of sites, 3 times the long-term mean, in all weeks (4 times the long-term mean). Recording rate (9.1%) 5 times the long term mean. Mean abundance ($A=0.1038$) 5 times the long term mean. Mean group size (1.1) similar to the long term mean. All records of 1 to 3 birds plus 4/1wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (BrM2). 3 breeding records from 3 sites: dy/1wk Jan Cook GrJ13 (BrM2) and Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) plus dy/3wk Jan Burra GrM12 (AnI1).

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis* 721

Rare, Visitor

General: 5 records, the same number as last year: 1/27 Sep Mulligans Flat GrL10 (HaB2), 1/25 Oct Smokers Gap Fire Trail GrG19 (LuN1), 1/14 Nov Kinleyside/Gold Creek lease GrK10 (BoJ1), 1/12 Dec South Jacka GrK10 (ReD2) and 1/28 Feb Narrabundah Hill South GrI15 (CaJ4). No breeding recorded.

GBS: no records.

Australian Magpie *Cracticus tibicen* 722

Common, Breeding Resident

General: The most frequently recorded species, with 1,359 records from 158 grid cells, 55% of those surveyed (similar to the 1,336 records from 194 grid cells last year), incl 388 (29%) WOO, from all months. The species with the second-largest number counted, 8,151, behind the Common Starling with 11,292 counted. High number of records but still well below the 1,635 records in 2000-01. Recording rate 54.8%. Numbers reported: mean 6.6, median 3, max 171/14 Jun Plains Road West GrR16 (BuM1). 134 breeding records (113 last year) from Aug to Jan, plus a late record dy/17 Apr Bungendore (McD1).

GBS: 5th most abundant species (up from the 7th rank last year), recorded from all sites and in all weeks, with most parameters similar to the long-term figures except for abundance ($A=3.3945$) which was 17% higher than the long-term mean though similar to recent years. Reporting rate

89.9%. Mean group size 3.8 with max 37/4wk May Macgregor GrI11 (WLC1) from where 20 or more birds recorded at a time in 16 weeks. Breeding records from 43 sites (49%) in all months except Mar.

Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina* 723

Common, Breeding Resident

General: The 12th most frequently recorded species (same as last year, but down from 7th the year before), with 744 records from 147 grid cells (63% of those surveyed), cf 674 records from 161 grid cells last year, from all months, with 47% recorded from spring, boosted by the Bird Blitz. 108 (15%) WOO. Recording rate 30.1% (last year 27% and 36% the year before). Numbers reported: mean 3.0 (last year 4.6), median 2 and max 70/24 Oct Mt Mugga GrK15 (DaG2). 41 breeding records (36 last year and 50 the year before) from br/19 Sep Callum Brae NR GrL15 (SmA1) to dy/25 Jan Gibraltar Falls GrG18 (LeM2).

GBS: 4th most abundant species (3rd last year) recorded in all weeks and at 99% of sites. Abundance (A=3.7944) similar to last year and to the long-term mean. Recording rate 85.7%. Mean group size 4.4, max 100/2wk May Scullin GrI12 (FeP1). Breeding records from 39 sites (44%) from nb/3wk Jul Wanniasa GrK16 (HeS1) to dy/1wk Apr Ainslie GrK13 (HaS3), then dy/1wk Apr Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) and next year's nb/3wk Jun Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor* 725

Common, Breeding Resident

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

General: 104 records from 46 grid cells (20% of those surveyed), similar to the 99 records from 53 grid cells last year, from all months, with 42% of the total in spring (which included the October Bird Blitz). Recording rate 4.3%. Numbers reported: mean 1.2, median 1, max 4/19 Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Only 2 breeding records (7 last year): dy/19 Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and cf/24 Oct QSP GrN15 (DaG2).

GBS: Recorded at 24% of sites, in all weeks. Abundance A=0.0643, 20% below last year's figure and 22% below the long-term mean. Recording rate 5.6%. Mean group size 1.1, all records of 1-3 individuals. 2 breeding records (3 last year) from one site: dy/3wk Dec and dy/4wk Dec Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

DICRURIDAE: drongos

Rare Migrant

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus* 726

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

RHIPIDURIDAE: fantails

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons* 727

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: A slight increase to 16 records this year: earliest 1/24 Oct New Chums Road GrD16 (DrA2) and 1/24 Oct Naas Village GrJ21 (PeH2); latest 1/6 April ANBG GrK13 (LeM1). Most sightings were from breeding habitat in the Brindabella Ranges, although no breeding activity was recorded.

GBS: Three records from 2 sites is the fewest in ten years: single birds were recorded 3wk Dec and 3wk Mar in Aranda GrJ13 (GeJ1) and 4wk Mar in Ainslie GrL13 (DoC1).

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa* 730

Common, Breeding Resident/Migrant

General: 770 records from 67% of grids, including 194 WOO, is similar to the previous 3 years (741, 711, 749 records). Birds were noted through the year but with considerably larger numbers in spring-summer (74%) than autumn-winter (26%). 17 breeding events were noted: earliest nb/11 Oct Mulligans Flat GrM10 (McD4); latest dy/27 Jan LBath N GrZ07 (LeM1).

GBS: The abundance value ($A=0.27$) increased considerably to be in line with the ten-year average after five years of below average abundance. 8 breeding records from 3 sites: earliest di/2wk Oct Macgregor GrI12 (WLC1) and latest dy/3wk Feb Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys* 733

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 568 records (including 64 WOO) from 43% of grids continues the increase of the last 3 years (519, 397, 432). Breeding records also increased to 30 observations: earliest on/14 Oct LGin Pen GrJ12 (AlB1) and latest 22 Feb LBath W GrY07 (LeM1).

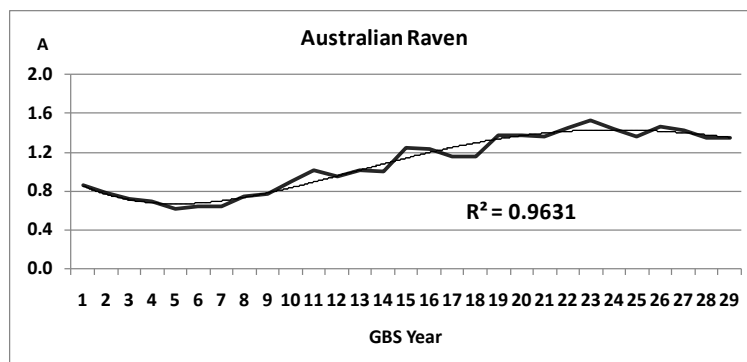
GBS: Recorded at 47 sites (53%). The abundance value ($A=0.21$) is within the observed fluctuations of the last five years. Breeding recorded at 4 sites, including 2 sites that recorded repeat broods: nb/4wk Sep to dy/4wk Nov and then on/1wk Dec to dy/2wk Feb in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and nb/2wk Oct to dy/1wk Dec and ny/2-3wk Jan in Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2).

CORVIDAE: ravens**Australian Raven** *Corvus coronoides* 737

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 882 records from 133 grid cells (57% surveyed) are only marginally down from 893 (165 grids) and 941 (170 grids) in the last two years respectively. Although the mean number reported was 2.89, flocks of up to 30 birds (12 Dec North Kenny GrM11 RoD2) were noted. 29 breeding records: earliest 2009 nb/17 Jun Dickson GrL13 (ReJ5) and latest dy/16 Jan The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1), with the first record for 2010-11 season 2 nb/16 Jun Cook GrJ13 (TaN1).

GBS: Recorded from 94% of sites and in every week. Abundance ($A=1.35$) was very similar to the last two years with a mean group size of 2.17 and max 26/4wk Feb Lyneham GrL12 (LeM1). Breeding at 12 sites is a 50% increase on the last two years: earliest 1 wk Jul Weetangera GrJ12 (WoD1) and latest dy/3wk Dec Page GrJ12 (AlB1). 5 records from 3 sites, of early breeding activity, first nb/2wk Jun Kambah GrJ16 (VeP1).

**Little Raven** *Corvus mellori* 739

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 130 records from 69 grid cells (29% of those surveyed) represent a minor increase from the previous year (90 records, 54 grid cells). As expected the median flock size of 25.58 is far greater than that for Australian Raven (2.89). The largest groups were all recorded from the LBath region with 400 (GrZ07 LeM1), 300 (GrZ08 LeM1) and 350 (GrZ08 MaD4) noted on 30 Dec, 22 Feb, and 30 Jun respectively. 4 breeding records: earliest dy/24 Oct Nursery Swamp GrH22 (PeH2) and latest dy/29 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (LeM1).

GBS: 42 records from 10 sites (11%) is a similar recording rate to the previous year but with a significant increase in abundance ($A=0.1527$). As expected the mean group size is large ($G=12.79$) with a maximum count of 120/3wk Dec Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1). No breeding records.

MONARCHIDAE: flycatchers, monarchs**Leaden Flycatcher** *Myiagra rubecula* 744

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: Recorded 122 times in 44 grids including 23 WOO. Two August records may represent unusually early arrivals or possibly overwintering birds: 1/8 Aug Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) and 30 Aug Wamboin GrQ12 (McD1). The latest record was of a single bird at Callum Brae GrL15 on the 2 Apr (LeM2). 7 breeding records: earliest nb/7 Nov Campbell Park GrF13 (WiT1) and latest dy/28 Jan The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1).

GBS: The abundance value ($A=0.036$) and number of sites (15) increased very slightly. The first record for the year was 2/4wk Sep Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1) and remarkably for the second year in a row a very late record (4wk Apr) was noted at Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1). A particularly high GBS count of 6 birds was made on 1wk Feb in Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1). Three breeding records: dy/3wk Dec Latham GrI12 (WLC1), dy/4wk Jan Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1), and dy/5wk Jan Macgregor GrI11 (WLC1).

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca* 745

Common, Breeding Migrant

A summer migrant, usually recorded in the Brindabella Ranges, and very occasionally on passage through the suburbs.

General: Recorded 23 times from 14 grids (6% of those surveyed). The first bird was back in typical breeding habitat along Warks Road-Blundells Creek Road area (GrD15) on the 1 Oct (SmA1) with the latest migrant noted on the 19 Feb The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1). Two breeding records: cf/2 Dec Tinderry GrP24 (BuM1) and dy/17 Jan Blundells Creek Road GrD15 (COF1).

GBS: Two records: 1/2wk Oct Giralang GrK12 (ReM1) and 1/4wk Oct Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH2).

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta* 747

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 26 records from 14 grids (6%) is a remarkably similar result to last year (26 records, 15 grids). 50% of records were from Sept-Oct period – this is reflected in the distribution of records per month over a ten year period that clearly shows two abundance peaks during spring and autumn. No breeding records.

GBS: 3 records from 2 sites: from Turner GrK13 (BoC4) in 3wk Nov and 1wk Jan and from Chapman GrI15 (HAJ1) in 3wk Apr.

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*

Rare, Visitor

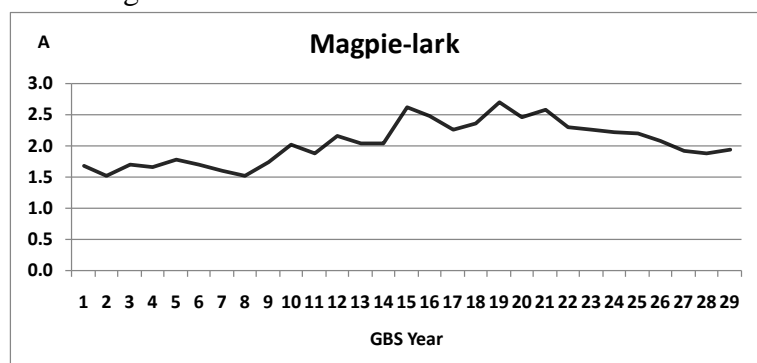
General: No records this year. Previously recorded 1 Apr 2006 at Wamboin GrQ12.

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca* 753

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 750 times (cf 665 and 737 in the last 2 years), including 106 WOO, from 91 grids (39% of those surveyed). A similar pattern of recording was noted to last year with 42% of records in spring dropping to only 13% of records during the winter months – this may well reflect observer activity as much as any real trend. The largest concentration of birds was 40/10 Mar LGin GrJ12 (AlB1). 49 breeding records: earliest nb/18 Aug The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (AlB1) and latest dy/16 Apr Belconnen GrJ12 (LeM1).

GBS: Recorded from 87 of 88 sites with the abundance value ($A=1.95$) reflecting the widespread occurrence of this species. Also one of the most regularly reported breeding species in the GBS - 24 sites (27%) including



19 sites noting dependent young. The earliest breeding event was nb/2wk Aug Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) and the latest was ny/2wk Apr Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1). The latter site also had notable high counts of 55 and 50 for 1wk and 4wk Jun.

CORCORACIDAE: chough

White-winged Chough *Corcorax melanorhamphos* 757 Common, Breeding Resident

General: 341 records from 69 grid cells (29% of those surveyed), including 78 WOO, is similar to last year (324 records, 84 grids). The mean family group size noted was 7.04 with the largest gathering being 100/18 Jun Gorooyarroo NR GrM11 (HoS1). 35 breeding records: earliest and latest records were both from the Chapman GrI15 - nb/1 Aug and nb/19 March respectively (HoJ1).

GBS: Recorded from 38% of sites across every week. Abundance ($A=0.64$) is down slightly from last year (26%) but within standard fluctuations. Mean group size 8.25, max 36/4wk Jan Yarralumla GrK14 (OnP1). Breeding records from 4 sites: earliest ne/1wk Aug Pearce GrK15 (KrS1) and latest dy/1wk Feb Wamboin GrQ13 (MDN1).

PETROICIDAE: robins

Jacky Winter *Microeca fascinans* 763 Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 35 times in 12 grids throughout the year cf 42, 31, and 76 records in the previous 3 years. As for recent years, most records come from a small number of sites – Campbell Park, Mulligans Flat NR, Naas Valley, Namadgi Visitor Centre and Newline accounted for 77% of records. 21 spring records were followed by only 4 summer observations – a larger than normal discrepancy. Three breeding records: br/1 Nov Newline GrN14 (SmA1), on/29 Nov Campbell Park GrM13 (LeM1) and on/6 Dec Naas Valley GrJ19 (McJ4).

GBS: One record: 1/3wk Oct Weston GrJ14 (MoK1).

Scarlet Robin *Petroica boodang* 757 Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 162 times, including 24 WOO, from 23% of grids cf 220 and 162 records in the previous 2 years. 7 breeding records: earliest co/3 Sept The Pinnacle NR GrI13 (BrJ3) and latest di/9 Dec Yerrabi Track GrH26 (BuM1).

GBS: 56 records from 13 sites is slightly down from the very high counts in the previous two years but is still well above the ten year average ($A = 0.0225$ this year; $A = 0.0168$ over ten years). The abundance is however, about half the long-term average. As for most years, very few late spring-early autumn records: only 5 records between 1wk Oct and 2wk Mar.

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii* 768 Rare, Breeding Visitor

General: 29 records from 14 grid cells continues the steady recording rate over the last four years (30, 25 and 41 records). The Mulligans Flat NR GrL10-L11-M10 to Gorooyarroo NR GRM10-M11 area is again the stronghold for this species in the ACT, contributing 15 records (52%). Spring is typically the best time to find this species and 59% of records were from this period. One breeding record: dy/29 Nov Gorooyarroo NR GrM11 (TaN1).

GBS: A single bird 2wk Sep Latham GrI12 (WLC1) is the same date but different site to the only record last year.

Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea* 769

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 84 records from 55 grids (23.4% of those surveyed) is the lowest total in five years (108, 121, 120, 101). There were no WOO survey records this year. As expected for this altitudinal migrant the majority of late autumn-winter records are from open areas on the outskirts of Canberra with most late spring-summer records from breeding sites in wetter woodlands in the upper Brindabella Ranges. The largest winter flock of 40/14 June was recorded along Paddys River Road GrG15 (MaD4). Three breeding records: dy/25 Oct Boboyan Valley Road GrH27 (RoM1), di/9 Dec Yerrabi Track GrH26 (BuM1) and br/20 Dec Bulls Head GrD16 (WaJ2).

GBS: No records, thus ending a run of 16 consecutive years in Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea* 770

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 17 records from 9 grid cells (4% of those surveyed) with very few spring-summer observations and no breeding records this year. Small numbers were again recorded in the late autumn-winter from the ANBG (GrK13) with birds present from 16 Jul to 20 Aug (AWB1) and later in the season from 7 Apr (BoJ1) to 19 May (COF1).

GBS: 16 records from 9 sites: latest 2009 record is 1/2wk Oct Deakin GrK14 (RoD2); earliest 2010 record is 1/2wk May Aranda GrJ13 (RoS1) and Yarralumla GrK14 (OnP1). The abundance value ($A=0.0051$) is up from the last 3 years but remains well below the 10 year average ($A=0.0137$) and is about half the long-term average

Pink Robin *Petroica rodinogaster* 771

Rare, Breeding Migrant

General: One record (the first since 2005/06): 1/6 April ANBG GrK13 (LeM1).

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata* 772

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

Declared "vulnerable" in the ACT in May 1997.

General: 26 records from 10 grid cells (4% of those surveyed) is down from the previous year but is in line with the longer term average (58, 29, 43, 29, 26 records from the previous 5 years). 8 birds along the Brandy Flat Walking Track GrI23 (LaD1) on 11 May is a noteworthy record. 7 breeding records include four observations of dependent young at Birchmans Estate, Wamboin GrP12 from 23 Jan (CoE1) to the 6 Feb (CoE1). The latter record also represents the latest noted breeding activity whilst the earliest was of birds on the nest at West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1) on 16 Sept.

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis* 776

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 60 records from 36 grid cells (15% of those surveyed) are the lowest in over five years (102, 86, 99, 87, 68 records in the previous 5 years). For a common resident the number of breeding observations remains incredibly low with only a single observation: dy/17 Nov intersection of Warks Road and Blundells Creek Road GrE15 (BuM1).

GBS: Again most records (10) were received from a single site in Burra GrM21 (AnI1) between 3wk Dec and 4wk May. The only other record was 1/2wk May Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1).

ALAUDIDAE: larks**Horsfield's Bushlark** *Mirafra javanica* 785

Rare, Visitor

General: 18 records from 6 grid cells represents a significant increase from only 2 records the previous year. 6 records were received from the Uriarra Road GrG13 from 10 Dec (HoS1) to 4 Jan (SmA1) including two records of birds carrying food: (10 & 11 Dec; HoS1 and BuM1). Other records came from the LBath region GrY08-Z07-Z08 from 27 Jan to 19 Mar (LeM1).

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* 786

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 88 records from 28 grids (12% of grids surveyed) is consistent with recent years. The largest autumn-winter concentration was 62/16 May LBath S GrZ08 (MaD4) but as usual, the majority of records were from the spring (49%) period. As with many grassland species, breeding is hard to prove but it is still surprising that there were no breeding records of this common species.

GBS: One record from the same site as the previous year: 5wk Jul Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

CISTICOLIDAE: cisticolas**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis* 788

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

A cryptic grassland bird.

General: 46 records from 7 grid cells with a maximum count of 20 at the JWNR GrL14 on 24 Oct (FyM1) – as for previous years this site and environs contributed the vast majority of records (34; 74%). Recorded through the year but with marked peaks in abundance in spring (41%) and summer (37%). The lack of breeding records does not reflect the true status of the bird in the ACT.

GBS: 9 records from 2 sites with most sightings between 1wk Aug Giralang GrK12 (McD4) and 3wk Sept Latham GrI12 (WLC1).

ACROCEPHALIDAE: reed-warblers**Australian Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus australis* 789

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 189 records from 36 grid cells (15% of those surveyed) is an increase from the two previous years. The first and last records from L Tugg GrJ16 and LGin GrJ12 on 18 Aug (FrM1) and 24 June (AWB1) respectively, may well represent over-wintering birds. Five breeding records: earliest nb/21 Oct JWNR GrL14 (HoS1) and latest 10 Mar LGin GrJ12 (AIB1).

GBS: Regular spring-summer records from four sites: earliest record 1/4wk Aug Latham GrI12 (WLC1) with the same site recording the latest record 4wk Mar and highest count 14/4wk Oct.

MEGALURIDAE: grassbirds and songlarks**Little Grassbird** *Megalurus gramineus* 792

Uncommon, Breeding Resident

General: 63 records from 7 grid cells is another good year for the species, with 42 records (67%) from JWNR and FSP GrL14 and a further 10 records (16%) from the nearby Norgrove Park GrL14. Maximum counts of five birds from JWNR GrL14 on the 24 Oct (FyM1) and 27 Feb (AnF1). One breeding record: nb/25 Oct Giralang Wetlands GrK12 (RoM3).

GBS: Most records (15) were again from Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2) between 3wk Sept and 5wk Jan. Only three other records from one site in Giralang GrK12 (McD4).

Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi* 793

Common, Breeding Migrant

A woodland summer migrant whose numbers have increased in recent years

General: 141 records from 50 grid cells (21% of those surveyed) are well above the recent average (59, 90, 70, 105, and 64 in the previous 5 years). The largest concentrations of birds were noted as 20/14 Nov North Jacka GrK10 (LiB1), 20/19 Dec Kelly Road GrL21 (AnI1) and 15/18 Nov West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). Six breeding records: earliest and latest cf/26 Nov TSR 48 GrO05 and dy/8 TSR 48 GrO05 Feb (both LeM1).

GBS: 5 records from 2 sites: earliest 1/4wk Aug Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1) and latest 1/4wk Jan Latham GrI12 (WLC1).

Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis* 794

Rare, Breeding Migrant

An infrequently recorded summer migrant.

General: As for Rufous Songlarks, this species also had a higher than average recording rate this year with 24 observations from 11 grid cells (5% of those surveyed). The earliest and latest sightings were both from West Macgregor GrH11 (both CuR1) on 8 Sept and 9 Jan respectively. Notable double-figure counts for the region were made on 17 Nov at TSR 48 GrO05 (15 birds LeM1) and Scottsdale GrL28 (10 birds FiM1). No breeding records.

TIMALIIDAE: white-eyes**Silvereye** *Zosterops lateralis* 799

Common Breeding Resident

General: 247 records from 81 grid cells (34% of those surveyed), similar to the 267 from 98 grid cells last year. Most commonly recorded on passage, with 47% of records from spring and 25% from summer. Reporting rate 10.2%. Abundance: mean 5.0, median 3, max 50/30 Mar The Pinnacle NR GrJ13 (AlB1). 1 breeding record (2 last year): dy/28 Jan Point Hut Water Quality Pond GrJ17 (RaB1).

GBS: 7th most abundant bird in the GBS, down from 4th last year. Records from 91% of sites, in all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=3.0589$) 16% lower than last year and 44% below the long-term mean. Reporting rate 47.3% which is 27% below the long-term mean. Mean group size 6.5. 7 breeding records from 7 sites (5 sites last year), from on/3wk Oct Ainslie GrL13 (HaS3) to dy/2wk Feb Macgregor GrI12 (WLC1).

HIRUNDINIDAE: swallow, martins**Welcome Swallow** *Hirundo neoxena* 806

Common, Breeding Resident

General: 406 records from 95 grid cells (40% of those surveyed) similar to the 375 records from 112 grid cells last year. Recorded in all months with 46% of records in spring, 25% in summer, 18% in autumn and just 11% in winter, suggesting that some birds leave the region during the cooler months. Recording rate 16.7%. Numbers reported: mean 7.7, median 3, 6 flocks of 100 or more individuals, max 180/27 Feb JWNR GrL14 (AnF1). 18 breeding records (9 last year) from br/24 Sep Norgrove Park GrL14 (SmA1) to dy/01 Jan Tuggeranong Town Park GrJ16 (PeH2).

GBS: Abundance ($A=0.3291$) 38% higher than last year and 43% higher than the long-term mean. Recorded at 40% of sites in all but 1 week of the year. Reporting rate 9.9% which is 41% above the long term mean. Mean group size 3.3. 10 breeding records from 3 sites (none last year) from nb/2wk Sep Greenway GrJ16 (HaA2) to dy/3wk Nov Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel* 807

Uncommon, Breeding Migrant

General: 71 records from 22 grid cells, far above last year's 46 records from 19 grid cells. Reporting rate 2.9%. 59% of records from spring, 28% from summer, 1% from autumn and 11% from winter. Numbers reported: mean 11.4, median 6, 8 flocks of 30 or more, max 50/27 Sep and 50/24 Oct both from West Macgregor GrH11 (CuR1). 12 breeding records from 5 sites (11 records last year) from on/12 Sep Elm Grove Station GrL10 (LaS1) to on/24 Dec West Macgregor GrI11 (CuR1) 7 of the 12 records were from this site).

GBS: 3 records: 1/4wk Aug Gleneagles GrI16 (PeH2), 20/1wk Sep Yarralumla GrK14 (OnP1) and 3/1wk Oct Jerrabomberra GrM16 (HaL2). No breeding recorded.

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans* 808

Common, Breeding Migrant

General: 129 records from 43 grid cells (18% of those surveyed) cf 105 records from 49 grid cells last year. 21 (16%) WOO. Recording rate 5.3%. Mean number reported 10.4, median 5, 13 flocks of 30 or more, max 100/21 Oct Carwoola GrQ16 (BuM1) and 100/12 Dec North Jacka GrK10 (DaC1).

First 30/8 Aug Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) with records every month from then until the end of the recording year, with the late records possibly being over-wintering birds. 17 breeding records (12 last year), most from areas north of Gungahlin, from ih/8 Aug Kama NR GrI13 (DaC1) to cf/12 Dec South Throsby GrL11 (LaS1).

GBS: 21 records from 8 sites, far more than the 13 records from 6 sites last year, in 17 weeks. Mean abundance ($A=0.0270$) similar to last year's figure and to the long term mean. Mean group size 4.5. First record 1/1wk Aug Wanniasa GrK16 (HeS1) and last 1/2wk Mar Watson GrL12 (WaK1). No breeding recorded.

TURDIDAE: thrushes

Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata* 816

Uncommon Breeding Resident

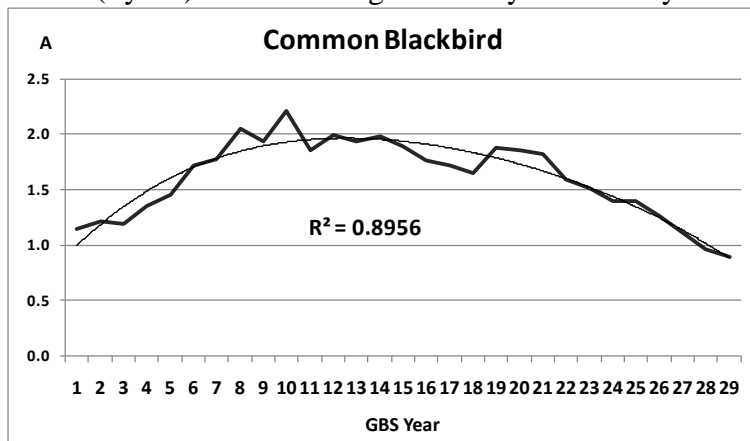
General: 3 records of single birds from 3 grids for the third year in a row: 1/24 Oct New Chums Rd GrD16 (DrA2), 1/25 Nov Blundell's Creek Road, Namadgi NP GrD15 (MaM4) and 1/20 Mar Nursery Creek, Namadgi NP GrG22 (TaN1).

GBS: Last recorded in 2006-07.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula* 818

Common Breeding Resident

General: 172 records (0 WOO) from 39 grid cells compared with 167 records from 46 grid cells last year. Numbers reported: mean: recording rate 7.1%, mean 1.6 and max, 11/24 Oct JWNR GrL14 (FyM1). One breeding record: dy/1 Jan Kellys Swamp GrL14 (PeH2).



GBS: Records of 1-10 individuals in 85% of sites in all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=0.8973$) continues a pattern of decline in recent years and is 44.3% lower than the long-term average. Breeding recorded from 11 sites (compared with 9 last year): first di/4wk Aug Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4) and last dy/2wk Feb Weston GrJ15 (BoJ1).

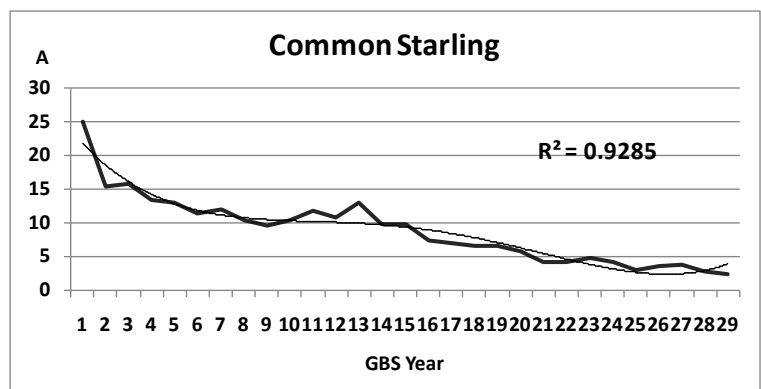
STURNIDAE: starling, myna

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* 824

Common Breeding Resident

General: 718 records (144 WOO) from 101 grid cells compared with 708 records from 130 grid cells last year. Numbers reported: mean: reporting rate 29.6%, mean 17.3, median 7 and max 300/4 May Fyshwick Sewage Ponds GrL14 (RaB1). Breeding: 81 records (71 last year) with first ih/6 Sep Mt Taylor GrJ15 (FrM1) and last, 28 Mar New Line Quarry GrM14 (LaS1).

GBS: This year, 10th most abundant species representing a continuing decline and down from 4th position in 2007-08. Abundance ($A=2.3922$) is well below historical levels e.g. 1995-96



($A=9.8804$) and is 73.6% lower than the long term mean. Reported from 65% of sites in all months. Reporting rate 32.34% is 48.95% lower than the long-term mean. Breeding: 31 records from 7 sites. Most records are from 1 wk Sep through to 3wk Feb with two apparent outliers: nb/4wk Apr Deakin GrK14 (RoD2) and dy/2wk Jul Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

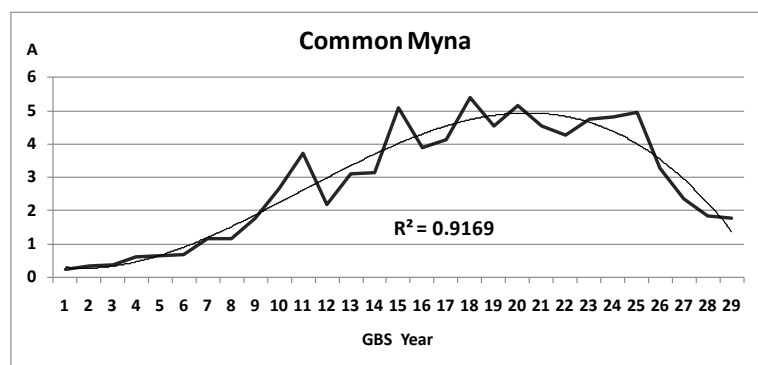
Common Myna *Sturnus tristis* 827

Common Breeding Resident

While still well down on historical levels, some of this year's statistics indicate a possible levelling in the population trend.

General: 302 records from 48 grid cells compared with 267 records from 44 grid cells last year. WOO records (8.6% of records) are down to 26 compared with 43 last year. Numbers reported: mean: reporting rate 12.44%, mean 4.17, median 2, max 50/24 Oct Gungaharra NR Palmerston GrL11 (CLM1). 19 breeding records: first on/26 Sep New Line Quarry 5 GrM14 (LaS1) and last, br/20 Jan Fraser Mt Rogers GrJ11 (GiM3).

GBS: 13th most abundant species up from 14th last year but still down significantly on 3rd in 2005-06, most probably as a result of the continuing work of CIMAG. Records of 1-32 individuals from 86.36% of sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=1.7588$) is down from ($A=1.8293$) last year and is 36.19% lower than the long-term mean. Breeding recorded from 11 sites compared with 7 sites last year: first ih/4wk Jul and last ne/2wk Mar both from Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).



NECTARINIIDAE: mistletoebird

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum* 829

Common Breeding Resident

General: 123 records (48 WOO) from 37 grid cells compared with 116 records from 47 grid cells last year. This is one of the higher proportions of WOO records. No records for Jul or Aug.

Reporting rate 5.07%. Numbers reported: mean 1.38, max 6/26 Oct Castle Hill GrJ18 (VeP1).

Breeding: 1 record (1 last year), nb/25 Oct Mt Ainslie GrL13 (TaN1).

GBS: 106 records from 17 sites in all months except Jul and Aug. All records of 1-2 birds.

Breeding: 1 record: dy/1wk Feb Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1).

ESTRILDIDAE: weaver finches

The weaver finches have low proportions of their records from WOO. This may be partly caused by overgrazing by kangaroos, which minimises grass seed production. It remains to be seen whether kangaroo exclusion from some of the WOO sites has an impact on the pattern of weaver finch records.

Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata* 831

Rare Visitor

General: One record: 1/26 Sep New Line Quarry 4 GrM14 (LaS1). Breeding not recorded.

GBS: Two records of single birds in 2wk Dec and 4wk Dec both from Kambah GrJ15 (HaB2). Breeding not recorded.

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii* 832

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 37 records (3 WOO) from 17 grids down from 76 records from 31 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 1.52%. Numbers reported: mean 5.38, median 2, max 40/19 Jul 'Finch Central' West of Coppins Crossing GrI13 (AlB1). 2 breeding records (compared with 3 last year): nb/12 Sep Mt Taylor GrJ15 (FrM1) and on/12 Sep Kinleyside/Gold Creek Lease GrK10 (BoJ1).

GBS: Records of 1-12 individuals from 16 sites (18.2% of sites). The mean abundance ($A=0.0392$) is well below historical levels e.g. 1999-2000 ($A=0.1971$) and 65.7% lower than long-term mean. No breeding records.

Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis* 839

Common Breeding Resident

General: 179 records (4 WOO) from 45 grids compared with 190 records from 67 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 7.38%. Numbers reported: mean 8.19, median 5, max 60/16 Aug Murrays Corner (Paddys River) GrH15 (MaM4). 4 breeding records (10 last year): first co/24 Oct Shepherds Lookout to Uriarra Crossing GrH12 (RoM3) and last, dy/17 Jan Blundells Creek GrD15 (COF1).

GBS: Records of 1-50 individuals from 24 sites in all weeks. Abundance ($A=0.5563$) was 75.8% higher than the long term mean, with max 50/2wk Aug Latham GrI12 (WLC1). Breeding recorded from 5 sites (2 sites last year): first on/2 wk Sep GrK14 (WaR4) and last dy/2wk May Turner GrK13 (MiP1); plus an outlier, nb/4wk Jun Red Hill GrK14 (WaR4).

Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata* 840

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 105 records (11 WOO) in all months from 34 grid cells compared with 146 records from 49 grid cells last year. Reporting rate 4.33%. Numbers reported: mean 4.53, median 3, max 29/29 May Tin Hut Dam – London Bridge GrO19 (AnI1). 13 breeding records (4 last year): from nb/19 Oct LBath S GrZ08 (MrM1) to dy/29 May TSR 48 GrS18 (LeM1).

GBS: 1-3 birds from 3 sites (3 sites last year). Only one site had regular records: first 1/3wk Nov and last 1/4wk Hoskinstown GrS17 (KaJ1). Breeding not recorded.

Beautiful Firetail *Stagonopleura bella*

Rare Vagrant

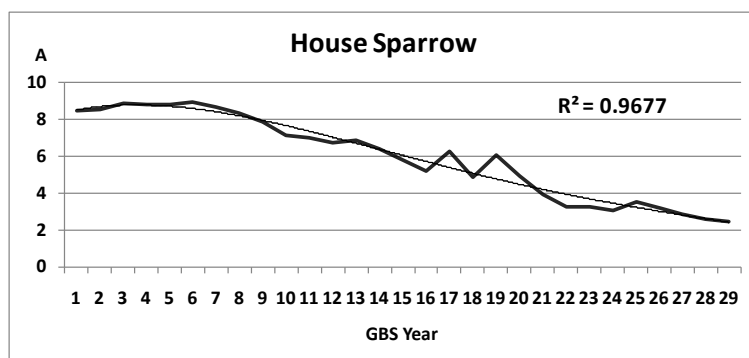
General: No records, after the only record in GOG's Area of Interest last year.

PASSERIDAE sparrows**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 168 records from 42 grid cells (18%) from all months, compared with 114 last year. Reporting rate 6.9%. Numbers reported: mean 4.5, median 3, max 50/16 Feb Goulburn SE Urban GrZ01 (BuM1). 7 breeding records (6 last year) commencing with nb/27 Sep Casuarina Sands GrG14 (MaM4) and concluding with dy/10 Dec Uriarra Road – south of Uriarra Crossing GrG13 (HoS1).

GBS: 9th most abundant species recorded in GBS (up from 10th last year). Records of 1-60 individuals from most sites from all weeks. The mean abundance ($A=2.4915$) was 3.3% lower than last year ($A=2.5760$) and 59.2% lower than the long term mean. Breeding recorded from 4 sites (compared with 8 last year) from nb/3 wk Sep Giralang GrK12 (ReM1) to nb and cf/1 wk Jan Page GrJ12 (AlB1) and Ainslie GrL13 (HoS1).



MOTACILLIDAE: pipit**Australasian Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Common, Breeding Resident

General: Recorded 162 times from 25% of grids (60) compared to 139 last year. Reporting rate 6.7%, mean 3.0, max 30/19 Jul Lake Bathurst The Morass South (FrM1). 6 breeding records (8 last year): from on/24 Oct Stromlo Forest Park GrI14 (LaS1) to cf/20 Jan Tinderry GrQ24 (COG Outing).

GBS: 23 Records from 1 site throughout the year: Curtin GrJ14 (AJR1).

FRINGILLIDAE finches**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis*

Common Breeding Resident

General: 169 records from 49 grid cells (20.9%) from all months, compared with 142 in the previous year. Reporting rate 7%. Numbers reported: mean 5.0, median 3, max 50/04 Sep JWNR GrL14 (SmA1). 5 breeding records (1 last year): from nb/19 Oct (FrM1) to dy/27 Jan (LeM1) both from LBath S GrY08 and GrZ08.

GBS: Records of 1-25 individuals from 8 (9%) of sites from 42 weeks. The ($A=0.0543$) was 42.4% higher than last year ($A=0.0313$). No breeding records.

Common Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*

Uncommon Breeding Resident

General: 36 records, all from GrL14, a large increase from 12 last year and 11 the year before. All of the records of 1-7 birds from either JWNR or Norgrove Park. Two breeding records: both dy/21 Nov and 13 Feb Norgrove Park (LeM1). Reporting rate 1.48%. Abundance: mean 2.8, median 2.



A Tawny Frogmouth in a Canberra Garden

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

ABA = Australian Bird Atlas (COG's general survey), **BA** = Birds Australia, **INC** = Incidental, **GA** = Greening Australia, **WOO** = Woodland Survey (including subsites, transects and incidental). Unusual sightings not endorsed by the Rarities Panel are not included. Waterbird Survey included with ABA.

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	CGA	WBS	INC	WOO	% WOO
1	Australian Magpie	1329	785	113	5	33	5	388	29.2
2	Crimson Rosella	1132	697	74	4	18	4	335	29.6
3	Galah	972	601	94		15	7	255	26.2
4	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	960	606	85		13	3	253	26.4
5	Australian Raven	882	603	89	2	5	8	175	19.8
6	Superb Fairy-wren	851	597	115	5	27	1	106	12.5
7	Red Wattlebird	823	597	93	2	10	4	117	14.2
8	Striated Pardalote	814	452	33	6	15	2	306	37.6
9	Eastern Rosella	785	502	53	2	12	3	213	27.1
10	Grey Fantail	770	495	49	5	26	1	194	25.2
11	Magpie-lark	750	517	100		20	7	106	14.1
12	Pied Currawong	744	546	83	3	1	3	108	14.5
13	Common Starling	718	467	71	2	27	7	144	20.1
14	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	618	439	35	7	39	5	93	15.0
15	Willie Wagtail	568	407	53	4	36	4	64	11.3
16	Crested Pigeon	566	406	79		11	2	68	12.0
17	Weebill	562	317	8	2		2	233	41.5
18	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	525	359	51	1	9	3	102	19.4
19	Noisy Miner	473	230	25		3	2	213	45.0
20	Australian Wood Duck	469	313	66		19	6	65	13.9
21	Rufous Whistler	458	291	29	5	16	2	115	25.1
22	Spotted Pardalote	435	334	19	2	3		77	17.7
23	Welcome Swallow	406	297	73	3	18	6	9	2.2
24	White-throated Treecreeper	404	304	16	1	3		80	19.8
25	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	404	341	23		4	2	34	8.4
26	Buff-rumped Thornbill	390	236	10	3	12	2	127	32.6
27	Red-rumped Parrot	369	261	46	1	9	4	48	13.0
28	Laughing Kookaburra	351	254	33	1	9	1	53	15.1
29	Grey Shrike-thrush	346	267	39	4	15	1	20	5.8
30	White-winged Chough	341	212	26	2	7	16	78	22.9
31	Pacific Black Duck	325	231	73		9	6	6	1.8
32	Noisy Friarbird	323	201	32		2	2	86	26.6
33	Common Myna	302	238	35			3	26	8.6
34	White-eared Honeyeater	253	206	9	1	4	2	31	12.3
35	Brown Thornbill	251	193	16	1	22		19	7.6
36	Dusky Woodswallow	248	197	19		5	8	19	7.7
37	White-browed Scrubwren	247	190	51		2		4	1.6
38	Silvereye	247	192	36	2	8	1	8	3.2
39	Masked Lapwing	233	154	48		16	8	7	3.0
40	White-plumed Honeyeater	233	154	38	1	1	2	37	15.9
41	Purple Swamphen	220	153	57		1	9		0.0
42	White-throated Gerygone	212	118	6		4		84	39.6
43	Striated Thornbill	210	147	12	8	5		38	18.1
44	Dusky Moorhen	199	148	47			4		0.0
45	Grey Butcherbird	195	116	12		4	1	62	31.8
46	Eurasian Coot	192	137	51		2	2		0.0
47	Australian Reed-Warbler	189	130	50		3	3	3	1.6

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	CGA	WBS	INC	WOO	% WOO
48	Black Swan	179	131	36		6	6		0.0
49	Red-browed Finch	179	117	43		8	7	4	2.2
50	Little Pied Cormorant	177	132	34		1	8	2	1.1
51	Common Blackbird	172	128	43		1			0.0
52	European Goldfinch	169	98	41		22	8		0.0
53	Nankeen Kestrel	168	121	20	1	7	9	10	6.0
54	House Sparrow	168	124	35		7	2		0.0
55	Pallid Cuckoo	165	119	12		4	3	27	16.4
56	Australasian Grebe	164	117	27		9	5	6	3.7
57	Scarlet Robin	162	127	1		5	5	24	14.8
58	Australasian Pipit	162	102	24	1	31	3	1	0.6
59	Grey Teal	161	101	47		8	1	4	2.5
60	Golden Whistler	161	128	16	1	3	1	12	7.5
61	Speckled Warbler	156	102	4	1		3	46	29.5
62	Olive-backed Oriole	146	90	18	1	1		36	24.7
63	White-faced Heron	143	94	25		10	6	8	5.6
64	Rufous Songlark	141	107	21		1	3	9	6.4
65	Australian King-Parrot	139	102	12			2	23	16.5
66	Sacred Kingfisher	138	108	13	1	1	3	12	8.7
67	Common Bronzewing	137	90	15		6	2	24	17.5
68	Eastern Spinebill	132	100	17	1	3	1	10	7.6
69	Australian White Ibis	131	89	33		1		8	6.1
70	Wedge-tailed Eagle	131	90	19		11	8	3	2.3
71	Little Raven	130	81	3		35	3	8	6.2
72	Tree Martin	129	88	15	2		3	21	16.3
73	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	128	101	11		1	3	12	9.4
74	Little Corella	125	86	12		2	2	23	18.4
75	White-winged Triller	124	94	11		4	3	12	9.7
76	Mistletoebird	123	69	6				48	39.0
77	Leaden Flycatcher	122	92	6			1	23	18.9
78	White-naped Honeyeater	118	105	8		3	1	1	0.8
79	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	108	94	9				5	4.6
80	Rock Dove	107	64	43					0.0
81	Brown-headed Honeyeater	106	69	3		9	2	23	21.9
82	Diamond Firetail	105	74	6	1	5	8	11	10.5
83	Gang-gang Cockatoo	104	72	11			6	15	14.4
84	Grey Currawong	104	71	2		1	4	26	25.0
85	Australasian Darter	102	77	24			1		0.0
86	New Holland Honeyeater	102	58	44					0.0
87	Superb Parrot	93	56	7			26	4	4.3
88	Brown Goshawk	88	65	15		2	1	5	5.7
89	Western Gerygone	88	45	3	1			39	44.3
90	Eurasian Skylark	88	41	24		21	2		0.0
91	Southern Whiteface	84	48	9		13	6	8	9.5
92	Flame Robin	84	73	3		1	7		0.0
93	Brown Falcon	83	45	17		10	6	5	6.0
94	Great Cormorant	77	61	16					0.0
95	Brown Treecreeper	74	53	5			1	15	20.3
96	Australasian Shoveler	73	37	30		4	1	1	1.4
97	Silver Gull	73	41	26		6			0.0
98	Fairy Martin	71	54	16				1	1.4
99	Dollarbird	68	49	9			2	8	11.8

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	CGA	WBS	INC	WOO	% WOO
100	Little Eagle	67	39	21		2	4	1	1.5
101	Little Black Cormorant	66	56	9			1		0.0
102	Straw-necked Ibis	66	41	17		3	4	1	1.5
103	Hardhead	64	45	17		1		1	1.6
104	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	64	45	8		4	7		0.0
105	Little Grassbird	63	33	30					0.0
106	Varied Sittella	62	51			1	1	9	14.5
107	Eastern Yellow Robin	60	54	5			1		0.0
108	Black-fronted Dotterel	60	30	26		2	1		0.0
109	Rainbow Bee-eater	59	50	3		2	2	2	3.4
110	Fuscous Honeyeater	57	48	4		2		3	5.3
111	White-browed Woodswallow	57	47	4		6			0.0
112	Satin Bowerbird	56	47	5			2	2	3.6
113	Black-tailed Native-hen	55	31	21			3		0.0
114	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	54	42	6	1	2		3	5.6
115	Yellow Thornbill	54	28	1	3	19	1	2	3.7
116	Australian Pelican	52	30	22					0.0
117	Golden-headed Cisticola	46	29	13			4		0.0
118	Chestnut Teal	42	17	12		10	2	1	2.4
119	Hoary-headed Grebe	42	25	15		1		1	2.4
120	Whistling Kite	40	24	16					0.0
121	Collared Sparrowhawk	38	29	3			4	2	5.3
122	White-necked Heron	37	28	4		2	3		0.0
123	Double-barred Finch	37	27	4			3	3	8.1
124	Baillon's Crake	36	22	14					0.0
125	Common Greenfinch	36	18	18					0.0
126	Rainbow Lorikeet	35	29	4			1	1	2.9
127	Jacky Winter	35	21	2			2	10	28.6
128	Australian Hobby	31	21	3		3	3	1	3.2
129	Superb Lyrebird	31	24	4			3		0.0
130	Red-capped Robin	29	17	1	1		2	8	27.6
131	Blue-billed Duck	28	19	9					0.0
132	Black-winged Stilt	28	19	8		1			0.0
133	Banded Lapwing	28	16	2		7	3		0.0
134	Latham's Snipe	28	11	16			1		0.0
135	Eastern Koel	28	21	3			4		0.0
136	White-fronted Chat	28	8	1		17	2		0.0
137	Tawny Frogmouth	27	21				6		0.0
138	Black-shouldered Kite	26	17	5			4		0.0
139	Restless Flycatcher	26	14	3			8	1	3.8
140	Hooded Robin	26	22					4	15.4
141	Royal Spoonbill	25	15	8		1	1		0.0
142	Australian Shelduck	24	12	1		9	2		0.0
143	Peregrine Falcon	24	17	3		1	3		0.0
144	Brown Songlark	24	22	2					0.0
145	Red-kneed Dotterel	22	7	16					0.0
146	Satin Flycatcher	23	21	2					0.0
147	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	22	8	14					0.0
148	Masked Woodswallow	22	15	3		1	1	2	9.1
149	Eastern Whipbird	21	18	2			1		0.0
150	Stubble Quail	20	10	3		7			0.0
151	Pink-eared Duck	18	11	7					0.0

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	CGA	WBS	INC	WOO	% WOO
152	Horsfield's Bushlark	18	10	3		5			0.0
153	Crescent Honeyeater	17	12	3			2		0.0
154	Rose Robin	17	14	1			2		0.0
155	Brush Cuckoo	16	14	1				1	6.3
156	Rufous Fantail	16	15				1		0.0
157	Brown Quail	15	11	2			2		0.0
158	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	15	12	1			2		0.0
159	Peaceful Dove	14	9	4				1	7.1
160	Spotless Crake	14	11	3					0.0
161	Spotted Dove	13	7	6					0.0
162	Nankeen Night-Heron	12	9	2			1		0.0
163	Long-billed Corella	12	3	7				2	16.7
164	Crested Shrike-tit	12	12						0.0
165	Swamp Harrier	11	7	4					0.0
166	Musk Duck	10	9				1		0.0
167	Australian Owlet-nightjar	10	4			1	1	4	40.0
168	Spotted Quail-thrush	10	6				4		0.0
169	Domestic Goose	10	6	4					0.0
170	Eastern Great Egret	9	6	2		1			0.0
171	Whiskered Tern	9	6	3					0.0
172	Southern Boobook	9	4	4			1		0.0
173	White-throated Needletail	8	5	2			1		0.0
174	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	8	7				1		0.0
175	Buff-banded Rail	7	6	1					0.0
176	Australian Spotted Crake	7	5	2					0.0
177	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	7	4	1			1	1	14.3
178	Lewin's Rail	6	2	4					0.0
179	Painted Button-quail	6	5	1					0.0
180	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	6	2				4		0.0
181	Brown Gerygone	6	1	3			2		0.0
182	Cicadabird	6	6						0.0
183	Pied Cormorant	5	4	1					0.0
184	Painted Honeyeater	5	5						0.0
185	Pied Butcherbird	5	3				1	1	20.0
186	Emu	4	3				1		0.0
187	Red-capped Plover	4	0			4			0.0
188	Musk Lorikeet	4	4						0.0
189	Powerful Owl	4	2	1			1		0.0
190	Pilotbird	4	4						0.0
191	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren	4	4						0.0
192	Black Honeyeater	4	3	1					0.0
193	Spangled Drongo	4	1				3		0.0
194	Muscovy Duck	4	4						0.0
195	Freckled Duck	3	1	2					0.0
196	Great Crested Grebe	3	0			1	2		0.0
197	Cattle Egret	3	3						0.0
198	Spotted Harrier	3	3						0.0
199	Channel-billed Cuckoo	3	2	1					0.0
200	Eastern Barn Owl	3	1	2					0.0
201	Red-browed Treecreeper	3	3						0.0
202	Scarlet Honeyeater	3	0			1		2	66.7
203	Little Friarbird	3	1	2					0.0
204	Australasian Figbird	3	0	3					0.0

Rank	Species	Total	ABA	BA	CGA	WBS	INC	WOO	% WOO
205	Bassian Thrush	3	2				1		0.0
206	Plumed Whistling-Duck	2	1			1			0.0
207	Brush Bronzewing	2	2						0.0
208	Wonga Pigeon	2	1				1		0.0
209	Fork-tailed Swift	2	2						0.0
210	Double-banded Plover	2	0			2			0.0
211	Red-necked Stint	2	1	1					0.0
212	Curlew Sandpiper	2	1	1					0.0
213	Cockatiel	2	1				1		0.0
214	Turquoise Parrot	2	1				1		0.0
215	Black-eared Cuckoo	2	0				2		0.0
216	Red-backed Kingfisher	2	2						0.0
217	Little Wattlebird	2	2						0.0
218	Magpie Goose	1	1						0.0
219	Northern Mallard	1	1						0.0
220	Glossy Ibis	1	1						0.0
221	Black Kite	1	0	1					0.0
222	Grey Goshawk	1	0	1					0.0
223	Black Falcon	1	0			1			0.0
224	Common Greenshank	1	1						0.0
225	Little Button-quail	1	0				1		0.0
226	Swift Parrot	1	0				1		0.0
227	Barking Owl	1	0	1					0.0
228	Lewin's Honeyeater	1	1						0.0
229	Singing Honeyeater	1	1						0.0
230	White-fronted Honeyeater	1	1						0.0
231	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	1	1						0.0
232	Regent Honeyeater	1	1						0.0
233	Pink Robin	1	1						0.0
234	Zebra Finch	1	0					1	100.0
	Total	32265	21796	3727	101	907	471	5263	16.3

This table is based on database records only for these survey types. GBS records are not included.

TABLE 2: GARDEN BIRD SURVEY STATISTICS 2009-10

Values for 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 (Year 29), together with percentage change when compared with the mean of all previous years (years 1-28). The Long term Average Values of each summary statistic are posted on the COG Website <http://canberrabirds.org.au/index.htm> under "Maps, Forms and Lists" see the "Lists" section.

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

W (weeks) = number of weeks with records

Legend for Table 2

An indication of the status of a species for the GBS year, relative to the average for all previous GBS years, is provided by a + or – prefix when dA% and dR% are both greater than $\pm 25\%$. This may be indicative of a general increase or decrease over the 29 years of the GBS, or may simply reflect a particularly good or poor reporting year for that species. In cases where A and R values are small, this indicator may be misleading.

* indicates a species for which both endorsed and unendorsed records contribute to the statistics.

** indicates a species for which there were only unendorsed record(s).

	Rank	Species	a	dA%	f	dF%	w	dW%	r	dR%	g
+	1	Galah	8.7702	25.00	100.00	0.56	52	0.07	84.41	6.21	10.39
	2	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	7.3734	31.26	100.00	2.46	52	0.00	84.93	20.58	8.68
	3	Crested Pigeon	4.0873	245.25	98.86	92.88	52	35.82	85.07	142.47	4.80
	4	Pied Currawong	3.7944	-4.36	98.86	-0.13	52	0.00	85.72	5.22	4.43
	5	Australian Magpie	3.3945	16.87	100.00	0.45	52	0.00	89.87	3.31	3.78
-	6	Crimson Rosella	3.3503	8.48	98.86	-0.02	52	0.00	87.83	9.06	3.81
	7	Silveryeye	3.0589	-43.95	90.91	-5.44	52	0.07	47.27	-27.25	6.47
	8	Red Wattlebird	2.7213	22.23	100.00	2.35	52	0.00	89.48	14.48	3.04
	9	House Sparrow	2.4915	-59.23	78.41	-14.36	52	0.07	44.23	-33.55	5.63
	10	Common Starling	2.3922	-73.58	73.86	-19.47	52	0.07	32.34	-48.95	7.40
+	11	Magpie-lark	1.9477	-3.89	98.86	0.84	52	0.00	78.73	4.48	2.47
	12	Australian King-Parrot	1.7975	16.89	86.36	12.61	52	0.83	50.37	23.60	3.57
	13	Common Myna	1.7588	-36.19	86.36	23.41	52	0.21	50.00	3.05	3.52
	14	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	1.7514	-33.27	76.14	-10.80	52	2.97	17.95	-28.53	9.76
	15	Superb Fairy-wren	1.6340	96.74	86.36	22.04	52	0.00	44.17	70.02	3.70
+	16	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	1.5304	7.69	77.27	-9.23	52	0.07	32.54	-5.60	4.70
	17	Little Corella	1.5273	1090.96	48.86	214.45	52	112.87	13.28	452.54	11.50
	18	Eastern Rosella	1.3945	-8.90	96.59	0.00	52	0.00	55.94	-3.58	2.49
	19	Australian Raven	1.3478	25.90	94.32	0.32	52	0.00	62.12	21.19	2.17
	20	Rock Dove	1.3003	6.80	48.86	-4.88	52	0.07	16.33	-3.90	7.96
-	21	Common Blackbird	0.8973	-44.34	85.23	-7.98	52	0.07	50.48	-28.02	1.78
	22	Noisy Miner	0.8754	241.65	36.36	52.35	52	3.34	18.37	172.55	4.76
	23	Weebill	0.7986	62.95	52.27	5.07	52	0.28	27.33	46.12	2.92
	24	Gang-gang Cockatoo	0.7560	3.28	60.23	-15.09	52	0.28	24.77	2.36	3.05
	25	Australian Wood Duck	0.7312	214.21	32.95	30.43	52	30.35	11.06	137.09	6.61
+	26	Spotted Pardalote	0.6880	7.95	76.14	-0.94	52	0.14	32.39	10.48	2.12
	27	Eurasian Coot	0.6604	663.60	4.55	408.24	48	486.90	2.13	447.74	30.96
	28	White-winged Chough	0.6337	58.54	37.50	23.10	52	15.28	7.68	53.85	8.25
	29	Striated Pardalote	0.5995	1.04	75.00	0.96	52	0.00	27.96	3.46	2.14
	30	Red-browed Finch	0.5563	75.79	27.27	14.53	52	17.89	7.54	65.20	7.38
+	31	Red-rumped Parrot	0.5341	26.25	45.45	13.41	52	2.32	10.72	22.85	4.98
	32	Eastern Spinebill	0.5273	-3.07	82.95	-4.44	52	0.83	32.65	-3.80	1.61
	33	Noisy Friarbird	0.4002	-52.41	80.68	-12.42	43	0.25	24.29	-31.88	1.65
	34	Pacific Black Duck	0.3467	190.51	22.73	114.00	52	61.24	7.59	177.72	4.57
	35	Welcome Swallow	0.3291	43.34	39.77	3.87	51	3.25	9.93	41.43	3.32
-	36	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	0.3146	-33.95	77.27	-14.61	52	0.55	21.42	-30.47	1.47
	37	Brown Thornbill	0.3137	21.44	47.73	4.38	52	2.03	16.35	22.86	1.92

	Rank	Species	a	dA%	f	dF%	w	dW%	r	dR%	g
	38	Laughing Kookaburra	0.3015	-15.85	60.23	-16.67	52	0.00	16.61	-16.45	1.82
	39	Striated Thornbill	0.2915	36.97	22.73	-35.26	52	13.04	5.66	-0.95	5.15
	40	Yellow-tailed BI-Cockatoo	0.2702	-15.34	73.86	178.78	52	177.33	10.13	131.97	2.67
	41	Grey Fantail	0.2688	-16.27	56.82	-27.13	51	-1.45	15.90	-22.85	1.69
+	42	Australian White Ibis	0.2577	75.34	19.32	62.25	48	146.61	4.15	277.58	6.21
+	43	Buff-rumped Thornbill	0.2546	104.82	14.77	-7.27	51	26.04	6.34	92.00	4.01
+	44	White-browed Scrubwren	0.2227	66.80	35.23	33.24	52	9.72	10.64	37.20	2.09
	45	Willie Wagtail	0.2085	-20.80	53.41	-30.31	52	0.07	14.93	-25.16	1.40
+	46	Purple Swamphen	0.2014	877.67	4.55	525.52	52	530.30	3.41	846.35	5.90
+	47	Dusky Moorhen	0.1769	731.24	3.41	369.14	52	732.00	3.07	1085.19	5.76
+	48	Superb Parrot	0.1638	791.55	30.68	612.85	31	528.99	3.90	940.84	4.20
+	49	Rainbow Lorikeet	0.1590	412.11	17.05	91.79	52	163.29	6.43	367.81	2.47
+	50	Little Raven	0.1527	82.71	11.36	21.73	30	150.75	1.19	109.91	12.79
+	51	Little Pied Cormorant	0.1399	876.51	14.77	312.94	52	410.88	5.57	809.44	2.51
	52	White-eared Honeyeater	0.1260	29.63	47.73	-3.63	51	23.96	8.30	12.66	1.52
+	53	Hardhead	0.1260	571.16	2.27	577.65	27	935.62	0.91	750.91	13.84
+	54	Masked Lapwing	0.1237	25.10	31.82	-13.23	52	9.06	6.91	29.13	1.79
	55	Satin Bowerbird	0.1172	5.02	32.95	97.84	52	48.88	6.14	42.49	1.91
+	56	Dusky Woodswallow	0.1141	50.18	20.45	33.07	25	36.99	1.56	32.34	7.29
+	57	Spotted Dove	0.1069	779.21	28.41	388.69	52	320.81	7.54	717.91	1.42
+	58	Grey Butcherbird	0.1038	516.99	37.50	189.17	52	297.81	9.10	488.92	1.14
+	59	Australian Reed-Warbler	0.0984	1829.13	4.55	139.17	29	392.12	2.47	815.97	3.98
+	60	Olive-backed Oriole	0.0981	70.37	48.86	22.09	43	23.61	7.62	45.13	1.29
-	61	White-naped Honeyeater	0.0930	-83.64	27.27	-45.61	22	-27.87	1.99	-69.21	4.67
-	62	Golden Whistler	0.0902	-36.75	54.55	-8.20	37	-13.52	8.11	-33.32	1.11
-	63	White-plumed Honeyeater	0.0859	-41.69	39.77	-7.11	45	-2.33	4.69	-33.35	1.83
+	64	Eastern Koel	0.0762	672.02	47.73	302.76	24	259.36	6.63	602.42	1.15
	65	White-throated Treecreeper	0.0759	35.63	11.36	-34.42	51	8.59	5.94	22.73	1.28
+	66	Black Swan	0.0703	619.52	7.95	390.71	46	588.77	2.10	579.13	3.34
	67	Grey Shrike-thrush	0.0677	-12.68	14.77	-60.26	52	8.33	5.29	-22.53	1.28
	68	Grey Currawong	0.0643	-21.98	23.86	-31.36	52	5.66	5.63	-19.03	1.14
-	69	Rufous Whistler	0.0609	-34.79	30.68	-40.27	44	0.65	4.27	-44.17	1.43
-	70	European Goldfinch	0.0543	-77.96	9.09	-76.01	42	-10.23	1.82	-75.41	2.98
-	71	White-throated Needletail	0.0532	-71.30	11.36	-48.27	7	-35.10	0.31	-68.70	17.00
+	72	White-faced Heron	0.0520	77.78	17.05	9.69	50	56.60	3.75	84.86	1.39
+	73	Brown-headed Honeyeater	0.0515	46.24	5.68	-25.26	38	125.42	1.51	80.80	3.42
+	74	White-browed Woodswallow	0.0501	58.30	6.82	165.17	5	180.00	0.20	126.85	25.14
-	75	Straw-necked Ibis	0.0466	-86.86	9.09	-59.44	11	-57.34	0.37	-83.34	12.62
+	76	Great Cormorant	0.0444	448.40	5.68	25.49	30	315.84	1.22	301.74	3.63
-	77	Fuscous Honeyeater	0.0424	-64.37	14.77	-52.89	22	-9.28	0.91	-77.41	4.66
	78	Common Bronzewing	0.0410	8.65	20.45	83.89	47	43.51	3.19	47.30	1.29
-	79	Double-barred Finch	0.0392	-65.71	18.18	-6.80	33	-10.64	1.56	-46.34	2.51
+	80	Wedge-tailed Eagle	0.0387	199.44	25.00	59.73	44	162.69	2.67	197.20	1.45
+	81	Little Black Cormorant	0.0387	834.03	5.68	250.51	26	620.79	0.97	571.61	4.00
+	82	Tawny Frogmouth	0.0361	122.47	11.36	78.33	44	134.67	2.02	123.12	1.79
	83	Leaden Flycatcher	0.0361	14.33	17.05	-18.03	24	4.02	2.47	9.56	1.46
+	84	Mistletoebird	0.0344	47.37	19.32	37.14	43	54.16	3.01	42.85	1.14
+	85	Grey Teal	0.0319	514.55	6.82	320.61	33	524.32	1.39	490.87	2.29
	86	Silver Gull	0.0301	-94.54	4.55	-46.50	30	53.56	0.85	-10.08	3.53
	87	Tree Martin	0.0270	2.62	9.09	13.73	17	40.83	0.60	6.23	4.52
+	88	Australasian Grebe	0.0256	362.05	3.41	238.83	37	763.33	1.65	633.52	1.55
-	89	Southern Boobook	0.0247	-37.69	36.36	7.35	37	-3.00	2.47	-31.86	1.00
	90	New Holland Honeyeater	0.0242	-31.59	7.95	-25.49	40	63.03	1.65	12.43	1.47
	91	Pallid Cuckoo	0.0236	-15.78	19.32	-23.88	25	31.33	2.05	-19.97	1.15
-	92	Scarlet Robin	0.0225	-46.82	14.77	-45.84	30	14.75	1.59	-44.35	1.41

	Rank	Species	a	dA%	f	dF%	w	dW%	r	dR%	g
-	93	Dollarbird	0.0210	-62.39	21.59	-34.20	17	-23.35	1.62	-53.73	1.30
	94	White-throated Gerygone	0.0199	6.60	7.95	-55.25	29	39.76	1.54	-10.18	1.30
-	95	Australian Hobby	0.0196	-42.53	20.45	-39.42	36	-1.47	1.68	-41.62	1.17
	96	Collared Sparrowhawk	0.0193	-3.73	34.09	44.52	35	14.09	1.88	-0.44	1.03
	97	Nankeen Kestrel	0.0182	-15.72	18.18	-7.33	40	42.68	1.73	-7.38	1.05
+	98	Sacred Kingfisher	0.0168	49.78	15.91	-15.79	24	55.92	1.39	39.99	1.20
-	99	Yellow Thornbill	0.0142	-34.07	7.95	0.22	21	-8.13	0.74	-31.91	1.92
+	100	Australasian Darter	0.0125	660.50	7.95	577.65	29	1231.15	0.85	887.66	1.47
	101	Australian Pelican	0.0117	-29.95	6.82	-27.39	17	54.55	0.65	31.42	1.78
	102	Australasian Pipit	0.0117	-24.48	1.14	-67.73	23	36.44	0.65	-16.75	1.78
	103	Black-shouldered Kite	0.0108	-25.51	7.95	-22.66	29	29.71	0.97	-19.13	1.12
+	104	Fork-tailed Swift	0.0097	126.75	4.55	212.76	3	265.22	0.11	176.55	8.50
+	105	Diamond Firetail	0.0094	96.68	3.41	177.22	20	471.43	0.60	327.02	1.57
	106	White-winged Triller	0.0094	-30.44	5.68	-27.91	16	41.32	0.71	-7.24	1.32
-	107	Varied Sittella	0.0088	-77.30	3.41	-64.75	5	-67.06	0.17	-76.52	5.17
+	108	Nankeen Night-Heron	0.0088	4492.63	2.27	916.48	24	4700.00	0.68	3455.58	1.29
+	109	Eastern Great Egret	0.0082	1236.64	1.14	-11.61	28	1812.20	0.80	1282.73	1.04
-	110	Brown Goshawk	0.0080	-32.63	15.91	-25.69	21	-1.34	0.77	-30.86	1.04
	111	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	0.0080	-16.92	12.50	-2.77	22	46.32	0.77	-16.04	1.04
+	112	Long-billed Corella	0.0077	351.62	5.68	227.90	17	526.32	0.48	340.74	1.59
+	113	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	0.0077	237.35	5.68	160.64	13	300.00	0.77	454.46	1.00
+	114	Fairy Martin	0.0068	68.74	3.41	143.95	3	86.67	0.09	35.27	8.00
+	115	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	0.0065	442.09	2.27	269.63	8	646.67	0.23	435.25	2.88
+	116	Hybrid Crims/East Rosella	0.0063	1529.64	3.41	662.36	20	1974.07	0.63	1590.00	1.00
+	117	Little Grassbird	0.0057	1157.02	2.27	1932.95	15	1455.56	0.51	1282.73	1.11
	118	Little Eagle	0.0057	4.23	6.82	-30.30	14	17.72	0.48	-4.70	1.18
-	119	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0054	-32.41	7.95	-23.49	13	5.81	0.51	-32.61	1.06
+	120	Latham's Snipe	0.0054	13035.90	1.14	577.65	8	7366.67	0.23	5430.91	2.38
	121	Rainbow Bee-eater	0.0051	-65.11	4.55	-41.07	7	31.54	0.20	-24.38	2.57
-	122	Rose Robin	0.0051	-56.94	10.23	-19.04	13	-21.55	0.46	-58.67	1.13
+	123	Chestnut Teal	0.0051	63.03	2.27	480.84	5	97.18	0.14	46.06	3.60
-	124	Speckled Warbler	0.0048	-51.77	2.27	-54.32	10	-22.87	0.28	-48.41	1.70
+	125	Golden-headed Cisticola	0.0040	54.45	2.27	103.30	8	80.65	0.26	50.54	1.56
-	126	Crescent Honeyeater	0.0040	-81.89	5.68	-47.60	6	-67.94	0.34	-78.28	1.17
-	127	Peregrine Falcon	0.0037	-25.31	4.55	-50.72	11	4.41	0.31	-31.28	1.18
	128	Eastern Yellow Robin	0.0034	-22.46	2.27	4.25	10	8.95	0.31	-18.81	1.09
-	129	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	0.0028	-55.96	5.68	-39.50	8	-29.56	0.28	-55.40	1.00
	130	Masked Woodswallow	0.0028	-35.59	1.14	45.21	1	40.00	0.03	-5.72	10.00
-	131	Rufous Songlark	0.0026	-41.85	2.27	-9.65	5	-8.50	0.14	-52.86	1.80
+	132	Swift Parrot	0.0023	151.40	2.27	238.83	2	300.00	0.06	159.26	4.00
+	133	White-necked Heron	0.0020	229.97	3.41	125.88	6	309.76	0.17	203.53	1.17
+	134	Royal Spoonbill	0.0017	418.52	2.27	408.24	2	229.41	0.06	144.01	3.00
-	135	Brown Falcon	0.0017	-71.26	4.55	-44.30	5	-56.92	0.14	-72.42	1.20
	136	Brown Quail	0.0014	1.67	3.41	408.24	5	204.35	0.14	125.44	1.00
-	137	Western Gerygone	0.0014	-69.32	3.41	-44.05	5	-45.74	0.14	-66.76	1.00
+	138	Channel-billed Cuckoo	0.0014	1052.27	4.55	803.54	5	1455.56	0.14	1052.27	1.00
+	139	Australasian Shoveler	0.0011	821.82	1.14	916.48	1	1300.00	0.03	937.04	4.00
-	140	Australian Owllet-nightjar	0.0011	-52.86	3.41	69.41	4	-27.27	0.11	-47.49	1.00
-	141	Cockatiel	0.0011	-41.57	2.27	-38.40	4	-5.08	0.11	-32.55	1.00
	142	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	0.0009	77.78	2.27	76.78	2	64.71	0.06	18.52	1.50
	143	Cattle Egret	0.0009	-63.61	2.27	171.06	3	133.33	0.09	72.84	1.00
-	144	Rufous Fantail	0.0009	-72.59	2.27	-72.71	3	-49.09	0.09	-71.19	1.00
-	145	Restless Flycatcher	0.0009	-78.01	2.27	-60.90	3	-65.00	0.09	-76.87	1.00
+	146	Black Falcon	0.0009	288.89	1.14	56.38	3	460.00	0.09	288.89	1.00
+	147	Intermediate Egret	0.0006	937.04	1.14	408.24	2	1300.00	0.06	937.04	1.00

	Rank	Species	a	dA%	f	dF%	w	dW%	r	dR%	g
-	148	Satin Flycatcher	0.0006	-82.64	2.27	-64.02	2	-63.40	0.06	-79.36	1.00
-	149	Stubble Quail	0.0006	-61.59	1.14	19.59	2	-21.13	0.06	-43.18	1.00
+	150	Southern Whiteface	0.0006	144.01	2.27	408.24	2	409.09	0.06	277.11	1.00
-	151	Zebra Finch	0.0006	-67.08	1.14	-18.68	2	-23.29	0.06	-43.18	1.00
-	152	Jacky Winter	0.0003	-75.01	1.14	-21.81	1	-56.25	0.03	-69.50	1.00
-	153	Rose-ringed Parakeet	0.0003	-43.94	1.14	125.88	1	-24.32	0.03	-43.94	1.00
+	154	Scarlet Honeyeater	0.0003	107.41	1.14	125.88	1	211.11	0.03	107.41	1.00
+	155	Peachface lovebird	0.0003	1974.09	1.14	1932.95	1	2700.00	0.03	1974.09	1.00
	156	White-headed Pigeon	0.0003	-13.58	1.14	103.30	1	33.33	0.03	-1.23	1.00
-	157	Budgerigar	0.0003	-72.35	1.14	-62.35	1	-57.58	0.03	-70.37	1.00
	158	Regent Honeyeater	0.0003	-58.52	1.14	69.41	1	47.37	0.03	-1.23	1.00
-	159	Eurasian Skylark	0.0003	-98.82	1.14	-41.92	1	-93.53	0.03	-95.79	1.00
	160	Little Friarbird	0.0003	-23.18	1.14	12.94	1	21.74	0.03	-9.82	1.00
+	161	Princess Parrot	0.0003	245.68	1.14	916.48	1	366.67	0.03	245.68	1.00
	162	Grey Goshawk	0.0003	-1.23	1.14	69.41	1	47.37	0.03	9.16	1.00
+	163	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	0.0003	88.55	1.14	103.30	1	154.55	0.03	88.55	1.00
-	164	Brush Cuckoo	0.0003	-64.24	1.14	-32.23	1	-49.09	0.03	-63.61	1.00
+	165	Red-capped Robin	0.0003	130.45	1.14	190.42	1	211.11	0.03	130.45	1.00
	166	Eastern Barn Owl	0.0003	-13.58	1.14	7.00	1	27.27	0.03	-9.82	1.00
+	167	Barbary dove	0.0003	1974.09	1.14	1932.95	1	2700.00	0.03	1974.09	1.00
	168	Australian Shelduck	0.0003	22.01	1.14	1932.95	1	2700.00	0.03	1974.09	1.00

Total birds per observation-week: 81.77

Note: Some of these values are extreme, for species that have undergone big changes in populations since the start of the GBS.

DATA, METHODOLOGIES, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

SOURCES OF DATA

General records

All records other than the GBS records have been included this year as 'General' records. The preferred survey method is that of Birds Australia Atlas 2 hectare search, although other types of search (Area searches) are also acceptable. See full instructions for BA searches at:

<http://www.cogatlas.org.au/userGuides/AtlasInstructions10Jan07Version2.pdf>. COG Observation Record Forms can be downloaded from: http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/Forms/COG_obs_form.pdf

Woodland Survey (WOO)

Generally nine sub-sites (plots of 50 m radius), in habitat structures of low, medium and high complexity are set up at each site. Each sub-site is surveyed for 10 minutes with all birds seen or heard recorded, and other birds outside the plot in the same habitat within a 100 m radius also being recorded. Surveys are done each season in September, December, March and June.

Waterbird Survey (WBS)

Data on the number of waterbirds present are normally collected during monthly surveys of Lake Bathurst (including The Morass) and Lake George. The survey normally involves visits to three locations at Lake Bathurst and to two locations at Lake George, when those lakes have water.

Garden Bird Survey (GBS)

GBS data are derived from standard charts on which participants record observations on a weekly basis at sites throughout suburban Canberra and nearby areas. Observers record the maximum number of each species seen at any one time during a week within an area of approximately 3 ha - equivalent to a radius of 100 metres from

their home or workplace. Details of the Garden Bird Survey methodology can be found in Veerman (2003).

Statistical values for measures of abundance (A), distribution (F), weekly presence (W), recording rate (R), and group size (G), are shown in Table 2 on pp. 64-67. The methods used to calculate these are described below. Table 2 also shows the percentage changes in some of these values when compared with the average of the previous 28 years. The long-term average has been calculated as the arithmetic average of the appropriate observations over the previous years. In previous years the long-term average has been calculated as the average of the final values of the statistics. For most species, the differences are not significant, but care should be taken when comparing the percentage changes between that year with this and previous editions, especially where the values of the statistics have changed over time.

A

This is the average number of individuals of a species recorded at a site for each week over the full year. It is obtained by adding all weekly observations of the species and dividing the sum by the total number of weeks in which observations were made. For example, if the total number of weeks during which observations were made was 2156 and the total number of Eastern Spinebills recorded was 1106, the average number of that species seen each week, at each site, over the full year (A) would be $(1106/2156) = 0.513$.

F

This is the number of sites at which a species was recorded at least once during the year expressed as a percentage of the total number of sites. If there were 50 sites

and the White-throated Needletail was recorded at least once at 9 of them, the value of F for the year is $(9/50 \times 100) = 18\%$.

W Measure of weekly presence

The number of weeks in the year for which a species was recorded at any site. In the case of a resident species such as the Crested Pigeon, which is present throughout the year, $W=52$; whereas a migrant such as the Dollarbird, was present only for 19 weeks, for example, $W=19$.

R Measure of the recording rate

This is the number of observer-weeks during which a species was recorded, expressed as a percentage of the total number of observer-weeks for the year. For example, if the Noisy Miner were recorded during 111 of the observer-weeks and the total number of observer-weeks for the year was 2156, for the Noisy Miner $R=5.15\%$.

G Measure of group size

Average number of individuals of a species recorded in each observation. If the calculated G value for the Silver Gull was 134.3, it is an indication that the Silver Gull was usually observed in sizeable flocks.

Explanatory notes on the text

The names and sequence of birds in the Systematic List conform to *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (Christidis & Boles 2008).

The status shown for each bird in the Systematic List is based on previous survey data. It is updated from time to time by the COG Rarities Panel.

As a general rule details of specific records are set out in the following format: number of individuals/date, place, grid (observer). For example, '4/15 Jun ANBG GrK13

(WiJ1)', indicates four birds on 15 June at Australian National Botanic Gardens grid cell K13 and the observer was Jacqui Winter. (A full list of observers and their observer codes is provided on pp. 70-71.) Note that x indicates presence of the species instead of the number of individuals.

When sufficient data are available, breeding records giving the first and last nest and/or dependent young records are often included. In these cases the breeding code, e.g. 'ne' (nest with eggs) or 'dy' (dependent young), or other abbreviation as appropriate, takes the place of the number of individuals. For breeding records of cuckoos, the host species, if recorded, is shown in brackets immediately following the breeding indicator, e.g. dy (Eastern Spinebill) /18 Dec.

The words 'record(s)' are not used to indicate the number of birds involved. Where available and appropriate the number of individuals is included. Numbers and distribution of birds are often compared with the previous year. Unless indicated otherwise, a statement in this report such as 'overall numbers lower' should be taken to mean lower than in the immediately preceding year.

Because the Garden Bird Survey works on a weekly basis, GBS data have no specific dates, but are of the form '2wk May', '2wk' referring to the second week of the month. The first day of the first week rarely starts on the first day of the month, however. The dates of each GBS week are shown at the top of the GBS chart and are also listed by Veerman (2003).

Abbreviations for the Woodland Survey sites (CAS CMP GOO GOS HAL JER KAM MAJ MJF MUL NAS NLN RED SYM TUG) are only used when the Woodland Surveys are being referred to.

Abbreviations

General

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

Breeding codes

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

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Code	Observer	COG	BA	GBS	Code	Observer	COG	BA	GBS
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PiR1	R Pinder			*	UpA1	Astrida Upitis			*
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RoG2	Robertson			*	WiP4	Anne Wintle			*
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RoS2	S Roberts		*						
ScA1	Anthony Scott	*							
ShN1	N Shelley		*						



This Black-tailed Native Hen was photographed at Norgrove Park by Leo Berzins

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- Con Boekel (pigeons, cuckoos)
- Chris Davey (ducks, grebes & waders)
- Matthew Frawley (thrushes, starlings finches)
- Steve Holliday (thornbills and allies)
- Dan Mantle (swifts, kingfishers and allies, robins, whistlers, flycatchers, larks, pipits, swallows)

- David McDonald (treecreepers, fairy-wren, babbler, whipbird, cuckoo-shrikes, sittella, oriole, woodswallows, magpies and allies, ravens, chough, bowerbird, old-world warblers)
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- Woodland Survey: Jenny Bounds.

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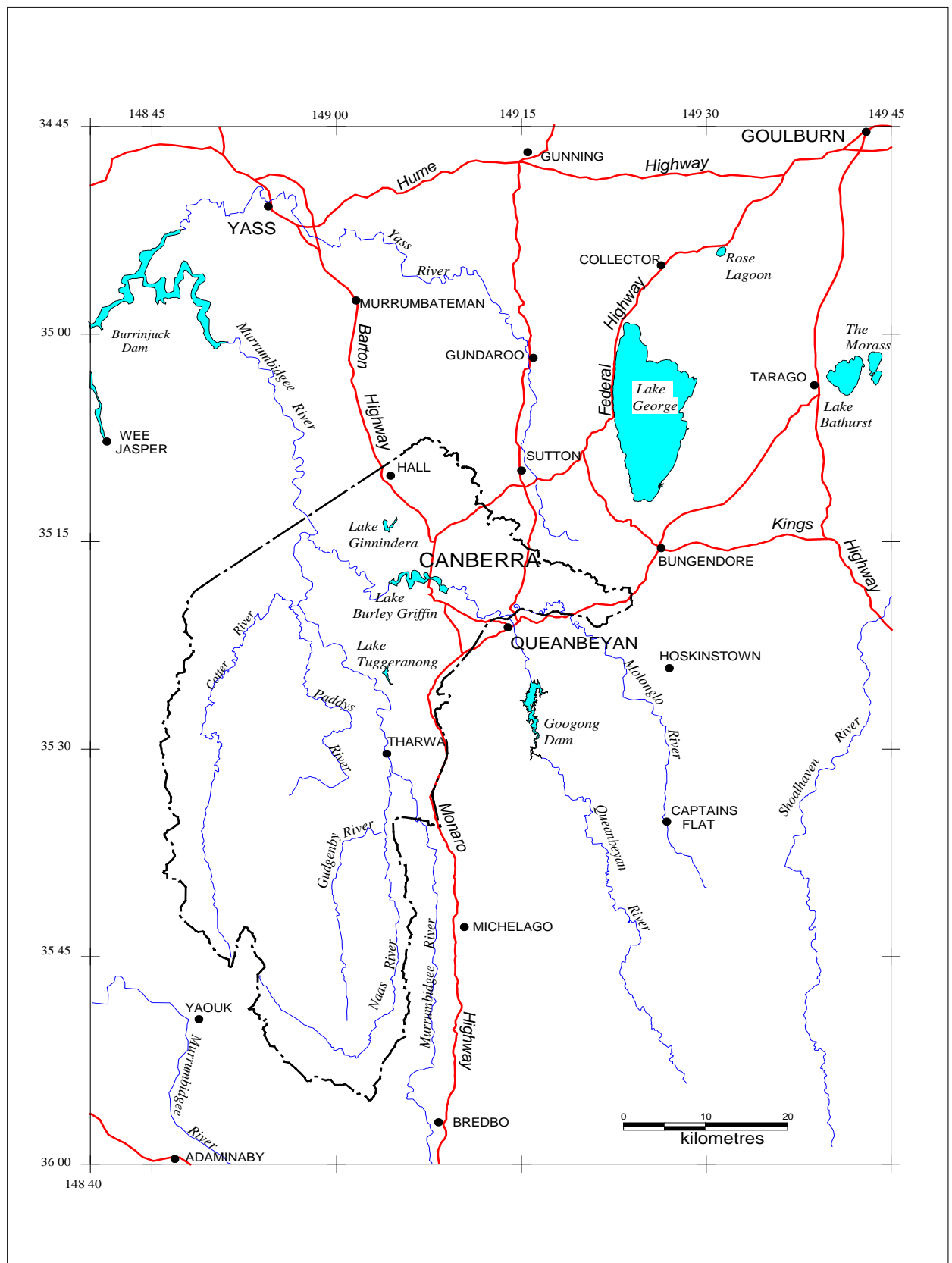
Final responsibility for any errors rests with the ABR editor, Paul Fennell.



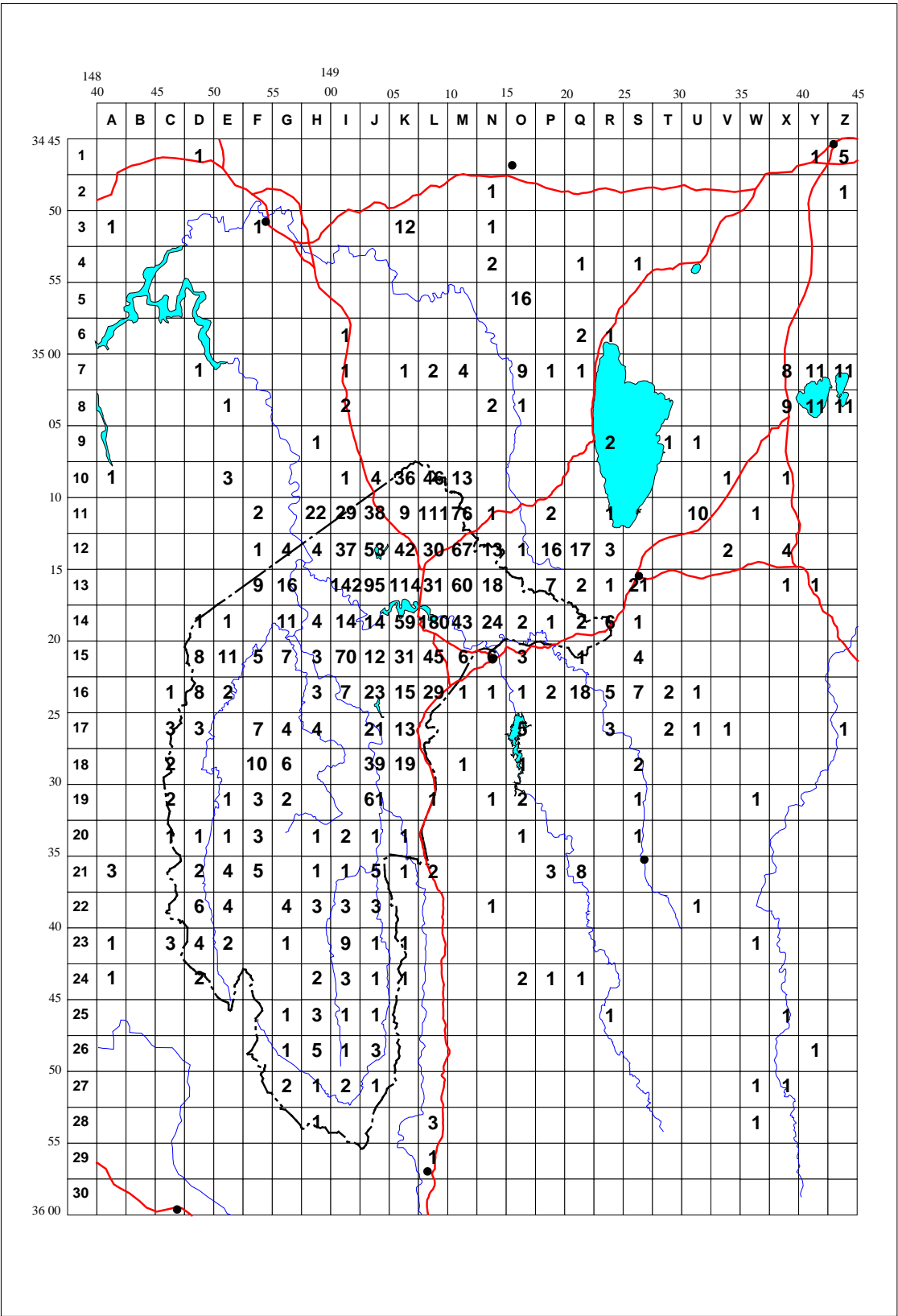
A Julian Robinson photograph of a Banded Lapwing in nest defence mode

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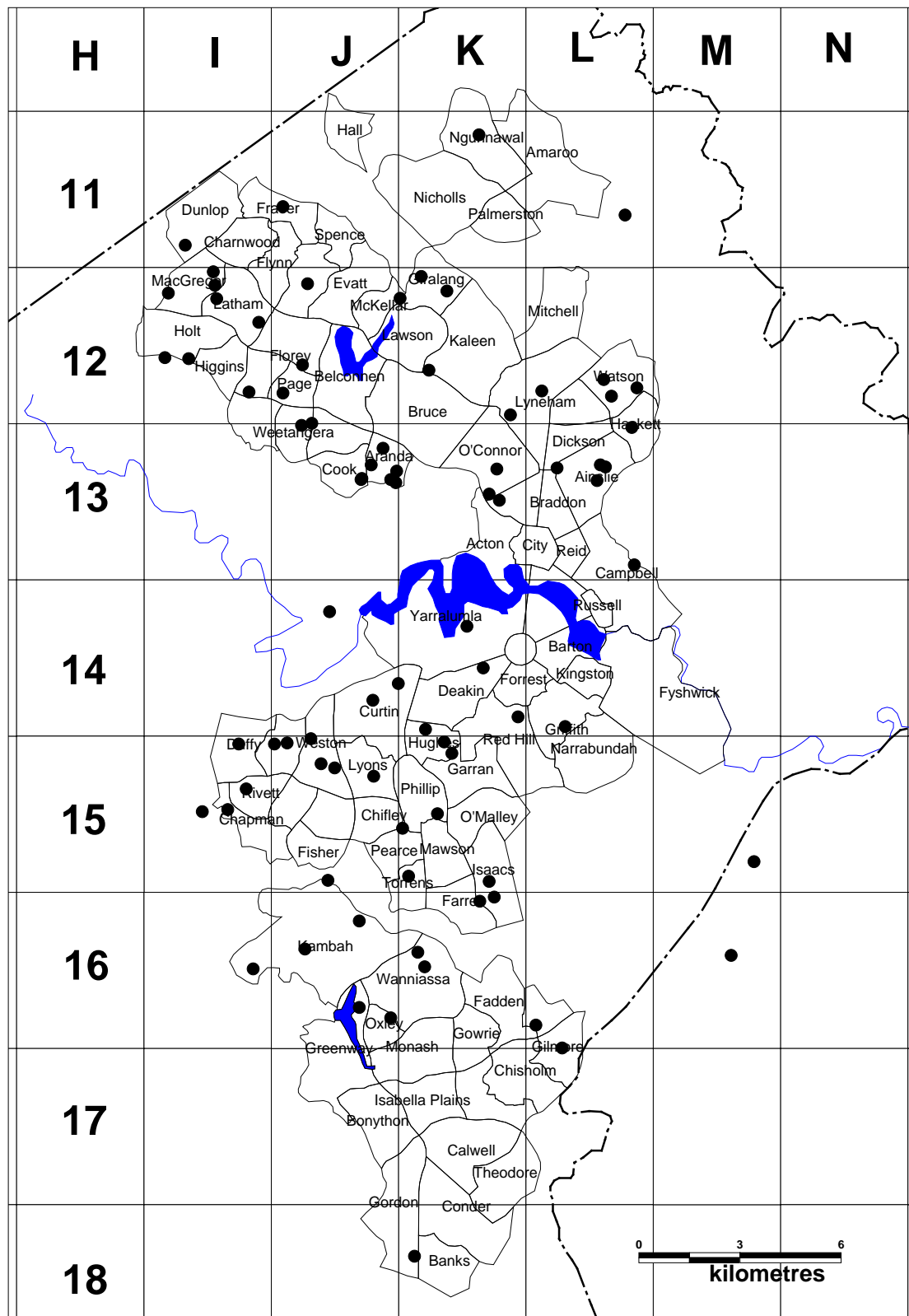
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MAP 1. THE CANBERRA REGION (COG'S AREA OF INTEREST)

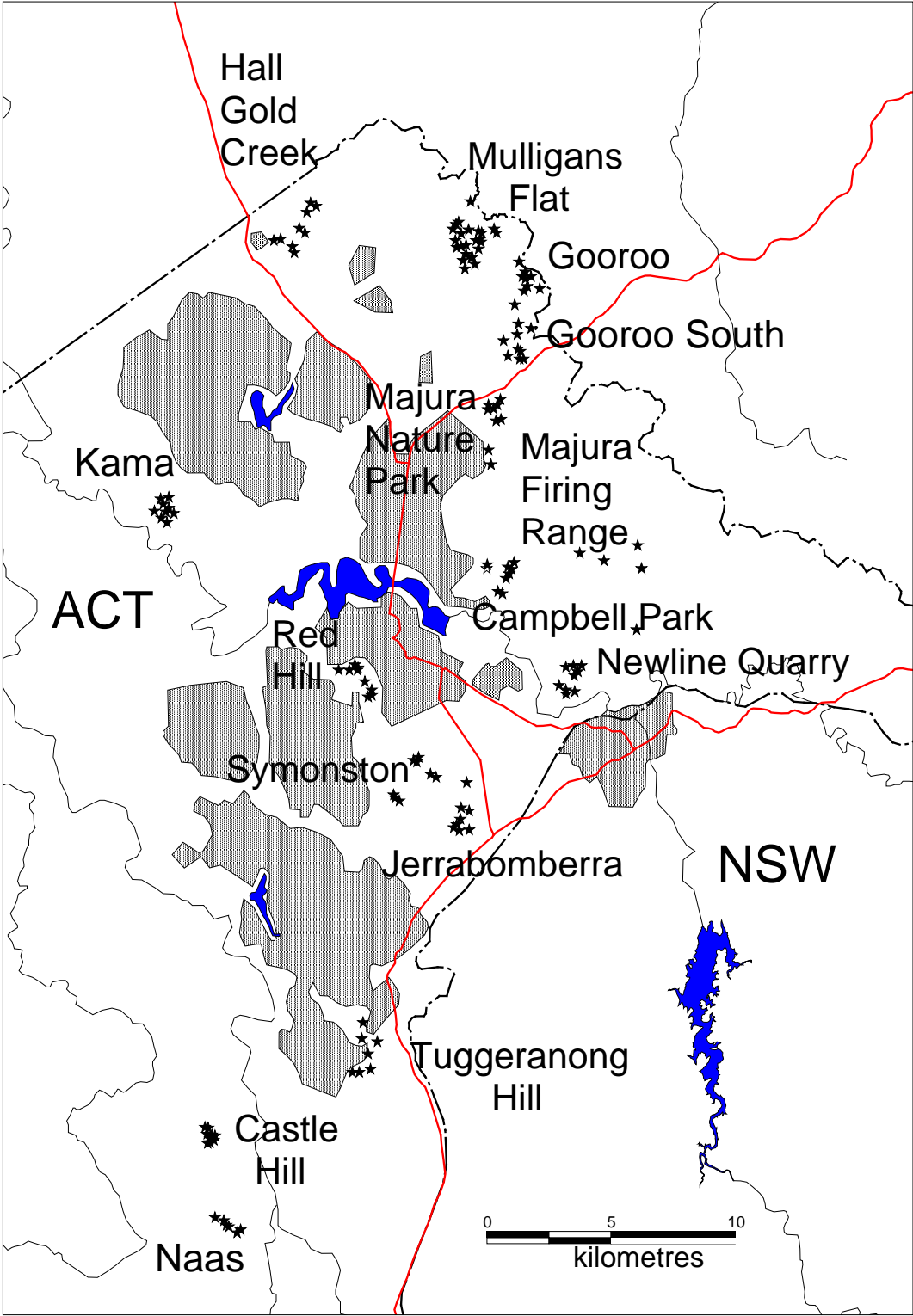
MAP 2: NUMBER OF RECORD SHEETS PER GRID CELL FOR 2009-10



MAP 3: LOCATION OF GARDEN BIRD SURVEY SITES FOR 2009-10

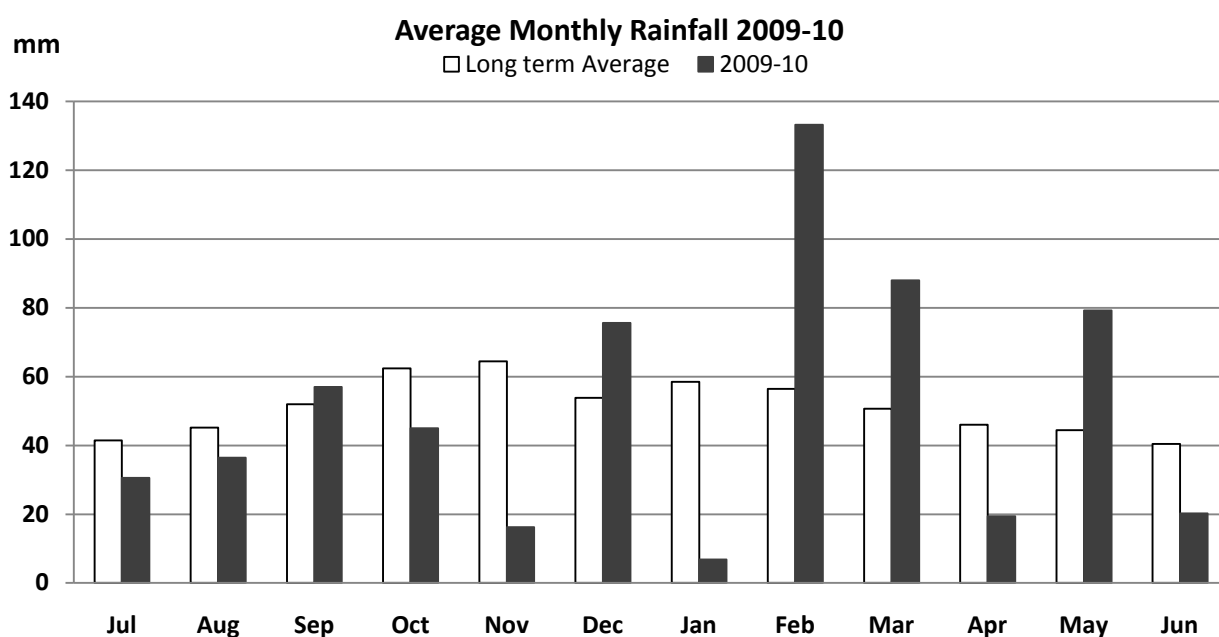
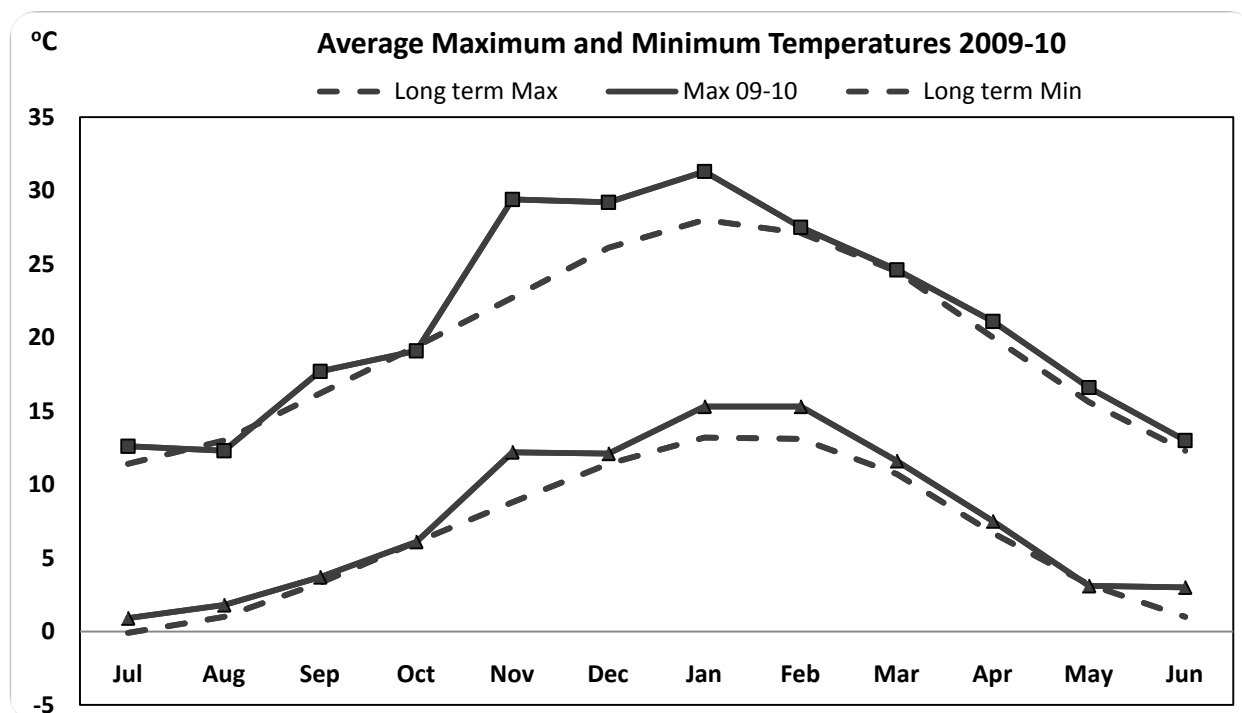


MAP 4 LOCATION OF WOODLAND SURVEY SITES FOR 2009-10



Appendix 1**2009-10 Weather Summary**

- A mild winter with above average temperatures, close to average rainfall and sunshine hours, and a lower number of frosts than usual
- A dry warm spring, with record high minimum temperatures and 5th warmest on record for maximum temperatures, and with only half (10) the number of frosts
- A warm summer, with the warmest night on record in January and with heavier than usual rains in December and February
- The wettest autumn for twenty years, and slightly above average temperatures.



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

The current list of unusually occurring or “rare” species for which there have been confirmed sightings within the last 35-40 years is now maintained on the COG Website (<http://canberrabirds.org.au/Unusuals.htm>). The list does not include species which have been classified purely as escapees. The COG standard Observation Form is obtainable from http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/Forms/COG_obs_form.pdf. It lists all species classified as “usual”, so if any species is observed that is not on that form, it is classified as “unusual”. All “unusual” species require endorsement by the COG Rarities Panel. The Panel would appreciate records of unusual species on the Unusual Bird Report form available from the COG website <http://www.canberrabirds.org.au/Unusuals.htm>.

Canberra Bird Notes

Canberra Bird Notes is published three times a year by the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc and is edited by Beth Mantle. Major articles of up to 5000 words are welcome on matters relating to the distribution, identification or behaviour of birds in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding region. Please discuss any proposed major contribution in advance. Shorter notes, book reviews and other contributions are also encouraged. All contributions should be sent to cbn@canberrabirds.org.au.

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

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