

# Westgate Park Bird Count

By: Andrew McCutcheon, Rob Youl and John McRae			Date: 2 June 2019
Weather: Overcast, light south-west wind.		Temp 13° C – 15° C	
Coverage: Entire survey route completed		Time start: 0845	Time finish: 1300
Species	Number seen	Species	Number seen
<i>Brown Quail</i>		<i>Galah</i>	
Black Swan	<b>1 + 2D</b>	<i>Little Corella</i>	
Australian Shelduck		<i>Sulphur-crested Cockatoo</i>	
Australian Wood Duck		<i>Rainbow Lorikeet</i>	<b>38 (*10)</b>
<b>Pink-eared Duck</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>Musk Lorikeet</i>	
Australasian Shoveler		<i>Little Lorikeet</i>	
Grey Teal	<b>8</b>	<i>Purple-crowned Lorikeet</i>	
Chestnut Teal	<b>18</b>	<i>Eastern Rosella</i>	
Pacific Black Duck	<b>6</b>	<i>Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo</i>	
Hardhead	<b>3</b>	<i>Fan-tailed Cuckoo</i>	
Australasian Grebe	<b>6</b>	<i>Sacred Kingfisher</i>	
Hoary-headed Grebe	<b>7</b>	<i>Superb Fairy-wren</i>	<b>60+ (1blue)</b>
<i>Rock Dove</i>	<b>1</b>	<i>White-browed Scrubwren</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Spotted Turtle-Dove</i>	<b>9</b>	<i>Brown Thornbill</i>	
<i>Crested Pigeon</i>	<b>15</b>	<i>Spotted Pardalote</i>	<b>15+</b>
Darter		<i>Striated Pardalote</i>	
Little Pied Cormorant 1	<b>*9</b>	<i>Yellow-faced Honeyeater</i>	
Great Cormorant	<b>*1</b>	<i>White-plumed Honeyeater</i>	<b>55+ (*1)</b>
Little Black Cormorant	<b>*10</b>	<i>Noisy Miner</i>	
Pied Cormorant		<b>Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater</b>	<b>4</b>
Australian Pelican	<b>*2</b>	<i>Little Wattlebird</i>	<b>4 (*2)</b>
White-necked Heron		<i>Red Wattlebird</i>	<b>40+ (*5)</b>
Eastern Great Egret		<i>New Holland Honeyeater</i>	<b>30+ (*1)</b>
Cattle Egret		<i>White-naped Honeyeater</i>	
White-faced Heron		<i>Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike</i>	
Nankeen Night-Heron		<i>White-winged Triller</i>	
Australian White Ibis		<i>Golden Whistler</i>	
Straw-necked Ibis		<i>Grey Shrike-thrush</i>	
Royal Spoonbill		<i>Grey Butcherbird</i>	<b>1</b>
Yellow-billed Spoonbill		<i>Australian Magpie</i>	<b>5</b>
Whistling Kite		<i>Pied Currawong</i>	
Little Eagle		<i>Rufous Fantail</i>	
<b>Brown Goshawk</b>	<b>1</b>	<i>Grey fantail</i>	
Nankeen Kestrel		<i>Willie Wagtail</i>	<b>9</b>
Brown Falcon		<i>Little Raven</i>	<b>7</b>
Australian Hobby		<i>Magpie-lark</i>	<b>14 (*2)</b>
Peregrine Falcon		<i>Flame Robin</i>	
Purple Swamphen	<b>5</b>	<i>Rose Robin</i>	
Buff-banded Rail		<i>Golden-headed Cisticola</i>	
Baillon's Crake		<i>Australian Reed-Warbler</i>	
Black-tailed Native-hen		<i>Little Grassbird</i>	

Dusky Moorhen	<b>32</b>	<i>Silvereye</i>	
Eurasian Coot	<b>96</b>	<i>Welcome Swallow</i>	<b>50+</b>
Black-winged Stilt		<i>Fairy Martin</i>	
Black-fronted Dotterel	<b>8</b>	<i>Common Blackbird</i>	<b>9</b>
Red-kneed Dotterel		<i>Common Starling</i>	<b>50+</b>
Masked Lapwing	<b>2</b>	<i>Common Myna</i>	<b>21</b>
Latham's Snipe		<i>Red-browed Finch</i>	
<i>Painted Button-quail</i>		<i>House Sparrow</i>	<b>15+</b>
Crested Tern	<b>*1</b>	<i>Australasian Pipit</i>	
Pacific Gull		<i>European Greenfinch</i>	
Silver Gull	<b>45 (*80)</b>	<i>European Goldfinch</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>Number of Bird Species</b> - Wetland dependent & Raptors.... <b>20</b> Land based .... <b>23</b> Total			<b>43 Species</b>
<b>Other animals:</b> Common Froglets in dam & wetlands near Friend's compound. One Common Brushtail Possum.			

\* Part of the number seen at/along Yarra River only.

Note: For species seen in large numbers, or for which accurate counting was difficult the number seen is rounded off to the nearest of tens or fives followed by a +.

D - Denotes dependent young plus number of separate broods.

Habitat: After recent rain the vegetation is recovering and appears to be providing good habitat for lots of birds with Superb Fairy-wrens and the usual honeyeater species present in good numbers.

Water quality in the Large Freshwater Lake appears to be very good and is providing habitat for most of the water birds recorded in today's count. The Southern Wetlands remain an exception, holding water of good quality at mid levels, but are not attracting many birds. The Saltwater Lake is now a deep brown with very little bird life on it, just three Black-fronted Dotterels.

Interesting/notable sightings:

- Higher than usual numbers of Spotted Pardalotes seen during today's survey.

<b>Opportunistic Sightings</b> – Interesting or unusual sightings reported between surveys			
Date	Species	Number seen	Observer
2 June	Red-kneed Dotterel	2	George Fotheringham
3 June	Pink-eared Duck	2	George Fotheringham
5 June	Eastern Great Egret	1	George Fotheringham
6 June	Musk Lorikeet	5	George Fotheringham
11 June	Nankeen Night-Heron	1	George Fotheringham
17 June	Little Eagle	1	George Fotheringham
17 June	White-faced Heron	1	George Fotheringham
22 June	Flame Robin	1	George Fotheringham