

CRRP BIRD SURVEYS – NOTES Nov 7, 2021

Time: 7:00 – 10:00am WST

Weather:

- Fine, mild, forecast 23 degrees

Walks: See maps for details (available from Pam if you wish).

- 1 Riverton Bridge to Bannister Creek (including area between Riverton and Shelley Bridges).
- 2 Kent Street Weir – Greenfield St Bridge Loop.
- 3 Kent St Rec area and Wilson Park Lake, including wetlands north-east of Castledare and Fern Road.
- 4 Lambertia Flats (east of Bannister Creek) and salt pan area.
- 5 Banksia Hill to Kent St Weir.
- 6 Masons Landing – Liege St Wetlands - Greenfield Street Bridge – Billabong – Nicholson Rd

NOTES:

- Special thanks again to everyone who turned up to offer their valuable assistance: 19 surveyors (8 members of BirdLife Western Australia, 12 Canning River VOLLIES and 2 others). It was much appreciated.
- The dedicated CRRPV team who provided morning tea, set up and cleaned up later did a sterling job once again. Thank you!
- Miriam's waterproof cards again proved their worth; each team issued with soft pencils (2B, 3B) they can be erased & cards reused.

Number of participants: A total of 22 people.

Overall species total this survey: 62 (61 in Nov 2020) (average for Nov surveys is 67.2; for April surveys 62.7; for all past 35 surveys is 65.0).

Total birds: 1394 (1611 in April 2020; 1289 in Nov 2019 – under dismal conditions).

New species added: 0

Species breeding (3):

- Pacific Black Duck – Route 1.
- Little Black Cormorant – Route 5, at junction of river channels.
- Kookaburra – Route 3, feeding young in hollow.

Species suggesting breeding (4):

Australasian Darter, White-faced Heron, Magpie-lark and Yellow-rumped Thornbill seen on /at nests but breeding not confirmed.

Of interest:

- **Crested Pigeon (7):** Known to have been in CRRP for some time but only other record on a survey was 6 in Apr 2021.
- **Straw-necked Ibis (40 flying overhead):** Route 3; rarely recorded.
- **Raptors:** Few recorded but nice to have Brown Goshawk, Australian Hobby and Collared Sparrowhawk this time. NB Not picked up (not on survey route), but the Sparrowhawk has a nest beside the car-park at Ferndale Flats.
- **White-browed Scrubwren (5):** Small numbers as usual; seen on Routes 3 & 6.
- **Little Grassbird (9):** About average; heard on Route 1 (several; Adenia Lagoon seems to be their current stronghold), also Routes 3, 4 & 6.

Higher numbers than usual:

- **Sacred Kingfisher (24):** Highest ever recorded (Usually 17-18 in Nov).

Lower numbers than usual:

- **Australasian Grebe (5 again):** Still hanging on in low numbers; 7, 6 & 5 recorded on previous 3 surveys; compare with April 2011 – 27 recorded.

- **Australasian Darter (12):** Still low numbers; usually 15-20, as high as 48; 21, 9 & 10 over previous 3 surveys.
- **Eurasian Coot (13):** Close to lowest ever recorded; the only lower records were when we first started counting birds, in 2007-8. NB Nov counts are usually lower with sometimes large numbers in April – eg 129, 150.
- **Rainbow Lorikeet (88):** Again low; 33 in Nov 2020. Numbers are usually 100-250 in Nov; April numbers are higher. Nectar supplies?
- **Australian Ringneck (3):** Numbers seem to have declined since 2016. 18 in April 2021; 0 in Nov 2020.
- **White-winged Triller (0):** Not recorded for the first time since 2017; usually occurs in very low numbers on Nov surveys.
- **Magpie-lark (9):** Lowest since 2013; usually 20-30.
- **Australian Reed-Warbler (2):** Low for Nov – usually around 10; a couple of peaks in 2017 & 2020.

Total species recorded on all surveys still stands at 108.