**CRRP SURVEYS – NOTES NOVEMBER 2015 SURVEY (25th survey)**

**Time:**

7:00 – 10:00am WST

**Weather:**

Fine, mild; overcast, humid. Forecast was for 25°C.

High tide.

**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:**

**Thanks;**

* To members of BirdLife Western Australia (especially Maris, who filled in at very short notice) and others, who again provided invaluable assistance.
* Also to CRRPV members who accompanied them, or helped provide morning tea, to set up and clear away.
* To Janelle for delivering a tiny duckling to wildlife carers after it was handed to one of the groups by a cyclist.

**Congratulations to Sian for completing her 25th survey (she’s helped on every one we’ve done!).**

**Her team’s total species this survey is also the highest ever recorded (54).** The only other surveys to crack 50 were Route 1, Nov ‘08 (50), Route 3, Nov ‘10 (51), Route 2, Nov ‘03 & Nov ‘07 (52) and Route 3, Nov ‘13 (53).

**Number of surveyors:** 20 (plus 3 CRRPV Members organised morning tea).

**Overall species total this survey:** 68(compared to overall average of 65.42 for previous surveys; 66.3 for Nov surveys only).

**Total birds:** 1708birds(1493 in Nov 2013, 1890 in Nov 2014, 2252 in April 2015).

**New species added** - nil.

**Species breeding**: 15. Another 2 species (Australasian Darter, Yellow-rumped Thornbill) listed as being at nests but breeding not confirmed.

**Of interest:**

* **Number of individual birds** seemed considerably lower (there were 544 less than in May 2015; 108 less than in Nov 2014) but was still higher than most Nov surveys; and the number of species was similar to most years.
* **Common Bronzewing (1)** – again recorded, Ferndale Flats area (near Banksia Hill).
* **Splendid Fairy-wren (6)** – recorded most often in Nov; this time **on routes 2, 3 and 6.**
* **White-winged Triller (5)** - again recorded.
* **Little Grassbird (10) –** again in relatively high numbers, and **on all routes except 5.**

**Other variations:**

**Lower than usual numbers:**

* **Waterbird species – apart from Pacific Black Duck and Grey Teal, most were low in numbers.**
* **Black Swan (1)** – unexpectedly low; the only lower record (0) was in Nov 2011.
* **Australian Shelduck (5)** – also surprising; the only lower records were Nov 2010 & Nov 2011.
* **Yellow-billed Spoonbill (0)** – first Nov survey since 2011 when not recorded at all
* **Hardhead (2)** – numbers gradually bult u and have dropped off again.
* **Blue-billed Duck (0)** – usually very low nos but not recorded on either of this year’s surveys.
* **Dusky Moorhen (18)** – second lowest record ever.

**Higher than usual numbers:**

* **Pacific Black Duck (141)** – second highest record.
* **Australian Pelican (32) – highest ever recorded.**
* **Galah (100) – much higher than usual.** Building up in numbers? Or more mobile so recorded more often?
* **Little Corella (53)** – also seems to be steadily building in numbers.
* **Red-capped Parrot (9)** – equal second highest record, though still low numbers.
* **Kookaburra (13) - highest ever recorded.**
* **Rufous Whistler (29)** – Second highest record.
* **Willie Wagtail (58) – highest Nov record, second highest ever.**
* **Raven (111) – highest ever,** though similar to numbers for the last two surveys.
* **Swallow (50)** – Equal second highest numbers.

Total species recorded on all surveys still stands at **108.**