

Bird Census at Lake Claremont

28 October 2024

Note from the census taker:

The morning the bird census was conducted at Lake Claremont was mild, becoming warm and mostly clear.

There was standing water in all parts of the lake, although at a lesser depth than normally seen at this time of the year. The gauge at the jetty registered about 1.35m AHD (Australian Height Datum) - see photo below.

We recorded 394 individuals of 38 species, somewhat fewer individuals than the average for our spring surveys. Breeding activity was noted for Pacific Black Ducks, Black Swan, Coot, Raven and Welcome Swallow. It is worth noting that earlier this month, whilst guiding a Birdlife WA walk, we saw a Musk Duck with young. We do not recall previously seeing this species breeding at our lake.

One unusual sighting was a Cattle Egret. There is no prior record of this species here on the Birddata database.

The below spreadsheet also shows the average numbers recorded in our previous twenty-three spring surveys.



Lake Claremont Bird Census		Spring 2024	Spring average
Common Name	Scientific Name	28/10/2024	
Blue-billed Duck	Oxyura australis		4.4
Pink-eared Duck	Malacorhynchus membranaceus	16	26.1
Black Swan	Cygnus atratus	9	13.7
Australian Shelduck	Tadorna tadornoides	3	6.0
Hardhead	Aythya australis	1	7.5
Australasian Shoveler	Spatula rhynchotis	2	3.0
Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa	57	91.4
Domestic Duck (Mallard) *			0.1
Grey Teal	Anas gracilis	21	33.7
Chestnut Teal	Anas castanea		0.1
Freckled Duck	Stictonetta naevosa		0.1
Musk Duck	Biziura lobata		0.1
Australian Wood Duck	Chenonetta jubata	12	3.8
Australasian Grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae		6.7
Hoary-headed Grebe	Poliiocephalus poliocephalus		1.7
Rock Dove *	Columba livia *		0.1
Spotted Dove *	Streptopelia chinensis *	4	3.0
Laughing Dove *	Streptopelia senegalensis *		1.9
Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes		0.0
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo	Chalcites basalis		0.0
Pallid Cuckoo	Heteroscenes pallidus		0.0
Southern Boobook	Ninox novaeseelandiae	1	0.1
Tawny Frogmouth	Podargus strigoides		0.0
Buff-banded Rail	Hypotaenidia philippensis		0.1
Australian Spotted Crake	Porzana fluminea		0.2
Baillon's Crake	Zapornia pusilla		0.0
Spotless Crake	Zapornia tabuensis		0.0
Purple Swamphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	13	16.1
Dusky Moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa		4.7
Black-tailed Native-hen	Tribonyx ventralis		0.3
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	85	84.4
Red-necked Avocet	Recurvirostra novaehollandiae		0.0
Pied (Black-winged) Stilt	Himantopus leucocephalus	19	26.8
Banded Stilt	Cladorhynchus leucocephalus		0.0
Black-fronted Dotterel	Euseyonis melanops		0.4
Red-kneed Dotterel	Erythrogonys cinctus		0.0
Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles		0.0
Terek Sandpiper	Xenus cinereus		0.0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Calidris acuminata		0.0
Long-toed Stint	Calidris subminuta		0.0
Red-necked Stint	Calidris ruficollis		0.0
Pectoral Sandpiper	Calidris melanotos		0.0
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos		0.0
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia		0.0
Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis		0.0
Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola		0.0
Silver Gull	Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae	1	17.6
Pacific Gull	Larus pacificus		0.0
Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia		0.0
Australian Pelican	Pelecanus conspicillatus		0.0
Australian Little Bittern	Ixobrychus dubius		0.0
Nankeen Night-Heron	Nycticorax caledonicus	3	2.3
White-necked Heron	Ardea pacifica		0.3
Great Egret	Ardea alba		0.7
Cattle Egret *	Ardea ibis	1	
White-faced Heron	Egretta novaehollandiae		2.0
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis moluccus	15	4.5
Straw-necked Ibis	Threskiornis spinicollis		1.5

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Common Name	Scientific Name	28/10/2024	
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	Platalea flavipes		0.0
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus		0.0
Little Pied Cormorant	Microcarbo melanoleucos	2	1.0
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		0.1
Little Black Cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris		0.0
Pied Cormorant	Phalacrocorax varius		0.0
Australasian Darter	Anhinga novaehollandiae		0.0
Eastern Osprey	Pandion cristatus		0.0
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus axillaris		0.0
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus		0.0
Swamp Harrier	Circus approximans		0.0
Brown Goshawk	Accipiter fasciatus	1	0.1
Collared Sparrowhawk	Accipiter cirrocephalus		0.0
Nankeen Kestrel	Falco cenchroides		0.0
Australian Hobby	Falco longipennis		0.2
Rainbow Bee-eater	Merops ornatus		0.1
Sacred Kingfisher	Todiramphus sanctus		0.1
Laughing Kookaburra *	Dacelo novaeguineae *	1	1.1
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus banksii	9	1.3
Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo	Zanda latirostris		0.0
Galah	Eolophus roseicapilla	7	5.2
Long-billed Corella *	Cacatua tenuirostris *		0.0
Little Corella	Cacatua sanguinea	8	13.3
Australian Ringneck	Barnardius zonarius		3.2
Rainbow Lorikeet *	Trichoglossus moluccanus *		18.8
Purple-backed Fairy-wren	Malurus assimilis		0.1
Splendid Fairy-wren	Malurus splendens		0.0
Brown Honeyeater	Lichmera indistincta	18	8.2
New Holland Honeyeater	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae		0.5
White-cheeked Honeyeater	Phylidonyris niger		0.1
Western Spinebill	Acanthorhynchus superciliosus		0.0
White-fronted Chat	Epthianura albifrons		0.0
Red Wattlebird	Anthochaera carunculata	4	22.8
Western Wattlebird	Anthochaera lunulata		0.0
Singing Honeyeater	Gavicalis virescens	5	5.7
Spotted Pardalote	Pardalotus punctatus		0.0
Striated Pardalote	Pardalotus striatus		0.7
Western Gerygone	Gerygone fusca	4	1.1
Weebill	Smicronis brevirostris		0.2
Spotted Scrubwren	Sericornis maculatus		0.1
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa		0.0
Inland Thornbill	Acanthiza apicalis		0.0
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae		0.5
Rufous Whistler	Pachycephala rufiventris	6	0.5
Australian Magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen	8	8.5
Grey Butcherbird	Cracticus torquatus	4	1.6
Willie Wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys	9	13.1
Grey Fantail	Rhipidura fuliginosa	1	0.4
Australian Raven	Corvus coronoides	20	14.7

Lake Claremont Bird Census		Spring 2024	Spring average
Common Name	Scientific Name	28/10/2024	
Magpie-lark	Grallina cyanoleuca	4	9.2
Little Grassbird	Poodytes gramineus	3	3.4
Brown Songlark	Cinclorampus cruralis		0.0
Australian Reed-Warbler	Acrocephalus australis	2	5.7
Tree Martin	Petrochelidon nigricans		5.0
Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena	5	12.3
Silvereye	Zosterops lateralis	10	2.2
Species		38.0	37.0
Individuals		394.0	526.3

Recorded by David and Pam Free

* = introduced species