

Bird Census at Lake Claremont

6 August 2026

Note from the census taker:

The morning the bird census was conducted at Lake Claremont was cool, partly cloudy and still.

Winter rainfall has been poor; the gauge by the jetty showed only approximately 0.65m Australian Height Datum – see photo below.

We recorded 381 individuals of 42 species. Whilst the individual number is close to our average, the number of species is well above the winter average of 34.9. Breeding activity was noted only for Black Swan and Coot. Three clutches of recently hatched swans were seen, and several more are being incubated.

The spreadsheet below shows the average numbers recorded in our previous twenty-five winter surveys. Black Duck, Grey Teal and Coot numbers were below average. Brown and Singing Honeyeaters and Willie Wagtails were more abundant than normal.



Lake Claremont Bird Census		Winter 2026	Winter average
Common Name	Scientific Name	06/08/2026	
Blue-billed Duck	Oxyura australis		1.8
Pink-eared Duck	Malacorhynchus membranaceus	7	14.4
Black Swan	Cygnus atratus	39	16.4
Australian Shelduck	Tadorna tadornoides	4	5.5
Hardhead	Aythya australis		5.0
Australasian Shoveler	Spatula rhynchotis	6	7.3
Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa	8	33.5
Domestic Duck (Mallard) *			0.0
Grey Teal	Anas gracilis	5	19.6
Chestnut Teal	Anas castanea		0.0
Freckled Duck	Stictonetta naevosa		0.0
Musk Duck	Biziura lobata	1	0.2
Australian Wood Duck	Chenonetta jubata	4	2.9
Australasian Grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae	4	5.0
Hoary-headed Grebe	Poliiocephalus poliocephalus	5	0.8
Rock Dove *	Columba livia *		0.0
Spotted Dove *	Streptopelia chinensis *	2	2.5
Laughing Dove *	Streptopelia senegalensis *		0.7
Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes		0.0
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo	Chalcites basalus		0.0
Pallid Cuckoo	Heteroscenes pallidus		0.1
Southern Boobook	Ninox novaeseelandiae		0.2
Tawny Frogmouth	Podargus strigoides		0.0
Buff-banded Rail	Hypotaenidia philippensis		0.1
Australian Spotted Crake	Porzana fluminea		0.0
Baillon's Crake	Zapornia pusilla		0.0
Spotless Crake	Zapornia tabuensis		0.0
Purple Swampphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	15	14.3
Dusky Moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa	4	2.7
Black-tailed Native-hen	Tribonyx ventralis		0.0
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	41	63.6
Red-necked Avocet	Recurvirostra novaehollandiae		0.6
Pied (Black-winged) Stilt	Himantopus leucocephalus	1	10.8
Banded Stilt	Cladorhynchus leucocephalus		0.0
Black-fronted Dotterel	Euseyonis melanops		0.2
Red-kneed Dotterel	Erythronyx cinctus		0.0
Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles		0.1
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	13	14.5
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		0.3
White-necked Heron	Ardea pacifica		0.0
Great Egret	Ardea alba	1	0.2
Cattle Egret	Ardea ibis		0.0

Lake Claremont Bird Census		Winter 2026	Winter average
Common Name	Scientific Name	06/08/2026	
White-faced Heron	Egretta novaehollandiae	2	1.7
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis moluccus	3	4.0
Straw-necked Ibis	Threskiornis spinicollis		0.5
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	Platalea flavipes		0.0
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus		0.0
Little Pied Cormorant	Microcarbo melanoleucos	1	0.1
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		0.0
Little Black Cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris		0.0
Pied Cormorant	Phalacrocorax varius		0.0
Australasian Darter	Anhinga novaehollandiae		0.1
Eastern Osprey	Pandion cristatus		0.0
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus axillaris		0.1
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus		0.0
Swamp Harrier	Circus approximans		0.0
Brown Goshawk	Accipiter fasciatus	2	0.1
Collared Sparrowhawk	Accipiter cirrocephalus		0.1
Nankeen Kestrel	Falco cenchroides		0.0
Australian Hobby	Falco longipennis		0.1
Rainbow Bee-eater	Merops ornatus		0.0
Sacred Kingfisher	Todiramphus sanctus		0.0
Laughing Kookaburra *	Dacelo novaeguineae *	5	2.3
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus banksii		0.4
Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo	Zanda latirostris		1.1
Galah	Eolophus roseicapilla	4	6.1
Long-billed Corella *	Cacatua tenuirostris *		0.0
Little Corella	Cacatua sanguinea	5	8.5
Australian Ringneck	Barnardius zonarius		5.4
Rainbow Lorikeet *	Trichoglossus moluccanus *	34	25.0
Purple-backed Fairy-wren	Malurus assimilis		0.5
Splendid Fairy-wren	Malurus splendens		0.0
Brown Honeyeater	Lichmera indistincta	19	9.4
New Holland Honeyeater	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae	5	1.9
White-cheeked Honeyeater	Phylidonyris niger		0.6
Western Spinebill	Acanthorhynchus superciliosus		0.0
White-fronted Chat	Epthianura albifrons		0.0
Red Wattlebird	Anthochaera carunculata	21	23.6
Western Wattlebird	Anthochaera lunulata		0.0
Singing Honeyeater	Gavicalis virescens	12	4.9
Spotted Pardalote	Pardalotus punctatus		0.1
Striated Pardalote	Pardalotus striatus		0.2
Western Gerygone	Gerygone fusca	8	1.0
Weebill	Smicronis brevirostris		0.5
Spotted Scrubwren	Sericornis maculatus	1	0.1
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa		0.0
Inland Thornbill	Acanthiza apicalis		0.0
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae	1	0.6
Rufous Whistler	Pachycephala rufiventris		0.2
Australian Magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen	7	10.1
Grey Butcherbird	Cracticus torquatus	2	1.8
Willie Wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys	21	11.4
Grey Fantail	Rhipidura fuliginosa	4	1.0
Australian Raven	Corvus coronoides	11	12.6
Magpie-lark	Grallina cyanoleuca	4	6.2
Little Grassbird	Poodytes gramineus		2.2
Brown Songlark	Cinclorampus cruralis		0.0

Lake Claremont Bird Census		Winter 2026	Winter average
Common Name	Scientific Name	06/08/2026	
Australian Reed-Warbler	Acrocephalus australis	2	2.5
Tree Martin	Petrochelidon nigricans	3	10.3
Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena	15	20.3
Silvereye	Zosterops lateralis	29	6.6
Species		42	34.9
Individuals		381	405.6

Recorded by David and Sacha Free