

Bird Census at Lake Claremont

13 January 2025

Note from the census taker:

The morning the bird census was conducted at Lake Claremont was warm and sunny.

The lake is drying fast. There is shallow water in the southern section, but the northern area is already dry. The water gauge shows about 1m AHD (see below photo). The bushland is very dry.

We observed 348 individuals of 32 species. The number of individuals is well below average, but the species recorded was slightly higher than our summer average.

Worth noting was our sighting of a single Crested Pigeon. This is the first time we have seen this species in our surveys and there are only two previous records on Birdata.

We were delighted to see a juvenile Cuckoo-shrike being fed by a parent. This is our first breeding record for the lake. We also saw a family of five Southern Boobook owls.

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



Lake Claremont Bird Census		Summer 2025	Summer average
Common Name	Scientific Name	13/01/2025	
Blue-billed Duck	Oxyura australis		0.3
Pink-eared Duck	Malacorhynchus membranaceus		6.4
Black Swan	Cygnus atratus	5	6.3
Australian Shelduck	Tadorna tadornoides		4.7
Hardhead	Aythya australis		1.3
Australasian Shoveler	Spatula rhynchotis		1.7
Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa	35	80.0
Domestic Duck (Mallard) *			0.0
Grey Teal	Anas gracilis	85	34.7
Chestnut Teal	Anas castanea		0.1
Freckled Duck	Stictonetta naevosa		0.0
Musk Duck	Biziura lobata		0.0
Australian Wood Duck	Chenonetta jubata		6.1
Australasian Grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae		4.2
Hoary-headed Grebe	Poliiocephalus poliocephalus		0.5
Rock Dove *	Columba livia *		0.0
Spotted Dove *	Streptopelia chinensis *	3	3.1
Laughing Dove *	Streptopelia senegalensis *		1.3
Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes	1	0.0
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo	Chalcites basalis		0.0
Pallid Cuckoo	Heteroscenes pallidus		0.0
Southern Boobook	Ninox novaeseelandiae	5	0.0
Tawny Frogmouth	Podargus strigoides		0.0
Buff-banded Rail	Hypotaenidia philippensis		0.5
Australian Spotted Crake	Porzana fluminea		0.4
Baillon's Crake	Zapornia pusilla		0.0
Spotless Crake	Zapornia tabuensis		0.0
Purple Swamphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	21	18.0
Dusky Moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa		2.5
Black-tailed Native-hen	Tribonyx ventralis		0.0
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	7	38.0
Red-necked Avocet	Recurvirostra novaehollandiae	1	4.1
Pied (Black-winged) Stilt	Himantopus leucocephalus	6	34.0
Banded Stilt	Cladorhynchus leucocephalus		0.0
Black-fronted Dotterel	Elsemyornis melanops		0.8
Red-kneed Dotterel	Erythronyx cinctus	2	1.9
Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles		0.0
Terek Sandpiper	Xenus cinereus		0.0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Calidris acuminata		0.1
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	3	27.0
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		0.1
White-necked Heron	Ardea pacifica		0.1
Great Egret	Ardea alba		0.2
Cattle Egret *	Ardea ibis		0.0
White-faced Heron	Egretta novaehollandiae		1.8
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis moluccus	6	3.1
Straw-necked Ibis	Threskiornis spinicollis	1	5.3
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	Platalea flavipes		0.1
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus		0.0
Little Pied Cormorant	Microcarbo melanoleucos		1.7
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		0.0
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		0.3
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus		0.1
Swamp Harrier	Circus approximans		0.0

Lake Claremont Bird Census		Summer 2025	Summer average
Common Name	Scientific Name	13/01/2025	
Brown Goshawk	<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>		0.2
Collared Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>		0.0
Nankeen Kestrel	<i>Falco cenchroides</i>		0.0
Australian Hobby	<i>Falco longipennis</i>		0.0
Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>		0.0
Sacred Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>	1	0.4
Laughing Kookaburra *	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i> *		1.7
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii</i>		0.9
Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo	<i>Zanda latirostris</i>		0.4
Galah	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	11	5.5
Long-billed Corella *	<i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i> *		1.3
Little Corella	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	44	25.1
Australian Ringneck	<i>Barnardius zonarius</i>		2.3
Rainbow Lorikeet *	<i>Trichoglossus moluccanus</i> *	10	22.2
Purple-backed Fairy-wren	<i>Malurus assimilis</i>	3	0.0
Splendid Fairy-wren	<i>Malurus splendens</i>		0.0
Brown Honeyeater	<i>Lichmera indistincta</i>		1.4
New Holland Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>		0.4
White-cheeked Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris niger</i>		1.0
Western Spinebill	<i>Acanthorhynchus superciliosus</i>		0.1
White-fronted Chat	<i>Ephianura albifrons</i>		0.0
Red Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	2	15.1
Western Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera lunulata</i>		0.0
Singing Honeyeater	<i>Gavicalis virescens</i>	8	5.7
Spotted Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>		0.0
Striated Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>		0.3
Western Gerygone	<i>Gerygone fusca</i>	2	0.8
Weebill	<i>Smicronis brevirostris</i>		1.2
Spotted Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis maculatus</i>		0.0
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>		0.0
Inland Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza apicalis</i>		0.0
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	4	0.7
Rufous Whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	1	0.0
Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	16	12.5
Grey Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	1	1.6
Willie Wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	9	16.5
Grey Fantail	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>	3	0.4
Australian Raven	<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	13	16.0
Magpie-lark	<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	2	9.5
Little Grassbird	<i>Poodytes gramineus</i>		0.6
Brown Songlark	<i>Cinclorampus cruralis</i>		0.0
Australian Reed-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus australis</i>		2.1
Tree Martin	<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>		7.1
Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	12	14.1
Silvereye	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	25	11.6
Species		32	30.1
Individuals		348	469.8

Recorded by David and Pam Free

* = introduced species