

Bird Census at Lake Claremont

31 October 2025

Note from the census taker:

The morning the bird census was conducted at Lake Claremont was warm and mostly clear with a variable breeze. The water level was as high as we have seen at this time of the year, above the 2m AHD (Australian Height Datum) mark (see below photo).

We recorded 387 individuals of 37 species. This is our average number of species but fewer individuals than the average for our spring surveys. Waterfowl numbers were mostly below average. Surprisingly Grey Teal, normally abundant in spring, were not seen. Breeding activity was noted for Pacific Black Ducks, Black Swan, Coot, Red Wattlebird, Raven and Welcome Swallow. A highlight was the Swamp Harrier, which sometimes visits at this time of the year, searching for easy prey amongst the juvenile waterfowl.

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



Lake Claremont Bird Census		Spring 2025	Spring average
Common Name	Scientific Name	31/10/25	
Australasian Darter	Anhinga novaehollandiae		0.0
Australasian Grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae		6.5
Australasian Shoveler	Spatula rhynchotis		3.0
Australian Hobby	Falco longipennis		0.2
Australian Little Bittern	Ixobrychus dubius		0.0
Australian Magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen	7	8.5
Australian Pelican	Pelecanus conspicillatus		0.0
Australian Raven	Corvus coronoides	32	14.9
Australian Reed-Warbler	Acrocephalus australis		5.5
Australian Ringneck	Barnardius zonarius	1	3.1
Australian Shelduck	Tadorna tadornoides	2	5.8
Australian Spotted Crake	Porzana fluminea		0.2
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis moluccus	5	4.9
Australian Wood Duck	Chenonetta jubata	26	4.2
Baillon's Crake	Zapornia pusilla		0.0
Banded Stilt	Cladorhynchus leucocephalus		0.0
Black Swan	Cygnus atratus	15	13.5
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae		0.5
Black-fronted Dotterel	Elseya melanops		0.4
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus axillaris		0.0
Black-tailed Native-hen	Tribonyx ventralis		0.3
Blue-billed Duck	Oxyura australis	2	4.3
Brown Goshawk	Accipiter fasciatus		0.1
Brown Honeyeater	Lichmera indistincta	23	8.6
Brown Songlark	Cincloramphus cruralis		0.0
Buff-banded Rail	Hypotaenidia philippensis		0.1
Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo	Zanda latirostris		0.0
Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia		0.0
Cattle Egret	Ardea ibis		0.0
Chestnut Teal	Anas castanea		0.1
Collared Sparrowhawk	Accipiter cirrocephalus		0.0
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia		0.0
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos		0.0
Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes		0.0
Domestic Duck (Mallard) *			0.1
Dusky Moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa		4.5
Eastern Osprey	Pandion cristatus		0.0
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	62	84.5
Freckled Duck	Stictonetta naevosa		0.1
Galah	Eolophus roseicapilla	3	5.3
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus		0.0
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		0.1
Great Egret	Ardea alba		0.6
Grey Butcherbird	Cracticus torquatus	1	1.7
Grey Fantail	Rhipidura fuliginosa	5	0.4
Grey Teal	Anas gracilis		33.1
Hardhead	Aythya australis	2	7.2
Hoary-headed Grebe	Poliiocephalus poliocephalus		1.6
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo	Chalcites basalus		0.0
Inland Thornbill	Acanthiza apicalis		0.0
Laughing Dove *	Streptopelia senegalensis *		1.8
Laughing Kookaburra *	Dacelo novaeguineae *	2	1.1
Little Black Cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris		0.0
Little Corella	Cacatua sanguinea	38	13.1
Little Grassbird	Poodytes gramineus	2	3.4

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Common Name	Scientific Name	31/10/25	
Little Pied Cormorant	Microcarbo melanoleucos	3	1.1
Long-billed Corella *	Cacatua tenuirostris *		0.0
Long-toed Stint	Calidris subminuta		0.0
Magpie-lark	Grallina cyanoleuca	4	9.0
Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis		0.0
Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles		0.0
Musk Duck	Biziura lobata	2	0.1
Nankeen Kestrel	Falco cenchroides		0.0
Nankeen Night-Heron	Nycticorax caledonicus	2	2.3
New Holland Honeyeater	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae		0.5
Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa	37	90.0
Pacific Gull	Larus pacificus		0.0
Pallid Cuckoo	Heteroscenes pallidus		0.0
Pectoral Sandpiper	Calidris melanotos		0.0
Pied (Black-winged) Stilt	Himantopus leucocephalus		26.5
Pied Cormorant	Phalacrocorax varius		0.0
Pink-eared Duck	Malacorhynchus membranaceus	1	25.7
Purple Swampphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	23	16.0
Purple-backed Fairy-wren	Malurus assimilis	6	0.1
Rainbow Bee-eater	Merops ornatus		0.1
Rainbow Lorikeet *	Trichoglossus moluccanus *	3	18.0
Red Wattlebird	Anthochaera carunculata	28	22.0
Red-kneed Dotterel	Erythronyx cinctus		0.0
Red-necked Avocet	Recurvirostra novaehollandiae		0.0
Red-necked Stint	Calidris ruficollis		0.0
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus banksii		1.6
Rock Dove *	Columba livia *		0.1
Rufous Whistler	Pachycephala rufiventris	5	0.7
Sacred Kingfisher	Todiramphus sanctus		0.1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Calidris acuminata		0.0
Silver Gull	Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae	1	16.9
Silvereye	Zosterops lateralis	12	2.5
Singing Honeyeater	Gavicalis virescens	5	5.7
Southern Boobook	Ninox novaeseelandiae	1	0.1
Splendid Fairy-wren	Malurus splendens		0.0
Spotless Crake	Zapornia tabuensis		0.0
Spotted Dove *	Streptopelia chinensis *	2	3.0
Spotted Pardalote	Pardalotus punctatus		0.0
Spotted Scrubwren	Sericornis maculatus		0.1
Straw-necked Ibis	Threskiornis spinicollis		1.4
Striated Pardalote	Pardalotus striatus		0.7
Swamp Harrier	Circus approximans	1	0.0
Tawny Frogmouth	Podargus strigoides		0.0
Terek Sandpiper	Xenus cinereus		0.0
Tree Martin	Petrochelidon nigricans		4.8
Weebill	Smicronis brevirostris		0.2
Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena	5	12.0
Western Gerygone	Gerygone fusca	5	1.2
Western Spinebill	Acanthorhynchus superciliosus		0.0
Western Wattlebird	Anthochaera lunulata		0.0
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus		0.0
White-cheeked Honeyeater	Phylidonyris niger		0.1
White-faced Heron	Egretta novaehollandiae		1.9
White-fronted Chat	Epthianura albifrons		0.0
White-necked Heron	Ardea pacifica		0.3

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Common Name	Scientific Name	31/10/25	
Willie Wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys	13	12.9
Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola		0.0
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	Platalea flavipes		0.0
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa		0.0
Species		37	37.1
Individuals		387	520.8

Recorded by David and Sacha Free

* = introduced species