



Googong Foreshores bird list 2014



Googong Foreshores—a great place for birdwatching

Over 165 bird species have been recorded at Googong making it an ideal place for observing birds. Waterbirds such as coots, spoonbills, ducks and swans congregate around the shores of the main dam and Tin Hut Dam. A variety of habitats, from grasslands to forests also attract many terrestrial birds. Googong is home to birds that are uncommon in the Canberra region including the brown treecreeper, hooded robin and diamond firetail.

Some birdwatching sites at Googong Foreshores

Tin Hut Dam—stroll around Tin Hut Dam on the bird walk and use the bird screens to view natural bird behaviour.

Northern end

The boat ramp and just above the upper Foreshores car park are great places to see the diamond firetail and hooded robin.

Near the turnoff to the boat ramp (near the lookout), the road goes up a short steep incline past some remnant woodland where birds can be seen.

The Downstream Picnic Area. Water and terrestrial birds congregate here. From the Black Wallaby Track, you may see the uncommon Speckled Warbler.



Identifying bird species

- A good field guide and binoculars (magnification 10 x) are a must.
- Observe the bird's size, basic shape, any characteristic markings and behaviour.
- Listen for calls and become familiar with individual calls. Birds are often heard but can be difficult to see.
- Identify the bird in the field guide, then see if it is listed here.
- Check the distribution of the bird.
- Does the bird's behaviour match the description of the bird e.g. some birds display characteristic flight movements, others feed in a particular way?
- Is the bird in the correct habitat?
- Are there any similar species?
- Is it the right time of year for the bird to be here? Some species migrate seasonally from region to region (such as the honeyeaters) or internationally (such as Latham's snipe).
- Is the bird a female or juvenile representative of an already identified adult male bird?

Birdwatching techniques

- Early in the morning and dusk are the best times for birdwatching.
- To locate birds, listen for their calls and look for movement in the vegetation.
- Move slowly and keep noise down.
- Keep the sun behind you to better observe the colour of the bird.
- Look for birds where two different habitats meet (ecotone) e.g. where the land meets the water; where a forest meets a clearing; or an isolated stand of trees in paddock.

Key

Column 1 – Habitat

G: Grasslands

S: Savannah Woodland. Grassland with a eucalypt tree overstorey with canopies generally not touching or overlapping

D: Dry sclerophyll forest. Eucalypt forest on drier sites with canopies generally touching or overlapping

M: Marshy, moist areas. Reeds and scrubby creek banks

L: Lagoons or dams and their banks

Column 2 – Abundance

C: Common

U: Uncommon

V: Rare

Column 3 – Resident status

B: Breeding resident

R: Resident all year

Mi: Migrant

N: Nomadic. An occasional visitor

?: Unknown

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Abundance	Residence Status
Quails				
Stubble Quail	<i>Coturnix pectoralis</i>	GS	V	R
Brown Quail	<i>Coturnix ypsilophora</i>	GS	V	R
Ducks, Geese and Swans				
Musk Duck	<i>Biziura lobata</i>	L	C	BR
Black Swan	<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	L	C	R
Australian Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>	L	U	R
Australian Wood (Maned) Duck	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	GL	C	BR
Australasian Shoveler	<i>Anas rhynchotis</i>	L	U	BR
Grey Teal	<i>Anas gracilis</i>	L	C	BR
Chestnut Teal	<i>Anas castanea</i>	L	V	R
Pink-eared Duck	<i>Malacorhynchus membranaceus</i>	L	U	N
Pacific Black Duck	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	L	C	BR
Hardhead	<i>Aythya australis</i>	L	C	BR
Grebes				
Australasian Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>	L	C	BR
Hoary-headed Grebe	<i>Poliiocephalus poliocephalus</i>	L	V	BR
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	L	V	N
Pigeons and Doves				
Common Bronzewing	<i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>	D	C	R
Crested Pigeon	<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	S	C	R
Frogmouth				
Tawny Frogmouth	<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	SD	U	BR
Eared Nightjar				
White-throated Nightjar	<i>Eurostopodus mystacalis</i>	SD	V	Mi
Owlet-nightjars				
Australian Owlet-nightjar	<i>Aegotheles cristatus</i>	SD	V	R
Swifts and Swiftlets				
White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	All	C	Mi
Darter				
Australian Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	L	V	R
Cormorants and Shags				
Little Pied Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo melanoleucos</i>	L	C	BR
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	L	C	R
Little Black Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	L	C	BR
Pelican				
Australian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	L	U	N
Hérons, Egrets, Bitterns				
White-necked Heron	<i>Ardea pacifica</i>	GML	U	N
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	ML	V	N
Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	ML	U	N
White-faced Heron	<i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>	ML	C	BR
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	ML	V	N
Nankeen Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	ML	V	N
Intermediate Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	L	V	Mi
Ibis and Spoonbills				
Australian White Ibis (Sacred Ibis)	<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	ML	U	N
Straw-necked Ibis	<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>	ML	V	N
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	<i>Platalea flavipes</i>	ML	V	N
Eagles, Kites, Goshawks and Osprey				
Eastern Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus cristatus</i>	GSD	V	N
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus axillaris</i>	GS	V	R
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	L	U	N
Whistling Kite	<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	GSD	V	N
Brown Goshawk	<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	GSD	U	R

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Abundance	Residence Status
Collared Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter cirrhocephalus</i>	GD	V	R
Grey Goshawk	<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>	SD	V	N
Spotted Harrier	<i>Circus assimilis</i>	GD	V	N
Wedge-tailed Eagle	<i>Aquila audax</i>	SD	C	BR
Little Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	SD	U	R
Nankeen Kestrel	<i>Falco cenchroides</i>	GSD	C	BR
Brown Falcon	<i>Falco berigora</i>	GSD	V	R
Australian Hobby	<i>Falco longipennis</i>	GSD	U	R
Black Falcon	<i>Falco subniger</i>	GS	V	N
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	DL	U	BR
Crakes, Rails and Swamphens				
Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	ML	V	R
Buff-banded Rail	<i>Gallirallus philippensis</i>	DML	V	N
Dusky Moorhen	<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	L	U	R
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	L	C	BR
Plovers, Dotterels and Lapwing				
Black-fronted Dotterel	<i>Elsyornis melanops</i>	L	C	BR
Red-kneed Dotterel	<i>Erythrogonyx cinctus</i>	ML	V	R
Banded Lapwing	<i>Vanellus tricolor</i>	G	V	BR
Masked Lapwing	<i>Vanellus miles</i>	GM	C	BR
Button-quail				
Australian Painted Button-quail	<i>Turnix varius varius</i>	D	U	R
Gull and Tern				
Silver Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>	L	C	R
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	L	V	N
Cockatoos and Corellas				
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i>	D	V	?
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	GD	V	N
Gang-gang Cockatoo	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	SD	U	R
Galah	<i>Eolophus roseicapillus</i>	GSD	C	BR
Little Corella	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	GSD	V	N
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	All	C	BR
Eastern Rosella	<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	GSD	C	BR
Red-rumped Parrot	<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i>	G	C	BR
Crimson Rosella	<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	All	C	BR
Cuckoos				
Channel-billed Cuckoo	<i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	D	V	Mi
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	<i>Chalcites basalus</i>	D	U	Mi
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	<i>Chalcites lucidus</i>	D	U	Mi
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>	D	U	Mi
Brush Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis variolosus</i>	D	V	Mi
Pallid Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis pallidus</i>	D	U	Mi
Hawk-owl				
Southern Boobook	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>	GSD	C	BR
Masked owl				
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	GSD	V	N
Kingfishers				
Azure Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx azureus</i>	ML	V	N
Tree Kingfishers				
Laughing Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	SD	C	BR
Sacred Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>	SD	U	BMi
Bee-eaters				
Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	GSM	V	Mi
Dollarbird				
Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	SD	V	Mi
Lyrebird				
Superb Lyrebird	<i>Menura novaehollandiae</i>	D	V	BR

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Tree-creepers				
Red-browed Treecreeper	<i>Climacteris erythroptis</i>	D	V	.
Brown Treecreeper	<i>Climacteris picumnus</i>	D	V	R
White-throated Treecreeper	<i>Cormobates leucophaea</i>	SD	C	BR
Bowerbirds				
Satin Bowerbird	<i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i>	DM	V	R
Fairy-wren				
Superb Fairy-wren	<i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	DG	C	BR
Thornbills and Gerygones				
White-browed Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis frontalis</i>	MLD	C	
Chestnut-rumped Heathwren	<i>Calamanthus pyrrhopygia</i>	MD	V	R
Speckled Warbler	<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	SD	C	R
Weebill	<i>Smicrornis brevirostris</i>	D	C	BR
Western Gerygone	<i>Gerygone fusca</i>	SD	U	Mi
White-throated Gerygone	<i>Gerygone olivacea</i>	SD	C	Mi
Striated Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza lineata</i>	SD	C	BR
Yellow Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza nana</i>	SD	U	BR
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>	GS	C	BR
Buff-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza reguloides</i>	SD	C	BR
Brown Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>	SD	C	BR
Southern Whiteface	<i>Southern Whiteface</i>	G	U	BR
Pardalotes				
Spotted Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>	SD	C	BR
Striated Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>	SD	C	BR
Honeyeaters and Chats				
Eastern Spinebill	<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>	M	C	R
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i>	SD	C	BMi
White-eared Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus leucotis</i>	SD	C	BR
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus melanops</i>	S	V	N
White-plumed Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i>	S	U	R
Noisy Miner	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	SD	C	BR
Red Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	SD	C	BR
White-fronted Chat	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	SD	V	R
Crescent Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus</i>	SD	V	R
Brown-headed Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus brevirostris</i>	SD	U	BR
White-naped Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus lunatus</i>	D	U	Mi
Noisy Friarbird	<i>Philemon corniculatus</i>	SD	U	BMi
Sitella				
Varied Sittella	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	D	U	BR
Cuckoo-shrikes and Trillers				
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	SD	C	BMi
White-winged Triller	<i>Lalage tricolor</i>	SD	U	Mi
Whistlers, Shrike-thrushes and allies				
Crested Shrike-tit	<i>Falcunculus frontatus</i>	SD	V	?
Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	SD	U	Mi
Rufous Whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	D	C	Mi
Grey Shrike-thrush	<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	SD	C	BR
Orioles				
Olive-backed Oriole	<i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	GSD	U	Mi
Woodswallows, Currawongs, Butcherbirds and Magpie				
Masked Woodswallow	<i>Artamus personatus</i>	D	V	N
White-browed Woodswallow	<i>Artamus superciliosus</i>	D	V	N
Dusky Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	D	C	BMi
Grey Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	SD	U	R
Australian Magpie	<i>Cracticus tibicen</i>	GSD	C	BR
Pied Currawong	<i>Strepera graculina</i>	GSD	C	BR
Grey Currawong	<i>Strepera versicolor</i>	GSD	U	R
Fantails				

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Abundance	Residence Status
Grey Fantail	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>	SD	C	BR
Willie Wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leocophrys</i>	GS	C	BR
Crows and Ravens				
Australian Raven	<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	GSD	C	BR
Little Raven	<i>Corvus mellori</i>	GSD	V	R
Monarch and Flycatchers				
Leaden Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra rubecula</i>	SD	U	BMi
Satin Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	SD	V	BMi
Restless Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>	SD	U	BR
Magpie-lark	<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	GSD	C	BR
Chough and Apostlebird				
White-winged Chough	<i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i>	GSD	C	BR
Australian Robins				
Scarlet Robin	<i>Petroica multicolor</i>	All	U	R
Flame Robin	<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>	All	U	Mi
Rose Robin	<i>Petroica rosea</i>	SD	V	Mi
Hooded Robin	<i>Melanodryas cucullata</i>	SD	U	R
Eastern Yellow Robin	<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	SD	U	BR
Cisticolas				
Golden-headed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis</i>	M	V	R
Reed-Warblers				
Australian Reed-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	ML	C	BMi
Grassbirds				
Little Grassbird	<i>Megalurus gramineus</i>	SL	U	-
Rufous Songlark	<i>Cincloramphus mathewsi</i>	GD	V	Mi
True Babblers				
Silvereye	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	SD	C	R
Swallows and Martins				
Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	GS	C	BR
Fairy Martin	<i>Petrochelidon ariel</i>	GS	V	Mi
Tree Martin	<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	GS	C	Mi
Sunbirds and Flowerpeckers				
Mistletoebird	<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>	SD	U	Mi
Weaver Finches				
Double-barred Finch	<i>Taeniopygia bichenovii</i>	GS	U	BR
Red-browed Finch	<i>Neochmia temporalis</i>	GSD	C	R
Diamond Firetail	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	G	U	BR
Pipits and Wagtails				
Australian Pipit	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	G	U	BR
Quail-thrush				
Spotted Quail-thrush	<i>Cinclosoma punctatum</i>	GD	V	R
Introduced birds				
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia livia</i>	G	C	BR
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	G	V	R
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	D	U	BR
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	G	C	BR
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	G	C	BR
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	GS	C	BR
Common Myna	<i>Sturnus tristis</i>	SD	C	BR

This bird list has been compiled by ACT Parks and Conservation Service staff with assistance from the Canberra Ornithologists Group. Reports of additional bird sightings or information are always welcomed. This bird list covers species recorded from 2008 to 2014.



ACT
Government



Further Information

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