

HUNTER REGION OF NSW

2004 BIRD REPORT

The Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. (HBOC) has produced this 12th annual record of the birds of the Hunter Region of NSW. The aims of HBOC are:

- To encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat
- To encourage bird observing as a leisure time activity

HBOC holds monthly meetings and organises regular mid-week and weekend outings, and occasional camps. Beginners and more experienced birdwatchers are equally catered for by the range of activities provided. All HBOC members receive a regular newsletter and are able to borrow a comprehensive range of books, tapes, CDs and videos about Australian and world birdlife. Membership categories are Single, Family and Junior, and applications for membership are welcomed at any time.

HBOC can be contacted by telephone on (02) 4958 5942 and at either the postal or Web addresses below. For more information, or to make an e-mail contact, the club's Website is located at: <http://hbo.org.au>

Copies of this report, at \$12.00 each plus \$1.50 for postage and handling (for 1-3 copies), may be obtained from:

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CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	
INTRODUCTION	1
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR	4
SYSTEMATIC LIST	6
Introduction	6
Birds	7
SUPPLEMENTARY RECORDS	68
UNCONFIRMED RECORDS	69
ESCAPEES	70
LOCATION ABBREVIATIONS	70
GRID REFERENCES FOR COMMON LOCATIONS	71
OBSERVER CODES	72
MAP OF THE HUNTER REGION	74

FOREWORD

The 2004 Annual Bird Report is the 12th in a series dating back to 1993. Over this period there has been an escalation in bird watching activity in the Hunter region. HBOC members participate in club outings and camps, organised surveys, individual projects and pelagic trips. All these activities provide information about birds from casual observations to serious ornithological studies. HBOC's ability to capture and collate information from these sources is impressive. Condensing the data into a single publication is a daunting task. Alan Stuart is to be congratulated for the successful production of his twelfth successive annual report.

As usual there are an impressive number of rare sightings. To make an observation which is included in the highlights for the year is a challenge which inspires many members. Equally important is the role of the Committee which reviews these rare records, which is not an enviable task. However, it is the combination of the exciting and the onerous which creates a credible bird report. Each year the species list for the Hunter grows and the optimists press on inspired by the belief that eventually all the birds on the Australian list will find their way to the region. In extending the boundaries of the Hunter offshore to enhance the observation of pelagic species there has been opportunity for a lateral approach. At what angle do local council boundaries radiate offshore?

Arguably the greatest strength of bird reports is the generation of a long term record of the birds which occur regularly in a region. Over the last 12 years the data compiled in the HBOC Bird Report series has allowed the status of the region's more common birds to be categorised according to a set of rules. In recent reports commentary on common species is by exception to these rules (e.g. records involving a new locality or abnormally large numbers). A challenge for the future is to ensure that any declines in the abundance of common species, either locally or throughout the region are identified. Such variations may be associated with climate changes both short and long term. The HBOC reports provide a valuable overview of seasonal conditions for each year which will assist with future analysis of the causes of long term fluctuations in populations.

The tabulated data on the water bird and wader surveys is an exceedingly valuable resource. It is essential information for both those charged with the responsibility of managing the environmental assets of the region as well as those actively involved in arguing for the conservation of this wonderful part of Australia. This report underscores the point that the Hunter has an exceptional avian diversity, perhaps second to none, which must not be lost.

Bird reports provide a measure of the health of a bird club. On the basis of its 12th report HBOC is a dynamic organisation which has successfully inspired and harnessed the multifaceted talents of its members. The degree of team work demonstrated in the generation of this report is exceptional. Congratulations to all concerned.

Mike Newman
September 2005

Mike Newman is a member of the Birds Australia Council and a former chairman of the Birds Australia Research Committee. He has made a long and distinguished contribution to Australian ornithology including a major study of oystercatchers in Tasmania that extended over many years. He remains an enthusiastic submitter of records for the Birds Australia Atlas and for the Hunter Region bird reports.

INTRODUCTION

In this Report, produced by Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. (HBOC), we present a summary of the status of bird species within the Hunter Region of NSW in 2004. The information is based upon observation records gathered from a variety of sources.

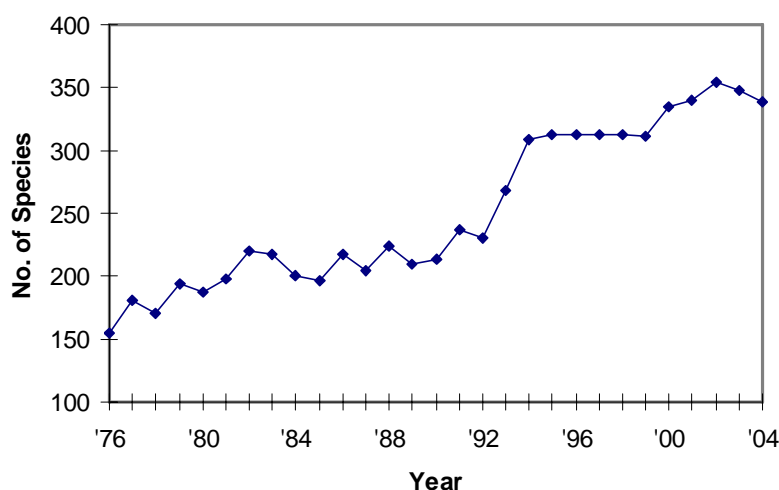
There are two additions to the 2004 species list – Black Noddy and Greater Sand Plover. The official Hunter Region bird list now stands at 412 species. For 2004, 339 of these species were confirmed to have been present in the Region and information about these observations is presented in the Report. In the 10 years from 1995, 222 species are confirmed to have bred within the Hunter Region, and 123 of these species were recorded as breeding in 2004.

There were very few pelagic surveys done in 2004 because of issues about boat availability. The only surveys were in January and February. This may in part account for a slightly lower number of species recorded in 2004 than in recent years. Also, 2004 saw the resumption of a severe drought across most of eastern Australia after moderate rains in the latter half of 2003 had brought some respite. Many ephemeral wetlands had little or no water in 2004.

This is now the 12th year of production of Hunter Region Bird Reports. There was some discussion in the 1999 Bird Report about the changes in the capture rate of information about Hunter Region birdlife, and it is interesting to consider this again in the 2004 Report. Figures 1 and 2 show annual reporting rates for species and breeding species in the Region between 1976 and 2004.

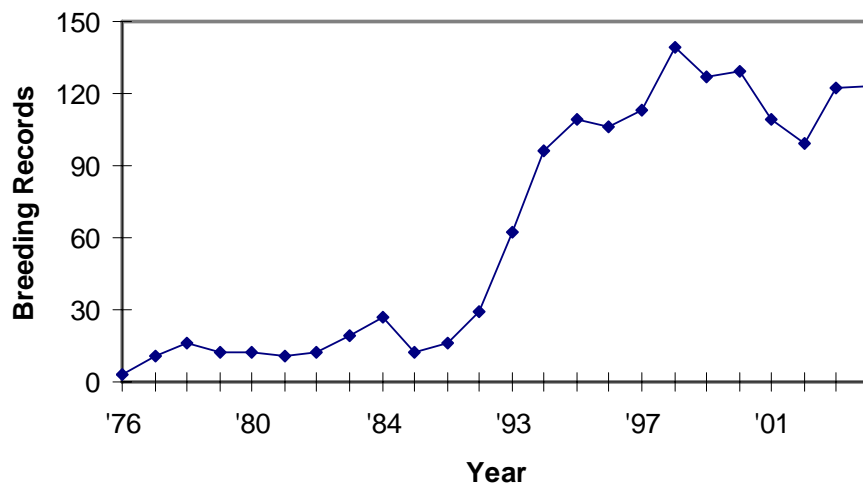
From 1976, when HBOC was formed, information about local birdlife was mainly based on the observations made by the club during its organised activities, supplemented by an informal reporting system for other sightings. The number of species reported each year increased steadily between 1976 and 1992, then climbed rapidly in the first two years of the Bird Reports. Then, when semi-regular pelagic surveys commenced in 2000, there was a further increase. In 2003 and 2004, there were fewer pelagic surveys plus perhaps there was an impact from the drought.

Figure 1: Number of species recorded each year



Until 1993, breeding information for Hunter Region species was scanty, with reports averaging around 15 species per year. The introduction of the annual Bird Reports has led to a substantial increase in the capture of information, with 121 species reported as breeding in 2004. Moreover, the total number of known breeding species in the Region has increased substantially, and now stands at 236 species (or at 222 species if the count is limited to the breeding reports from the past 10 years). Since 1995, the average has been 117 species recorded as breeding each year.

Figure 2: Number of breeding records each year



A map showing the land area of the Hunter Region is provided at the back of this Report. When the Bird Reports were commenced in 1993, HBOC defined the Hunter Region to be the area encompassed by 14 particular local government authorities (plus the ocean to the east of this). Since then however, some of the local authorities in NSW have been amalgamated. The original definition of the Region is no longer valid, but for consistency we have retained the same geographical area. The Hunter Region therefore is defined now as:

- The area managed by local government authorities for Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Cessnock, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Scone, Dungog, Gloucester, Port Stephens, Greater Taree and Great Lakes,
- The ocean to the east of that area, within 100km of the coastline, and
- The land areas that formerly were managed by the Shire Councils of Merriwa and Murrurundi.

The philosophies we use when preparing Reports were described in the 2000 Bird Report. To assist in vetting records, we have classified each species into one of three categories, as described below. The classification reflects, in part, the frequency of reporting.

Category 1: all records for the species generally are accepted.

Category 2: records usually are accepted, but supporting information may be required in the event of unusual numbers, location or season.

Category 3: the species is considered to be of special interest in relation to the Region, and supporting information is required before any record can be accepted for inclusion into the Report.

A Records Appraisal Committee assigns these categories and decides whether each record can be accepted. For 2004, the Records Appraisal Committee members were Sue Hamonet, Ann Lindsey, Wilma Barden, Fred van Gessel, Terry Lindsey and Phil Hansbro.

The value of the Bird Reports is due to the many observers who submit records of their sightings during the year. Whether the records are made as a one-off casual observation or as part of a regular and thorough survey program they all are important in helping to continue to build the picture of birdlife in the Hunter Region. Thanks very much to all the contributors for the 2004 Report.

Alan Stuart

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

The highlights for 2004 included the following:

- Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa* – single birds at TWC 27 Feb-19 Mar and Pambalong NR 4 Apr
- Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni* – the first confirmed breeding records for the Region
- Northern Giant-Petrel *Macronectes halli* – three birds offshore from Newcastle Baths 31 Oct
- White-necked Petrel *Pterodroma cervicalis* – a single bird on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb
- Fluttering Shearwater *Puffinus gavia* – ~10,000 birds off Dudley Bluff 14 Aug and many thousands of birds off Newcastle Beach and further to the south 29 Aug
- Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius* – 458 birds in Port Stephens 8 Feb
- Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* – single birds at TWC several times in Feb
- Black Falcon *Falco subniger* – several records from six distinct locations
- Little Button-quail *Turnix velox* – a single bird at Barrington House 11 Jan
- Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* – 218 birds in Port Stephens 8 Feb, which is ~2% of the Australian migrating population
- Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* – 649 birds in Port Stephens 8 Feb, which is ~1.7% of the world population
- Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* – several summer records of up to four birds, and also a winter record of two birds in Fullerton Cove late June to early July
- Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* – single birds in the Hunter estuary 10 Oct and at Cemetery Swamp Singleton 31 Dec
- Painted Snipe *Rostratula benghalensis* – a pair on Ash Island Nov-Dec
- Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius* – nesting at LTP in Sep and Salt Ash in Oct
- Beach Stone-curlew *Esacus neglectus* – 1-2 birds at Mudbishops Point/Farquhar Inlet at times in Feb-Mar and a single bird at Harrington 2 Jul
- Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris* – 112 birds in Port Stephens 8 Feb, which is ~1% of the total population
- Banded Stilt *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus* – an immature bird at Stockton Sandspit Nov 20 until early Dec
- Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* – up to 3 birds in the Hunter estuary from mid-Nov onwards
- Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus* – 180 birds in Fullerton Cove early Jun (largest counts for the Hunter estuary since the 1970s)
- Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii* – a single bird at Mudbishops Point 7 Nov
- Sooty Tern *Sterna fuscata* – 1-2 birds on pelagic surveys SE of Swansea in Jan and 1 Feb
- Black Noddy *Anous minutus* – a single bird on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan

- Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina* – up to 4 birds at Harrington Nov-Dec
- Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna* – numerous records including the first breeding record for the Region since 1839
- Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor* – 14 birds at Blackalls Park 20 Aug and some birds at three distinct locations Apr-May
- Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus* – two birds at Wyee Point 28 Nov
- Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus* – a single bird at East Seaham 20 Apr
- Barking Owl *Ninox connivens* – a bird heard at Anvil Hill 26 Jun
- Grass Owl *Tyto capensis* – single birds at Crowdy Bay NP 5 Nov and 27 Dec
- Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii* – a single bird at Brunkerville 5 Oct
- Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor* – the first confirmed breeding record for the Region
- Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis* – a single bird at Wingen 9 Aug
- Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis* – 6+ birds at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr and some birds at Harrington 6 Feb
- Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrygia* – ten birds near Wollar 25 Jul-9 Aug and single birds at Quorrobolong 9-10 Aug
- White-eared Monarch *Monarcha leucotis* – a single bird at Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 6 Nov, 21 Nov and 21 Dec
- Barred Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina lineata* – single birds at Harrington 7 Nov and 21 Nov
- Ground Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina maxima* – two birds at Yarrawa 5 Jun
- Singing Bushlark *Mirafra javanica* – a single bird at Yarrawa 25 Sep
- Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* – a single bird at Ash Island 23 Nov as well as the usual Feb-Mar records from there

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Bird species are listed in taxonomic order; the order and nomenclature follows that of Christidis and Boles in the 1994 RAOU publication *The Taxonomy and Species of Birds of Australia and its Territories* (ISBN 0815-2233).

Definitions of the terms used in status descriptions for the listed species in the Report are as follows:

Resident: Recorded in all months;

Migrant: Species that come to an area for a period and then depart;

Bird of passage: Species present in a suitable area for a relatively short period, and equally likely to be observed in any month of the year;

Common: Species that one can **expect** to find on all visits to suitable habitats;

Usual: Equally likely to be found in suitable habitats, but not on all visits;

Uncommon: Species that are recorded infrequently on visits to suitable habitats;

Rare: Species recorded only a few times a year;

Accidental: Species recorded less than once per year, over a 10 year average.

For many of the species, a general statement about typical distribution and count size is provided as part of the Status description. In these cases, only notable exceptions to this overall description of Status are considered for inclusion into the main body of the Report.

Breeding status is also indicated for each species. For species with no confirmed breeding records for 10 or more years, the breeding status is described as **Past records**. Where a species is anticipated to breed in the Region but there are no confirmed records, the description **None recorded** has been used.

A considerable proportion of records received indicate abundance levels for the species observed by using the following categories: A = 1-5 birds present; B = 6-20 birds; C = 21-50 birds; D = 51-100 birds; E = 100+ birds. Commentaries in this Report are mostly based upon abundance levels reported in this way, although many observers report precise numbers (and we encourage this).

The format for the reported observations generally includes reference to an observer code and to a location (or a location abbreviation). The relevant grid number (e.g. F7) is also cited, except for the more common locations which are listed later in the Report. Observer codes and location abbreviations are also provided later in the Report.

A semi-quantitative measure of the number of observations of a species for the year is indicated by the progressive terms: **occasionally; moderately often; often; frequently; regularly**. Where there are fewer than 12 observations for the year, all of them are reported.

An ID number is provided with each listed species – this is a unique identifier that does not change even though the scientific and/or common name for the species may do so. The ID number corresponds to that assigned to the species under the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme.

BIRDS

Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

ID No: 001 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident in W of Region.

A single bird was recorded at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC).

Australian Brush-turkey *Alectura lathami*

ID No: 008 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were at Barrington House 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Mount Vincent 12 Feb (FIP), Copeland 14 Mar (FOC), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and Copeland SF 24 Oct (LIA). More unusual records were of single birds at Glenrock SRA 4 & 8 Sep and 30 Nov (GOC), two birds in a Rankin Park garden 22 Feb (IJK), and three adults and six immature birds at BbR 13 Aug (GOC).

Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis*

ID No: 009 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncertain, possibly irruptive.

6+ birds were recorded at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). 1-2 birds were at Dungog 13 Feb (JED), Bootawa Dam 15 Feb (MVBW), Fosterton Loop 14 Mar and 3 Oct (HBA, JED) and Bolwarra 7 & 13 Dec (TAH).

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora*

ID No: 011 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded, mostly as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

King Quail *Coturnix chinensis*

ID No: 012 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare, possibly overlooked

No confirmed reports received since 2000.

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*

ID No: 199 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded at TWC and adjacent wetlands (especially NWR and Market Swamp) as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: Birds were regularly recorded at TWC, with the peak count being 74 birds on 22 Jun (MCR). There also were many records from nearby wetlands (NWR, Market Swamp). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were at SSSNR 19 Aug (MCR), and Nulama Ponds (Taree) 31 Jan and 5 Aug (MVBW). There were many breeding records from TWC, NWR and Market Swamp spanning Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec.

Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*

ID No: 205 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes (*revised*)
Status: Bird of passage.

There were high counts sometimes from Doughboy Hollow, a usual location, with 240+ birds present 12 May (GED), ~200 birds 9 Sep (NEG) and ~100 birds 17 May (TAH). Some birds were also present there 31 Oct (MOA). 20+ birds were at Leneghans Flat 20 Oct (MCR) and six birds there 6 Dec (HAP). 1-5 birds were sometimes at TWC during Feb-Mar and Oct-Nov, PNR Jan-Feb and Oct and Leneghans Flat in Mar and Oct-Dec (many reports). A pair was with three ducklings at PNR 18 Feb (BRG), and also there was a pair with a duckling at Leneghans Flat 6 Mar (MOA) – *these are the first confirmed breeding records received by HBOC.*

Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*

ID No: 204 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

10-20+ birds were often recorded at TWC over Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec and also lesser numbers at the nearby Market Swamp and NWR wetlands (many reports). The peak counts at TWC were of 40+ birds 29 Apr and 47 birds 10 Oct (MCR). Some birds were also recorded at TWC and NWR during Jul (BAW, MCR). Up to 10 birds were frequently at Leneghans Flat and/or nearby PNR over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec but 28 birds in total were present 25 Oct and 40 birds on 4 Dec (HAP, NEM), and also 14 birds were there 1 May (LCP). Two birds were also present at Minmi STP 12 Nov (NEM). There were many records of birds on nests or with ducklings from TWC, Market Swamp and NWR spanning Jan-May and Oct-Dec, and from PNR and Leneghans Flat in Jan-Feb and Oct. *This was easily the most prolific breeding year since the Bird Reports commenced.*

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*

ID No: 216 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Accidental (*Recorded 1989, 2002, 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata*

ID No: 217 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Up to 11 birds were often recorded at GTD in Jan and over Apr-Nov, and 16 birds were present there 24 Jul (MAM). Two birds were at WWW 18 Jan and 4 May (HBOC) and four birds at Warabrook sometimes during Feb-Mar (MCR). Some birds were at Ellalong Lagoon 10 & 31 May (MOA) and there were six birds there plus a duckling 22 Aug (HBOC).

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*

ID No: 214 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Rare.

Single birds were present at TWC 27 Feb-19 Mar (several records) and at PNR 4 Apr (VEE).

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

ID No: 203 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds at medium to large waters.

Notable records: 1,056 birds were recorded in a water-based survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). 500+ of these birds were in the Worimi NR/Swan Bay area the previous day and 100-200 birds were often recorded in that area in other months (HAS). Other large counts were 527 birds at Woodberry 6 Nov (MCR), 220 birds at Hexham Swamp 4 Dec (NEM) and 200 birds at Tarro Swamp 22 Nov (MAM). 100+ birds were often recorded at Kooragang/Ash Island and Morpeth STP (see Tables 1 & 3). 90+ birds were at Ash Island 17 Apr (LIN) and 50+ birds at Mudbishops Point 6 Feb (BRG) and regularly at Worimi NR (HAS). There were numerous breeding records throughout the year.

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides*

ID No: 207 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental.

No reports received for 2004.

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

ID No: 202

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds at or near fresh to brackish waters.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG), Glen Oak 16 May (MAM), Woods Point Morisset 23 May (HBOC) and TWC 10 Oct (MCR). There were many breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Sep-Dec.

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

ID No: 200

HBOC Category: 3

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

No reports received for 2004.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

ID No: 948

HBOC Category: 2

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were recorded at WWW 18 Jan and 4 May (HBOC), Woodberry Swamp 6 Apr (HBOC), Newline Rd Raymond Terrace 19 Aug (MCR) and Wallbridge Reserve 16 Sep (MAM), and regularly at TWC over May-Oct (BAW, MCR). The bird at WWW 18 Jan was a hybrid with Pacific Black Duck.

Table 1 Main Waterbirds at Morpeth STP*(regular surveys led by A Lindsey & M Newman)*

	Jan 21	Feb 19	Mar 11	Apr 16	May 12	Jun 22	Jul 12	Aug 16	Sep 10	Oct 14	Nov 11	Dec 24
Black Swan	66	69	161	184	77	54	10	11	23	25	101	124
Aust. Wood Duck	2	0	0	7	10	0	12	0	8	19	2	17
Pacific Black Duck	9	116	193	245	227	111	112	51	110	138	149	53
Aust. Shoveler	10	165	19	35	13	31	1	18	13	6	1	8
Grey Teal	117	135	41	545	391	626	635	743	545	616	593	156
Chestnut Teal	59	91	54	246	97	208	129	64	47	153	63	191
Pink-eared Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	9
Hardhead	0	3	39	83	9	6	8	11	0	86	197	59
Aust. Grebe	0	0	1	10	4	4	3	6	0	3	7	7
Hoary-headed Grebe	0	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Crested Grebe	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Pied Cormorant	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	2
Little Black Cormorant	62	49	21	1	0	1	1	0	0	12	35	9
Great Cormorant	0	0	1	0	1	1	4	1	3	0	1	1
Aust. Pelican	20	18	10	8	11	30	4	9	10	27	21	83
White-faced Heron	23	12	3	7	20	2	2	2	2	5	4	22
Great Egret	2	2	10	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	7	11
Intermediate Egret	12	2	24	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	9
Cattle Egret	13	158	124	93	24	8	0	5	7	20	2	10
Australian White Ibis	24	0	1	24	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	0
Straw-necked Ibis	11	15	0	44	16	3	1	1	7	2	0	6
Royal Spoonbill	4	3	0	3	1	6	1	15	8	1	31	26
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Eurasian Coot	34	71	100	191	19	8	16	15	9	20	224	80

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

ID No: 208 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds at small to large waters.

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at Morpeth STP most months and the peak count was 245 birds 16 Apr (Table 1). 51-100 birds were at Woodberry Swamp 6 Apr (HBOC), Irrawang Swamp 25 Apr (MAM), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR), WWW 12 Aug (Table 2) and frequently at TWC (MCR, BAW). 21-50 birds were at WWW 18 Jan and 4 May (HBOC), Tank Paddock Minmi 29 Feb and 12 Jul (LIN, MCR), PNR 6 Jul and 5 Dec (HBOC), Richardsons Swamp 21 May (MAM), Ash Island and Newline Rd 19 Aug (both MCR), and frequently at TWC and WWW (BAW, MCR, Table 2). There were numerous breeding records, spanning Jan-Mar and Oct-Nov.

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

ID No: 212 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally recorded at medium to large fresh waters in the E and central parts of the Region, mostly as 1-5 birds but with counts of up to 10 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: 165 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 19 Feb and birds were present every month, often in counts of 10-30+ (see Table 1). Also, 139 birds were at KI Deep Pond 17 Jul (HWS). 21-50 birds were at Ash Island 18 Feb (BRG/LIN), Morpeth STP 22 Jun and 19 Aug (NEM, MCR), TWC 8 May, 22 Jun and 13 Jul (POY, MCR), PNR 13 Jun (VEE), Mount Arthur 25 Jul (NEG) and Muswellbrook STP 11 Sep (MCR). Also, 12 birds were at WWW 6 Jun (TAH).

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

ID No: 905 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

No reports were received for 2004.

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*

ID No: 211 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded at medium to large waters throughout the Region as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: Many hundreds of birds were regularly present at Morpeth STP over Apr-Dec, with the peak count being of 743 birds 16 Aug (Table 1). Several hundred birds were also at ponds on Ash Island often, and peaking at 300-400 birds over May-Jul (Table 3). *It is noted that numbers at Ash Island were low in Feb and Aug-Sep, corresponding to very low water levels in the ponds.* There was a mixed flock with Chestnut Teal of 1,325 birds in NW corner of Fullerton Cove 29 Jun (RIA). 100+ birds were also recorded at Hexham Swamp 30 Jun and TWC 13 Jul and 24 Nov (all MCR), and 51-100 birds at TWC 5 Jan, 10 Oct and 15 Nov (all MCR), Ash Island 21 Mar (HBOC), Fullerton Cove 17 Jun and 2 Jul (RIA), Ellalong Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC) and Irrawang Swamp 10 Nov (LIA/MAM). There were numerous breeding records, spanning Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec.

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*

ID No: 210 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Regularly recorded at medium to large waters in E of the Region as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: Many hundreds of birds were regularly present in the Hunter estuary particularly at Ash Island, with the peak count being of 606 birds 16 Aug (Table 3). *It is noted that numbers at Ash Island were low in Feb and Aug-Sep, corresponding to very low water levels in the ponds.* 50+ birds were regularly present at Morpeth STP, with 100+ birds there often and the peak count being of 246 birds 16 Apr (Table 1). There was a mixed flock with Grey Teal of

1,325 birds in NW corner of Fullerton Cove 29 Jun (RIA). 100+ birds were also at WWW 9 Jun (Table 2), Fullerton Cove 17 Jun and 2 Jul (RIA), TWC 13 Jul, Morpeth STP 19 Aug and TWC 24 Nov (all MCR). 51-100 birds were at TWC 19 Mar, 10 Oct and 15 Nov (all MCR), Woodberry Swamp 6 Apr (HBOC), Worimi NR 5 Jun (HAS) and Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR). There were numerous breeding records, spanning Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

ID No: 209 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1993).

No reports received for 2004.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

ID No: 213 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Bird of passage.

57 birds were recorded at Muswellbrook STP 11 Sep (MCR) and 6-9 birds at Morpeth STP 19 Aug and 24 Dec (MCR, Table 1). 1-5 birds were at TWC often over Jan-Mar and in Sep (BAW, MCR) and at Ellalong Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC), WWW 8 Jul and 17 Nov (Table 2), Morpeth STP 16 Aug & 11 Nov (Table 1) and Bolwarra lagoon from late Nov through to mid-Dec (TAH).

Hardhead *Aythya australis*

ID No: 215 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Usual resident. Widely and moderately often recorded at medium to large waters as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 200+ birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 4 Dec (NEM) and 197 birds at Morpeth STP 11 Nov (Table 1). 51-100 birds were at TWC 5 Jan (MCR), GTD 23 Apr, 2 Jul, 24 Sep and 8 Oct (MAM) and Irrawang Swamp 10 Nov (LIA/MAM), and occasionally at Morpeth STP and WWW (Tables 1 and 2). 21-50 birds were occasionally recorded at TWC, Market Swamp, Morpeth STP and WWW.

Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

ID No: 061 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded at small to large waters as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 519 birds were recorded at GTD 24 Jul – including a raft of 500 birds, and 180 birds were there 27 Aug and 176 birds 24 Sep in two large rafts (all MAM records). 20+ birds were also at GTD 2 Jul and 22 Oct (MAM), WWW 9 Jun and TWC 22 Jun (MCR). There were widespread breeding records spanning Apr-Jun and Oct-Nov.

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

ID No: 062 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Bird of passage.

60 birds were recorded at GTD 8 Oct and 30 birds there 22 Oct (MAM). 6-20 birds were present at WWW Aug-Sep and Ash Island Deep Pond 13 Nov (see Tables) and GTD 24 Jul (MAM). 1-5 birds were at WWW 4 May (HBOC), TWC 19 Mar and 22 Jun (MCR), GTD 16 Jun and 24 Sep (MAM), Bolwarra 19 Aug (MCR) and occasionally at Ash Island, Morpeth STP and WWW (see Tables).

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

ID No: 060

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident.

Birds were present at WWW every month with the peak count being of 16 birds 12 May (Table 2). They were also recorded at GTD in Jan and over Apr-Dec, with peak counts of 80 birds 24 Jul and 70 birds 10 Dec but the numbers varying considerably (MAM). Elsewhere, six birds were recorded at PNR 20 Oct (MCR) and a single bird at Bootawa Dam 21 Apr (MVBW). Birds nested at WWW in Mar and had two chicks there in Apr and early May (several reports).

Little Penguin *Eudyptula minor*

ID No: 005

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident.

Four birds were recorded off Tomaree Heads, Port Stephens Jan and three birds at Seal Rocks Sep; also, three birds were in burrows at Broughton Island Nov (all LEN records). A single bird was at Bar Beach Newcastle 3 Dec (MCR).

Table 2 Waterbirds at Walka Waterworks*(regular surveys led by P Baird & J Smart)*

	Jan 14	Feb 13	Mar 10	Apr 6	May 12	Jun 9	Jul 8	Aug 12	Sep 8	Oct 13	Nov 17	Dec 5
Musk Duck	3	0	0	1	0	4	4	1	4	6	3	2
Black Swan	4	2	0	8	2	2	9	8	6	5	6	5
Aust. Wood Duck	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	4	0	10	0	4
Pacific Black Duck	39	12	9	11	36	31	43	65	13	9	10	21
Aust. Shoveler	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	7	0	0	0	0
Grey Teal	24	5	4	7	5	70	0	17	18	16	11	8
Chestnut Teal	7	8	8	2	9	105	4	4	7	2	7	6
Pink-eared Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Hardhead	3	0	0	0	0	74	90	38	50	25	14	21
Aust. Grebe	0	0	0	0	8	22	11	17	9	4	0	0
Hoary-headed Grebe	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	12	12	1	4	0
Great Crested Grebe	6	15	8	7	16	10	7	9	9	6	6	12
Little Pied Cormorant	5	6	7	6	10	8	6	6	3	1	2	2
Little Black Cormorant	22	28	4	17	12	10	22	30	7	12	9	3
Aust. Pelican	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0
White-faced Heron	3	2	1	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	1
Little Egret	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	0	0
Great Egret	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Intermediate Egret	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aust. White Ibis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Straw-necked Ibis	0	0	0	0	9	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Royal Spoonbill	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	2	0	0	0
Purple Swamphen	9	0	9	6	9	5	4	8	12	6	2	1
Dusky Moorhen	12	9	16	8	18	6	17	10	11	12	2	4
Eurasian Coot	50	55	66	54	58	120	53	83	23	75	98	76
Black-fronted Dotterel	2	2	5	0	2	2	0	0	1	2	3	5
Masked Lapwing	4	2	0	6	4	20	8	2	2	4	9	2

Table 3 Main Waterbirds of Kooragang/Ash Islands*(Surveys conducted at/nearby shorebird high tide roost sites)*

	Jan 17	Feb 7	Mar 6	Apr 17	May 8	Jun 5	Jul 17	Aug 14	Sep 18	Oct 16	Nov 13	Dec 11
Musk Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Black Swan	11	1	3	90	109	69	49	0	0	163	102	102
Aust. Wood Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	10	2	2	3	0
Pacific Black Duck	53	6	9	10	2	8	53	0	0	6	18	1
Aust. Shoveler	2	0	0	7	0	0	139	0	0	0	0	0
Grey Teal	150	0	122	48	302	400	400	0	0	0	11	177
Chestnut Teal	606	0	333	357	483	409	560	6	2	21	185	269
Hardhead	0	0	0	3	10	24	39	0	0	20	0	0
Aust. Grebe	0	0	0	14	0	3	6	0	0	4	0	6
Hoary-headed Grebe	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	12	3
Little Pied Cormorant	1	2	3	6	4	7	7	0	3	7	8	4
Pied Cormorant	3	8	12	20	4	3	6	4	3	9	14	6
Little Black Cormorant	5	4	8	7	19	12	10	15	28	26	18	22
Great Cormorant	17	5	4	13	2	2	1	0	1	7	11	7
Aust. Pelican	131	143	243	243	117	92	79	95	88	61	126	128
White-faced Heron	26	5	23	56	57	41	44	30	14	11	18	14
Little Egret	6	0	1	2	2	3	6	2	3	6	2	6
White-necked Heron	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Great Egret	4	2	3	1	2	1	3	3	2	9	10	2
Intermediate Egret	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	1
Cattle Egret	24	2	20	19	0	1	0	4	1	0	33	8
Australian White Ibis	9	6	105	108	28	36	24	10	0	2	85	17
Straw-necked Ibis	0	7	37	46	11	28	26	0	0	0	2	0
Royal Spoonbill	39	40	77	22	11	10	11	18	16	5	16	5

Southern Giant-Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*ID No: 929 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports received for 2004.

Northern Giant-Petrel *Macronectes halli*ID No: 937 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

Three birds were offshore from Newcastle Baths 31 Oct (HTH).

Cape Petrel *Daption capense*ID No: 080 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Winter migrant at >5km from shore.

No reports received for 2004.

Tahiti Petrel *Pseudobulweria rostrata*ID No: 920 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No confirmed reports received since 2001.

Great-winged Petrel *Pterodroma macroptera*

ID No: 075 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer visitor and bird of passage at and beyond the continental shelf.

40 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb and also ten birds on the corresponding Jan survey (HAP).

White-headed Petrel *Pterodroma lessonii*

ID No: 077 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports received for 2004.

Providence Petrel *Pterodroma solandri*

ID No: 971 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Winter visitor at and beyond the continental shelf.

No reports received for 2004.

Kermadec Petrel *Pterodroma neglecta*

ID No: 922 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports received since 2001.

Juan Fernandez Petrel *Pterodroma externa*

ID No: 915 HBOC Category: 3 (Amended) Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1988).

No reports received for 2004.

White-necked Petrel *Pterodroma cervicalis*

ID No: 774 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb (HAP).

Cook's Petrel *Pterodroma cookii*

ID No: 918 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1971).

No reports received for 2004.

Pycroft's Petrel *Pterodroma pycrofti*

ID No: HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

No reports received for 2004.

Gould's Petrel *Pterodroma leucoptera*

ID No: 078 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant at >5km from shore, except at its breeding grounds.

At least two birds were present during a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan, and 3+ birds in the corresponding survey 1 Feb (HAP).

Broad-billed Prion *Pachyptila vittata*

ID No: 082 HBOC Category: 3 (Amended) Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1973).

No reports received for 2004.

Antarctic Prion *Pachyptila desolata*

ID No: 084 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports received since 2000.

Slender-billed Prion *Pachyptila belcheri*

ID No: 942 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports received since 2002.

Fairy Prion *Pachyptila turtur*

ID No: 083 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Winter migrant at >10 km from shore.

Several hundred birds that were recorded off Newcastle beach 27 Jun are considered probably to have been mainly of this species (HAP).

White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*

ID No: 915 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1968, 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni*

ID No: 917 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*Revised from: Spring visitor at >10km from shore*).

No reports received since 2000.

Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas*

ID No: 853 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*Revised from: Uncertain*)

No reports received since 2000.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus*

ID No: 069 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common summer migrant. Often recorded in counts of several hundred birds during Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec.

Notable records: Around 400 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb, and 150 birds on the corresponding Jan survey (HAP).

Buller's Shearwater *Puffinus bulleri*

ID No: 975 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*Revised from: Uncertain*)

No reports received since 2001.

Flesh-footed Shearwater *Puffinus carneipes*

ID No: 072 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant at >1km from shore.

50 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb, and ten birds on the corresponding Jan survey (HAP).

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*

ID No: 070 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant.

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb (HAP).

Short-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus tenuirostris*

ID No: 071 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common spring/summer migrant. Often recorded in flocks of up to 100 birds during Sep-Nov.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Fluttering Shearwater *Puffinus gavia*

ID No: 068 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Bird of passage.

Large numbers of birds were off Newcastle in August. An estimated 10,000 birds were seen from Dudley Bluff 14 Aug (POY) and many thousands of birds were off Newcastle Beach and to further south 29 Aug (BRG/LIN). A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb (HAP).

Hutton's Shearwater *Puffinus huttoni*

ID No: 975 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

Four birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in January (HAP).

Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*

ID No: 067 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental.

No reports received since 2002.

Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*

ID No: 086 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon winter migrant at >5 km from shore.

No reports received for 2004.

Black-browed Albatross *Diomedea melanophris*

ID No: 088 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Common winter migrant. Regularly recorded during Apr-Nov, including from land.

No reports received for 2004.

Shy Albatross *Diomedea cauta*

ID No: 091 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Winter migrant at >5 km from shore.

No reports received for 2004.

Yellow-nosed Albatross *Diomedea chlororhynchos*

ID No: 089 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Common winter migrant at >5 km from shore.

No reports received for 2004.

Buller's Albatross *Diomedea bulleri*

ID No: 931 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports received for 2004.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

ID No: 063 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

Eight birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan, and five birds on the corresponding 1 Feb survey (HAP).

White-faced Storm-Petrel *Pelagodroma marina*

ID No: 065 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Three birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan, and five birds on the corresponding 1 Feb survey (HAP).

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta tropica*

ID No: 066 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

No reports received for 2004.

White-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon lepturus*

ID No: 108 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1994, 2000).

No reports received for 2004.

Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator*

ID No: 104 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Regular non-breeding visitor (*Revised from: Bird of passage about inshore waters*).

1-5 birds, where numbers were noted, were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea 1 Feb (HAP), and offshore from Forster 14 May (MVBW), Fingal Head 22 Jun (COD), Hawks Nest beach 1 Aug (MEL) and BBNP 21 Aug (MVBW).

Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

ID No: 101 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded at medium to large waters, mostly as counts of 1-2 birds but with records of up to 6 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: All reports of 6+ birds were associated with colonial breeding records. There were breeding records for every month except Jun and Aug, including birds were nesting often throughout the year at NWR (BAW, MCR) peaking at 11 nests there 27 Feb (MCR). Other nesting records were from Market Swamp over Jan-May (BAW, MCR), Stoney Creek Toronto 6 Feb and 7 Mar (DUP), Wangi Point Reserve 1 Jun (HBOC) and Seaham 19 Nov (CLT).

Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

ID No: 100 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded at small to large waters, with counts of up to 20 birds often recorded at large waters.

Notable records: 46 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). 20+ birds were at NWR 5 Jan with five birds on nests, also four birds were on nests at the nearby Market Swamp (MCR). There were breeding records for NWR spanning Jan-Mar, Oct and Dec (BAW), and birds also were nesting at Toronto Swamp 22 Dec (TOM).

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

ID No: 099 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual coastal resident. Often recorded near to the coast, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds and occasionally in greater numbers.

Notable records: 458 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). 21-50 birds were present at Market Swamp 5 Jan (MCR), NWR 5 Jan (MCR), Mudbishops Point 6 Feb (BRG/MCR), Stockton Sandspit 2 Apr (CLT), NWR 6 Apr, 13 Jul and 15 Nov (MCR, HBOC), Myuna Bay 1 Jun (HBOC), Wangi Point Reserve 1 Jun (HBOC) and NWR 13 Jul (MCR). There were breeding records for every month except Jun and Aug, including birds were nesting often throughout the year at NWR (BAW, MCR) peaking at 16 nests there 27 Feb (MCR). There also were breeding records for Market Swamp spanning Jan-May and Sep-Dec (BAW).

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

ID No: 097C

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded at medium to large waters, as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at Swansea Channel 27 Jan (LAK) and 50+ birds at GTD 10 Sep and Tea Gardens 28 Sep (both MAM). 21-50 birds were at Market Swamp 5 Jan (MCR), Ash Island 21 Mar (HBOC), WWW 4 May (HBOC), and frequently at GTD, WWW and Hunter estuary (MAM, Tables 2 & 3). Also, 27 birds were recorded in a survey of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). There were several breeding records for NWR Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec and Market Swamp Jan and Nov-Dec (BAW/MCR), and also some birds were nesting at Toronto Swamp 22 Dec (TOM). There were 11 birds on nests at Market Swamp 5 Jan (MCR).

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

ID No: 096

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and often recorded at medium to large waters, mostly as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at NWR 6 Apr, 13 Jul and 15 Nov (all MCR) and 31 birds in a survey of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). There were breeding records for NWR Jan-May and Sep-Dec and for Market Swamp Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec (BAW/MCR), and also birds had dependent young at NWR 13 Jul (MCR). There was a total of eight birds on nests at NWR/Market Swamp 5 Jan (MCR).

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

ID No: 106

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded at medium to large waters, mainly as counts of up to 20 birds but with greater numbers not uncommon at large waters.

Notable records: 162 birds were recorded in a survey of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). 50-100+ birds were regularly present at Hunter estuary sites, with 243 birds being recorded on both 6 Mar and 17 Apr (Table 3). 50+ birds at Swansea Channel 27 Jan (LAK), Tea Gardens 28 Sep (MAM) and Morpeth STP 24 Dec (Table 2). There also were 15 records of 21-50 birds, from nine locations all in the E of the Region.

White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*

ID No: 188

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, in counts of up to 20 birds at some favoured habitats.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Hunter estuary locations, primarily Ash Island, on 17 Apr and 8 May and 20+ birds were present regularly over Mar-Aug (see Table 3). 20+ birds were also at Morpeth STP 21 Jan and 24 Dec (Table 1). Birds were nesting at TWC 20 Dec (WCR) and a pair was copulating at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG).

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

ID No: 185

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident. Occasionally recorded at medium to large waters in the E of the Region, mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Six birds were sometimes recorded at Hunter estuary locations during the year (see Table 3). There were two nests at TWC 8 Jan and three nests there 14 Dec (MAM). Birds also were nesting at Toronto Wetlands 22 Dec (TOM).

Eastern Reef Egret *Egretta sacra*

ID No: 191 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Rare.

Single birds were at Box Beach Tomaree NP 11 Mar (CLT) and Tuncurry 17 Jul (MVBW).

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*

ID No: 189 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded as 1-2 birds throughout the Region.

Notable records: There were several reports of 20+ birds at Leneghans Flat for ~2 weeks from late Oct, with the peak count being of ~40 birds there 31 Oct (HAP). Also 22 birds were at Woodberry Swamp 23 Oct (CBOC) and 6+ birds at Milbrodale 10 Jun (NEG).

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

ID No: 187 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded at medium to large waters in the E and central parts of the Region, mostly as counts of 1-2 birds except when breeding.

Notable records: Seven birds were recorded at Woodville 3 Nov (MAM). There were 16 nests at TWC 8 Jan and 35 nests 14 Dec (MAM) (*for comparison, there were 198 pairs nesting at TWC in 1987/88*). Birds also were nesting at Toronto Swamp 22 Dec (TOM).

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*

ID No: 186 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded at medium to large waters in the E of the Region, mostly as counts of 1-2 birds except when breeding.

Notable records: 18 birds were recorded at Tenambit Common 7 Nov (BRG) and 12 birds at Leneghans Flat/PNR 5 Dec (STA). There were eight nests at TWC 8 Jan and nine nests 14 Dec (MAM) (*these are improvements to the numbers of nesting pairs from 2002 & 2003 although down on the preceding years and a far cry from the counts of 453 pairs nesting at TWC in 1987/88*).

Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis*

ID No: 977 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region, mostly as counts of 10-50 birds except when breeding.

Notable records: 100-200 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 19 Feb and 11 Mar (Table 1), Doughboy Hollow 1-6 Apr (WAR1), Phoenix Park 12 & 14 Sep (MAM) and SSNR 16 Oct (MAM). Several hundred birds often were night roosting at SSNR and Wallalong - the peak count at SSNR was ~400 birds 24 Aug and at Wallalong the peak was 100+ birds 20 May (MAM). **Breeding:** At TWC the peak count for the 03/04 season was 215 nests 8 Jan and then 182 nests 14 Dec for the 04/05 season (MAM). There were 381 nests at SSNR 11 Dec (MAM). Birds also were nesting at Toronto Swamp 22 Dec (TOM).

Striated Heron *Butorides striatus*

ID No: 193 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident.

1-2 birds were sometimes recorded at locations around the Hunter estuary during the year - at Stockton Sandspit 17 Jan, 7 Feb, 21 Mar and 15 Nov (HWS, VEE, HBOC, MCR), Throsby Creek 17 Feb (HBOC), Moschetto Creek 7 Mar (MOA), Ash Island 19 Aug (MCR) and KI dykes 15 Dec (TOM). 1-2 birds were also at Harrington 6 Feb and 17 Dec (BRG, STA), Myuna Bay 1 Jun (HBOC), Stoney Creek Toronto 1 Jul (DUP/WAR1), Dora Creek 1 Dec (TOM) and Pindimar Bay 17 Dec (STA). Four birds were present in a survey of all Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). (*all records published*)

Nankeen Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

ID No: 192 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

As in previous years, birds were roosting all year at Wallbridge Reserve Raymond Terrace; the counts generally were of <20 birds and mostly they were of <10 birds. However, the numbers rose sharply over Oct-Dec with peak counts of 64 birds 29 Oct, 85 birds 12 Nov and 73 birds 3 Dec, and then they declined to normal by late Dec (MAM). TWC again was another regular roost site all year (BAW), with the peak count being of 54 birds there 17 Oct (LIA). Records from elsewhere were of 1-5 birds at Boarding House Dam (Watagans NP) 2 Jan and 1 Feb (TOM, MCR/BRG), Green Wattle Creek 7 Jan (NEM), Belmont Swamp 10 Jan (LAK), Belmont South 14 Jan (CJB), Brandy Hill Seaham Jan (MEL), SSNR 3 Feb (MAM), Throsby Creek 17 Feb (HBOC), Newline Rd 19 Aug (MCR), Ash Island 2 Nov (HBOC) and Toronto Swamp 22 Dec (TOM).

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus*

ID No: 195 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare (*probably overlooked*).

A single bird was recorded at TWC on several occasions during Feb (several reports).

Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis*

ID No: 196 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records (*Revised*)
Status: Rare resident (*probably overlooked*).

Single birds were recorded at Balickera Feb (MUJ) and Tenambit 30 May (BAP).

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

ID No: 197 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

Single birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 12 May (NEM/LIA), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR) and Tenambit 25 Jul (BRG), and a bird was heard at Crowdy Bay NP 27 Dec (FOC).

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

ID No: 178 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Bird of passage.

32 birds were recorded at Ash Island 15 Nov, with lesser numbers still sometimes there until early Dec (MCR, HAP, STA). 23 birds were at Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR) and 16 birds at Hexham Swamp 24 Jul (HAP). Six birds including a juvenile were recorded at Wyee Point from 24 Feb to 23 Mar (MDV) and 1-5 birds at Stockton Sandspit 22 Jan (CLT), Newline Rd 20 Jan and 6 Dec (MAM, COD) and Irrawang Swamp 28 Nov (MAM), and at Morpeth STP 12 May, 12 Jul, 19 Aug and 11 Nov (LIA, NEM, MCR).

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca*

ID No: 179 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Regularly recorded in the E of the Region, mostly as <20 birds but with counts of up to 50 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: There was a mixed flock with *T. spinicollis* of 1000+ birds at Irrawang Swamp 29 Jul (MAM). 1000+ birds were at TWC 27 Feb and 19 Mar (MCR) and there were other reports of several hundred birds at this location. 500+ birds were at Woodberry 28 Feb and 256 birds there 6 Nov (MCR). 100+ birds were at Hunter estuary locations 6 Mar and 17 Apr (Table 3) and also there were several reports of 50+ birds. **Breeding:** Birds had nine nests at TWC 5 Jan and again on 14 Dec (MCR, MAM), and also were nesting at Toronto Swamp 22 Dec (TOM) and at Tomaree NP 20 Mar (HBOC). Nesting at TWC was underway by 31 Oct (MOA).

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

ID No: 180

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region, mostly as <20 birds but with counts of up to 100 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: 1000+ birds were recorded at Irrawang Swamp 17 Feb and there was a mixed flock with *T. molucca* of 1000+ birds there 29 Jul (both MAM). 1000+ birds were at TWC 27 Feb and Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR), and 500+ birds at TWC 19 Mar (MCR). Groups of 100-300 birds were moderately often recorded at wetlands and paddocks in the lower Hunter all year.

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

ID No: 181

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Irrawang Swamp 2 Jan and Robinson Rd Swamp Raymond Terrace 9 Jan (both MAM), Ash Island 18 Feb (BRG/LIN), TWC 27 Feb and Woodberry 28 Feb (both MCR), also at Morpeth STP Nov-Dec (Table 1) and at Hunter estuary locations over Jan-Mar (Table 3).

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes*

ID No: 182

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Bird of passage. Moderately often recorded throughout the Region as counts of 1-3 birds.

Notable records: There was a congregation occurred in the Raymond Terrace area in late Aug, with nine birds recorded at Irrawang Swamp 13 Aug and eight birds there 29 Aug (MAM) and seven birds at Newline Rd 19 Aug (MCR). Five birds were at Woodberry 6 Nov (MCR) and four birds at PNR 20 Jan (OCG) and TWC 27 Feb (MCR).

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

ID No: 183

HBOC Category: 2

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Bird of passage.

Pairs were recorded at Leneghans Flat 21 Feb (VEE), Harrington 23 Apr (per MOA) and Nabiac 3 Jun (MVBW). Single birds were at Nelsons Plains 29 Feb (NEM), Leneghans Flat 5 Mar (MOA), Coolongolook 20 May (MVBW), Old Bar 3 Jun (MVBW), Harrington 2 Jul (MVBW) and Williamtown 14 Jul (per CLG), and at PNR 20 Jan, 3 May and 27 Jun (OCG, FOC, HAP). Nil breeding records were received for the Region (CLG).

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

ID No: 241

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident. Occasionally recorded at estuaries and coastal lakes, more frequently in the NE part of the Region, and mostly as counts of 1-2 birds unless with young/juveniles.

Notable records: Single birds were recorded at Ash Island 21 Mar (HBOC), Stockton Sandspit 13 Nov (HAP) and Swansea 7 Dec (HBOC), and two birds were Dudley 10 Nov (CLT). Birds had nests with young at Smiths Beach Manning Point 24 Jan and Tuncurry 17 Jul (both MVBW).

Pacific Baza *Aviceda subcristata*

ID No: 234

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident. Occasionally recorded as 1-2 birds in the E and central parts of the Region.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris*

ID No: 232 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Six birds were recorded at Wingen over 15-20 Oct (NEG) and also six birds at Jones Reserve Rd 4 Feb (BRG/MCR). Four birds were at Tenambit 19 Aug and Bureen 28 Aug (MCR, TAH). An adult was feeding a fledged young at Stockton Sandspit 9 Jul (CLT).

Square-tailed Kite *Lophoictinia isura*

ID No: 230 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

Single birds were sometimes present in the East Maitland/Bolwarra/Woodberry area over Mar-Sep (several reports) and two birds were at Bolwarra 6 Jun (TAH). Single birds were also recorded at Cundletown 20 & 29 Mar (FOC, MVBW), Grahamstown 20 Jul (BEC), Newcastle Uni 4 Aug (TAH), Shortland 9 Nov (TAH) and Cooperook SF 21 Nov (CBOC), and two birds were at Shortland 10 May (BWA). The bird at Cundletown 29 Mar was a juvenile.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

ID No: 229 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon visitor to W of the Region, elsewhere rare.

Single birds were recorded at Tarro 13 Mar (MCR), Minmi 6 Jul (BRG/LIN) and Old Bar 3 Jun (MVBW). *A more normal year after the notable influx of 2002 and 2003.*

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

ID No: 228 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded, mostly as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Four birds were recorded at Hunter estuary 17 Apr (HWS) and three birds at Morpeth STP 19 Feb (LIA), TWC 27 Feb (MCR), Swan Bay/Worimi NR 5 Jun (HAS) and Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR). There were a number of breeding records in Jun-Jul, and also birds had a nest with young at Worimi NR 18 Sep (HAS).

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

ID No: 227 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident (in coastal north of Region), elsewhere accidental.

Three birds were recorded at Tuncurry 27 Apr (MVBW) and 1-2 birds at Manning River near Taree 1 Apr and 17 Dec (MVBW, STA), Mudbishops Point 7 Nov (HAP), Harrington 20 Nov and 18 Dec (HBOC, STA) and at Hunter estuary locations 21 Nov and 14-15 Dec (HAP, TOM).

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

ID No: 226 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded at or near large waters, mostly as single birds or pairs and occasionally also with a juvenile.

Notable records: Four birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 11 Dec (HWS) and three birds at Saltwater 5 Feb (MVBW) and Ash Island 21 Mar (HBOC).

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

ID No: 218 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident.

Two birds were present at Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR) and single birds at Balickera Apr (MUJ), Yarrawa 28 Aug (TAH) and KI 19 Nov (MCR).

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*

ID No: 219 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded at or near medium to large waters in the E of the Region, mostly as single birds.

Notable records: A total of four birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR) and three birds around the Hunter estuary 11 Dec (HWS). Two birds were moderately often recorded as utilising the same area, at widespread locations in the E of the Region throughout the year.

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

ID No: 221 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, mostly as single birds.

Notable records: Two birds were recorded at Whitebridge 30 May (CLT), HRBG 5 Jun (MCR) and Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC).

Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

ID No: 220 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region, mostly as single, grey phase birds.

Notable records: Two birds were recorded near Jerrys Plains 25 Apr (TAH) and at Newcastle Uni 27 Jul (CLT), TWC 10 Oct (MCR) and Ash Island 5 Dec (CBOC).

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrhocephalus*

ID No: 222 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Single birds were recorded at Bulga 16 May (ALP), Gloucester May (DBP), Mandalong 1 May (FOC), TWC 22 Jun (MCR), Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun (HBA), HRBG 14 Jul (MCR), Wingen 11 Sep (NEG), Ellalong 20 Nov (MOA) and occasionally at TWC over Aug-Oct (BAW). 1-2 birds were moderately often present at Bucketty over Sep-Dec (HAJ).

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*

ID No: 224 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region, mostly as 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Nine birds were recorded at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG) and 8+ birds at Gloucester 7 Apr (DUP). Six birds were present along Jones Reserve Rd 4 Feb (BRG/MCR) and four birds were together near Belltrees 3 Apr (TAH). Three birds were at Carmichaels Creek 27 Jan (MAM), Wambo Rd Bulga 16 May (ALP) and Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR). There were several coastal and near-coastal records.

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

ID No: 225 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Single birds were often recorded from widespread locations around the Region, although the only record from the NE was of a bird at Tea Gardens 28 Sep (MAM). Two birds were at Jones Reserve Rd 4 Feb (BRG/MCR) and at Denman 11 Sep (MCR). As for 2003, there were more reports than usual for this species.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

ID No: 239 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region, as counts of 1-2 birds, and less frequently in the E of the Region.

Notable records: Four birds were recorded at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG), and three birds at Martindale 4 Feb and 25 Apr (BRG/MCR, TAH).

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis*

ID No: 235 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, usually as single birds.

Notable records: Three birds were recorded at Medhurst Bridge Martindale Aug 21 (MCR/BRG). A pair was displaying at WWW 18 Jan (HBOC).

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

ID No: 238 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Rare.

Three birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 12 May and 22 Jul (NEM, LIA) and single birds there 22 Jun and 19 Aug (NEM, MCR). 1-2 birds were recorded at Ash Island 14 Feb, 20 Mar, 11 & 14 Oct, Nov and 20 Dec (several reports). Single birds were recorded at Woodville 27 Feb and 4 Dec (NEM), Bureen 10 & 25 Apr (TAH), Yarrowa 10 Apr (TAH), and Gilliston Heights (near Kurri Kurri) 18 Dec (NEM).

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

ID No: 237 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded, mostly as single birds and occasionally as pairs.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides*

ID No: 240 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and frequently recorded, usually as single birds or pairs.

Notable records: Eight birds were recorded at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG), seven birds at Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR) and five birds at Martindale 24 Jan (TAH). Three birds were at Newline Rd 19 Aug (MCR) and Wingen 11 Sep (NEG). Birds had dependent young at Tenambit 19 Nov (MCR) and also were breeding at Warabrook Sep (MCR).

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*

ID No: 046 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

Two birds were present at Johns River 19 Jun (MVBW). Single birds were regularly recorded at TWC (BAW), and also at Wang Wauk 20 Mar (MVBW), WWW 4 May (HBOC), Tenambit 29 Aug (BRG), Ash Island 11 & 21 Nov (TOM, HAP), East Seaham 16 Nov (MAM) and PNR 5 Dec (HBOC). An adult was with six dependent young at Belmont South 14 Jan (CJB).

Lewin's Rail *Rallus pectoralis*

ID No: 045 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident (*probably overlooked*).

Single birds were recorded at Ash Island 24 Jan (HAP), WWW 25 & 26 Jan (LIN/BRG, LIA) and Harrington 21 Nov (HBOC).

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*

ID No: 050 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident (*probably overlooked*).

Single birds were recorded at NWR 27 Feb (MCR), TWC May and 22 Jun (BAW, MCR), WWW 4 May (HBOC) and Tenambit 29 Aug & 18 Sep (BRG).

Australian Spotted Crake *Porzana fluminea*

ID No: 049 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident (*probably overlooked*).

A single bird was recorded at NWR 27 Feb (MCR).

Spotless Crane *Porzana tabuensis*

ID No: 051 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident (*probably overlooked*).

Single birds were recorded at WWW 25 Jan (LIN/BRG) and Croudace Bay 8 May (GOC), and two birds at Dairy Swamp Gloucester 11 Jun (DBP).

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*

ID No: 058 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded at medium to large waters, in counts of up to 20 birds at medium waters and up to 50 birds at large waters.

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at TWC several times during Feb and again there 22 Jun, 13 Jul and 24 Nov, and 50+ birds were there several other times (many reports). 50+ birds were also at Market Swamp 5 Jan (MCR) and Ellalong Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC). There were numerous breeding records spanning the entire year.

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa*

ID No: 056 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded, in counts of up to 20 birds at small to medium waters and up to 50 birds at medium to large waters.

Notable records: 100+ birds were at TWC 24 Nov (MCR) and 50+ birds often were there (many reports). There were breeding records for Jan-Mar, Jun-Jul and Oct-Dec - mainly from the Shortland area.

Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis*

ID No: 055 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Not recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2000-2002*).

No reports received for 2004.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

ID No: 059 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded at medium to large waters as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: Many hundreds of birds were recorded at GTD over May-Sep, with the peak count being of 380 birds 10 Sep (MAM). 50+ birds often were at TWC and 100+ birds there 5 Jan, 12 Feb and 24 Nov (MCR, others). 100+ birds also were at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG). There were breeding records for every month except Jul-Aug - mainly from the Shortland area.

Red-backed Button-quail *Turnix maculosa*

ID No: 013 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1999*).

No reports received for 2004.

Little Button-quail *Turnix velox*

ID No: 018 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1996*).

A single bird was recorded at Barrington House 11 Jan (HAP).

Painted Button-quail *Turnix varia*

ID No: 014 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

1-2 birds were recorded at Quorrobolong 20 Nov (MOA) and on three occasions at Green Wattle Creek over Oct-Dec (NEM).

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*

ID No: 168

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Usual summer migrant. Often recorded as counts of up to 5 birds at medium to large wetlands in the E of the Region, from Jan to mid-Mar and from late Aug onwards (*text modified: counts of >5 birds are now considered to be notable*).

Notable records: 103 birds were recorded in a survey of major lower Hunter wetlands 4-5 Dec - the main locations had 36 birds at PNR, 35 birds at Irrawang Swamp and 30 birds at Market Swamp/NWR (HBOC). Shortly afterwards though, 45 birds were recorded in just one part of PNR 10 Dec (BIA). Counts at Irrawang swamp often were much greater over Oct-Dec peaking at 73 birds there 10 Nov (LIA/MAM). Six birds were at WWW 17 Nov (SMJ) and nine birds at TWC 15 Nov (WCR). The latest record was of a single bird at Woodville 11 Apr (NEM).

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

ID No: 152

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Summer migrant.

Birds were present all year in the Hunter estuary with the peak count being of 319 birds 6 Mar. In the regular surveys of high tide roosting sites (see Table 4) the largest winter count was 11 birds, however greater numbers were frequently recorded at foraging sites in Fullerton Cove and behind the KI dykes, and the winter peak was 40 birds in Fullerton Cove 30 Jun (RIA). Also, ~100 birds were at Stockton Sandspit 6 Aug (CLT): these perhaps were on migration passage as numbers were much less in the following two months. Elsewhere, 51 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) - *such numbers are uncommon for this location*.

Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica*

ID No: 815

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1983, 1984 and 1988*).

No reports received for 2004.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

ID No: 153

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Common summer migrant. Moderately often recorded at coastal/estuarine mudflats over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, in counts of up to 20 birds, and with many young birds remaining over winter.

Notable records: In the regular surveys of high tide roosting sites, 1,100-1,200+ birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary most summer months (see Table 4). Winter counts at the roosting sites varied and sometimes were of <140 birds; however 170-200 birds were frequently recorded foraging in Fullerton Cove over Jun-Jul, and the winter peak was 207 birds there 29 Jun (RIA). At Worimi NR the peak count was 55 birds - this is much lower than for recent years, however, 888 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) and the lower Worimi counts may reflect some localised effect. Elsewhere, 97 birds were at Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (STA) and 50+ birds there 6 Feb (MCR), and 20+ birds at Swansea Channel 27 Jan (LAK).

Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*

ID No: 151

HBOC Category: 3

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Accidental.

No confirmed reports received since 2001.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

ID No: 150

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Usual summer migrant. Occasionally recorded at coastal/estuarine mudflats during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were recorded every time in monthly surveys of the Hunter estuary, with the peak summer count being of 110 birds 6 Mar. Unusually, the winter numbers peaked at 53 birds 5 Jun - *these are the largest known winter counts for the estuary, the previous highest count being of 37 birds over-wintering in 1986.* Elsewhere, 218 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) - *this represents ~2% of the Australian migrating population, a significant record.* Also, 16 birds were at Worimi NR 8 Mar and 10 birds there 11 Dec (Table 6).

Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

ID No: 149

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Common summer migrant. Moderately often recorded at coastal/estuarine mudflats – as counts of up to 20 birds during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec, and as counts of 1-5 birds during May-Aug.

Notable records: Birds were recorded every month in the Hunter estuary in surveys of high tide roosting sites (see Table 4) with the peak count being 520 birds Dec 11 (HWS). *This represents a further decline from the low peak count recorded in 2003.* The largest winter estuary count was of 108 birds. 200-300+ birds were usually recorded in summer months at Worimi NR, however, 649 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) - *this represents around 1.7% of the total world population and Port Stephens continues to be an internationally significant location for this species.* The only notable records from elsewhere were of 50+ birds at Muddishops Point 6 Feb (BRG/MCR) and 20+ birds there 21 Dec (LIN) and at Pindimar Bay 17 Dec (STA).

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

ID No: 159

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Usual summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary during the regular high tide surveys was of 120 birds present 16 Oct (Table 4), however, 140 birds were there 10 Jan (HWS). No birds over-wintered. The only records from outside the Hunter estuary were of two birds at Morpeth STP 10 Sep and three birds at Tarro 23 Oct (HBOC).

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

ID No: 158

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Usual summer migrant.

The peak counts for the Hunter estuary were of 251 birds present 7 Feb (Table 4) and 261 birds 15 Dec (TOM). In the regular surveys of high tide roosting sites (see Table 4) the largest winter count was 15 birds, however greater numbers were frequently recorded at foraging sites in Fullerton Cove and behind the KI dykes, and the winter peak was 31 birds in Fullerton Cove 30 Jun (RIA). The only record from elsewhere was of two birds at Morpeth STP 5 Dec (NEM).

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*

ID No: 809

HBOC Category: 3

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 2001*).

No reports received for 2004.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

ID No: 154

HBOC Category: 3

Regional Breeding Status: No

Status: Rare summer migrant.

No reports received for 2004.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*

ID No: 160 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant.

In the regular surveys of the Hunter estuary, the peak count was of 38 birds 11 Dec, but no birds were recorded Jan-Oct. However, 50 birds were present near Fern Bay 4 Feb (CBOC) and 30+ birds there 6 Mar (CLT); there were also several reports of up to 20 birds. Similarly, there were records of 17-19+ birds at Fern Bay during Oct-Nov (CLT). Perhaps there is now a second, as yet unlocated, high tide roost site for this species and it is noted that the late 2003 counts also were often of nil birds. Elsewhere, six birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC).

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

ID No: 157 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

Three birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 6 Mar (Table 4) and 1-2 birds frequently there over Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec (several reports). The only record from elsewhere was of a single bird in all of Port Stephens 8 Feb during a systematic survey (HBOC).

Grey-tailed Tattler *Heteroscelus brevipes*

ID No: 155 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant. Occasionally recorded at coastal/estuarine mudflats during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec, as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 75+ birds were recorded around Pindimar Bay Port Stephens 17 Dec (STA) and 44 birds in a water-based survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). *The Port Stephens records are the highest numbers for that area since 1979/80 but they also are the most systematic surveys of the area since that time.* The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 37 birds 11 Dec (Table 4). In the monthly surveys of the estuary, no birds were recorded Feb-Mar but 27 birds were at Fern Bay 21 Mar (HBOC) and up to 15 birds at other times over that period. As with the results for Terek Sandpiper, there perhaps now is an as yet unlocated additional high tide roost site for this species. Birds did not utilise Worimi NR in the summer months but up to 16 birds were present there over Jun-Sep (Table 6).

Wandering Tattler *Heteroscelus incanus*

ID No: 156 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1999*).

No reports received for 2004.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

ID No: 129 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

Eight birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) and also eight birds behind Nobbys Beach 6 Mar (MOA). Six birds were at Newcastle Baths 3 Apr (FIT) and a single bird there 29 Aug (BRG/LIN). 1-3 birds often were roosting on KI dykes over Sep-Dec (Table 4, TOM) and a single bird was at Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (STA). The numbers roosting at Newcastle Baths were down compared to recent years.

Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

ID No: 939 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1985*).

No reports received for 2004.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

ID No: 165 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 16 birds on 17 Jan and some birds were present all year (Table 4). Most winter counts were of 2-4 birds but eight birds were recorded at Stockton Sandspit 23 Jul and nine birds in the estuary 14 Aug (Table 4, RIA, CLT). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were present at Mudbishops Point 6 Feb and 21 & 29 Dec (BRG/MCR, LIN, FOC) and at LTP 16 Mar (FOC).

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

ID No: 164 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 560 birds on 16 Oct during the migration passage and up to 66 birds were present over the summer months (Table 4). In winter, 11 birds were recorded at foraging sites in Fullerton Cove 30 Jun and 2 Jul (RIA) - these were greater numbers than from the regular high tide surveys suggesting an additional roost site might exist. The only record from elsewhere was of a single bird at Harrington 21 Nov (HBOC).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

ID No: 166 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Rare.

35 birds were recorded at Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (STA) and 20+ birds often were there over Nov-Dec (several reports). These are good counts for Mudbishops Point which has been a regular location in recent years. At least nine birds also were present there 6 Feb (BRG/MCR). Elsewhere, two birds were recorded along Stockton Beach 17 Oct (LCH).

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

ID No: 162 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant.

200 birds were present at Mudbishops Point 7 Nov (HAP), 54 birds there 17 Dec (STA), 20+ birds 21 Dec (LIN) and 6+ birds 6 Feb (BRG/MCR). 20 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). 38+ birds were at Worimi NR 19 Jan but there was only one other record for this location - of a single over-wintering bird 17 Jul (Table 6). The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 93 birds 7 Feb (Table 4); also 75 birds were present 10 Jan and 60 birds 11 Dec (HWS). Unusually for recent years, some birds over-wintered in the Hunter estuary, with 13 birds regularly recorded at foraging sites in Fullerton Cove over Jun-Jul (RIA). These were greater numbers than from the regular high tide surveys suggesting an additional roost site might exist. This is supported by records of up to seven birds feeding around Stockton Sandspit in Sep (CLT) and four birds at Ash Island 19 Aug (MCR) whereas no birds were recorded in the high tide survey for either month.

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

ID No: 965 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*amended*) (*recorded 2003*).

No reports were received for 2004. The 2003 record was accepted by the NSW Ornithological Records Appraisal Committee.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

ID No: 978 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Rare.

No reports received for 2004.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

ID No: 163 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Usual summer migrant. Moderately often recorded at shallow or drying wetlands near to the coast over Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec, mostly as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 1,500+ birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 23 Oct (CBOC). In the monthly high tide surveys of the Hunter estuary, the peak count was 562 birds 7 Feb (Table 4) but ~600 birds were present 14 Jan (CLT). 300+ birds were at Morpeth STP 5 Dec (NEM) and several hundred birds were present there over Nov-Dec (Table 5). 60+ birds were at Ellalong 20 Nov (MOA) and 41 birds at Cemetery Swamp Singleton 31 Dec (STA). There was one winter record - of a single bird at Ash Island 1 Aug (HAP).

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

ID No: 161 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Common summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 420 birds 16 Oct (Table 4). Although birds were not recorded in winter at the high tide roosting sites, there were several records of two birds at foraging sites in Fullerton Cove in late June and early July (RIA). The only records from outside the Hunter estuary were of single birds at Mudbishops Point 17 & 21 Dec (STA, LIN).

Cox's Sandpiper *Calidris paramelanotos*

ID No: HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1988*).

No reports received for 2004.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*

ID No: 887 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1979*).

A single bird was first recorded on Ash Island 13 Feb (WAB/LIA) and thereafter by many observers until 18 Feb after which the bird was not found again. *The report was accepted by BARC as only the 7th confirmed Australian record for this species.*

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus*

ID No: 167 HBOC Category: 2 (*Revised*) Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1994, 1995 and 2003*).

1-4 birds were often recorded at or near Stockton Sandspit over Jan-early April and then a single bird there again from mid-Nov onwards (many reports). A single bird was at Ash Island 9 Jan (CBOC) and two birds there 29 Feb (NEM). Remarkably, there also were several records of two birds at foraging sites in Fullerton Cove in late June and early July (RIA). *This is the first known winter record since 1983.*

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

ID No: 934 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995, 1996, 1998, 2001*).

A male bird in full breeding plumage was recorded at Stockton Sandspit 10 Oct (G Richards per MOA), and then later that day at Ash Island (MCN). Also, a single bird in non-breeding plumage was present at Cemetery Swamp Singleton 31 Dec (STA).

Painted Snipe *Rostratula benghalensis*

ID No: 170 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Rare (*probably overlooked*).

A pair was first recorded near a flooded paddock on Ash Island 10 Nov (MCN) and then frequently in the same vicinity for the remainder of the year (many reports). They were observed copulating there 10 Dec (BIA).

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*

ID No: 171 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records (*Revised*)
Status: Resident, more usual in N of Region.

Single birds were recorded near Laguna 27 Mar (FOC) and at Ryhope crematorium Maitland 3 May (MCR), and a number of times at Leneghans Flat from late Oct to early Dec (several reports). No birds were found at John Browns Lagoon 13 Jun (VEE) - *previously this was a regular location and with birds breeding there.*

Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*

ID No: 174 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Birds nested at LTP from late Sep, successfully raising two chicks which were banded 3 Dec (MOA). Another pair was reported to be nesting at Salt Ash Oct (per FRN). 1-2 birds were sometimes recorded at a property near Pindimar (per ECR). Two birds were heard at Warners Bay 13 Nov (CHB).

Beach Stone-curlew *Esacus neglectus*

ID No: 175 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

Two birds were at Muddishops Point/Farquhar Inlet sometimes in Feb (BRG/MCR, MVBW) and on 16 Mar (CBOC) and 21 Dec (LIN), and a single bird at Harrington 2 Jul (MVBW).

Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*

ID No: 130 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

112 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). *This represents 1% of the estimated total population of this species thus making Port Stephens a significant national location.* Up to 16 birds were regularly present in the Hunter estuary all year, mainly at Stockton Sandspit (many reports), and 10-13 birds were at Muddishops Point 6 Feb (BRG/MCR), Pindimar Bay 17 Dec and Harrington 18 Dec (both STA). Eight birds were at Worimi NR 18 Sep and six birds at Swansea Channel 7 Apr (CLT). 1-5 birds were at Worimi NR several times (Table 6, AIM) and at Swansea Channel 27 Jan (LAK), Manning Point 23 Apr (per MOA), Tuncurry 17 Jul (MVBW), Seven Mile Beach BBNP 21 Aug (MVBW), Nine Mile Beach 16-17 Oct (ADJ) and Muddishops Point 17 Dec (STA). **Breeding:** Pairs with very young birds were present at KI dykes 4 Feb, 16 Mar, 8 Apr and 15 Sep (LIA) - the detail of the reports indicate this to have been three separate breeding events. Two pairs were found nesting in a survey along Stockton beach 16-17 Oct (HLC).

Sooty Oystercatcher *Haematopus fuliginosus*

ID No: 131 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

21 birds were at Newcastle Baths 10 Feb and 3 Apr (BRG, FIT), and 18 birds there later in Apr (POJ); also 13 birds were near Nobbys Beach Newcastle 6 Mar (MOA). 18 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). Seven birds were at Merewether Baths 4 Apr (HAA) and six birds at Smiths Beach Manning Point 24 Jan (MVBW), while 1-5 birds were often recorded at Hunter estuary locations (several reports) and also at Tuncurry 1 Mar (MVBW) and Manning Point 23 Apr (per MOA).

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

ID No: 146 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded at medium to large waters in the E of the Region as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 743 birds were recorded at Woodberry 6 Nov (MCR). The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 546 birds 11 Dec and many hundreds of birds were present there most of the year (Table 4, other reports). Numbers rose at Morpeth STP in the second half of the year peaking at 504 birds 11 Nov (Table 5). 100 birds were at Hexham Swamp 12 Nov (NEM) and 21-50 birds at TWC 5 Jan (MCR), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR), Tenambit 19 Nov (MCR) and Irrawang Swamp 5 Dec (MAM). Four birds were on nests at Ash Island during Nov (MCR) and two pairs nested at Stockton Sandspit in Oct but later abandoned the nests (CLT).

Banded Stilt *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*

ID No: 147 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995/6, 2000, 2001*).

An immature bird was first recorded at Stockton Sandspit Nov 20 (HAP) and then regularly there until early Dec (several reports).

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

ID No: 148 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Bird of passage.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 4,503 birds 18 Sep (Table 4). From mid-Jan, birds had begun to depart the estuary and very few remained over Feb-Apr. In May they started to return, and many thousands were then in the estuary from June onwards (Table 4). The only records from elsewhere were of 30 birds at Morpeth STP 5 Dec (NEM) and three birds at both Woodberry 23 Oct (CBOC) and Morpeth STP 24 Dec (Table 5).

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

ID No: 8006 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 206 birds, which were roosting at KI dykes 18 Nov (SPJ); also, 99 birds were present in the estuary 11 Dec (Table 4). Very few birds were found in the 7 Feb survey but 37 birds were at Ash Island 18 Feb (BRG/LIN). 113 birds were at Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (STA), and 65+ birds there 21 Dec (LIN), 50 birds 7 Nov (HAP) and 20+ birds 6 Feb (BRG/MCR). Elsewhere, two birds were at Oyster Cove 20 May (MCN).

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

ID No: 136 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Rare (*recorded 2001, 2002, 2003*). (*Revised from: Accidental*)

Three birds were recorded at KI dykes 18 Nov (SPJ per LIA) and single birds often at Stockton Sandspit from mid-Nov onwards (several reports).

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

ID No: 770 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

There were no reports received for 2004.

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*

ID No: 143 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded along the coast, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were regularly recorded at Fullerton Cove over Jun-Jul, with the peak count being 64 birds 29 Jun (RIA). 51 birds were also in the Hunter estuary 17 Jan and 35+ birds several other times (Table 4). 18 birds were at Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (STA) and 6+ birds there 6 Feb and 21 Dec (BRG/MCR, LIN). **Breeding:** There were at least 10 nesting events at Stockton Sandspit over Aug-Dec, involving several pairs and with many clutches successfully hatched (CLT). Also, a bird was on nest at Ash Island 18 Feb (BRG/LIN) and a runner was at Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (STA).

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

ID No: 140 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Winter migrant.

180 birds were recorded in Fullerton Cove on both 2 & 5 Jun, and 80-100 birds often in the remainder of the month and in early Jul (RIA), and there were occasional sightings of <5 birds at other estuary locations around that time. 28 birds were at Worimi NR 8 May and 10-15 birds were regularly there over Apr-Jul (Table 6). 12 birds were present at Wallis Lake 14 Apr (MVBW). Early records were of single birds at Ash Island 14 & 28 Feb (VEE, LIA, OCG) and eight birds there 21 Feb (VEE), and three birds at Mudbishops Point 9 Feb (MCR). Also, three birds were at Worimi NR 8 Mar (Table 6). From mid March, records were frequent at Worimi NR, through until mid August. *The Fullerton Cove records represent by far the largest known counts for the Hunter estuary since the 1970s.*

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*

ID No: 139 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

Five birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) and then seven birds at Worimi NR in Port Stephens on 8 Mar (Table 6). There was also an uncommon winter record of five birds at Worimi NR 17 Jul. Three birds were at Stockton Sandspit 17 Jan (Table 4) and two birds at Worimi NR 16 Apr and Mudbishops Point 17 Dec (HAS, STA). Single birds were often recorded at Stockton Sandspit over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec (many reports).

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*

ID No: 141 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*New to list*).

A single bird was recorded at Mudbishops Point 7 Nov (HAP).

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*

ID No: 142 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

No reports received for 2004.

Black-fronted Dotterel *Euseyornis melanops*

ID No: 144 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded at medium waters, mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 48 birds were in the Hunter estuary 17 Jul and 33 birds 17 Apr (Table 4). Most of the birds were at Ash Island, from where there were occasional other records of 6+ birds. 28 birds were at Mount Arthur 25 Jul (NEG) and 20+ birds at Morpeth STP 12 May and 12 Jul (Table 5). 6+ birds were recorded at TWC 12 Feb and 20 Jun (MCR, HBOC). Birds were nesting at TWC 5 Jan and Ash Island 1 Dec (MCR, MCN).

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus*

ID No: 132 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Bird of passage.

Ten birds were at Ellalong lagoon 20 Nov (MOA), and 1-5 birds were recorded occasionally throughout the year at seven different locations - Ash Island, TWC, Ellalong lagoon, Market Swamp, Morpeth STP, Tenambit, Irrawang Swamp. Birds bred at TWC in the latter part of the year (BAW, MCR).

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*

ID No: 135 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records (*Revised*)
Status: Uncommon bird of passage (*Revised from: Rare*)

Four birds were recorded at Woodberry 6 Nov and three birds at Bolwarra 20 Nov (both MCR).

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*

ID No: 133 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mostly as 1-5 birds but with counts of up to 20 birds not uncommon near medium to large waters.

Notable records: The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 142 birds 6 Mar, and 50+ birds were present there all months except Aug-Nov (Table 4). 50+ birds also were present at Morpeth STP most months (Table 5). 90 birds were recorded at Shortland STP 3 Feb (HBOC) and 64 birds were roosting together at Cemetery Swamp Singleton 31 Dec (STA). Elsewhere, 20+ birds were at Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC), Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR) and WWW 4 May (HBOC). There were several breeding records, spanning Jan and Sep-Nov.

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella*

ID No: 133 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Great Skua *Catharacta skua* (*for consistency we are continuing with this taxonomy, but we continue to anticipate that this will soon be elevated to specific status as **Brown Skua Catharacta antarctica lonnbergi***)

ID No: 980 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain

No reports received for 2004.

Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus*

ID No: 945 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

Eight birds were recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan and ten on the corresponding 1 Feb survey (HAP). Also a single bird was recorded offshore of Swansea 7 Dec (HBOC).

Table 4 Hunter Estuary Wader Surveys*(Surveys conducted at high tide roost sites)*

	Jan 17	Feb 7	Mar 6	Apr 17	May 8	Jun 5	Jul 17	Aug 14	Sep 18	Oct 16	Nov 13	Dec 11
Black-tailed Godwit	50	250	319	88	26	1	11	2	24	101	85	100
Bar-tailed Godwit	700	1200	1220	220	217	115	142	199	487	1165	1154	1100
Whimbrel	103	5	110	5	3	53	45	44	12	1	91	64
Eastern Curlew	199	475	341	52	58	68	108	93	480	363	429	520
Marsh Sandpiper	45	89	7	3	0	0	0	15	0	120	22	76
Common Greenshank	45	251	156	72	30	15	11	33	92	115	150	126
Terek Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	7	38
Common Sandpiper	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1
Grey-tailed Tattler	16	0	0	26	6	0	1	0	11	11	31	37
Ruddy Turnstone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
Great Knot	16	5	7	2	4	3	4	9	3	7	2	6
Red Knot	54	3	8	5	10	4	8	0	197	560	32	66
Red-necked Stint	25	93	41	2	4	2	5	0	0	14	48	60
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	325	562	202	1	0	0	0	0	0	327	37	115
Curlew Sandpiper	200	350	40	0	0	0	0	0	14	420	138	157
Pied Oystercatcher	7	15	16	11	8	14	8	8	15	8	8	10
Sooty Oystercatcher	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	5	1	0
Black-winged Stilt	356	92	232	425	453	294	502	302	177	62	94	546
Red-necked Avocet	1555	23	3	6	516	680	853	3500	4503	3800	2330	2654
Pacific Golden Plover	47	3	48	8	0	0	0	0	7	57	80	99
Red-capped Plover	51	4	10	13	10	19	41	10	5	35	38	14
Double-banded Plover	0	0	2	2	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser Sand Plover	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black-fronted Dotterel	1	4	9	33	14	7	48	0	0	2	3	1
Red-kneed Dotterel	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Masked Lapwing	75	72	142	95	105	68	54	23	17	38	32	73

Table 5 Morpeth STP Wader Counts*(regular surveys led by A Lindsey & M Newman)*

	Jan 21	Feb 19	Mar 11	Apr 16	May 12	Jun 22	Jul 12	Aug 16	Sep 10	Oct 14	Nov 11	Dec 24
Latham's Snipe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Marsh Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	14	4	137	151
Black-winged Stilt	44	0	0	3	92	65	101	83	230	394	504	97
Red-necked Avocet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Black-fronted Dotterel	0	0	0	0	22	12	20	5	0	0	0	0
Red-kneed Dotterel	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Masked Lapwing	42	59	66	40	64	45	74	11	56	57	11	66

Table 6 Wader Surveys at Worimi NR and Swan Bay
(Surveys conducted at high tide)

	19 Jan	7 Feb	8 Mar	16 Apr	8 May	5 Jun	17 Jul	14 Aug	18 Sep	16 Oct	13 Nov	11 Dec
Bar-tailed Godwit	53	55	40	22	27	40	32	40	54	45	0	40
Whimbrel	0	1	16	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	10
Eastern Curlew	280	273	263	0	35	22	47	120+	300+	54	265	250+
Grey-tailed Tattler	0	0	0	0	9	10	16	9	13	0	0	0
Red Knot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Red-necked Stint	38+	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0
Pied Oystercatcher	4	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	8	2	1	4
Black-winged Stilt	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Golden Plover	0	0	0	11	2	0	4	0	0	17	22	0
Red-capped Plover	1	0	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Double-banded Plover	0	0	3	15	28	10	11	0	0	0	0	0
Lesser Sand Plover	0	0	7	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Masked Lapwing	2	6+	6	<6	6+	0	2	2	1	0	2	2

Arctic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus*

ID No: 128 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant.

Five birds were present on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan and one bird on the corresponding 1 Feb survey (HAP). Five birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC), and a single bird was seen off Stockton Beach 7 Mar (MOA).

Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus*

ID No: 933 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncertain.

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan (HAP).

Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus*

ID No: 126 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1994, 1997).

No reports received for 2004.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*

ID No: 981 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1998).

No reports received for 2004.

Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae*

ID No: 125 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded along the coast and at near-coastal waters, with counts of up to 100 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: Many hundreds of birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary all year and the numbers rose substantially in Mar-Apr to a peak count of 1,397 birds 17 Apr (HWS). 1,000+ birds also were at Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR) while 377 birds were present in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). Birds had dependent young at Myuna Bay 1 Jun (HBOC).

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*

ID No: 111 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Resident.

20+ birds often were recorded at Stockton Sandspit over Sep-Oct with peak counts of 49 birds on 18 Sep (HWS) and 73 birds on 24 Sep (CLT). Most counts there in other months were of <10 birds and all were of <20 birds, and similarly at other Hunter estuary locations. Elsewhere, 18 birds were on Stockton Beach 17 Oct (LCH) and single birds at Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC), Worimi NR 14 Aug (HAS) and Swansea 7 Dec (HBOC).

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*

ID No: 112 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Resident.

15 birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 17 Apr and eight birds 8 May, and 1-5 birds there most months (HWS, other reports). Seven birds were at Worimi NR 5 Jun and 18 Sep (HAS), and in all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC). 1-5 birds were recorded at Swansea 27 Jan and 7 Dec (LAK, HBOC), Wangi Point Reserve 1 Jun (HBOC), Worimi NR 14 Aug and 16 Oct (HAS), and at Morpeth STP several times over Jan-Aug (LIA, NEM, MCR).

Crested Tern *Sterna bergii*

ID No: 115 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Often recorded along the coast, with counts of up to 20 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: 178 birds were recorded in a survey of all of Port Stephens 8 Feb (HBOC) and 100+ birds at Mudbishops Point 6 Feb (BRG/MCR). 20+ birds were at Worimi NR 7 Feb (HAS), Stockton Sandspit 21 Mar (HBOC) and Mudbishops Point 21 Dec (LIN).

White-fronted Tern *Sterna striata*

ID No: 114 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon winter migrant (*probably under-reported*).

15 birds were recorded at Newcastle Baths 25 Jul (FOC), and also a single bird there 29 Aug (BRG/LIN).

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

ID No: 953 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant. Frequently recorded along the coast over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec as counts of 1-5 birds.

300+ birds were recorded at Mudbishops Point 6 Feb (BRG/MCR) and 200+ birds there 17 Dec (STA). 200 birds were at Nobbys breakwater 26 Jan (LIA), and 100+ birds at Stockton Beach 7 Mar (MOA). 85 birds were in Newcastle Harbour/Stockton 24 Jan (VEE) and 21-50 birds at Nobbys Beach 6 Mar (MOA), Stockton Sandspit 21 Mar (HBOC) and Stockton 4 Apr (VEE).

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*

ID No: 117 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Moderately often recorded along the coast over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 400+ birds were recorded at Mudbishops Point 6 Feb (BRG/MCR) and 300+ birds there 17 Dec (STA). Birds had dependent young there 6 Feb and were on nests and had nests with eggs there 21 Dec (LIN).

Sooty Tern *Sterna fuscata*

ID No: 120 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1997, 2001, 2002*).

1-2 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys SE of Swansea in Jan and on 1 Feb (HAP).

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*

ID No: 110 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Bird of passage.

There was an influx into the Hexham Swamp/Lenaghans Flat area from mid Oct to mid Nov, with the peak count being 200 birds 23 Oct (CBOC) and several records of 50-100 birds. Elsewhere, 15 birds were at Morpeth STP 14 Oct (LIA/NEM), six birds at Ash Island 18 Sep (STA) and three birds at Stockton Sandspit 12 Oct (HAP).

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

ID No: 109 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant (*probably under-recorded*).

16 birds were present at Stockton 24 Jan (VEE) and ten birds at Nobbys breakwater 26 Jan (LIA). Up to seven birds were recorded at locations around Newcastle Harbour at other times over Feb-Mar, with the last report being two birds at Stockton 4 Apr (VEE).

Common Noddy *Anous stolidus*

ID No: 122 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1977 & 1999*)

No reports received for 2004.

Black Noddy *Anous minutus*

ID No: 124 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*new to list*)

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey SE of Swansea in Jan (HAP).

Grey Ternlet *Procelsterna cerulea*

ID No: 982 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995, 2002*)

No reports received for 2004.

White Tern *Gygis alba*

ID No: 972 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

ID No: 957 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Moderately often recorded around Newcastle and suburbs, and less frequently at other townships, mostly as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR) and 21-50 birds at WWW 18 Jan and 4 May (HBOC), Shortland STP 3 Feb (HBOC), Morpeth STP 19 Aug (MCR) and Stockton Sandspit 15 & 19 Nov (MCR). Birds were on nest at Hamilton 7 Nov and had dependent young at Newcastle 24 Oct (both GOC).

White-headed Pigeon *Columba leucomela*

ID No: 028 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were moderately often recorded all year, and 6+ birds were at Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR).

Spotted Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

ID No: 989 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded in the E of the Region, mainly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at TWC 19 Mar (MCR). There were several breeding records over Jan-Mar.

Brown Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia amboinensis*

ID No: 029 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Ten birds were at Copeland Flora Reserve 30 May (DBP) and 6+ birds at Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR) and Brunkerville 22 Feb and 5 Oct (both HBOC). 1-5 birds were often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region.

Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

ID No: 033 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

1-2 birds were recorded at Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Brunkerville 22 Feb (HBOC), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), Salt Ash 8 & 22 Jun and 3 Jul (COD) and Copeland NR 3 Jul (FOC per DBP).

Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

ID No: 034 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

~30 birds were recorded at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and 6+ birds at Anvil Hill (G6) 11-12 Oct (MCR). 1-5 birds, where numbers were noted, were present at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG), GRNP 9-12 Apr (QUT), Brimbin 6 May (MVBW), Anvil Hill 26 Jan and 2 Oct (HBA), Wingen 24 Aug (NEG), Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC), Yarrawa 25 Sep (TAH) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC), and occasionally at Yengo NP (I9) during year (ALP).

Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans*

ID No: 035 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident

A bird was heard at Crowdy Bay NP 21 Dec (LIN).

Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*

ID No: 043 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Woodberry Swamp 6 Apr (HBOC), Kings Gap 26 Apr (LIN) and Wingen 9 May (NEG). Birds were on nest at TWC 5 Jan and 19 Mar (MCR) and again bred there over Sep-Oct (BAW) and at Warabrook in Dec (MCR).

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

ID No: 031 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Not recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995, 2003*).

See Escapees.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata*

ID No: 030 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident.

14 birds were at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and 1-5 birds were widely and moderately often recorded. Some birds were at Woodville in Feb-Mar - they had not previously been recorded at this location in many years of surveys (NEM).

Bar-shouldered Dove *Geopelia humeralis*

ID No: 032 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Eleven birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and 7+ birds at TWC 3 Mar (BRG).

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

ID No: 044 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident.

1-5 birds were moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region. Three pairs were at Cooranbong 4 May (MAP).

Wompoo Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus magnificus*

ID No: 025 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded.
Status: Resident.

A single bird was recorded at Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR).

Superb Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus superbus*

ID No: 023 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare.

No reports received for 2004.

Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*

ID No: 021 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare.

All reports were from the rainforest area at Harrington - 4+ birds were there 20 & 21 Nov, two birds 21 Dec and a bird was heard 7 Nov (HBOC, CBOC, LIN, HAP).

Topknot Pigeon *Lopholaimus antarcticus*

ID No: 027 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident and bird of passage.

30+ birds were recorded at Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR) and 23 birds at Wallsend 13 Oct (OCG). 40+ birds were flying over Stockton Sandspit 6 Aug (CLT) and 20+ birds were flying over Ash Island 19 Aug (MCR). 1-3 birds were at Mount Royal 1 Jan and 11-14 May (HAR) and Gloucester Tops 30 Jan (BRG/MCR).

Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

ID No: 265 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

11 birds were at Lees Pinch GRNP 11 Apr (FOC) and 1-5 birds were occasionally recorded in the central and E parts of the Region. Birds were with juveniles/dependent young at Cooranbong 4 May (MAP) and Wyee 22 Nov (MDV).

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus*

ID No: 267 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 43 birds were recorded at Mudbishops Point 21 Dec (LIN), 25+ birds at Hexham 8 Aug (BRG) and 22 birds at Teralba 21 Nov (MAC). Birds had juveniles/dependent young at East Maitland 24 Jan (BRG) and Laguna 24-26 Apr and 13-14 Jun (RDB).

Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum*

ID No: 268 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

30+ birds were recorded at various locations in the Watagans 13-14 Jan (MOA) and 20 birds at both Laguna 9-12 Apr (RDB) and Martinsville May (FIM); also 16 birds were at Quorrobolong 20 Nov (MOA) and 12 birds at Laguna 24-26 Apr (RDB). 1-10 birds were moderately often recorded, mostly in or near to the Laguna/Watagans area but also at Toronto 2 May (TOM), Teralba 29 Nov (CLT) and Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC). Birds had dependent young at Laguna 9-12 and 24-26 Apr (RDB). *An above average year.*

Galah *Cacatua roseicapilla*

ID No: 273 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, as counts of up to 10 birds in the E of the Region and up to 20 birds further inland.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded along Jones Reserve Rd and at Martindale 4 Feb (both BRG/MCR) and at TWC 19 Mar (MCR), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (both HBOC). Birds had a nest at Toronto Aug 3 (HBOC).

Long-billed Corella *Cacatua tenuirostris*

ID No: 272 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

There were frequent sightings of large flocks at Duns Creek over Feb-Mar, with a peak count of 104 birds 7 Mar (BAP); also 28 birds were together there 22 Jan (NEM). 80+ birds were at SSNR 19 Aug (MCR) and ten birds at Green Wattle Creek 4 Oct (NEM). 1-5 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 16 Aug (LIA), Muswellbrook 11 Sep (MCR) and Tenambit 19 Aug and 19 Nov (MCR), and at NWR Feb-Mar, Jul and Oct (BAW). A bird at Tenambit 19 Aug was inspecting hollows.

Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea*

ID No: 271 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

Flocks of ~200 birds were recorded at Birmingham Gardens 11 May (MCR) and occasionally at New Lambton (STA). 50+ birds were at NWR 6 Apr (HBOC) and SSNR 19 Aug (MCR) and 20+ birds at Cessnock 13 Oct (BAV) and Wingen 15-20 Oct (NEG). Groups of up to 20 birds were widely and often recorded in the Region all year.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

ID No: 269 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 300+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and 50+ birds at East Seaham 29 Aug (MAM) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). 21-50 birds were at Jones Reserve Rd 4 Feb (BRG/MCR), Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG) and Wingen 9 May and 15-20 Oct (NEG).

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

ID No: 274 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncertain.

See Escapees.

Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*

ID No: 254 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Tomaree NP (P9) 20 Mar (HBA), Worimi NR 8 May and 5 Jun (HAS), Woods Point Morisset 23 May (HBOC), Blackalls Park Reserve 20 Aug (OCG) and Swansea 7 Dec (HBOC). Birds had nests with eggs & young in the Mandalong area 2 Mar (HBOC) and were nesting at Mambo Swamp near Salamander Bay mid Sep (LIG).

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*

ID No: 256 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded near to the coast, mostly as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Wangi Point Reserve 1 Jun (HBOC).

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna*

ID No: 258 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Bird of passage.

6-10 birds were recorded at East Seaham 1 Aug (CAR), Blackalls Park Reserve 20 Aug and 3 Sep (OCG, LIN) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). 1-5 birds were often at Blackalls Park Reserve over Aug-Oct (many reports) and also 1-5 birds were present at Moonan Flat 14 Jan (TAH), Toronto 25 Feb and 3 Dec (TOM, CJB), Buttaba 6 & 9 Feb (CHG), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), Wingen 9 May and 15-20 Oct (NEG), Galgabba Point 31 May (MOA), White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and Rankin Park Aug (STJ). **Breeding:** A pair nested at Blackalls Park 3 Aug to 5 Oct but the fate of any young is uncertain. A second pair was found nesting there early Nov and regularly monitored until seen feeding a fledged young on 11 Dec (GOA). *This is the first confirmed breeding record for the Region for a very long time. However, it is to be noted that the first breeding record for the Hunter Region was made by John Gould on 24 Oct 1839 - the two eggs he collected are in the British Museum (information per COD).*

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*

ID No: 260 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, mostly as counts of <10 birds but with greater numbers being not uncommon.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Woods Point Morisset 23 May (HBOC) and 20 birds near Moonan Flat 3 Apr (TAH). Two birds were at The Hill Newcastle 12 Jan (HAP) - an unusual urban location.

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis*

ID No: 281 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and frequently recorded in the E and central parts of the Region, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 30 Jan (BRG/MCR). Birds had some dependent young there and also at Wingen late in the year (NEG). A bird was inspecting a hollow at Glen Oak 28 Nov (MAM).

Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus*

ID No: 280 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental.

No reports received since 1999.

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*

ID No: 282 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded in the central and E parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 30 Jan (BRG/MCR) and 20+ birds at Warakeila 31 Jan (NEM) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). A pair had a nest with young at the latter location.

Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius*

ID No: 288 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Green Wattle Creek 7 Jan (NEM), WWW 18 Jan (HBOC), Hunter estuary 17 Apr (HWS) and Woodville 3 Jul (BRG). There were many breeding records spanning Jan and Sep-Dec.

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*

ID No: 309 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon winter migrant.

14 birds were recorded at Blackalls Park Reserve 20 Aug (OCG), nine birds at Woods Point Morisset 23 May (HBOC) and 8+ birds at Belmont Swamp (flying over) 12 Apr (LAK). Three birds were present near Quorrobolong 23 May (MOA) and a single bird at Morisset 23 May (RIA).

Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus*

ID No: 295 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 53 birds were recorded at Milbrodale 10 Jun (NEG) and 21-50 birds near Belltrees 3 Apr (TAH) and at Woodville 3 Jul (BRG). There were many breeding records spanning Jan-Mar and late Jul-Dec.

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella*

ID No: 302 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident.

Three birds were recorded at Richmondvale (near Mulbring) 13 Jun (VEE), two birds at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun and a single bird at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (both HBOC).

Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*

ID No: 336 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1994, 1999, 2001, 2002*).

Two birds were recorded at Wyee Point 28 Nov (MDV/MOA).

Pallid Cuckoo *Cuculus pallidus*

ID No: 337 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant

Single birds were recorded at TWC 5 Jan (MCR), Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG), Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC), Yarrowa 2 Oct, Denman 2 Oct (both TAH), Ash Island 2 Nov (HBOC), Bolwarra 7 Nov (TAH), Harrington 21 Nov (HBOC), Glenrock SRA 30 Nov (MCR), PNR 5 Dec (HBOC) and Tenambit 5 Dec (BRG).

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*

ID No: 339 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Summer migrant.

1-2 birds were moderately often recorded until late Feb and then again from early Oct. 3+ birds were at Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC).

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

ID No: 338 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mainly as <5 birds.

Notable records: Six birds were at TWC 13 Jul (MCR). A young bird was being fed by Brown Thornbill at Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 21 Nov (HBOC).

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx osculans*

ID No: 341 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1994, 1995, 1998, 2000-2003*).

Single birds were heard at Yarrowa 25 Sep (TAH) and seen at Pine Grove Rd (H8) 31 Oct (HTH).

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx basalus*

ID No: 342 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant, some birds are present all year.

Single birds were occasionally but widely recorded, with no reports after 27 Feb, when a bird was heard at NWR (MCR), until 29 Sep when a bird was at WWW (TAH).

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

ID No: 344 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant, some birds are present all year.

As usual, birds were widely and often recorded around the Region but only 15% of the reports were from the period May-Aug and 50% of the reports were for Sep-Nov.

Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus*

ID No: 345 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1992*).

A single bird was recorded at East Seaham 20 Apr (MUJ).

Common Koel *Eudynamys scolopacea*

ID No: 347 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: A young bird was being fed by Little Wattlebird at The Junction 5 Nov (GOC).

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

ID No: 348 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common summer migrant. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*

ID No: 349 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally recorded in the E of the Region, usually as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*

ID No: 248 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

A pair and a juvenile were at Glenrock SRA 30 Nov (MCR). Single birds were seen or heard at Gloucester Tops 8 Jan (HAP), Rankin Park 9 Jan (HAP), Toronto 2 & 28 Feb and 3 Mar (TOM), Clarendetown 13 Feb (TOM), Carey Bay 26-27 Feb (HCL), Balickera Mar and May (MUJ), Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun and 11-12 Oct (BRG, MCR), Stockton sand dunes 6 Sep (MCR), and Salamander Bay mid Sep and 6 Oct (LIG, CLT). Also, a dead bird was found by the roadside at Hawks Nest turn-off 19 Jul (MOT). *An above average year.*

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*

ID No: 246 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Accidental.

A bird was heard at Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun (BRG).

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

ID No: 242 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded as single birds or pairs.

Notable records: Four birds were recorded at Toronto 25 Dec and birds were with dependent young in that area 8 Dec (both TOM).

Sooty Owl *Tyto tenebricosa*

ID No: 253 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare.

Birds were heard at three locations in the Watagans on 2 Jan - at Monkey Face, Gap Creek and Boarding House Dam (TOM). Two birds were at Boarding House Dam 31 Jan (TOM) and two birds were heard at Gloucester Tops 8 Jan (HAP).

Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae*

ID No: 250 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Rare.

Birds were heard at Gloucester Tops 8 Jan (HAP), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun (BRG).

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

ID No: 249 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident (*probably under-recorded*).

Two birds were recorded at Kerrabee 30 Oct (BRG/MCR) and single birds at Largs 17 Aug (BRG), Warabrook 23 Aug and 1 Sep (MCR) and Mount Arthur 13 Oct (NEG). A dead bird was also at Mount Arthur 13 Oct, and another dead bird at TWC 28 Sep (WCR).

Grass Owl *Tyto capensis*

ID No: 729 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncertain.

Single birds were recorded at Crowdy Bay NP 5 Nov and 27 Dec (HAP, FOC).

Tawny Frogmouth *Podargus strigoides*

ID No: 313 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, usually as single birds or pairs.

Notable records: There were several breeding records, spanning Feb and Oct-Dec, and three birds were at Cardiff 14 Apr (WEJ).

White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis*

ID No: 330 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant

Three birds (one heard) were recorded at Gloucester Tops 8 Jan (HAP) and two birds were heard in the Watagans area 9 Jan (HAP). Single birds were recorded at Watagans SF 2 Jan and Clarencetown 13 Feb (both TOM) and Balickera Mar (MUJ).

Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus*

ID No: 331 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1989*).

No reports received for 2004.

Australian Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*

ID No: 317 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Five birds (four heard) were present at Boarding House Dam Watagans NP 1 Feb (MCR/BRG). Single birds were recorded at Watagans SF 2 Jan (TOM), Boarding House Dam 2 Jan and 25 Sep (TOM, HBA), GRNP 9-12 Apr (QUT), Laguna 24-26 Apr (RDB), Anvil Hill (G6) 2 Oct and 11-12 Oct (HBA, MCR) and Stockyard Creek Awaba SF 26 Nov (TOM).

White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus*

ID No: 334 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Summer migrant. Moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 100 birds were recorded at Taree in mid Jan (MVBW) and 20+ birds at Wallaroo SF 3 Mar (HUF), Chatham 4 May (MVBW) and Seaham 23 Oct (AMT).

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

ID No: 335 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

Six birds were recorded at Saltwater 5 Feb (MVBW) and a single bird at TWC 22 Apr (MCR). Some birds were also at Wingham 19 Mar (MVBW) - numbers were not noted.

Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea*

ID No: 319 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region, mainly as single birds and occasionally as pairs.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*

ID No: 322 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mainly as <10 birds and usually as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were nesting at Vacy 24 Oct (TAH) and nested successfully at Wingen late in the year (NEG). A bird was inspecting a hollow at Middlebrook (H4) 11 Sep (NEG). A bird was attempting to swallow an adult Sacred Kingfisher at Lorn 21 Nov (HEF).

Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii*

ID No: 324 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1998, 2001, 2002*).

A single bird was recorded at Brunkerville 5 Oct (MCR).

Red-backed Kingfisher *Todiramphus pyrrhoptera*

ID No: 325 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

No reports received for 2004.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

ID No: 326 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant, some birds may be locally resident. Widely and regularly recorded over Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Two birds over-wintered at Worimi NR, being recorded there 8 May and 17 Jul (HAS). Birds were nest building at Glenrock SRA 30 Nov (MCR).

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

ID No: 329 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Occasionally but widely recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, mostly as counts of <10 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

ID No: 318 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Widely and frequently recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Ten birds were recorded at Singleton 18 Nov (BRG). Birds were nesting at TWC 5 Jan and 27 Feb (MCR).

Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor*

ID No: 352 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

A bird was with dependent young at Main Creek (M6) 25 Jan (NEM) – *this is the first confirmed breeding record by HBOC for the Region*. A pair was at Copeland Reserve 8 Feb (DBP), and single birds at Barrington House 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Brunkerville 22 Feb (HBOC), Main Creek 25 Feb (NEM) and Crowdy Head NP 19 May (FOC).

Superb Lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae*

ID No: 350 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the central part of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Four birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 30 Jan and Boarding House Dam Watagans 1 Feb (both MCR/BRG) and at Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC). Three birds were also at Laguna 24-26 Apr (RDB). A bird at Laguna 19 Sep was displaying.

Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens*

ID No: 355 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

Single birds were seen or heard at Kerrapit Road (Gloucester Tops) 30 Jan, 19 Sep and 27 Nov (BRG/MCR, JED, HAP).

White-throated Treecreeper *Cormobates leucophaeus*

ID No: 558 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of <10 birds and predominantly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds had a nest with young at Greta River Reserve 31 Oct (TAH) and were feeding dependent young at Wingen late in the year (NEG).

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythroptera*

ID No: 560 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

Six birds were recorded at Kerrapit Road Gloucester Tops 19 Sep (JED) and 1-5 birds there 30 Jan and 22 May (BRG/MCR). 1-5 birds were also at various locations in Watagans 13-14 Jan (MOA), Boarding House Dam Watagans 1 Feb (MCR/BRG), Gloucester Falls 31 May (FOC), Gap Creek Watagans 31 Oct (MOA) and Pheasants Creek Rd 30 Dec (STA).

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

ID No: 555 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region, mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and 5+ birds at Anvil Hill (G6) 2 Oct (HBA).

Superb Fairy-wren *Malurus cyaneus*

ID No: 529 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and often as counts of 21-50 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at TWC 20 Jun (HBOC), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). There were breeding records for all months except May-Aug.

Variegated Fairy-wren *Malurus lamberti*

ID No: 536 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Regularly recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 1-5 birds and frequently as up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at HRBG 14 Jul (MCR) and 21-50 birds at Tank Paddock 12 Jul (MCR) and HRBG Sep 7 (HBOC). Birds had dependent young/nests with young at TWC 5 Jan, 19 Mar and 27 Oct (MCR, LIA).

Red-backed Fairy-wren *Malurus melanocephalus*

ID No: 541 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Uncommon resident, in north of Region.

Four birds were recorded at Fosterton Loop 14 Mar (HBA) and three birds there 3 Oct (JED).

Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus*

ID No: 526 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident, locally common.

1-5 birds were recorded at Green Point Forster 15 Jan (MVBW), TWC 27 Feb, 19 Mar and 24 Nov (MCR), Galgabba Point 12 Mar (ADJ), Warakeila 21 Apr (NEM), Crowdy Bay NP 10 May (MVBW), Morisset 23 May (HBOC), Awabakal NR 10 Oct (HAP), Wyee Point 31 Oct (HAP) and Stockyard Creek Awaba SF 26 Nov (TOM).

Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*

ID No: 565 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds but with counts of up to 20 birds being not uncommon.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun (HBA) and at Green Wattle Creek sometimes over May-Jun (NEM). Birds were on nest at TWC 22 Jun and 13 Jul (MCR), Laguna 11-12 Sep (RDB) and Teralba 8 Nov (CLT), and were nest building at Wingen 24 Aug (NEG). There also were breeding records for TWC over Sep-Oct (BAW).

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*

ID No: 976 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and frequently recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun (HBA) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC), and 6+ birds at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and HRBG 14 Jul (MCR). Birds were on nest at Wallabadah Rock 1-4 Oct.

Pilotbird *Pycnoptilus floccosus*

ID No: 506 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncertain (*recorded 2000*).

No reports received since 2000.

Rockwarbler *Origma solitaria*

ID No: 505 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

8+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and seven birds at Laguna 9-12 Apr (RDB). 1-5 birds were at Laguna 28-29 Feb, 24-26 Apr and 13-14 Jun (all RDB), Yengo NP 4 Apr (HAR) and Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun and 11-12 Oct (BRG, MCR et al).

Yellow-throated Scrubwren *Sericornis citreogularis*

ID No: 493 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

20+ birds were recorded at Sharpes Creek 22 May (MCR et al) and 6-20 birds at Barrington House 28 Jan and Copeland Forest Preserve 30 Jan (both BRG/MCR), Brunkerville 22 Feb and 5 Oct (both HBOC), Jerusalem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA) and Copeland SF 24 Oct (LIA). 1-5 birds were at Chichester Dam 28 Jan and Allyn River 28 Jan (both BRG/MCR), Boarding House Dam Watagans 1 Feb and 25 Sep (MCR/BRG), Mount Royal 11-14 May (HAR), Gloucester Tops 22 May (HBA), Problem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA) and Main Creek 31 Aug (BRG). Birds were on nest at Barrington House 28 Jan and had dependent young at Brunkerville 22 Feb.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*

ID No: 488 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mainly as counts of 1-5 birds but with counts of up to 20 birds being not uncommon.

Notable records: Birds were with dependent young at Whitebridge 5 Nov (GOC).

Large-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis magnirostris*

ID No: 494 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were recorded at Barrington House 28 Jan and Chichester Dam 28 Jan (both BRG/MCR), Brunkerville 22 Feb and 5 Oct (HBOC), Brimbin 6 May (MVBW), Mount Royal 11-14 May (HAR), Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 May (MCR et al), Sharpes Creek 22 May (MCR et al), Problem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA), Copeland SF 24 Oct (LIA) and Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 21 Nov (HBOC).

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren *Hylacola pyrrhopygia*

ID No: 498 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident, possibly overlooked.

Single birds were recorded near Jerrys Plains 24 Jan (TAH) and at Old Bar 3 Jun (MVBW), White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and Awaba SF 26 & 29 Nov (TOM).

Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittata*

ID No: 504 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded 2.5km W of Broke 17 May (JED) and at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC). Birds had a nest with young at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC).

Weebill *Smicrornis brevirostris*

ID No: 465 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr, White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (both HBOC), Wambo Rd Bulga Aug 21 (MCR/BRG) and Anvil Hill (G6) 11-12 Oct (MCR et al).

Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki*

ID No: 454 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds, and with counts of 21-50 birds being not uncommon.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 30 Jan (BRG/MCR) and Brunkerville 22 Feb and 5 Oct (HBOC).

Mangrove Gerygone *Gerygone levigaster*

ID No: 460 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded at mangrove areas as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 10 birds were recorded at Ash Island 25 Oct (HAP) and 6+ birds there 17 Apr (LIN) and in the NW corner of Fullerton Cove 17 Jun (RIA).

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca*

ID No: 463 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Uncommon bird of passage in the W and central parts of the Region.

Four birds were recorded at Bulga 2 Feb and three birds at Wambo Rd Bulga Aug 21 (both MCR/BRG). 1-2 birds, where numbers were noted, were at Anvil Hill (G6) 16 Jun, 2 Oct and 11-12 Oct (HBA, BRG, MCR), Bulga 3 Sep (LIA), Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC) and Yarrowa 25 Sep (TAH).

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone olivacea*

ID No: 453

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Summer migrant. Widely and frequently recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Ten birds were recorded at Green Wattle Creek 11 Sep (NEM) and 6+ birds there over Oct-Nov (NEM) and at Vacy 6 Sep (TAH) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). A bird was heard at Gloucester in May (DBP).

Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*

ID No: 475

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 May and HRBG 14 Jul (both MCR). A bird was feeding a young Fan-tailed Cuckoo at Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 21 Nov (HBOC).

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*

ID No: 484

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident. Often recorded in the central and W parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Muswellbrook 11 Sep and some were nest building there (MCR). Birds also had nests with young at Green Wattle Creek 11 May (NEM) and Bulga 3 Sep (LIA), and were copulating at Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun (BRG).

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

ID No: 486

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG), Woodberry Swamp 6 Apr (HBOC), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC), Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC) and Anvil Hill (G6) 11-12 Oct (MCR). Birds had a nest with young at Wingen 15-20 Oct and were feeding dependent young there later in the year (NEG).

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana*

ID No: 471

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Stoney Creek 1 Apr (DUP), Ash Island 17 Apr (LIN) and Tank Paddock Minmi 12 Jul (MCR). Birds had dependent young at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG).

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata*

ID No: 470

HBOC Category: 1

Regional Breeding Status: Yes

Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 May (MCR et al), and Yerando (M6) 31 Jul (HBA). Birds had nest with eggs at Laguna 11-12 Sep (RDB) and a nest with young in the same area 19 Sep (HBOC).

Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

ID No: 466

HBOC Category: 2

Regional Breeding Status: Past records

Status: Uncommon resident in W of Region.

No reports received for 2004.

Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*

ID No: 638 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at HRBG 5 Jun (MCR). There were several breeding records spanning Jan-Mar and Oct-Nov.

Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera*

ID No: 637 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Regularly recorded near to the coast as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at HRBG 5 Jun (MCR) and Belmont Swamp 14 Jun (LAK). Birds had a nest with young at NLH Sep-Oct (THF) and were feeding a young Common Koel at The Junction 5 Nov (GOC).

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

ID No: 640 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

A single bird was recorded in a garden at Wingen 9 Aug (NEG).

Striped Honeyeater *Plectorhyncha lanceolata*

ID No: 585 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were recorded at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG) and White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC). Birds were nesting at Old Bar 29 Dec (FOC).

Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus*

ID No: 645 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and moderately often as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Ash Island 17 Apr (LIN et al) and HRBG 14 Jul (MCR), and at Cessnock for 2 weeks in mid- Oct (BAV). Birds were nest building at Cessnock in Aug (BAV) and at Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC).

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*

ID No: 646 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Bird of passage.

6+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and some birds were at Harrington 6 Feb (BRG/MCR).

Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrygia*

ID No: 603 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon winter migrant.

Ten birds were recorded at 5km E of Wollar 25 Jul-9 Aug (FOC per GED). A single bird was at Quorrobolong 9 Aug (ROM) and at least one bird in the same area the following day (FOC).

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*

ID No: 641 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were recorded at Oyster Cove 13 & 26 Mar (MCN), Muswellbrook 21 May (POY) and Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC). Birds were feeding young at Swansea 1 Jun (MOA) and feeding fledged young at Bolwarra early Oct (TAH).

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

ID No: 633 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 10-30 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Mount Sugarloaf 15 May (MCR) and Minmi 6 Jul (HBOC). A new colony formed in a gully near Fitness Rd Martins Creek in Apr (NEM).

Yellow-throated Miner *Manorina flavigula*

ID No: 634 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala*

ID No: 634 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and moderately often as counts of 21-50 birds.

Notable records: There were several breeding records spanning Mar and Oct-Dec.

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*

ID No: 605 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Regularly recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 1-5 birds, and often as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops*

ID No: 614 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident, with influxes in autumn/winter. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 30 birds over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, and counts of up to 100 birds during the Apr-Aug migration passage.

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at Belmont Swamp 12 Apr (LAK).

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens*

ID No: 608 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1993, 1998, 1999, 2002*).

No reports received for 2004.

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis*

ID No: 617 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of Region as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: An estimated 20 birds were recorded at White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC).

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops*

ID No: 619 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*

ID No: 613 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Mount Sugarloaf 15 May (MCR).

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

ID No: 625 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were present at Mount Sugarloaf 15 May (MCR), White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and Anvil Hill (G6) 11-12 Oct (MCR). The most easterly record was of a single bird at East Maitland 30 Sep (BRG).

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*

ID No: 580 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident in central/west of Region.

Four birds were recorded 4.5km to the E of Wollar 9 Aug, and some birds were at Quorrobolong 31 Jul (both FOC).

Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris*

ID No: 583 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident, uncommon in E of Region. Widely and moderately often recorded in W and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Tomaree NP (P8) 20 Mar (HBA). Birds had dependent young at Seaham Jan (MEL).

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*

ID No: 578 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region over Jan-Mar and Aug-Dec as counts of up to 20 birds, and with counts of 21-50 birds being not uncommon over Apr-Jul.

Notable records: Birds had dependent young at Middlebrook (H4) 11 Sep (NEG).

Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*

ID No: 597 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Up to 20 birds were recorded all year at TWC and NWR and often also at nearby Market Swamp (many reports) and there were breeding records for these locations in Feb and Mar (BAW, MCR). Elsewhere, some birds were at Stockton Sandspit 25 Jun and 15 & 19 Nov (CLT, MCR) and Swansea 7 Dec (HBOC).

Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta*

ID No: 598 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1993, 2001, 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera*

ID No: 630 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

6+ birds were recorded at both Gloucester Falls and Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 May (HBA) and some birds were heard at Kerrapit Road 19 Sep (JED). 4+ birds were at Pheasants Creek Rd Barrington Tops 29-30 Dec (STA).

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

ID No: 631 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were recorded at NWR Feb (BAW), Awabakal NR 30 May and 14 Aug (POY), TWC Jul (BAW), Santa Barbara BBNP 21 Aug (MVBW), Kerrapit Road Gloucester Tops 19 Sep (JED) and Kilaben Bay 28 Sep (TOM).

White-cheeked Honeyeater *Phylidonyris nigra*

ID No: 632 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Regularly recorded in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds, and with counts of up to 50 birds being not uncommon.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at TWC 12 Feb and 13 Jul and HRBG 14 Jul (all MCR), and at Wye Point 31 Oct (HAP). 21-50 birds were present at Belmont Swamp 25 Mar (LAK) and HRBG Sep 7 (HBOC), and often at TWC over Jan-Mar and in Nov (MCR). There were several breeding records from TWC.

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater *Phylidonyris melanops*

ID No: 593 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records (*Revised*)
Status: Resident.

1-2 birds, where numbers were noted, were recorded at Awabakal NR 30 May, 14 Aug, 9-10 Oct and 24 Oct (HAP, POY) and at Santa Barbara BBNP 21 Aug (MVBW).

Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

ID No: 591 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at HRBG 14 Jul (MCR). Birds had dependent young at TWC 5 Jan (MCR) and also bred there in Feb (BAW).

Black Honeyeater *Certhionyx niger*

ID No: 589 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

No reports received for 2004.

Pied Honeyeater *Certhionyx variegatus*

ID No: 590 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002, 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

ID No: 586 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 1-5 birds, and occasionally as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Gap Creek Watagans NP 25 Sep (HBA) and at Green Wattle Creek 11 Sep, 8 Oct and 8 Dec (NEM). There was a breeding record for TWC in Feb (BAW).

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albifrons*

ID No: 448 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Birds were regularly recorded at three locations - Ash Island, Stockton Sandspit and Worimi NR. The peak counts were 80+ birds at Ash Island 17 Apr (LIN), seven birds at Worimi NR 19 Jan (HAS) and <5 birds at Stockton Sandspit (several records).

Jacky Winter *Microeca fascinans*

ID No: 377 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and 6-20 birds at Kings Gap 4 Feb and 26 Apr (MCR/BRG, LIN), Warakeila 21 Apr and 1 Jul (NEM), Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC) and Anvil Hill (G6) 11-12 Oct (MCR et al).

Scarlet Robin *Petroica multicolor*

ID No: 380 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Resident (and altitudinal migrant).

Single birds were recorded at Awaba SF 17 Jul (MCR) and Kerrapit Road Gloucester Tops 19 Sep (JED), and a pair at Kings Gap 24 Jun (NEM).

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

ID No: 381 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

Six birds were recorded at Wambo Rd Bulga 16 May and 21 Aug (ALP, MCR/BRG), and 1-5 birds at Jones Reserve Rd 24 Jan (TAH), Milbrodale 10 Jun (NEG), Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun, 2 Oct and 11-12 Oct (BRG, HBA), Bulga 3 Sep (LIA) and Yarrawa 25 Sep (TAH).

Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea*

ID No: 382 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Six birds were recorded at Kerrapit Road Gloucester Tops 19 Sep (JED) and many birds were present at Barrington Tops 29-31 Dec (STA). 1-5 birds were at Nabiac 13 Jun (MVBW), O'Brien's Crossing Goulburn River 14 Jun (STA), Maitland 14 Jun (HEM), Gloucester Tops 12 & 27 Nov (CBOC, HAP) and Polblue Swamp 29 Dec (FOC).

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea*

ID No: 384 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Usual resident (and altitudinal migrant). Often recorded in counts of 1-5 birds in low and mid altitude areas during Apr-Aug and at mid to high altitudes in the remainder of the year.

Notable records: Birds were nesting at Gloucester Tops 28 Oct (HAP) - *this is the first confirmed breeding record for the Region since 1984.*

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*

ID No: 385 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident, in west of Region.

1-5 birds were recorded at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG), Martindale 28 Feb (TAH), Jones Reserve Rd 13 Mar and 25 Apr (TAH), Glen Oak 14 Apr (MAM), Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), Kings Gap 24 Jun (NEM), Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun, 2 Oct and 11-12 Oct (BRG, HBA, MCR) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC), and in the Jerrys Plains area 25 Apr and 8 Aug (TAH).

Pale-yellow Robin *Tregellasia capito*

ID No: 396 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Resident.

Groups of two and three birds were recorded at locations near Barrington House 28 Mar (TAH). Single birds were at Copeland Forest Preserve 30 Jan (BRG/MCR), Problem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA), Main Creek 31 Aug (BRG) and Jerusalem Creek (M6) 31 Jul and 31 Aug (HBA, BRG). A bird was on nest at Copeland SF 24 Oct (LIA) - *this is the first confirmed breeding record since 1982.*

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*

ID No: 392 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds and occasionally as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: Birds were nest building at Wingen 24 Aug (NEG) and Harrington 21 Nov (HBOC), and had dependent young at Swan Bay/Worimi NR 11 Dec (HAS) and at three locations - Chichester Dam, Barrington House and Allyn River - all on 28 Jan (BRG/MCR).

Logrunner *Orthonyx temminckii*

ID No: 434 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident.

A male bird was recorded at Barrington House 28 Dec (TAH), and two birds were heard there 28 Jan (BRG/MCR).

Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis*

ID No: 443 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded in counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: Ten birds were at Yarrowa 5 Jun (TAH) and Wingen 24 Aug (NEG). Birds were nest building at Cessnock Aug and carrying food there 13 Oct (both BAV), and had fledged young and a nest with young at Quorrobolong 20 Nov (MOA).

White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

ID No: 445 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Groups of 6 and 7 birds were recorded at two locations around White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC), and some birds were also present in that area 9-12 Apr (QUT).

Eastern Whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus*

ID No: 421 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 12+ birds were recorded at HRBG 5 Jun (MCR). Birds were feeding young at Brunkerville 22 Feb (HBOC).

Spotted Quail-thrush *Cinclosoma punctatum*

ID No: 436 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Three birds were recorded at Laguna 9-12 Apr (RDB) and Mount Sugarloaf 9 May (BRG). 1-2 birds were at Laguna 28-29 Feb (RDB), Mount Sugarloaf 21 Jan, 21 Feb and 15 May (NEM, HBA, MCR), Phipps Cutting Wollemi NP 24 Jun (NEM) and Awaba SF 17 Jul (MCR).

Varied Sittella *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*

ID No: 549 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded Tomaree NP (P9) 20 Mar (HBA). Birds were nest building at Bulga Aug 21 (MCR/BRG).

Crested Shrike-tit *Falcunculus frontatus*

ID No: 416 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Four birds were recorded at Jerusalem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA) and at Kerrapit Road Gloucester Tops 19 Sep (JED). A bird was with a dependent young near Jerrys Plains 24 Jan (TAH).

Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis*

ID No: 419 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1987*).

No reports received for 2004.

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea*

ID No: 405 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident, of highland areas.

1-2 birds were recorded at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 & 30 May, 19 Sep and 28 Dec (MCR, FOC, JED, STA) and at Pheasants Creek Rd Barrington Tops 30 Dec (STA).

Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis*

ID No: 398 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 10 birds and mostly as <5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were with dependent young at Worimi NR 11 Dec (HAS).

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

ID No: 401 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common summer migrant, some birds over-winter. Widely and regularly recorded over Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec as counts of up to 20 birds but mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Winter records were of single birds at Yarrawa 5 Jun (TAH) and White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC). Birds were with dependent young at Worimi NR 7 Feb (HAS).

Little Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

ID No: 413 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncertain (*recorded 1996*).

No reports received for 2004.

Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

ID No: 408 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were nest building at Teralba 8 Nov (CLT).

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*

ID No: 373 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant. Moderately often recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Spectacled Monarch *Monarcha trivirgatus*

ID No: 375 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

Four birds were recorded at Harrington 6 Feb (BRG/MCR) and three birds there 21 Dec (LIN). Three birds were also at Crowdy Bay NP 21 Dec (LIN). 1-2 birds were at Barrington House 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Point Road Ohmas Bay 4 Mar (MVBW), TWC 8 Mar and in Apr (RIA, BAW), Copeland SF 24 Oct (LIA), Woko NP 14 Nov (CBOC), Harrington 21 Nov (HBOC), Barrington House 28 Dec (TAH). A pair had a dependent young at Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 21 Nov (HBOC).

White-eared Monarch *Monarcha leucotis*

ID No: 376 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

Single birds were recorded at Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 6 & 21 Nov and 21 Dec (HAP, HBOC, LIN). The 2003 record of a bird at the same location was accepted by the NSW Ornithological Records Appraisal Committee.

Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*

ID No: 365 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Moderately often recorded over Jan-Mar and from mid-Sep onwards, as counts of up to 5 birds.

Notable records: Eight birds were recorded at Green Wattle Creek 8 Oct and ten birds there 8 Dec (NEM).

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

ID No: 366 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Rare.

Three birds were recorded at Kerrapit Road Gloucester Tops 30 Jan (BRG/MCR) and a single bird at Tank Paddock Minmi 29 Feb (LIN et al).

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*

ID No: 369 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident.

6+ birds were recorded at Anvil Hill (G6) 11-12 Oct (MCR et al) and four birds at Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). Single birds were at Martins Creek 24 Jan (NEM), PNR 6 Mar (MOA), Wollombi 27 Mar (FOC), Green Wattle Creek 1 Apr (NEM), Martindale 25 Apr (TAH), Kings Gap 26 Apr (LIN et al) and Anvil Hill 26 Jun and 2 Oct (BRG, HBA).

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

ID No: 415 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were together at Hexham Swamp 12 Nov (NEM). 21-50 birds were recorded at WWW 18 Jan and 4 May (HBOC), Woodberry Swamp 6 Apr (HBOC), Morpeth STP 12 May and 24 Dec (LIA/NEM), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR), Phoenix Park 9 Jul (MAM) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). There were many breeding records spanning Jan-Apr and Aug-Dec.

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*

ID No: 362 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region from Jan until mid-Apr and from late Sep onwards, as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: A single bird was at Cessnock SF 22 Apr (GOJ) – a somewhat late departure.

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura fuliginosa*

ID No: 361 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Tank Paddock Minmi 12 Jul (MCR) and HRBG Sep 7 (HBOC), and occasionally at both TWC (MCR) and Green Wattle Creek (NEM). There were several breeding records spanning Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec.

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

ID No: 364 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of 1-5 birds and occasionally as up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at TWC 3 Feb (HBOC) and Morpeth STP 12 May (LIA). There were several breeding records spanning Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec.

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus*

ID No: 673 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Winter migrant and bird of passage. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region over Apr-Oct as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Early arrivals were single birds were at TWC 2 Feb (BAW) and Hunter estuary 7 Feb (HWS), and two birds at TWC 22 Feb (WCR) and 3 Mar (BRG). Also, a bird was at Gloucester 13 Mar (FOC).

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*

ID No: 424 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds but mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG) and Ash Island 17 Apr (LIN). Birds had nests with young or were with dependent young at WWW 18 Jan (HBOC), Bulga 2 Feb, Shortland STP 3 Feb (HBOC) and Bolwarra early Oct (TAH).

Barred Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina lineata*

ID No: 428 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1996, 2000, 2003*).

Single birds were recorded at Harrington 7 Nov and 21 Nov (HAP, LIN).

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*

ID No: 425 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

1-2 birds were recorded at Woodville 20 Feb (NEM), Green Wattle Creek 20 Feb, 1 & 10 Apr and 11 Sep (NEM), WWW 4 May (HBOC), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR), Quorrobolong 31 Jul (FOC), Muswellbrook 11 Sep (MCR), Yarrawa 25 Sep (TAH), Harrington 21 Dec (LIN). The bird at Green Wattle Creek 1 Apr was a dark phase bird.

Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris*

ID No: 429 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Moderately often recorded in the central and E parts of the Region from Jan to mid-Mar and from mid-Sep onwards, as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Birds had dependent young at Tank Paddock Minmi 29 Feb (LIN).

Ground Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina maxima*

ID No: 423 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1993, 1994, 2000*).

Two birds were recorded at Yarrawa 5 Jun (TAH).

White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii*

ID No: 430 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant.

1-5 birds were recorded at Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG), Kings Gap and Martindale 4 Feb (MCR/BRG), TWC 27 Feb (MCR) and Ash Island 2 Nov (LPC), and a female with two dependent young was at Jones Reserve Rd 24 Jan (TAH).

Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*

ID No: 431 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

All records were from the Harrington rainforest area - four birds there 7 Nov (HAP), 2+ birds 18 & 21 Dec (STA, LIN) and single birds 6 Feb, 11 Aug and 21 Nov (BRG/MCR, CBOC, HBOC).

Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*

ID No: 671 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: A bird was feeding a fledged chick at Glenrock SRA 4 Dec (HAP).

Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*

ID No: 432 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region, especially at locations near to the coast, as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Harrington 6 Feb, 21 Nov and 21 Dec (BRG/MCR, HBOC, LIN) and Throsby Creek 17 Feb (HBOC). Birds were feeding young at Towibakh NR (S4) 24 Jan (MVBW) and Harrington 6 Feb.

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

ID No: 543 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common summer migrant. Frequently recorded at or near medium to large fresh waters in the E of the Region over Jan-Apr and from mid-Aug onwards as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Market Swamp 5 Jan and birds had nests with dependent young there (MCR). There were several other breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Oct-Dec.

Masked Woodswallow *Artamus personatus*

ID No: 544 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare irruptive visitor.

No reports received for 2004.

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus*

ID No: 545 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes (*amended*)
Status: Rare irruptive visitor.

Approximately 20 birds were recorded near Jerrys Plains 24 Jan (TAH) and 8+ birds at Challis Cutting near Moonan Flat 14 Jan with one dependent young (TAH). This is understood to have been a fledged bird and hence it is not a confirmed breeding record for the Region.

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus*

ID No: 547 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant, and some birds are present all year. Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of 1-10 birds, mainly over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec.

Notable records: Records for the period Apr-Aug were of a single bird at Belmont Swamp 12 Apr (LAK), two birds at Jones Reserve Rd 24 Jun (NEM), 6+ birds at Kings Gap 26 Apr (LIN) and 12+ birds at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC). Birds were with dependent young at Green Wattle Creek 10 Jan (NEM).

Little Woodswallow *Artamus minor*

ID No: 548 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1987*).

No reports received for 2004.

Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus*

ID No: 702 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds had dependent young/nests with young at TWC 5 Jan and 10 Oct (MCR). There were other breeding records for TWC over Aug-Nov and Warabrook Feb (BAW).

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis*

ID No: 700 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds had dependent young/nests with young at TWC 5 Jan (MCR), Toronto Aug 3 (HBOC) and Glen Oak 15 Oct & 16 Nov (MAM).

Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*

ID No: 705 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and occasionally as 21-50 birds especially during Mar-Aug.

Notable records: 30 birds were recorded at Shortland STP 3 Feb (HBOC) and 31 birds at Cressfield Rd Wingen 11 Sep (NEG). There were many breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Aug-Dec. An albino bird was at Edgeworth 20 Nov (OCG).

Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*

ID No: 694 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident (and altitudinal migrant). Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC) and 50+ birds Problem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA). There were breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Oct-Nov.

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*

ID No: 697 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995, 1997*).

No reports received for 2004.

Paradise Riflebird *Ptiloris paradiseus*

ID No: 686 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident.

There were no confirmed records.

Australian Raven *Corvus coronoides*

ID No: 930 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds and occasionally as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR) and 21-50 birds at Mount Arthur 12 Apr (NEG), Ash Island 17 Apr (LIN), TWC 22 Jun (MCR) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC). There were some breeding records spanning Jan-Mar and Aug-Oct; also birds were nesting at Minmi 6 Jul and TWC 13 Jul (HBOC, MCR).

Forest Raven *Corvus tasmanicus*

ID No: 868 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were recorded several times at Harrington over Feb and Nov-Dec (several reports) and at Johns River 19 Jun (MVBW), Crowdy Bay NP 21 Nov and 21 Dec (HBOC, LIN) and Mudbishops Point 21 Dec (LIN). A bird was feeding a fledged young at Mudbishops Point 21 Nov (LIA) - *this is considered to be insufficient for a confirmed breeding record for the Region.*

Little Raven *Corvus mellori*

ID No: 954 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

A single bird was at Vacy 6 Sep (TAH) and some birds were Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), Gloucester May (DBP) and Yarrawa 17 Oct (LIA/NEM).

Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*

ID No: 692 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in counts of up to 10 birds in the area bounded by Dungog and Gloucester in the west and Port Stephens to the south, and in counts of up to 5 birds around Hunter estuary wetlands.

Notable records: An estimated 90 birds were at Vacy 9 Jun (TAH). Birds were recorded all year at TWC and at nearby wetlands in Shortland (BAW). The southernmost record was of birds heard at Tank Paddock Minmi 12 Jul (MCR).

White-winged Chough *Corcorax melanorhamphos*

ID No: 693 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the central and W parts of the Region, and occasionally in the E, mostly as counts of 6-20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), and 21-50 birds at Duns Creek 22 Jan (NEM), Bulga 2 Feb (MCR/BRG), White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC), Anvil Hill (G6) 26 Jun and 11-12 Oct (HBA, MCR) and Kings Gap Aug 21 (MCR/BRG). A bird was on nest at Vacy 6 Sep (TAH).

Green Catbird *Ailuroedus crassirostris*

ID No: 676 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-5 birds were recorded at Watagans 2 Jan and 26 Jan (TOM, HAP), Barrington House and Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Boarding House Dam Watagans NP 1 Feb (MCR/BRG), Saltwater 5 Feb and 10 May (MVBW) and Gloucester Tops 27 Nov (HAP).

Regent Bowerbird *Sericulus chrysocephalus*

ID No: 684 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Resident.

6+ birds were recorded at Jerusalem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA), and 1-5 birds at Allyn River 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Harrington 6 Feb (BRG/MCR), BbR 22 Apr (LCP), Saltwater 5 Feb and 10 May (MVBW), Hannam Vale 19 Mar (MVBW), Nulama Ponds 1 Apr (MVBW), Martins Creek 17 Nov (NEM), Clarendetown 23 Nov (STL), Harrington 21 Nov & 21 Dec (HBOC, LIN) and Crowdy Bay NP 21 Dec (LIN).

Satin Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

ID No: 679 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Problem Creek (M6) 31 Jul (HBA). Birds were with fledged young at Bolwarra early Oct (TAH) and were nest building at Glen Oak 27-28 Nov (MAM).

Spotted Bowerbird *Chlamydera maculata*

ID No: 680 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports received for 2004.

Singing Bushlark *Mirafra javanica*

ID No: 648 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Rare.

A single bird was recorded at Yarrawa 25 Sep (TAH).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

ID No: 993 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1994, 1996, 2003*).

There were no confirmed records.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

ID No: 647 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, mostly as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR).

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

ID No: 877 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Rare summer migrant.

There were many records of a single bird at the usual location on Ash Island between 14 Feb and 24 Mar. Also a single bird was recorded there 23 Nov (MCR).

Black-backed Wagtail *Motacilla lugens*

ID No: 781 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1998).

No reports received for 2004.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

ID No: 995 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Frequently recorded at or near populated areas as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata*

ID No: 653 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the central and W of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds, and occasionally in the E of the Region as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Bolwarra 13 Apr and 19 Aug (TAH, MCR) and at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC). Birds were nest building at East Maitland 10 Nov (BRG) and were had nests with young at Jerrys Plains 10 Apr (GOC) and at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr.

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

ID No: 655 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Martindale 4 Feb (BRG/MCR) and Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr (HBOC), and 21-50 birds at Jones Reserve Rd 4 Feb and Aug 21 (MCR/BRG) and Black Rock Rd Martins Creek (NEM). Some birds were nest building at Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr and birds were on nest at Kings Gap 4 Feb (MCR/BRG) and Tank Paddock Minmi 12 Jul (MCR) and had dependent young at Wingen 15-20 Oct (NEG).

Plum-headed Finch *Neochmia modesta*

ID No: 661 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Rare.

Four birds were recorded at Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC) and two birds at Tarro 24 Jan (BRG).

Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis*

ID No: 662 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and moderately often as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: 56 birds were present at Green Wattle Creek 2 Jul (NEM). There were many breeding records mostly spanning Jan-Mar and Nov, however birds were also on nests at Tank Paddock Minmi 12 Jul and TWC 13 Jul (both MCR).

Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata*

ID No: 652 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

6-20 birds were at Martindale 4 Feb (BRG/MCR), Kings Gap 4 Feb and 26 Apr (MCR/BRG, LIN), White Box Camp 11-14 Jun (HBOC) and Jones Reserve Road 28 Aug (TAH). 1-5 birds were often recorded in the W of the Region, while two birds were at WWW 13 Apr (MCN) – an unusual easterly record. Birds were nest building at Kings Gap 4 Feb.

Nutmeg Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*

ID No: 983 HBOC Category: 3 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Accidental (*last recorded 1991*)

No reports received for 2004.

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax*

ID No: 657 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

70 birds were recorded at Leneghans Flat 6 Mar (MOA) and 20+ birds there 16 Apr (BRG) and also at NWR 6 Apr (HBOC) and Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR). 6-20 birds were at Tank Paddock Minmi 26 Jan (LIA), Shortland STP 3 Feb (HBOC), Gloucester 13 Mar (FOC), WWW 26 Apr (TAH), NWR 13 Jul (MCR), Tenambit 25 Jul (BRG) and Speers Point 21 Aug (MAC). 1-5 birds were frequently present at TWC/NWR (several reports) and birds were on nests and nest building at TWC 27 Feb and 19 Mar (MCR).

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

ID No: 996 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

14 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 24 Jul (HAP) and 1-5 birds there 30 Jun (MCR) and at NWR 13 Jul (MCR), KI 20 Jul (CLT), Ash Island 19 Aug and 31 Oct (MCR, BRG), East Maitland 23 Aug and 25 Sep (BRG), TWC 31 Oct and 15 Nov (BRG, MCR) and Hunter estuary 11 Dec (HWS). There also were records for NWR Apr, Jun, Sep and Nov-Dec (BAW).

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

ID No: 564 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and frequently recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were with dependent young at Tank Paddock Minmi 29 Feb (LIN).

White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosternus*

ID No: 358 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Past records
Status: Summer migrant.

12 birds were recorded feeding together near Lees Pinch GRNP 11 Apr (QUT) and 1-3 birds at Jones Reserve Rd 24 Jun, 21 Aug and 25 Sep (NEM MCR/BRG, TAH), Muswellbrook 11 Sep (MCR), Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC) and Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC).

Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena*

ID No: 357 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and as counts of up to 50 birds near medium to large waters.

Notable records: 413 birds were recorded at Hunter estuary 6 Mar and 140 birds there 11 Dec (HWS). Many hundreds of birds were present at Ash Island 6 Mar (MOA) and 100+ birds there 18 Feb (BRG/LIN). 150 birds were at Morpeth STP 11 Mar (LIA) and 51-100 birds at Morpeth STP 21 Jan (LIA), Ash Island 21 Mar (HBOC) and Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR). Birds were on nest at TWC 5 Jan (MCR) and had nests with young at Ellalong Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC) and Whitebridge 5 Nov (GOC), and also nested at Warabrook Feb-Mar and Sep-Dec (BAW).

Tree Martin *Hirundo nigricans*

ID No: 359 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at Glen Oak 15 Aug (MAM), 76 birds at Morpeth STP 11 Mar (LIA), 50 birds at Hunter estuary 17 Jan (HWS) and 21 birds at Green Wattle Creek 12 Aug (NEM).

Fairy Martin *Hirundo ariel*

ID No: 360 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant; some birds appear to be resident. Frequently recorded at medium to large waters in the E and central parts of the Region from Jan to mid-Mar and from early Aug onwards, as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50 birds were recorded at Hunter estuary 17 Jan (HWS). There were breeding records for Warabrook Feb-Mar and Oct-Dec and at TWC Feb (MCR).

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

ID No: 990 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

Three birds were recorded at Belmont Swamp 12 Apr (LAK) and single birds at Caves Beach 29 Apr (CLT) and Belmont Swamp 14 Jul (LAK).

Clamorous Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus*

ID No: 524 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant; some birds are resident. Widely and often recorded near medium to large waters during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

ID No: 523 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally recorded near medium to large waters in the E of the Region as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 6-10 birds were recorded at TWC 22 Jun and 24 Nov (MCR) and Ash Island 25 Oct (HAP). Birds were with dependent young at TWC 27 Feb (MCR) and were carrying nesting material at Stockton Sandspit 24 Sep (CLT).

Little Grassbird *Megalurus gramineus*

ID No: 522 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident. Occasionally recorded near medium to large waters in the E of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

ID No: 509 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Summer migrant in central/west of Region.

1-5 birds were recorded at Kings Gap and Martindale 4 Feb (BRG/MCR), Jones Reserve Rd 25 Sep (TAH), Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC), Wingen 13-20 Oct (NEG), Mount Arthur 16 Oct (NEG), Fosterton Loop 18 Oct - 2 Nov (JED) and Dungog 7 Nov (JED). Also, a single bird was at Stockton Sandspit 13 Nov (several reports) - an unusual location.

Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis*

ID No: 508 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Uncertain.

Single birds were recorded at Wallabadah Rock (H2) 1-4 Oct (HBOC) and Mount Arthur 16 Oct (NEG).

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*

ID No: 525 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: A bird was displaying at NWR 27 Feb (MCR).

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

ID No: 574 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident and winter migrant. Widely and regularly recorded all year as counts of up to 50 birds, and as counts of up to 100 birds in the E of the Region during Apr – mid-May and mid-Jun – Jul.

Notable records: Several hundred birds were recorded at Belmont Swamp 12 Apr and 100+ birds there 14 Jun and 14 Jul (all LAK).

THRUSH SPECIES

Both *Zoothera* species occur in the Hunter Region, but field identification is difficult. In addition to the reports detailed below, a single unidentified bird was recorded at Green Point Belmont 23 May (WAR2) and two unidentified birds at Kerrapit Road 19 Sep (JED).

Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata*

ID No: 779 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: None recorded
Status: Resident.

Five birds were recorded at Sharpes Creek 22 May (MCR), three birds at Brunkerville 22 Feb (HBOC) and also birds were seen at several locations in the Watagans 13-14 Jan (MOA). 1-2 birds were at Barrington House 28 Jan (BRG/MCR), Boarding House Dam Watagans 1 Feb and 25 Sep (MCR/BRG, HBA), Laguna 19 Sep (HBOC), Brunkerville 5 Oct (HBOC) and Gloucester Falls 28 Dec (STA). A dead bird was found at TWC early May (WCR) - an unusual location.

Russet-tailed Thrush *Zoothera heinei*

ID No: 780 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Resident.

Single birds were recorded at Allyn River 28 Jan and Gloucester Tops 30 Jan (BRG/MCR), and at Copeland NR 3 Jul (per DBP).

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

ID No: 991 HBOC Category: 2 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Rare.

Single birds were recorded at Cessnock 19 Sep (BRG), East Maitland 3 Oct (BRG) and Telarah 4 Dec (BRG), and at two separate locations in Maitland 9 Nov (TAH). Two birds were heard at East Maitland 10 Nov (BRG).

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

ID No: 999 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded as counts of up to 100 birds.

Notable records: 100-200 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 11 Mar, 22 Jun and 12 May (LIA), Hexham Swamp 30 Jun (MCR), Wallalong 9 Jul (MAM) and Morpeth 15 Sep (MAM). There were several breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Oct-Dec.

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*

ID No: 998 HBOC Category: 1 Regional Breeding Status: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and as counts of up to 50 birds in the E of the Region

Notable records: Birds had dependent young at WWW 18 Jan (HBOC) and Woodberry 28 Feb (MCR) and also were nesting at PNR 5 Dec (HBOC).

SUPPLEMENTARY RECORDS

HBOC's Records Appraisal Committee has accepted the records described below:

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*

Birds bred at Toronto Wetlands in late 2003 (per MOA).

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

Birds bred at Toronto Wetlands in late 2003 (per MOA).

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Nine birds were at Woodberry Swamp 13 Dec 2003 (CBOC). Birds bred at Toronto Wetlands in late 2003 (per MOA).

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Five birds were at Woodberry Swamp 13 Dec 2003 (CBOC).

Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis*

Birds bred at Toronto Wetlands in late 2003 (per MOA).

Nankeen Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Birds bred at Toronto Wetlands in late 2003 (per MOA).

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca*

Birds bred at Toronto Wetlands in late 2003 (per MOA).

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

A bird flew over Gloucester 13 Nov 2002 (per DBP).

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*

A pair with 2 fledged young was at Stockrington Nov 2003 (SIM).

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

Two birds were recorded near Morpeth 3 Jul 2003 (NEM).

Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*

A pair nested at Lemon Tree Passage in Nov 2003 and successfully raised one chick (MOA). A pair nested at Pindimar in 1998 and 1999 and successfully raised young, and in 1999 and 2002 they nested unsuccessfully (per ECR).

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*

15 birds were recorded at Bolwarra 18 Oct 2003 and three birds there 20 Nov (both BRG).

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*

A bird was heard near Gloucester 10 Oct 2003 (DBP).

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

An adult and a fledgling were recorded at Glen Oak 13 Dec 2003 (MAM).

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

A single bird was recorded at Hinton 16 June 2003 and then on several occasions in the following month (NEM).

Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens*

At least four birds were present at Gloucester Tops 30 Dec 2003 (FOC).

Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus*

Some birds were present at Harrington 15 Oct 2003 (MVBW).

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

Six birds were recorded at Stairs Rd Giants Creek 18 June 2003 (NEM).

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea*

An adult male bird was recorded at Gloucester Tops 30 Dec 2003 (FOC).

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

There was a winter record of a male bird at Giants Creek 18 June 2003 (NEM).

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*

Birds had a nest with young at Old Bar 6 Nov 2003 (MVBW).

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

A single bird was recorded near Hinton 10 July 2003 (NEM).

UNCONFIRMED RECORDS

Some reports were not accepted by HBOC's Records Appraisal Committee – either because of inadequate description or insufficient information having been provided by the time of printing. The information presented below is for completeness; future Reports will advise of any records that have been accepted as a result of supplementary details being provided.

King Quail *Coturnix chinensis*

About six birds were reported to have been present along the Pinney Beach track 7 Mar.

Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*

A single bird was reported to have been at Stockton Sandspit 19 Nov.

Stint spp *Calidris spp*

A single bird with a different jizz to the Red-necked Stint that were present was reported at Stockton Sandspit several times in the first part of the year including 30 Jan, 17 Apr and 8 May.

South Island Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus finschi*

ID No: 744

A single bird was reported by two experienced observers to have been at Stockton Sandspit 3 Feb. A good description was provided; however in view of the rarity of this species in Australia the results of an appraisal by the Birds Australia Records Committee are awaited.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*

ID No: 981

A single bird was reported to have been at Newcastle Beach 22 Dec 2003.

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

ID No: 640

Single birds were reported to have been at Kings Gap 4 Feb and Appletree Flat 23-26 Apr.

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

ID No: 366

Two birds were reported to have been at Vacy 9 Jan.

Paradise Riflebird *Ptiloris paradiseus*

ID No: 686

Two birds were reported to have been at Vacy 24 Oct.

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

ID No: 993

Two birds were reported to have been at Hexham Swamp 30 Jun and a single bird near GTD 16 Jun.

ESCAPEES

The species below were recorded in the Region during the year, but are considered probably to be escapees rather than part of a self-sustaining wild population. Note that records of feral geese have been ignored – these often do not identify the species involved, also it is considered that the birds often are semi-domesticated (e.g. deliberately or opportunistically fed by visitors).

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

Single birds were recorded at Eleebana Feb/Mar (GOA) and East Maitland 8 Sep (BRG).

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

A single bird was recorded at TWC 13 Jul (MCR).

LOCATION ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations for locations within the Hunter Region have been used:

BBNP	Booti Booti National Park	NR	Nature Reserve
BbR	Blackbutt Reserve	NWR	Newcastle Wetlands Reserve
GTD	Grahamstown Dam	PNR	Pambalong Nature Reserve
GRNP	Goulburn River National Park	SBS	Stockton Borehole Swamp
HRBG	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	SF	State Forest
KI	Kooragang Island	SRA	State Recreation Area
KNR	Kooragang Nature Reserve	SSNR	Seaham Swamp Nature Reserve
LTP	Lemon Tree Passage	TWC	The Wetlands Centre, Shortland
MLNP	Myall Lakes National Park	STP	Sewage Treatment Plant
NLH	New Lambton Heights	WWW	Walka Water Works
NP	National Park		

GRID REFERENCES FOR COMMON LOCATIONS

Recorders visit many common locations regularly, and it would be repetitious to cite their grid references every time that they are mentioned in the Report. Grid references for commonly visited locations are:

Aberdare SF	K10	Hawks Nest	P8/P9
Allyn River	K5	Hexham Swamp NR	L10/M10
Appletree Flat	H8	Howes Valley	H10
Arrowfield	H7	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	M9
Ash Island	M10	Irrawang Swamp	M9
Awabakal N. R.	M10/11	Jerrys Plains	H7
Balickera	M9	John Brown's Lagoon	L10
Barrington House	L5	Kooragang Island	M10
Battery Rocks	E6	Kurri Kurri	K9
Bayswater Colliery	H6	Laguna	I10
Belmont Swamp & Lagoon	M11	Lemon Tree Passage (LTP)	O9
Blackbutt Reserve (BbR)	M10	Lenaghans Flat	L10
Bootawah	Q4	Maitland	L9
Bolwarra	L9	Market Swamp	M10
Boondelbah Island	P9	Martindale	G7
Booti Booti NP (BBNP)	R6	Medowie	N9
Broke	I9	Morisset	K11
Broughton Island	P8	Morpeth	L9
Bulahdelah	P7	Mount Arthur	H6
Bulga	I8	Mount Vincent	K10/L10
Cabbage Tree Island	P9	Mudbishops Point (Old Bar)	R4
Cessnock	K9/K10	Newcastle	M10
Chichester Dam	M6	Newcastle Wetlands Reserve	M10
Chichester SF	K5/L5	New Lambton Heights	M10
Clarencetown	M8	Old Bar	R4
Cooranbong	K11	Oyster Cove	N9
Copeland Common	N4	Paterson	L8
Copeland Forest Preserve	M4/M5	Pokolbin	J9
Copeland Tops State Forest	M4	Pambalong Nature Reserve (PNR)	L10
Denman	G7	Quorrobolong	K10
Dungog	M7	Rathluba Lagoon	L9
Ellalong & Ellalong Lagoon	J10	Raymond Terrace	M9
Fingal Bay	O9	Redhead	M11
Forster	R6	Salt Ash	N9
Fosterton Loop	M7	Scone	H5
Galgabba Point	L11	Seaham Swamp NR (SSNR)	M8
Glenrock SRA	M10	Seal Rocks	R7
Gloucester	N5	Singleton	I8/J8
Gloucester Tops	M5/L5	Stockton	M10
Grahamstown Dam (GTD)	M9	Stockton Borehole Swamp (SBS)	L10
Green Wattle Creek	L9	Swan Bay	N9
Hallidays Point	R5	Swansea, Swansea South	L11
Harrington	S4	Taree	Q4

Tarro	M9	Watagans SF & NP	K11
The Wetlands Centre (TWC)	M10	White Box Camp (in GRNP)	C6
Toronto	L11	Williamstown	N9
Tuncurry	R6	Wingen	H4
University of Newcastle	M10	Wingham/Wingham Brush	Q4
Vacy	L8	Woko NP	M3
Waitui	R3	Woodville	L9
Walka Water Works (WWW)	L9	Worimi NR	N9
Wallingat SF	Q6/Q7	Wyee Point	L11
Warakeila	L6	Yarrawa	F7
Warkworth	I8		

OBSERVER CODES

Although not all reporters are specifically cited in the main body of the Report, every observation by every observer was important for the analyses that were made. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions from *ALL* those listed below. Observers are identified by codes that are made up of letters from the names of the persons or organisations concerned.

ADJ	Jack Adams	CRL	Liz Crawford
AIM	M Aitkens	DBP	Penny Drake-Brockman
ALP	Peter Alexander	DUP	Pam Durie
AMT	T Ameson	ECR	Robbie Economos
ANC	Craig Anderson	EDH	H Edgerton
BAP	Paul Baird	FIN	Neil Fifer
BAT	Trent Bagnall	FIM	Mark Fidler
BAV	Valda Barton	FIP	Pamela Fitzsimons
BAW	Wilma Barden	FIT	Trish Firkin
BEC	Claire Bell	FOC	Reported in Birding NSW (Field Ornithologists Club) newsletter
BIA	Birding-Australia (Internet group)	FRL	Lynne Fricker
BLM	Max Blanch	FRN	Neil Fraser
BRC	Charlotte Brock	GED	David Geering
BRG	Grant Brosie	GOA	Anthony Gooden
BWA	Wayne Barnden	GOC	Colin Goodenough
CAR	Ross Carlton	GOJ	John Goswell
CBOC	Reported in Cumberland Bird Observers Club newsletter	HAA	A Hamer
CHB	Brian Chaffey	HAJ	Judy Harrington
CHG	G Charlton	HAP	Phil Hansbro
CHM	Marilyn Chegidden	HAR	Richard Harris
CJB	John, Beth Cockerell	HAS	Sue Hamonet
CLG	Greg Clancy	HBA	HBOC Atlassing Survey
CLT	Tom Clarke	HBOC	Observation from an HBOC outing or camp
COD	Dick Cooper		

HCL	Chris, Liz Herbert	MUB	B Murton
HDE	Doug, Elke Howarth	MUW	Wendy Murdoch
HEM	Martin Heffron	MVBW	Reported in newsletter of the Manning Valley Birdwatchers
HTH	Hunter Thickheads	NEG	Greg Newling
HUC	Corey Hughes	NEM	Mike Newman
HUF	Florence Humphreys	OCG	Graeme O'Connor
HUL	Liz Huxtable	POJ	Jenny Powers
HWS	HBOC Wader Surveys	POY	Yasha Ponomarenko
IJK	Jim, Kay Imrie	RDB	Dorothy, Bob Raine
JED	Dick Jenkin	RIA	Allan Richardson
LAD	Diane Lamb	ROM	Michael Roderick
LAK	Keith Laverick	ROS	Steven Roderick
LED	D Lewis	SIM	Mark Simpson
LEN	Nick Leseberg	SMJ	James Smart
LIA	Ann Lindsey	SPJ	Jenny Spencer
LIG	Greg little	SJR	Judith, Rowley Smith
LIN	Nick Livanos	STA	Alan Stuart
LIT	Terry Lindsey	STJ	Jeanette Stephenson
LOM	Murray Lord	STL	Leonie Storm
LPC	Paddy, Caryl Lightfoot	TAB	B Tait
MAC	Charles Mann	TAH	Harold Tarrant
MAM	Max Maddock	THF	Faye Thomson
MCN	Neville McNaughton	VEE	Edwin Vella
MCR	Robert McDonald	VGF	Fred van Gessel
MDV	Don, Val Moon	WAB	Bob Way
MEL	Lorna Mee	WAR1	Rosemary Waymark
MJE	John, Evelyn Moyse	WAR2	Ray Walker
MOA	Alan Morris	WCR	Wetlands Centre Record
MPM	Peter, Margaret McLauchlan	WEJ	Judy Westphal
MOT	Tim Morris	WKM	Keith, Margaret Woods
MUJ	Jenny Musicka		

MAP OF THE HUNTER REGION

The map below indicates the boundaries for the Hunter Region, with grid lines for latitude and longitude in 10-minute divisions. The cells created by the grid pattern have unique alphanumeric identifiers, which have been used in the Report to indicate the approximate locations for the reported observations.

