

HUNTER REGION OF NSW

2007 BIRD REPORT

The Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. (HBOC) has produced this 15th 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 with guest speakers on bird related topics, conducts regular surveys within the Hunter Region, and organises mid-week and weekend outings and occasional camps on long weekends. 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. Visit www.hboc.org.au for more details. Membership categories are Single, Family and Junior, and applications for membership are welcomed at any time.

Copies of this report, at \$15.00 each, may be obtained from:

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CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	
INTRODUCTION	1
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR	3
SYSTEMATIC LIST	5
Introduction	5
Birds	6
SUPPLEMENTARY RECORDS	77
UNCONFIRMED RECORDS	78
CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES	79
ESCAPEES	79
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	80
GRID REFERENCES FOR COMMON LOCATIONS	80
OBSERVER CODES	81
MAP OF THE HUNTER REGION	84

FOREWORD

In this foreword to the 15th Annual Bird Report for the Hunter Region of New South Wales, I am writing a heartfelt thank you to the Hunter Bird Observers Club (HBOC) on behalf of all people in the Hunter Region and further afield who love observing birds, who appreciate the key role birds play in the functioning earth's ecosystems and who want to better understand the life history of these wonderful and fascinating creatures.

Acknowledgement for this remarkable publication goes to Club members who diligently provide raw material in the form of prolific, reliable bird observations from every nook and cranny across the region and to the editor, Alan Stuart, who over the years has consistently produced a report of truly professional standard. It was a stroke of genius in 1993 to first propose that Club records be compiled, summarised and analysed. However, an essential element of success is taking a good idea and following it up with the hard work and intellectual strength required to bring the idea to life.

The Annual Bird Report is a great achievement and invaluable resource not only to document bird occurrences for people's enjoyment but also to provide a technical basis for the serious work of conserving bird habitat. As project manager of the Kooragang Wetland Rehabilitation Project, I have had first hand experience of just how essential the Club's bird observation data is as it underpins the internationally significant conservation activities for migratory shorebirds in the Hunter River estuary. Protection and enhancement of key shorebird roost and feeding sites have an increasingly high profile and priority amongst government decision-makers in large part due to the regular collection and, importantly, effective communication of this data. Club members have recorded alarming declines in shorebird species and abundance but also have identified key shorebird localities and made recommendations for their management.

In addition to working on a strategic level by providing information, expert advice, formal submissions and representatives on committees, HBOC members are crucial community partners in on-ground, practical management of important bird habitat. In the estuary, this involvement includes leading by example to maintain the Stockton Sandspit Shorebird Roost and providing a detailed, natural history update following each work session; maintaining and improving areas of shorebird habitat and floodplain forest on Ash Island; providing regular field observations for Ash Island and Tomago Wetlands; monitoring and maintaining nest boxes; designing beautiful migratory shorebird posters and birding route brochures for the display at Kooragang Wetlands; and producing an avian study for the Hunter Estuary Management Plan.

The importance of a group such as HBOC to the fabric of the Hunter community cannot be overstated; it has a vitality, sociability and expertise that are a tribute to its members and executive. The Annual Bird Report is but one significant embodiment of this collective character and I look forward to seeing it continue to be developed and produced into the future.

Peggy Svoboda
Project Manager
Kooragang Wetland Rehabilitation Project
Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority

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 2007. The information is based upon observation records gathered from a variety of sources.

There are two “new” additions to the 2007 species list – one of these being Black-winged Petrel, recorded for the first time in the Region. The other addition arises out of the newly published Australian checklist (*see page 5 for details*), in which Yellow Wagtail was split into two separate species - Eastern Yellow Wagtail and Green-headed Yellow Wagtail, both of which have occurred in the Region. Also, it came to light during alignment of HBOC’s records with the new Australian checklist, that Beautiful Firetail and Letter-winged Kite had been included into the tally of total species present in the Region but that they had not been included into species list presented in the Bird Reports. There were reports for both species in the Hunter Region in 1977. The Records Appraisal Committee has decided to accept those 1977 records, which were documented at the time in other publications.

As a result of the above changes, comprising two additions and two amendments, the official Hunter Region list now stands at 424 species. For 2007, 357 of these species (the largest total ever) were confirmed to have been present in the Region and information about those observations is presented in the Report.

159 species were recorded as breeding in the Region in 2007 (the second largest total ever). In the 10 years from 1998, 230 species are confirmed to have bred within the Hunter Region (and for a further 14 species there are pre-1998 records). *Readers should note that the situations/behaviours that are accepted as evidence of breeding, are: brooding bird, nest with eggs, nest with young, bird making repeated visits to a nest or hollow with food. In the specific case of species that are known to have bred previously in the Region, evidence of nest building (bird actually sighted at the nest) or birds feeding newly fledged young away from a nest is also considered to be a breeding record. Such evidence is not sufficient for acceptance as a breeding record for rare species and for species for which there are no breeding records for the Region in the previous 10 years. Instances where birds are seen in courtship display, copulating, carrying nesting material (but the nest not observed), feeding juveniles or carrying food, although interesting and potentially noteworthy, are not treated as confirmed breeding records for any species. Reporters are encouraged to correctly specify the type of behaviour they observed, so that high standards of the Bird Reports are able to be maintained. This includes to differentiate between young birds being fed in a nest/hollow and young birds being fed away from a nest.*

Parts of the Region received very heavy rain in 2007, and for most of the year the Region essentially was drought free. Very severe storms in June impacted on some bird species, especially seabirds, and definitely impacted on bird observing - including to force the only cancellation to date of the regular Hunter estuary wader surveys.

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 2007, the Records Appraisal Committee members were Sue Hamonet, Ann Lindsey, Fred van Gessel, Phil Hansbro and Mike Newman.

The value of the Bird Reports is due to the many observers who submit details of their sightings. Whether the records are made as a one-off casual observation or as part of a regular 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 2007 Report.

Alan Stuart
29 August 2008

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

The highlights for 2007 included the following:

- Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa* - 4-6 birds at Bolwarra 1 & 4 Jan and single birds at Morpeth STP 1 Oct and 3 Nov
- Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah* - a pair in Myall Lakes NP Feb-Apr
- Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides* - a single bird at Ash Island 8 Dec
- Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis* - 1-2 birds often at Walka Waterworks and 2-3 birds at Kooragang Island 14 Jul and 18 Aug
- Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina* - a single bird at Balickera Sep-Oct and 1-2 birds at Harrington 30 Jan, 4 May and 16 Sep and Seal Rocks 25 Feb
- White-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta grallaria* - a single bird on a pelagic survey 22 Jan
- Buller's Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri* - a single bird on a pelagic survey 21 Jan
- Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni* - a single bird on a pelagic survey 20 Jan
- Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis* - a single bird on a pelagic survey 22 Jan
- White-necked Petrel *Pterodroma cervicalis* - three birds on a pelagic survey 20 Jan and a single bird 22 Jan
- Black-winged Petrel *Pterodroma nigripennis* - a single bird on a pelagic survey 20 Jan
- Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis* - a single bird at Mount Arthur 8 Dec
- Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius* - breeding attempts at Swan Bay early Sep and Lemon Tree Passage early Dec
- Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris* - 108 birds in Port Stephens 18 Feb
- Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* - 304 birds in the Hunter estuary 5 Feb
- Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* - a single bird at Harrington 16-19 Sep
- Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii* - 1-2 birds at Stockton Sandspit for most of March
- Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* - single birds at Kooragang Island 8 Feb and 6 Mar
- Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* - a single bird at Ash Island 17-18 Mar
- Red-backed Button-quail *Turnix maculosus* - three birds at Kooragang Island 10 Feb
- Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus* - a single bird at Newcastle breakwater 1 Apr
- Black Noddy *Anous minutus* - a single bird on a pelagic survey 20 Jan
- Sooty Tern *Onychoprion fuscata* - many birds on pelagic surveys in Jan
- Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* - a single bird at Harrington mid-late Sep
- Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus* - 6-8 birds at Warrah Ridge Rd 4 Jul and ~30km W of Willow Tree 8-9 Sep, and five birds at Wollar Rd 26 Apr
- Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna* - over 1,000 birds in the Region over May-Dec
- Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus* - 14 birds at Cassilis 6 Apr
- Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor* - records from many locations including 200+ birds at Kurri Kurri 29 June and 6 Jul

- Barking Owl *Ninox rufa* - birds heard at Gloucester CP 14-16 Sep and Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct, and a dead bird at 16km N of Stroud ~15 Sep
- Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris* - single birds at Ash Island 2 Jan and 28 Aug and Broughton Island 24-26 Oct, and a dead bird at Stockton Sandspit 19 Aug
- Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis* - pairs at two locations at ~30km W of Willow Tree 8-9 Sep
- Pied Honeyeater *Certhionyx variegatus* - two male birds at Wollemi NP 30 Sep
- Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia* - many records especially from the Quorrobolong and Tomalpin areas where breeding colonies successfully established
- Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis* - 1-3 birds at ten different locations (*the most records since 1994*).
- Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta* - a single bird near Gundy 1 Apr and 3 birds at Widden Valley 27 Oct
- Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor* - a single bird at Mount Coricudgy 12 Sep
- White-eared Monarch *Carterornis leucotis* - two birds at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan
- Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* - two birds at Kooragang Island 15 Sep
- Also, the first breeding records for Pink-eared Duck, Red-browed Treecreeper, Tawny-crowned Honeyeater and Black-chinned Honeyeater in over 10 years, and the first ever breeding record for Little Raven.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Introduction

Bird species are listed in taxonomic order; the order and nomenclature follows that of Christidis and Boles in the 2008 CSIRO publication *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (ISBN 9780643065116). This supersedes the 1994 publication by the same authors. **Readers should note that there are substantial changes to the taxonomic order, and also some changes to the names of species particularly the Recommended English Names and some scientific names.** Where there have been name changes, an appropriate comment has been included into this Report, in the header section for the species in question. It was impractical to include similar commentary to track the changes to the taxonomic order, and readers are recommended to refer to previous issues of the Bird Report in order to identify where the changes have occurred.

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

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 Report. Breeding status is also indicated for each species. For species with no confirmed breeding records for at least 10 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 large proportion of records that are received indicate abundance levels for the species present by using the categories: A = 1-5 birds; B = 6-20 birds; C = 21-50 birds; D = 51-100 birds; and 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 are reported.

An ID number is provided for the majority of the 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. In previous Reports the source for the ID code has been the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme. Those ID's, however, were derived from Birds Australia (BA) checklists. BA now makes the information readily available (<http://www.birdsaustralia.com.au>) and is therefore now cited as the prime reference.

BIRDS

Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

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

No reports received since 2004.

Australian Brush-turkey *Alectura lathamii*

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

Birds had three active mounds at Wingham Brush 14 Dec and also a chick was present (KEM), and a chick was at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*). 1-5 birds were occasionally recorded; the most notable records were of birds in the BbR/NLH area Jan-Mar (LIP/KEM).

Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis*

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

Birds often were heard in the Bolwarra area Jan/Feb and Oct (TAH) and at Mount Arthur 8 Dec and Wingen 10 Dec (NEG), and two birds were at Medhurst Bridge 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*).

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora*

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

Notable records: 9-10 birds were recorded at Ash Island 11 Apr and in the Hunter estuary 15 Sep (TAH, HWS).

King Quail *Excalfactoria chinensis* (*name change*)

ID No: 012 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Rare, possibly overlooked (*recorded 1994, 2000*)

No confirmed reports were received for 2007.

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*

ID No: 199 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded at HWC and adjacent wetlands as counts of up to 50 birds.

Notable records: The peak count at HWC was 67 birds 2 Jan and 15 Jun (KEM). 13-18 birds were at Ash Island 2 & 8 Dec (MCN, HWS) - *good counts at this location, for which there are few previous records.*

Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*

ID No: 205 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

294 birds were at Doughboy Hollow 30 Jun (KEM) and 165 birds there 14 Jul (NEG). Lesser numbers were also recorded at that location 12 Mar and 6 Apr (RIA, STA). Elsewhere, 30 birds were at Rathluba Lagoon 29 May (MAM).

Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*

ID No: 204 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident

11 birds were present at NWR/Market Swamp 2 Jan (KEM), and up to 6 birds occasionally were recorded at HWC Jan & Aug-Oct, NWR/Market Swamp Jun & Oct, Newcastle University Jan, May & Dec, Hexham Swamp 22 Jun and Leneghans Flat 7 Oct (KEM, TAH, MCR).

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata*

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

The peak counts at GTD were 44 birds 23 Jan and 41 birds 23 Jul; most other records from GTD were of <20 birds and generally of <12 birds (MAM, KEM). 6-10 birds were at WWW 4 Sep (HBOC) and Myall Shores 20 Aug (KEM). 1-5 birds were regularly present at WWW and KI Deep Pond most months (Tables 2, 3) and 1-5 birds were also at Mt Arthur 7 Jan & 4 Mar (NEG), Warabrook mid Jan, 28 Mar, 18 Jun and 11 Aug (KEM), Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and Pokolbin 12 Jul (KEM/MCR). **Breeding:** Birds were with ducklings at Myall Shores 19 & 20 Aug (LIP, KEM), Bombah Point MLNP 15 & 19 Aug (HBOC, HBA), and GTD 17 Nov (MAM).

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*

ID No: 214 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Rare.

4-6 birds were recorded at Bolwarra 1 & 4 Jan (KEM, TAH), and single birds at Morpeth STP 1 Oct and 3 Nov (Table 2).

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

ID No: 203 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as up to 50 birds at medium to large waters.

Notable records: 200-300+ birds were often at Morpeth STP and 50-100+ birds all other visits (Table 1). 200-300+ birds were also recorded at Belmont lagoon 10 Mar, Leneghans Flat and Ash Island both 1 Apr and Hexham Swamp 22/25 Jun and 7 Oct (KEM, others), and at Belmont Bay frequently over Jan/Feb (CJB). 100+ birds were at Myuna Bay 15 Jan (KEM), GTD 16 Jan (KEM), Worimi NR 17 Mar, 20 Apr and 9 Dec (HAS/MAC) and KI 21 Apr (Table 3). 51-100 birds were sometimes recorded at these locations, and also at Mudbishops Point 31 Mar (DBP), Morpeth 14 & 21 May (MAM) and Galgabba area 1 Oct (MCR). **Breeding:** There were many records all year except for Feb-Mar. 26 pairs were nesting at Morpeth STP 11 Aug when water levels were very high, and 40 cygnets were present there 3 Nov (LIA/NEM). Seven breeding pairs were at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and 3 pairs at Irrawang Swamp 26 Sep (MAM).

Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah*

ID No: 206 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2005-06*).

The pair previously recorded in Myall Lakes NP was again present there over Feb-Apr, including the birds sometimes were at the new locations of Tamboi Point and The Wells (FOC, NBL, TBO). *The 2005 record was accepted by NSW ORAC.*

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides*

ID No: 207 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare (*recorded 1984, 1995, 2001-03, 2006*). (*Revised from: Accidental*)

A single bird was recorded at Ash Island 8 Dec (HWS).

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

ID No: 202 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as up to 20 birds near fresh to brackish waters.

Notable records: 100+ birds were present at Morpeth STP 4 Jan and 2 Feb (Table 1). 21-50 birds were recorded there 22 Mar and 6 May, and also at WWW 4 Jan and 12 Dec (KEM, Table 2), Warakeila 27 Jan (NEM), Leneghans Flat 2 Feb (KEM), Warabrook 28 Mar (KEM), KI 21 Apr (Table 3), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), White Box camp 28 Jul (KEM) and Awabakal NR 4 Dec (HBOC). **Breeding:** There were numerous records spanning Feb and mid Aug - Nov.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

ID No: 213 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Bird of passage.

There were records from six locations: KI (mainly, Deep Pond) with peak count of 214 birds 19 May and 50+ birds often over Jan-Jul (Table 3); WWW with peak count of 92 birds 14 Feb and 30+ birds regularly present over Jan-Mar (Table 2, other observers); Morpeth STP with peak count of 48 birds 14 Apr and good numbers also present earlier in the year and <20 birds most months over May-Dec (Table 1); Mt Arthur with 60 birds present 7 Jan and a single bird 4 Mar (NEG); Lake Liddell with ~20 birds present 17 Mar (SAM); and a pair had 5 ducklings at a large dam near Ravensworth in Sep (MUM) - *first confirmed breeding record since 1996*.

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

ID No: 200 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Endangered Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

ID No: 212 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded at medium-large fresh waters in central and E of Region as counts of up to 10 birds (*text modified/simplified*).

Notable records: ~400 birds were at Deep Pond Ash Island 4 Mar and 50-100+ birds regularly there or at the nearby ponds over Jan-Aug (KEM/MCR, Table 3). The peak count at Morpeth STP was 257 birds 14 Apr and with 200+ also there 6 May and 19 Jul (Table 1). 100-200+ birds were at Hexham Swamp late Jun (KEM *et al.*), and 20-50 birds at SBS 9 Feb (KEM), HWC 2 Jan, 11 Mar, 24 Jun and 2 Aug (several observers) and PNR 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*). 18 birds were at Mt Arthur 7 Jan and 12 birds there 4 Mar (NEG), and ten birds at Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM) and WWW 1 Feb (KEM). **Breeding:** Birds had ducklings at HWC 21 Sep and 1 Oct (LIP).

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*

ID No: 211 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident (*Revised from: Usual resident*). Often recorded at medium-large waters as counts of up to 50 birds (*text simplified*).

Notable records: The peak count for KI/Ash Island was 1,013 birds 21 Apr and 906 birds were present 20 Jan - the numbers plummeted over May-Oct before rising again (Table 3). At Morpeth STP the peak count was 1,376 birds 11 Aug and hundreds of birds were present all year (Table 1). 100+ birds were at Bolwarra 1 Jan and SBS 3 Jan (KEM), and 51-100 birds at HWC 2 & 24 Jan and 13 Oct, PNR/Leneghans Flat 19 Jan, Belmont swamp/lagoon 21 Jan (KEM) and WWW 1 Feb (all KEM), "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), Leneghans Flat 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan and 9 Oct (MAM). **Breeding:** Birds had young at HWC 8 Oct (LIP) and Irrawang Swamp 9 Oct (MAM).

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*

ID No: 210 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Regularly recorded at medium-large waters in E of Region as up to 50 birds.

Notable records: The peak count for KI/Ash Island was 760 birds 21 Apr and counts were high throughout Jan-Apr before declining to <40 birds over Jul-Oct (Table 3) then beginning to climb again. At Morpeth STP the peak count was 278 birds 6 May and 227 birds were present 14 Dec; most other counts were of 51-100 birds (Table 1). 50+ birds were at Belmont swamp/ lagoon 21 Jan (KEM). **Breeding:** There were several records mostly over Jan and late Aug-Oct but birds also had ducklings at HWC 24 Jun (HBOC).

Northern Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* (name change)

ID No: 948 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

Birds were recorded all year at Warabrook, with peak count of 12 birds 28 Mar (KEM, others). Up to five birds also were frequently recorded at WWW (several observers). Elsewhere, 1-2 birds were at BbR 3 Jan (KEM), Dora Creek 5 Jan and 7 Aug (RIA, HBOC), Toronto wetland 15 Jan (KEM), HWC 4 Feb (STA), KI 18 Aug (HWS) Morpeth STP 3 Nov (LIA/NEM) and Mount Arthur 8 Dec (NEG) - the latter bird was noted to be a hybrid with *A. superciliosa*.

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

ID No: 208 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as up to 50 birds at small to large waters.

Notable records: 307 birds were present at Morpeth STP 22 Mar and 150+ birds over Apr-Jun, and 50+ birds were recorded almost all year there (Table 1). 106 birds were at KI/Ash Island 20 Jan and 50+ birds there over Feb-Apr (Table 3) and also 50+ birds were at WWW 14 Mar (Table 2) and Morpeth flats 7 May (MAM). **Breeding:** There were several records spanning Jan, Jun-Jul, Oct and Dec.

Hardhead *Aythya australis*

ID No: 215 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident and irruptive visitor. Widely and moderately often recorded at medium to large waters as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: Winter peak counts at all three regularly surveyed locations were high: 823 birds at KI/Ash Island 19 May, 550 birds at Morpeth STP 29 Jun and ~500 birds at WWW 22 Jul, and substantial numbers of birds remained at WWW over Jul-Oct and at KI/Ash Island over Aug-Dec (Tables 1-3, SMJ *et al.*). 100+ birds were at GTD 23 Jan (KEM) and Richardsons Swamp 27 Aug (MAM), and 51-100 birds at Richardsons Swamp 10 Sep, 22 Oct, 17 Nov (MAM), Flat Rd Bolwarra 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and HWC 13 Oct (KEM). Elsewhere, 21-50 birds were recorded at NWR/Market Swamp 24 Jan (KEM), Pokolbin 12 Jul (KEM/MCR), Warabrook 11 Aug (KEM), Mungo Brush 19 Aug (HBA), Avon Valley Gloucester 14 Sep (BCC) and SSNR 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and often at GTD over Jan-May (MAM, KEM).

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*

ID No: 216 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: Past records

Status: Rare (Recorded 1989, 2002-03, 2005-06)

1-2 birds often were recorded at WWW - Jan, Feb, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep and Oct (several observers) and a pair perhaps was present all year and sometimes overlooked (SMJ). 2-3 birds were also at KI Deep Pond 14 Jul and 18 Aug (Table 3).

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*

ID No: 107 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
 Status: Accidental (recorded 1952, 1955, 1973, 1978, 2000, 2006).

No reports were received for 2007.

White-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon lepturus*

ID No: 108 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
 Status: Accidental (recorded 1956, 1984, 1994, 1999, 2000).

No reports were received for 2007.

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

	4 Jan	2 Feb	22 Mar	14 Apr	6 May	29 Jun	19 Jul	11 Aug	7 Sep	1 Oct	3 Nov	14 Dec
Freckled Duck										1	1	
Black Swan	124	116	260	286	216	91	327	75	99	71	132	281
Australian Wood Duck	107	103	22	16	21		3	3	2	4	11	
Pink-eared Duck	22		39	48	2	5	14	4		17	12	1
Australasian Shoveler	19	7	28	257	201	65	255	40	6	47	2	51
Grey Teal	144	129	151	941	530	324	466	1376	333	609	290	32
Chestnut Teal	73	86	58	159	278	45	26	89	55	49	52	227
Pacific Black Duck	58	11	307	179	264	172	63	97	29	61	25	79
Hardhead	1		1	3		550	10	44	24	10	9	3
Australasian Grebe			9	38	52		30	21	6	4		
Hoary-headed Grebe					2		3					
Australasian Darter	1	5							3		1	11
Little Pied Cormorant			1	15	8		2		2	6	2	34
Great Cormorant	2		5			4	12	9	3	5	1	1
Little Black Cormorant	3	15	2	6	2					15	34	42
Australian Pelican	36	32	6	30	36	38	70	26	31	42	51	42
White-necked Heron				2	4	7			1	11	11	
Eastern Great Egret	2	1	1	2		1	1	2		4	12	7
Intermediate Egret	6	1	1	2	5						3	1
Cattle Egret	1	39	120	86	62		6	12	9	18	26	14
White-faced Heron	3	15	29	23	36	20	1	6	1	9	4	44
Little Egret												1
Glossy Ibis	12											7
Australian White Ibis	2	4	1	21	1	21					11	3
Straw-necked Ibis	3	22	54	32	15	95	52	18		25	2	44
Royal Spoonbill	3		11	12	1				1	12	31	2
Yellow-billed Spoonbill				5							1	
Purple Swamphen	36	5	4	6	2	2			1		6	13
Dusky Moorhen	1								1			3
Eurasian Coot	39	17	15	117	31	135	348	334	70	56	65	122

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

	10 Jan	14 Feb	14 Mar	15 Apr	9 May	19 Jun	11 Jul	8 Aug	12 Sep	10 Oct	14 Nov	12 Dec
Musk Duck	2	2	1	2	2	3	1	4	3	4	3	3
Black Swan		2	2	2	5	17	4	6	3	2	4	
Aust Wood Duck	1	7	7	7		11		2	4		2	23
Pink-eared Duck	22	92	11									
Australasian Shoveler	2	2	8				2				2	
Grey Teal	29	20	29	13	20	2	8	14	2	23	5	1
Chestnut Teal	25	26	33	12			10	8	7	10	14	2
Pacific Black Duck	14	23	65	6	22	34	40	12	9	1	5	5
Hardhead	15	13	21	21	19		219	422	141	116	16	14
Australasian Grebe	14	4	14	32	14		3	7	6	5	9	
Hoary-headed Grebe	5	2	7	9	10	3	3	2	5	2	3	
Great Crested Grebe	5	4	4	4	2			5	3	3	14	10
Little Pied Cormorant	2	4	3	1	4							1
Little Black Cormorant	1	38	3	6	2				1		12	
Australian Pelican	5	2	1	1		1		1				
Eastern Great Egret		1							1	1		
Intermediate Egret								1				
White-faced Heron	1	7	1	1	1		13			4		1
Little Egret		1		1	1							
Australian White Ibis					1							
Straw-necked ibis						58	49					
Royal Spoonbill		6	1		2							
Purple Swamphen	11	14	13	11	8	6	7	12	6	9	2	4
Dusky Moorhen	6	9	15	7	7	10	18	6	4	8	15	11
Eurasian Coot	48	5	18	34	24	17	82	99	123	84	121	13
Black-fronted Dotterel	4	7	14	23	11	4					1	
Masked Lapwing	1		3	4	2		1	4	1	4	2	2

Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

ID No: 061

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded at small to large waters as up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 51 birds were recorded at KI/Ash Island 18 Aug and 20+ birds were present there over Jan-Aug (Table 3). 52 birds were at Morpeth STP 6 May and 21-50 birds there 14 Apr and 19 Jul (Table 1) and at Bolwarra 1 Jan (KEM), GTD 13 Jan, 2 Feb and 23 Jul (MAM, KEM), Ellalong Lagoon 1 May (HBOC) and HWC 15 Jun and 13 Jul (KEM). **Breeding:** There were records for Feb, Sep, Oct and Dec.

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

ID No: 062

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Past records

Status: Resident.

300+ birds were recorded at GTD 23 Jul (KEM) - for this location there were also several counts of 90-130 birds in Jan, Jun and Sep, 52 birds 14 May and <10 birds in Feb and Aug (MAM, KEM). 146 birds were at KI/Ash Island 19 May and 44-87 birds on 4 Mar and over Jul-Nov, usually present at Deep Pond (Table 3, KEM/MCR). 129 birds were at Mt Arthur 4 Mar and 20+ birds 7 Jan (both NEG). 20+ birds were at WWW 4 Jan, 1 & 10 Feb and 7 Oct (KEM, MCR, HBA) and up to 10 birds regularly were present there (Table 2). All records from elsewhere were of 1-3 birds - at PNR/Leneghans Flat 19 Jan (KEM), Morpeth STP 8 May and 19 Jul (Table 1), Pokolbin 12 Jul (KEM/MCR), Hexham Swamp 22 Jun and HWC 13 Jul (both KEM).

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

	20 Jan	17 Feb	17 Mar	21 Apr	19 May	14 Jul	18 Aug	15 Sep	13 Oct	10 Nov	8 Dec
Musk Duck	1			1	2	5	4	3	1	2	4
Black Swan	33	33	20	103	51	90	64	94	59	32	78
Australian Wood Duck				21			19	9	8	4	14
Pink-eared Duck	90		32	55	214	50		2			1
Australasian Shoveler	109	85	132	99	93	52	55	8	72	16	41
Grey Teal	906	262	299	1013	128	10	4		20	175	114
Chestnut Teal	561	305	640	760	117	13	36	10	19	102	98
Pacific Black Duck	106	73	76	99	31	8	5	4	25	47	37
Hardhead	127	5		73	823	83	196	57	277	195	173
Blue-billed Duck						3	2				
Australasian Grebe	34	24	24	35	43	31	51	14	15	3	2
Hoary-headed Grebe	13	3		13	146	60	44	87	63	48	5
Great Crested Grebe								2	2		1
Australasian Darter	1	1	2	4	5	2	4	2	3	4	3
Little Pied Cormorant	19	5	10	3	10	6	6	4	5	7	6
Great Cormorant	7	6	6			1	2	6	12	1	18
Little Black Cormorant	52	15	5	15	20	12	15	33	15	6	18
Pied Cormorant	11	17	8	8	9	1	10	8	19	4	28
Australian Pelican	100	152	142	100	96	52	31	78	70	104	199
White-necked Heron					3		2	2	4		
Eastern Great Egret	5	11	2	2	3	6	4	9	11	6	10
Intermediate Egret	1			1	1						
Cattle Egret	9	2	25	4	52			1			48
Striated Heron	1	2	2	1						1	2
White-faced Heron	18	41	55	103	81	68	74	23	28	8	38
Little Egret	2	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	6	3
Australian White Ibis	26	110	163	126	289	144	157	10	13	28	109
Straw-necked Ibis	2	43	24	40	195	20	50		63		
Royal Spoonbill	36	25	12	28	35	8	10		1	12	27
Eurasian Coot	65	73	30	22	149	203	220	196	113	32	58
Gull-billed Tern		2	1	5	20	5	1				
Caspian Tern	4	5	11	14	5	5	4	1	1		2
Crested Tern	3	6	3	20	8	6	2	2		1	2
Silver Gull	247	390	286	399	584	39	45	106	123	159	263

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

ID No: 060 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

Counts were high at GTD in Jan, including 200+ birds were present 23 Jan and 126 birds 13 Jan; also 20-40 birds were present Jun-Jul but all other records were of <10 birds (KEM, MAM). 10-14 birds were at WWW in Jan and Nov-Dec and 2-7 birds frequently were recorded there (Table 2, KEM). Elsewhere, 22 birds were at Mount Arthur 4 Mar and eight birds 7 Jan (NEG), 12 birds at Smiths Lake 22 Apr (NBL), and 1-5 birds (where numbers were noted) at Lake Liddell 17 Mar (SAM), Bootawah Dam 15 Sep (MVBW), Bolwarra 22-30 Sep (TAH), Green Point Forster 4 Oct (MVBW) and Worimi NR 12 Oct (MEL). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at WWW 9 Dec (KEM).

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

ID No: 957 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Moderately often recorded in Newcastle, and less frequently in other towns, as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 150+ birds were recorded at Carrington 18 Mar (KEM). 21-50 birds were at Stockton bridge 4 & 11 Mar and 13 Dec (KEM, CLT), Kurri Kurri hospital area 1 Sep (KEM) and Broadmeadow 15 Oct (GCR). Birds were nest building at Stockton bridge 15 Sep (KEM).

White-headed Pigeon *Columba leucomela*

ID No: 028 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as 1-5 birds (*text simplified*).

Notable records: 100-150 birds were in Gloucester during early to mid Sep, with numbers gradually declining later through the month (DBP, BCC, KEM). 6+ birds were at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC).

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis* (*name change*)

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

Notable records: 28 birds were recorded at Morpeth 28 May (BRG) and 20+ birds at Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM). Birds had a nest with eggs at Mallabula 22 Aug (KEM).

Brown Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia amboinensis*

ID No: 029 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded in well-forested areas in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were present at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Brunkerville 3 Aug (MCR) and Rookhurst (N4) 16 Sep (BCC). Three birds were at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC) and Copeland FP 24 Sep (KEM). Birds bred at Balickera Oct-Nov (MUJ).

Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

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

Single birds were recorded at Crowdy Bay NP 5 Jan (BRG), The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Allyn River 12 Feb (MEL), Cape Hawke 21 Mar (MVBW), Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC) and Wingham Brush 23 Sep and 31 Oct (KEM, CLT).

Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

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

20+ birds were in the area around White Box camp 28 Jul (KEM), eight birds at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and 6+ birds at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). 1-5 birds were moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region. Birds had dependent young in the Tomalpin area 20 Dec (per MOA).

Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans*

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

1-2 birds were recorded at Belmont lagoon 7 Jan and 18 Dec (KEM), Boomeri MLNP 19 Aug (HBA), Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC), Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC) and Catherine Hill Bay (RIA).

Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were present at Rathmines 8 Feb, HWC 15 Jun, Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun and Medhurst bridge Martindale 4 Aug and a bird was carrying nesting material at Pokolbin 12 Jul (all KEM/MCR). A bird was on nest at Wingen 10 Dec (NEG).

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata*

ID No: 030 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident, mainly in central and W of the Region (*text modified*).

1-5 birds were moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region and at Green Point 16 Feb (KEM) and Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), and 6+ birds were at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and Kings Gap 4 Aug (KEM/MCR).

Bar-shouldered Dove *Geopelia humeralis*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan (KEM/MCR). Birds had a nest with eggs at GTD 23 Jan (KEM) and also were breeding at Balickera Oct (MUJ).

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

ID No: 044 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in well-forested areas in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were present at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and four birds at both Brunkerville 17 Jan (BRG/LIN) and Copeland FP 24 Sep (KEM). A bird was on nest at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC).

Wompoo Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus magnificus*

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

Twelve birds (feeding together) were recorded at Peach Tree Park Allyn River 7 Oct (NBL) and eight birds in the same general area 19 Aug (LIG). 1-2 birds were at Harrington RF 30 Jan and 16-19 Sep (KEM/MCR, HBOC), Allyn River 28 Oct (DDR) and Seal Rocks 15 Nov (NBL).

Superb Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus superbus*

ID No: 023 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1996, 1999, 2006*)

No reports were received for 2007.

Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*

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

A single bird was present at Balickera for several weeks over Sep-Oct, feeding on berries (MUJ). 1-2 birds were recorded at Harrington RF 30 Jan, 4 May and 16 Sep (KEM/MCR, RIA, HBOC) and Seal Rocks 25 Feb (HAP).

Topknot Pigeon *Lopholaimus antarcticus*

ID No: 027 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Resident (*text modified*).

50-150 birds were regularly present at Gloucester from mid Jun to early Jul, feeding in Camphor Laurels (DBP), and ~60 birds were recorded at Mungo Brush MLNP 20 Aug (KEM), Stockton Sandspit (flying over) 9 Sep (CLT) and Seal Rocks 15 Nov (NBL). 21-50 birds were at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Galgabba Point 13 Jul and 23 Sep (THJ, HBOC), Dora Creek 28 Aug (GCR), Barrington Tops NP 13 Sep (SMJ), Cape Hawke 17 & 19 Sep (BIA) and Boomeri MLNP 19 Aug (HBA). Up to 20 birds were often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region. *More records than usual.*

Tawny Frogmouth *Podargus strigoides*

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

Notable records: There were breeding records from six discrete locations, spanning Jan-Feb, Sep and Dec.

White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis*

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

Single birds were seen/heard at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), The Basin Olney SF 5-6 Mar (THK) and Laguna 28 Oct (BED per MOA).

Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Australian Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*

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

Four birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 27 Oct (HAP) and three birds at Green Wattle Creek Jul (BRG). Birds were seen/heard at Balickera Jan, May and Dec (MUJ), Butterwick 4 Jan (NEM), The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Boarding House Dam Watagans 21-22 Apr (HBOC), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun and 28 Sep - 2 Oct (MCR, HBOC), Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC), Murrurundi 27 Oct (HHB) and Green Point Nov (BRG).

White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus*

ID No: 334 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: Two birds were recorded at WWW 4 Sep (HBOC) - *early arrival*. Around 200 birds were at PNR 16 Dec (HBOC) and 100+ birds at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and Worimi NR/Swan Bay 9 Dec (HAS). 51-100 birds were at Myuna Bay 15 Jan (KEM), Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC), Harrington 10 Dec (MOA), Toronto 15 Dec (BIA), and Abermain and Kurri Kurri 20 Dec (per MOA), and 21-50 birds at Butterwick 4 Jan (NEM), Bolton Point 22 Jan (BIA), Awabakal NR 4 Feb (BIA) and Mungo Brush 25 Feb (HAP).

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

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

Single birds were recorded at Belmont lagoon 7 Jan (KEM), Craven 28 Jan (STA) and Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), and some birds were at Edgeworth 14 Mar (OCG) and Worimi NR 9 Dec (HAS).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

ID No: 063 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Bird of passage at and beyond the continental shelf.

1-3 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys E of Swansea 23 Jan and 21 Oct (HAP), Newcastle 22 Jan (HAP) and Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM).

White-faced Storm-Petrel *Pelagodroma marina*

ID No: 065 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident.

1-2 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys E of Newcastle 20 & 22 Jan and E of Swansea 23 Jan (HAP).

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta tropica*

ID No: 066 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon visitor (*recorded 2002, 2006*).

No reports were received for 2007.

White-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta grallaria*

ID No: 944 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2006*).

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 22 Jan (HAP). *The 2006 record was accepted by NSW ORAC.*

Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*

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

1-2 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys E of Seal Rocks 19 Jan (FOC) and Newcastle 20 Jan (HAP), and E of Port Stephens daily over late Jan and early Feb (FOC). 1 x *exulans* was off Port Stephens 21 Jan and 1 x *gibsoni* off Newcastle 20 Jan.

Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris* (name change)

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

20 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey E of Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM) and four birds on a pelagic survey E of Swansea 21 Oct (HAP). Four birds were off Newcastle beach 21 Jul (LIG) and a single bird off Moon Island in Nov (BCC per MOA). A bird was found 10km inland from Newcastle after very severe storms in early June - it was taken into care and then released to sea off Newcastle 22 June (VDI/NBL).

Shy Albatross *Thalassarche cauta* (name change)

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

A single bird was recorded off Swansea 20 Jun (CCFOC).

Yellow-nosed Albatross *Thalassarche chlororhynchos* (name change)

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

3+ birds were recorded off Nobbys Beach 18 Aug (KEM), and single birds offshore of Swansea 20 Jun (CCFOC) and Myall Lakes NP 19 Jul (KEM), and on a pelagic survey offshore from Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM).

Buller's Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri* (name change)

ID No: 931 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncertain. (recorded 2003).

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 21 Jan (HAP).

Southern Giant-Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*

ID No: 929 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon winter migrant at and beyond the continental shelf.

Single birds were recorded off Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC) and on a pelagic survey E of Swansea 21 Oct (HAP).

Northern Giant-Petrel *Macronectes halli*

ID No: 937 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon winter migrant at and beyond the continental shelf.

A bird was taken into care at Broadmeadow (inner Newcastle suburb) on 11 Jun after severe storms, and was released to sea off Newcastle 22 June (VDI/NBL).

Cape Petrel *Daption capense*

ID No: 080 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Migrant at >5km from shore.

A single bird was within a few metres of the Nobbys beach breakwater 20 Oct (BEA per MOA).

Broad-billed Prion *Pachyptila vittata*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Antarctic Prion *Pachyptila desolata*

ID No: 084 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2000)

No reports were received for 2007.

Slender-billed Prion *Pachyptila belcheri*

ID No: 942 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded several times in 2002) (revised from: Uncertain)

No reports were received for 2007.

Fairy Prion *Pachyptila turtur*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni*

ID No: 917 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2000, 2006).

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 20 Jan (HAP).

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna pacificus* (name change)

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

Notable records: 1000+ birds were recorded daily in pelagic trips E of Port Stephens over late Jan to early Feb (BIA), 2,000 birds on a pelagic survey from Swansea 21 Oct and 800 birds on the corresponding survey 23 Jan (both HAP). 1000+ birds were offshore from Awabakal NR 21 Sep (KEM). 200-500+ birds were recorded on several other occasions in Jan-Feb and Sep-Oct (HAP, KEM) and ~200 birds off Nobbys beach 1 Apr (NBL). Many hundreds of birds were roosting on Cabbage Tree Island mid Jan (BIA) and some birds were on nests there 24-26 Oct (CLT).

Buller's Shearwater *Ardenna bulleri* (name change)

ID No: 975 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant (recorded 1995, 2000-01).

No reports were received for 2007.

Flesh-footed Shearwater *Ardenna carneipes* (name change)

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

25-50 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys E of Newcastle 20, 21 & 22 Jan and Swansea 23 Jan and 21 Oct (all HAP) and daily off Port Stephens late Jan/early Feb (BIA). A single bird was offshore close to Newcastle baths 23 Jan (THJ).

Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna grisea* (name changes)
ID No: 070 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant.

No reports were received for 2007.

Short-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna tenuirostris* (name change)
ID No: 071 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common spring/summer migrant. Often recorded in flocks of up to 100 birds during Sep-Nov.

Notable records: Thousands of birds were flying south off Newcastle beach mid Oct (THJ), and 100 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey from Swansea 21 Oct (HAP). Eleven birds were offshore from Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM), 6+ birds off Swansea Heads 13 Sep (KEM) and 1-5 birds on other pelagic surveys from Newcastle 20-22 Jan and Swansea 23 Jan (all HAP), and off Nobbys Beach 17 Mar and 1 Apr (KEM, NBL).

Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas*
ID No: 853 HBOC Category: 3 (Amended) Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2000, 2006).

No reports were received for 2007.

Fluttering Shearwater *Puffinus gavia*
ID No: 068 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant.

~500 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey E of Swansea 21 Oct (HAP), 200+ birds off Swansea Heads 13 Sep (KEM) and 100+ birds offshore from Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM). 30 birds were offshore from Newcastle Baths 28 Oct (LIA), and there were several records in Jan and Sep-Oct of 1-5 birds. Winter records were of 100+ birds offshore from Newcastle 21 Jul (LIG) and ~30 birds near Moon Island Jul (BRG), and 15+ birds off Nobbys Beach 18 Aug (KEM).

Hutton's Shearwater *Puffinus huttoni*
ID No: 913 (Amended) HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Bird of passage (recorded 2000-04, 2006).

Three birds were recorded on a pelagic survey offshore from Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM).

Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*
ID No: 067 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 22 Jan (HAP).

Tahiti Petrel *Pseudobulweria rostrata*
ID No: 920 HBOC Category: 3 (Amended) Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer visitor (recorded 1997, 2001).

No reports were received for 2007.

Juan Fernandez Petrel *Pterodroma externa*
ID No: 810 (Amended) HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1988).

No reports were received for 2007.

Kermadec Petrel *Pterodroma neglecta*
ID No: 922 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer visitor at and beyond the continental shelf.

No reports were received for 2007.

White-headed Petrel *Pterodroma lessonii*

ID No: 077 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon late winter/spring migrant.

No reports were received for 2007.

Great-winged Petrel *Pterodroma macroptera*

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

40 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey off Port Stephens 30 Jan (BIA), and 1-10 birds on pelagics off Newcastle and Swansea over 20-23 Jan (HAP).

Providence Petrel *Pterodroma solandri*

ID No: 971 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Common autumn to spring visitor at and beyond the continental shelf.

Five birds were recorded on a pelagic survey 21 Oct (HAP).

Gould's Petrel *Pterodroma leucoptera*

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

1-5 birds were recorded on a pelagic surveys off Newcastle and Swansea over 20-23 Jan (HAP) and off Port Stephens twice in late Jan (BIA).

Cook's Petrel *Pterodroma cookii*

ID No: 918 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1971, 2006*).

No reports were received for 2007.

White-necked Petrel *Pterodroma cervicalis*

ID No: 774 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer visitor (*recorded 2001, 2004-06*).

Three birds were recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 20 Jan (HAP) and a single bird on a similar survey off Port Stephens 22 Jan (BIA).

Black-winged Petrel *Pterodroma nigripennis*

ID No: 955 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Rare visitor at and beyond the continental shelf (*New to list*).

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 20 Jan (HAP).

Pycroft's Petrel *Pterodroma pycrofti*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Little Penguin *Eudyptula minor*

ID No: 005 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

Ten birds were present at Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT), two birds at Tomaree 30 Jan (CLT) and a single bird in the Swansea channel (lake side) 7 Jul (ADJ).

Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator*

ID No: 104 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Regular non-breeding visitor.

150 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 21 Jan and 100 birds on a similar survey E of Swansea 23 Jan (both HAP). 50+ birds were off Nobbys beach 1 Apr (NBL) and 25-50 birds off Nobbys Beach 17 Jan (KEM), Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC) and Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM). There were records all year of up to 10 birds offshore from many coastal locations. Also, a bird was rescued in Newcastle city after very heavy storms in early June (VDI).

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*

ID No: 102 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1984, 1986, 1991*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Australasian Darter *Anhinga novaehollandiae* (*name changes*)

ID No: 101 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident (*Revised from: 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: 29 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 21 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*) and 24 birds were night roosting at NWR Jul (MCR). 12 birds were near Nobbys Beach 18 Mar (KEM). **Breeding:** Up to 17 pairs bred at NWR/Market Swamp during Jan and four pairs had nests with young there 13 Oct (all KEM). Birds were also on nest at East Seaham 12 Oct (GOA *et al.*) and 14 Dec (CLT).

Little Pied Cormorant *Microcarbo melanoleucos* (*name change*)

ID No: 100 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded at small to large waters, as up to 20 birds (*text simplified*).

Notable records: 62 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 76 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*) 50+ birds were recorded at Belmont swamp/lagoon 21 Jan and 21-50 birds there 7 Jan and at GTD 2 Feb & 23 Jul and Swan Bay 19 Aug (all KEM) and Morpeth STP 14 Dec (Table 1). **Breeding:** There were records for NWR/Market Swamp (up to 9 pairs during Jan, 3 pairs 13 Oct), Toronto wetland 15 Jan and Muddy Lake 2 Dec (both 4 pairs), and GTD 2 Feb, East Seaham 12 Oct and Gloucester 14 Sep (all 1+ pairs) (KEM, MOA, GOA, BCC).

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

ID No: 096 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and often recorded at medium to large waters, mostly as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 146 birds were night roosting at NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 85 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*). 18 pairs were at various stages of breeding at NWR/Market Swamp 15 Jun and several pairs had nests with young or fledged young at GTD 2 Feb (both KEM).

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

ID No: 097

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded at small to large waters, as up to 20 birds (*text modified*).

Notable records: 300+ birds were at Myall Shores 19 Jul (KEM) and Mungo Brush MLNP 19 Aug (HBA), and 280 birds at Eleebana 6 Sep (GOA). ~180 birds were at Bombah Point MLNP 15-19 Aug (HBOC, HBA) and Sunshine 21 & 29 May (GCR). 100+ birds were at Belmont swamp/lagoon 7 & 21 Jan (KEM), Dora Creek 15 Jan (GCR) and Bonnells Bay 20 Aug (GCR), and 51-100 birds at KI 20 Jan (HWS), NWR/Market Swamp 24 Jan and 13 Oct (KEM), Mount Arthur 4 Mar (NEG), Sunshine 11 Jul (GCR) and NWR Jul (MCR). 69 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 81 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*) **Breeding:** Up to 20 pairs bred at NWR/Market Swamp during Jan, and 21 pairs 13 Oct, 6 pairs at Toronto wetland 15 Jan and 1+ pairs at Gloucester 14 Sep ((KEM, BCC).

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius*

ID No: 099

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual coastal resident. Often recorded near to the coast as counts of up to 10 birds (*text modified*).

Notable records: 177 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 94 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*) 87 birds were night roosting at NWR in Jul and 50+ birds there 3 Aug (MCR) (*compared with 155 birds there 17 Apr*). 73 birds were at Swan Bay/Worimi NR 14 Jul (HAS/MAC) and 21-50 birds there 19 Aug and 9 Dec (KEM, HAS). 21-50 birds were also at NWR/Market Swamp 15 Jun (KEM), Dora Creek 7 Aug (HBOC), Myall Shores 20 Aug, Swansea Heads 13 Sep and Tuncurry 14 Oct (all KEM) and KI 8 Dec (HWS). 10-20 birds were often at KI (Table 3) and were also at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR) and LTP 15 Jul (KEM). **Breeding:** 11 pairs were at various stages of breeding at NWR/Market Swamp 15 Jun (KEM) and birds were nesting at Muddy Lake 2 Dec (per MOA).

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

ID No: 106

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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: 300 birds were present at SBS 17-19 Jan (HAS/VGF). 100-200 birds often were recorded in the Hunter estuary and 50+ birds almost always were present (Table 3). 51-100 birds were at Belmont swamp/lagoon 7 Jan (KEM), NWR/Market Swamp 24 Jan (KEM), Morpeth STP 19 Jul and 3 Nov (Table 1) and Tuncurry 14 Oct (KEM). 96 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 41 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*). 21-50 birds were often at Morpeth STP, and at SBS 4 & 9 Feb, HWC 24 Jan and Hexham Swamp 25 Jun (all KEM).

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

ID No: 183

HBOC Category: 2

NSW: Endangered

Breeding: Yes

Status: Bird of passage.

A pair was nesting near Bulahdelah Jun-Jul (NBL) and 1-2 birds were recorded in the Bulahdelah area 23-24 Apr (RIA, GOA) and in July (FOC, NBL). Single birds were near Gloucester 30 Mar (DBP) and Wingham 20 Dec (ADJ).

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

ID No: 197

HBOC Category: 2

NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: None recorded

Status: Rare resident

Single birds were at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM), Cattai Wetlands (R3) 14 Jul (NBL) and Tomago Wetlands 21 Sep and 16 Oct (MCN). The bird at Cattai was reported to be the first record for this site which is being rehabilitated.

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius* (name changes)
ID No: 195 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Rare.

No confirmed reports were received for 2007.

Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis*
ID No: 196 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Past records
Status: Rare resident.

A single bird was recorded at Belmont lagoon 2 Mar (SAM).

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*
ID No: 189 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded as 1-2 birds throughout the Region.

Notable records: 25 birds were present at Hexham Swamp 1 Oct (NEM). Eleven birds were at Morpeth STP 1 Oct and 3 Nov, seven birds 29 Jun and four birds 6 May (Table 1). Eight birds were at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*). 3-4 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and near Maitland station 13 Sep (SMJ), and occasionally at KI/Ash Island (Table 3).

Eastern Great Egret *Ardea modesta* (name changes)
ID No: 187 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded at medium to large waters in the E and central parts of the Region, as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 30+ birds were recorded at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), 16 birds at Swan Pond Ash Island 16 Oct (LIA), 12 birds at Belmont lagoon/swamp 7 Jan (KEM) and Morpeth STP 3 Nov (Table 1), and 11 birds at Hunter estuary 17 Feb and 13 Oct (Table 3). 6-10 birds were at SBS 17-19 Jan (HAS/VGF), GTD 23 Jan (KEM), Swan Bay/Worimi NR 20 Apr (HAS/MAC), Morpeth STP 14 Dec and occasionally at Hunter estuary (Table 3). **Breeding:** There were 20 nests at HWC 28 Nov (MAM) and 41 nests at Toronto wetland 15 Jan (KEM).

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*
ID No: 186 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 5-6 birds were recorded at GTD 23 Jan and 2 Feb (KEM) and Morpeth STP 4 Jan and 6 May (Table 1). 3-4 birds were at Warabrook 23 Jan and HWC 13 Oct (KEM), and Morpeth STP 3 Nov (Table 1). **Breeding:** There were six nests at HWC 28 Nov (MAM).

Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis*
ID No: 977 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 200+ birds were night roosting at Wallbridge Reserve 28 Jun and 100+ birds there 17 Dec (MAM), and 100-200 birds at SSNR 14 Jul (MAM) and NWR 17 Apr, Jul and 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*, MCR). Also, ~30 birds returned to an old roost site at Woodville early Oct (NEM). 200+ birds were regularly at Gloucester in early Sep (DBP), and 120-150 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 22 Mar (Table 1), Hands Lagoon and SSNR both 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*) and Nelson Plains 12 Jul (MAM). There were numerous records of 50+ birds. **Breeding:** There were 357 nests at HWC 28 Nov and 46 nests at SSNR 12 Nov (MAM), and 21 nests at Toronto wetland 15 Jan (KEM). *The nesting numbers at SSNR are markedly below the 300-400+ nests recorded in recent years.*

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* (name change)

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

1-2 birds were recorded at Belmont lagoon 7 Jan (KEM), Myuna Bay 15 Jan (KEM), Swansea Channel 24 Feb (CBOC), Dora Creek 7 Aug (HBOC), Harrington 16-19 & 23 Sep (HBOC, KEM), Worimi NR 11 Nov (HAS *et al.*), Lake Macquarie Morisset 24 Dec (RIA), and often in the Hunter estuary (Table 3) - mainly at Stockton Sandspit and KI dykes. (*all records published*)

White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*

ID No: 188 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, in counts of up to 20 birds (*text modified*).

Notable records: 103 birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 21 Apr, 50+ birds over Mar-Aug and 20+ birds most other months (Table 3). 50+ birds were at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and 21-50 birds several times at Morpeth STP (Table 1). **Breeding:** Pairs nested at Bolwarra from 23 Nov onwards (TAH) and in inner Newcastle Sep-Nov (LIA).

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

ID No: 185 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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 at Belmont swamp/lagoon 7 Jan (KEM) and Hunter estuary 10 Nov (Table 3). **Breeding:** There were two nests at Toronto wetland 15 Jan (KEM) and one nest at HWC 28 Nov (MAM).

Eastern Reef Egret *Egretta sacra*

ID No: 191 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Rare.

Single birds were recorded at Moon Island Jul (BRG) and Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC).

Nankeen Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

ID No: 192 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident.

Birds roosted all year at Wallbridge Reserve, with peak count 18 birds 9 Aug and 10+ birds often present over Aug-Dec (MAM). The peak count at HWC was also 18 birds 13 Oct (KEM), and 15 birds were present 6 Oct (MAM). Elsewhere, six birds were recorded at SSNR 22 Jan (MAM) and 1-5 birds were moderately often recorded at 13 discrete locations during the year. Also, a bird was feeding at night at Ash Island 16 Mar (THK).

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

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

41 birds were at PNR/Lenaghans Flat 19 Jan, 34 birds 2 Feb (both KEM), and 20 birds 16 Jan (FOC). 11 birds were at HWC 18 Jan (KEM), with lesser numbers present there throughout Jan - early Feb (several observers). 10-13 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 4 Jan (Table 1), KI Deep Pond 9 Jan (HAP), Craven 28 Jan (KEM) and Irrawang Swamp 13 Nov (MAM), 7-9 birds at Muswellbrook Common 18 Oct (per NEG), Woodberry/Thornton Swamp 28 Oct (MAL), Mount Arthur 27 Nov and 5 Dec (NEG) and Morpeth STP 14 Dec. 1-5 birds were at Lenaghans Flat 3 Mar and 28 Oct (FOC, DDR), Hexham Swamp 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*), Ash Island 4 & 26 Oct (MCN, LIA), Hexham swamp 26 Oct (RIA), Swan Bay 17 Nov (BRG) and Mt Arthur 8 Dec (NEG).

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca*

ID No: 179

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Regularly recorded in the E of the Region as counts up to 50 birds, and counts up to 100 birds during Mar-Sep (*text modified*).

Notable records: 3,519 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 985 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*). A mixed flock with *T. spinicollis* of ~2,000 birds was at Bobs Farm 12-13 May (FRN). 865 birds flew over Ashtonfield 28 Jul, 200-350 birds 23 & 31 Jul and 9 & 22 Oct (MAM). ~400 birds were at Leneghans Flat 2 Feb (KEM), 340 birds in the Raymond Terrace/ Seaham area 20 Jun (MAM) and 289 birds at Hunter estuary 19 May (Table 3). 100-200+ birds were at Rathluba Lagoon 29 May (MAM), Nelson Plains 20 Jun and 10 Sep (MAM), HWC 13 Jul and 13 Oct (KEM), Ashtonfield 18 Jul, 7 Aug and 16 Oct (MAM), Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/ KEM), Hexham Swamp 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*), Raymond Terrace/ Seaham area 28 Jun (MAM), and regularly at Hunter estuary over Feb-Aug (Table 3). **Breeding:** There were 117 nests at HWC 28 Nov (MAM) and 14 nests at Toronto wetland 15 Jan (KEM), and birds were nesting at Muddy Lake 2 Dec (per MOA). *Greatest numbers at HWC since the current colony established in 2003.*

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

ID No: 180

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: No

Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region, as counts up to 50 birds, and counts up to 100 birds during Mar-Sep (*text modified*).

Notable records: A total of 13,443 birds were night roosting at Irrawang Swamp 28 Jun - the counts had grown steadily from 1,079 birds 11 Jan and 2,473 birds 24 May; 1,672 birds still were roosting there 13 Sep (MAM). There were many daytime records of hundreds of birds at multiple locations in the Raymond Terrace/Seaham/Maitland area over this time (MAM). 1,595 birds were night roosting at HWC/NWR/Market Swamp 17 Apr and 657 birds 9 Aug (LIA *et al.*). Also on 9 Aug, 620 birds were night roosting at Tarro and 117 birds at Tarro (LIG, RAL). 500+ birds were at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and 300+ birds there 19 Jan (KEM). 200+ birds were at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and 200+ birds flew over Newcastle baths 4 May (THJ). Note also the mixed flock with *T. molucca* of ~2,000 birds at Bobs Farm 12-13 May (FRN).

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

ID No: 181

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: 31 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 3 Nov (Table 1), and 21-30 birds at Ashtonfield 18 Jul (MAM) and Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and often in the Hunter estuary (Table 3). **Breeding:** There were four nests at Newcastle University 12 Jan and three nests there 9 Dec (KEM), four nests at Rathluba lagoon 29 Oct (MAM) and three nests at Stroud 28 Jan (HCL/KEM).

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes*

ID No: 182

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: No

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

Notable records: Seven birds were at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), five birds at Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM), Morpeth STP 14 Apr (Table 1) and SSNR 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), and four birds at Bolwarra 1 & 4 Jan (KEM, TAH).

Eastern Osprey *Pandion cristatus* (name changes)

ID No: 241 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded at estuaries/coastal lakes in the NE of the Region, as counts of 1-2 birds unless with young/juveniles.

Notable records: Four birds were together at Taylors Beach 28 Aug (GOA). In the S of the Region, there were many records all year of 1-2 birds at locations around Lake Macquarie (from Fennell Bay/Bolton Point to Swansea and Belmont) and single birds were at Stockton Sandspit 4 & 10 Mar and 19 Jul and Glenrock lagoon 2 Oct (CLT), and two birds at Hexham 14 Feb (NEG). A bird was recorded at Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT) - *apparently the first known record*.
Breeding: A pair nested at Black Neds Bay Aug/Sep (ADJ) - *a new location, but no chicks appeared*. Birds were nesting at LTP 15 Jul and Tuncurry 14 Oct (both KEM), and two pairs were nesting at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC). A pair was displaying at Tomaree 19 Nov (FRN).

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris*

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

Notable records: Three birds were recorded at Hunter estuary 18 Aug (HWS). A male was feeding a female at Avon River Gloucester 26 Sep (DBP).

Letter-winged Kite *Elanus scriptus*

ID No: 233 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1977) (New to list).

See Supplementary Records.

Square-tailed Kite *Lophoictinia isura*

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

Two birds were recorded at Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC), and single birds at East Maitland 5 Mar (TAH), Stanford Merthyr 14 Mar (RIA), Weston 29 Nov (ROS) and 20km S of Taree 14 Dec (KEM).

Pacific Baza *Aviceda subcristata*

ID No: 234 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident in the E and central parts of the Region (*text modified*).

1-2 birds were recorded at Kurri Kurri 8 Jan (KEM), Awaba SF 18 Jan (KEM), Pokolbin 4 Jun (NBL), HWC 22 Jun (BAW), Salamander Bay 8 Jul (WOL), Craven 31 Jul (GOA/MCN), BbR 1 Oct (HBOC), Brandy Hill 1 Dec (MEL) and PNR 16 Dec (HBOC), and at Balickera over Apr-Jun and Oct-Dec. **Breeding:** There were breeding records from Balickera over Oct-Dec (MUJ), and pairs were with dependent young/juveniles at Green Point 16 Feb (KEM) and near Craven 30 Jul (DBP). (*all records published*)

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

ID No: 226 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: Seven birds including five juveniles were at Ash Island 1 Apr (KEM *et al.*). Juvenile birds were also recorded at Cams Wharf 20 Jun (BCC) and Woods Point Morisset 7 Aug (HBOC). A bird was hunting an Australian Raven near Booral 6 Jun (TAT).

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

ID No: 228 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded, mostly as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: Seven birds were recorded at Myall Shores 19 Jul (KEM), six birds at Hunter estuary 17 Feb (HWS) and Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT), and five birds at Morpeth STP 2 Feb (LIA/ NEM), HWC and Ash Island both 1 Apr (KEM *et al.*) and East Seaham 10 Aug (CLT). 3-4 birds were at Hunter estuary 19 May (HWS), Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM), WWW 22 Jul (SMJ *et al.*), Morpeth STP 7 Sep (LIA/NEM) and East Seaham 13 Oct (CLT). **Breeding:** Birds were nest building at Croki 18 Aug (MVBW) and were nesting at Myall Shores 19 Jul (KEM), East Seaham 10 Aug (CLT), WWW 8 Sep (TAH) and Bureen 1 Dec (TAH).

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

ID No: 227 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Resident (in coastal north of Region), elsewhere accidental.

Four birds were recorded at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), and single birds at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR), Harrington 23 Sep (KEM) and BBNP 4 Oct (MVBW). At least one bird was at Crowdy Bay 18 Sep (HBOC). *Advice received is that four pairs are resident within the Manning estuary (CRG).*

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

ID No: 229 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Uncommon visitor to W of the Region, elsewhere rare.

Two birds were at Wingen 24 Apr (NEG) and a single bird at Woodville 22 Nov (TAH).

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

ID No: 221 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, mostly as single birds.

Notable records: A male and two female birds were present at Ash Island 13 Feb (KEM). There were records of two birds at WWW 4 Jan (KEM), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and Warakeila 7 Oct (NEM). **Breeding:** A pair was displaying near Gundy 7 Apr (HUM) and birds were nesting at Balickera Jan (MUJ) and WWW 8 Sep (TAH).

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrhocephalus*

ID No: 222 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

Three birds were recorded at Minmi 22 Aug (FOC) and two birds at KI Deep Pond 10 Apr (VGF). Single birds were at Morisset 17 Jan (RIA), Willow Tree 12 Mar (RIA), Belmont lagoon 10 Mar (KEM), Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA), GTD 23 Jul (KEM), Kurri Kurri 1 Sep (KEM), Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM), Gloucester CP 23-24 Sep (KEM), Medhurst bridge 20 Oct (TAH) and Balickera Nov (MUJ). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC) and an adult male was feeding a young bird at Copeland 30 Jan (KEM/MCR).

Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

ID No: 220 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region, mostly as single, grey phase birds.

Notable records: There were records of two birds at PNR 10 Mar (MOA) and Avon Valley Gloucester 14 Sep (BCC). Birds had a nest with young at Newcastle University 9 Dec (KEM).

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

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

Two birds were recorded at KI Deep Pond 25 Jan (VGF) and single birds there 4 Mar, 18 Aug, 15 Sep, 20 & 28 Oct and 28 Dec (various reporters). Single birds were also at WWW 4 Feb (TAH), Wallalong 1 Mar (NEM), Hands Lagoon 15 Apr (TAH), 15km S of Gloucester 6 Jun (TAT), both Bolwarra and Thornton 5 Sep (TAH), Sandy Hollow area 29 Sep (STA) and PNR 28 Nov (CLT). A bird was found dead by the roadside at GTD 17 Nov (MAM).

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*

ID No: 219 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
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: Four birds (2A and 2J) were HWC 2 Jan (KEM) and four birds at Testers Hollow 17 Jan (RIA). 3-4 birds were recorded at locations in the Hunter estuary 10 Mar, 17 Feb, 18 Aug and 15 Sep (MOA, HWS) and there were also several records of two birds present. Two birds were also at Morpeth STP 4 Jan (LIA/NEM), GTD 23 Jan and 23 Jul (KEM), HWC 2 Aug (MCR), Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT) and Belmont lagoon/ swamp 18 Dec (KEM).

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*

ID No: 224 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded throughout the Region, mostly as 1-2 birds. *(text modified)*

Notable records: 3-4 birds were recorded at Speers Point 14 Apr (WAR), Singleton army base 22 May (HBOC), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Broke-Bulga Rd 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and Wambo Rd Bulga 2 Sep (KEM). A bird was on nest at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*).

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

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

Three birds, one a juvenile, were present at Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM). Single birds were at Testers Hollow 17 Jan (RIA), GTD 2 Feb (KEM), Swansea 24 Feb (CBOC), Pokolbin 4 Jun (NBL), Baerami Creek 7-11 Jun (MCR), Chain Valley Bay 3 Jul (HBOC), Parkville 14 Jul (NEG), Bolwarra 22 Jul, Balickera Oct (MUJ), Gundy 21 Oct (HUM) and Toronto 15 Dec (BIA).

Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides*

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

Notable records: 10+ birds were recorded at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), five birds at Hunter estuary 17 Jul (HWS) and three birds at Bolwarra 22 Jul and Medhurst bridge 4 Aug (KEM/MCR).

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

ID No: 239 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded, as counts of 1-2 birds. *(text modified)*

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

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis*

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

Notable records: Two birds were together at Ashtonfield 21 May (MAM), Morpeth 28 May (BRG), Swan Bay 19 Aug (KEM) and Gloucester 26 Sep (DBP). A bird was eating a Welcome Swallow at Bolwarra 1 Feb (TAH), and also the pair at Swan Bay was hunting one.

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

ID No: 238 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.

Pairs were present at Morpeth area in June and 17 Jul (BRG, LIA/NEM), Scone 7 Jun (NEG) and Mount Arthur Nov (per NEG); the pair at Scone were chasing Rock Doves in the main street. Single birds were recorded at Bolwarra 7 Jan (TAH), Bolton Point early Feb (BIA), Galgabba Point 20 Jun (CCFOC), Cams Wharf 30 Jun (NBL), Morpeth STP 19 Jul (NEM) and "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*). A pair had a nest with 3 young at Dartbrook Rd near Aberdeen 26 Oct - by 2 Nov the young were flying (per NEG).

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

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

Notable records: A bird was eating an Eastern Rosella at Manning Point 31 Mar (DBP), and a bird attacked a Noisy Friarbird unsuccessfully at Mungo Brush MLNP 19 Apr (NBL).

Brolga *Grus rubicunda*

ID No: 177 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2005*)

No reports were received for 2007.

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*

ID No: 058 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and frequently recorded at small to large waters, in counts up to 20 birds (*text modified*).

Notable records: 50 birds were at Leneghans Flat 2 Feb (KEM), 36 birds at Morpeth STP 4 Jan (Table 1) and 27 birds at Hunter estuary 20 Jan (HWS). Birds were essentially absent all year from two Woodville locations for the first time in >15 years (NEM). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Jan-Feb, June and Sep-Dec.

Lewin's Rail *Lewinia pectoralis* (*name change*)

ID No: 045 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Resident.

A pair was seen together at Black Neds Bay 23 Sep (HAP/STA) and two birds were seen/heard at HWC 4 Feb (KEM). Single birds were recorded at Deep Pond 7 Feb (VGF), HWC 8 Jul (BAW), Black Neds Bay 16 Sep (HAP), Wallsend 5 Nov (GCR) and Belmont lagoon 18 Dec (KEM).

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*

ID No: 046 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-2 birds were recorded at HWC several times in Jan, 4 Feb and 2 Aug (KEM, MCR), and also at WWW 4 Jan and 10 Feb (KEM, HBA), PNR 17 Jan (BRG/LIN), Hunter estuary 20 Jan and 17 Feb (HWS), Green Point 21 Jan (HBOC), Lake Eraring 7 Aug (HBOC), Ellalong lagoon 28 Oct (TAH), Laguna on 28 Oct (BED per MOA) and Lake Eraring 24 Dec (RIA). A pair successfully raised four chicks at Rainbow Flat (Q5) during Jan (MVBW), and birds had dependent young at Belmont lagoon 21 Jan (KEM) and HWC 8 Oct (LIP).

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*

ID No: 050 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident.

Three birds were recorded at Bolwarra 1 Jan (KEM) and two birds at WWW 14 Jan (BRG). Single birds were at HWC 2 & 24 Jan (KEM), PNR 17 & 19 Jan (BRG/LIN, KEM), WWW 4 & 17 Jan and 31 Oct (KEM, BRG/LIN), Hunter Valley Gardens Pokolbin 9 Sep (CBJ), Laguna 28 Oct (BED per MOA) and Mount Arthur 8 Dec (NEG).

Australian Spotted Crake *Porzana fluminea*

ID No: 049 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident.

Four birds were recorded at KI Deep Pond 9 Feb (HAP). 1-2 birds were at Bolwarra 4 Jan (TAH), WWW 14 Jan and 31 Oct (BRG), HWC 18 Jan and 4 Feb (KEM) and Hunter estuary 20 Jan and 17 Feb (HWS).

Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis*

ID No: 051 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

Two birds were present at HWC 24 Jan and 4 Feb (KEM), and single birds there 2 Jan (KEM) and at Bolwarra 4 Jan (TAH) and PNR 16 Jan (LIG).

Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis*

ID No: 055 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Not recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2000-02, 2005*).

A single bird was recorded at Mount Arthur 8 Dec (NEG).

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa*

ID No: 056 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 50+ birds were at Wallbridge Reserve 20 Apr (MAM), and there were many and widespread breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Sep-Dec.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

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

Notable records: ~400 birds were at GTD 2 Feb and 310 birds 23 Jan (KEM). The peak count at Morpeth STP was 348 birds 19 Jul and 50-100+ birds were there often over Apr-Dec (Table 1). 220 birds were at Hunter estuary 18 Aug and 100+ birds over May-Oct (Table 3). 200+ birds were at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and Lake Liddell 17 Mar (SAM), and 100-150 birds at Mungo Brush 20 Aug and HWC 1 Sep (KEM) and WWW 12 Sep and 14 Nov (Table 2). There were several records of 50+ birds from these various locations and also at Richardsons Swamp 10 Sep and 17 Nov (MAM). Birds were both on nest and nest building at Denman 16 Sep (KEM).

Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*

ID No: 174 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident (*revised from: Resident*).

A pair had a nest with eggs at Swan Bay 4 Sep but the eggs were predated soon afterwards (MAA/PRC per CLT). Two chicks hatched to a pair at LTP in early Dec but were predated by a Laughing Kookaburra when ~2 days old; the pair briefly disbanded but by 18 Dec had reformed (PRC per MOA). A bird was heard near Jewells swamp 3 Mar (per DOG).

Beach Stone-curlew *Esacus magnirostris* (name change)

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

The pair known to be resident in the Manning estuary was recorded at Mudbishops Point 5 & 29 Jan (FOC, KEM/ MCR) and Harrington 19-20 Jul (BIA, FOC).

South Island Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus finschi*

ID No: 744 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
 Status: Accidental (recorded 2004).

No reports were received for 2007. *The 2004 record was accepted by NSW ORAC.*

Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris* (name change)

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

108 birds (~1% of the total world population) were recorded in a survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb (HBOC) - this included 42 birds at Worimi NR where 30 birds were also present 17 Mar and 20 Apr and 12 birds 15 Sep (HAS/Table 6). 12 birds were at LTP 15 Jul (KEM) and 6-10 birds at Hunter estuary 17 Mar (Table 4), Mudbishops Point 31 Mar (DBP), Swan Bay 19 Aug and Harrington 23 Sep (KEM). Pairs and parties of up to five birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR), Newcastle baths 11 Apr, 4 May and 3 Nov (THJ), Bolton Point (L10) 12 May and 3 Aug (BIA), Swansea 20 & 30 Jun (CCFOC, VDM), Black Neds Bay 10 Jul (ADJ), Murrays Beach Lake Macquarie 17 Jul (VDM), Rudd Park LTP 24 Jul (TBW), Croki 18 Aug (MVBW), Harrington 17-19 Sep (HBOC), Tuncurry 14 Oct (KEM), Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT), Coon Island Nov (BCC), Catherine Hill Bay (RIA), and regularly at Hunter estuary (Table 4) and Worimi NR (Table 6). **Breeding:** A pair nested at Stockton Sandspit from early Oct, successfully fledging one chick which remained with them through to the year's end (CLT).

Sooty Oystercatcher *Haematopus fuliginosus*

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

Birds regularly roosted at Newcastle baths all year, with peak count of 23 birds in March and 10-20 birds present most months (see Table). 21 birds were at KI dykes 11 Mar (MOA), and 8-11 birds there 17 Feb and Nov-Dec (Table 4). 14 birds were at Stockton Sandspit 11 Mar (KEM/CLT), six birds 9 Sep and 1-5 birds sometimes (CLT). 11 birds were recorded in a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb (HBOC). Nine birds were at Glenrock SRA 7 Feb (KEM) and 6+ birds at Swansea Heads 13 Sep (KEM) and Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT). 1-5 birds were recorded at Moon Island 24 Feb (CBOC), Nobbys Beach 18 Mar and 1 Jun (KEM, VDI), Swan Bay 19 Aug (KEM), Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC) and Catherine Hill Bay (RIA), and frequently at Hunter estuary and Worimi NR (Tables 4, 6).

Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Baths

(Surveys by J Thomas)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
8	15	23	21	20	19	15	13	13	9	11	17

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

ID No: 146

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Moderately often recorded at medium to large waters in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: Many hundreds of birds were in the Hunter estuary Jan-May and Dec, with peak count 523 birds 21 Apr (Table 4). 324 birds were at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and 100+ birds there 7 Oct (MCR/ KEM), and 50+ birds at PNR/Leneghans Flat 19 Jan (KEM), Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM), SBS 9 Feb (KEM) and Morpeth STP Oct-Nov (Table 5). 21-50 birds were often at HWC and SBS during Jan-Feb (KEM, HAS/VGF) and also at Belmont lagoon 21 Jan and Anambah (K9) 26 Sep (KEM). **Breeding:** Birds were on nest at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and feeding young at Broke 28 Nov (SMR).

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

ID No: 148

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: No

Status: Bird of passage.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 2,151 birds 20 Jan but the high counts were only for Jan-Feb and Oct-Nov and relatively few birds were present over Mar-Jul (Table 4, others). 30+ birds were at Beresfield 1 Feb (KEM) and 6-8 birds at SBS 3 & 17-19 Jan (KEM, HAS/VGF), PNR 19 Jan (KEM) and Worimi NR 20 Apr (Table 6). 1-5 birds were recorded at Bolwarra 1 & 4 Jan (KEM, TAH), Tenambit Common 4 Jan (BRG), Morpeth STP 4 Jan (Table 5), HWC 18 & 24 Jan and 4 Feb and SBS 4 & 9 Feb (all KEM).

Banded Stilt *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*

ID No: 147

HBOC Category: 3

Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1995-96, 2000-01, 2004).

No reports were received for 2007.

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

ID No: 137 (Amended)

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: No

Status: Summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 304 birds 5 Feb (*the greatest count for the estuary since 1998*) and 200-300 birds regularly were present over Jan - mid Mar and one bird still was present 19 May (HLC, Table 4, MOA). In the regular monthly surveys over Sep-Dec, relatively few birds were recorded (see Table); however in weekly surveys made over the same period, birds were present from mid Sep and the numbers fluctuated considerably until Dec when they rose steadily, to a peak count of 175 birds 28 Dec (HLC). Elsewhere, 40-45 birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan and 7 Mar (KEM/MCR, LIA/NEM), and ~65 birds 31 Mar (DBP), 17 birds were at Worimi NR 17 Mar and 15 birds 12 Oct (Table 6), 16 birds at Swan Bay village 11 Oct (per MEL) and four birds at Morpeth STP 3 Nov (Table 5). Several birds roosted at Stockton Sandspit 18 Feb - *the first such occasion of roosting (as distinct from feeding) since the rehabilitation effort commenced ~4 years previously (CLT)*.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

ID No: 136

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: No

Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

A single bird was present at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC).

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

ID No: 770

HBOC Category: 3

Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

No reports were received for 2007.

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*

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

Notable records: For the Hunter estuary (mostly at Stockton Sandspit and Ash Island), 61 birds were recorded 19 May and 48 birds 14 Jul, and 10-20+ birds all other months (Table 4, others). The peak count at Worimi NR was 37 birds 17 Mar and 6-11 birds were there in 4 other months (Table 6). 25 birds were at Mudbishops Point 3 Apr (MEL). **Breeding:** Five pairs made repeated breeding attempts at Stockton Sandspit over Sep-Dec and at least four pairs ultimately succeeded; pairs were also copulating there 27 May and 29 Jul (CLT). Birds had a nest with eggs at Worimi NR 12 Oct (MEL), and immature birds were present at Mudbishops Point 31 Mar (DBP).

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

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

Eight birds were present in the Hunter estuary 17 Mar and two birds 21 Apr (Table 4); also, single birds were at Stockton Sandspit 3 & 10 Mar, 1 Apr, 24 & 26 Aug and 2 Sep (many observers), KI Deep Pond 14 Mar (VGF), Ash Island 24 Apr (BRG) and Bird Island Swansea 20 Jun (CCFOC). Ten birds were at Mudbishops Point 7 Mar (LIA/NEM). *Unusually, no birds were recorded at Worimi NR (but, surveys were not able to be made in two months when birds could be expected to be present).*

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*

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

2-4 birds were frequently present at Stockton Sandspit during March (several reporters) and on 20 Jan and 13 Dec (HWS, KEM). Four birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR) and 5-6 birds there 31 Mar and 3 Apr (DBP, MEL), and 1-3 birds at Worimi NR 20 Jan and 17 Mar (Table 6), Port Stephens 18 Feb (Table 7), Swansea Channel 24 Feb (CBOC) and Smiths Lake 22 Apr (NBL).

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*

ID No: 141 HBOC Category: 3 (*Amended*) NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2004-05*).

1-2 birds were present at Stockton Sandspit for most of March (many observers).

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Black-fronted Dotterel *Euseyornis melanops*

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

Notable records: 36 birds were present in the Hunter estuary 4 Jul and 16-25 birds in Apr-May (Table 4). 6-8 birds were at SBS 3 Jan (KEM), PNR/Leneghans Flat 19 Jan (KEM), Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM), WWW 1 & 10 Feb (KEM, HBA) and Mt Arthur 4 Mar (NEG).

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus*

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

Birds were present in the Hunter estuary over late Sep-Dec, with peak count of 10 birds 25 Sep and 16 birds 10 Nov (LIA, Table 4). 12 birds including two dependent young were at Gosforth (K9) 24 Oct (MAM), and 6-10 birds at Bolwarra 4 Jan (TAH), HWC 2 Jan (KEM) and Ash Island 31 Oct (CST). 1-5 birds were at Bolwarra 1 Jan (KEM), Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan and 24 Oct (MAM), SBS 4 & 9 Feb (KEM), Mt Arthur 4 Mar and 8 Dec (NEG) and HWC 13 Jul and 13 Oct (KEM).

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*

ID No: 135 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon bird of passage.

No reports were received for 2007.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*

ID No: 133 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely & regularly recorded in counts up to 20 birds near medium-large waters (*text simplified*).

Notable records: 104 birds were at Hunter estuary locations 21 Apr and the counts were high for much of the year (Table 4). The peak count at Morpeth STP was 112 birds 2 Feb and counts were high except in Jul-Oct (Table 5). Elsewhere, 50+ birds were at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and 21-50 birds at SBS 4 Feb (KEM) and Hexham Swamp 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*). A young bird was taken by a Laughing Kookaburra at Awabakal NR in Aug (ECD). **Breeding:** There were many, widespread records, spanning Jan and Aug-Nov, and also a bird was on nest at Leneghans Flat 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*).

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*

ID No: 171 HBOC Category: 2 (*Revised*) NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon resident, more usual in N of Region. (*revised from: Resident, etc*)

A bird was present at a farm dam near Craven 27 Jan (HBOC) and there were frequent reports of 1-2 birds there all year (DBP, others). A single bird was also at a farm dam near Buchanan 28 Jan (BIA). *These are the first records for the Region since 2004.*

Australian Painted Snipe *Rostratula australis* (*name changes*)

ID No: 170 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon resident.

No reports were received for 2007.

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*

ID No: 168 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Usual summer migrant. Often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds at small to large wetlands in the E of the Region, from Jan to mid-Mar and from late Aug onwards (*text modified*).

Notable records: 40+ birds were at Bolwarra 1 Jan and 20-21 birds at PNR/Leneghans Flat 19 Jan and 2 Feb (all KEM), and 15-20 birds at Pacific Dunes GC (near Medowie) 27 Nov (TBO). 6-10 birds were recorded at NWR 12 Jan (CLT), Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM), HWC 24 Jan (KEM), SSNR 31 Jan (CLT), WWW 1 Feb (KEM), Leneghans Flat 11 Feb (VGF) and Hexham Swamp 27 Dec (CLT). Only five birds were present at PNR 16 Dec in the annual survey (HBOC) - *the lowest count ever*. Departure/return dates at Woodville were 10 Mar and 19 Aug (NEM).

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

ID No: 152 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 192 birds 17 Mar (*the least numbers since the Bird Reports commenced*), and at least two birds over-wintered (see Table 4). There were no reports from elsewhere.

Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica*

ID No: 815 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1983-84, 1988*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

ID No: 153 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: The peak counts for the Hunter estuary were 1,077 birds 20 Jan and 1,226 birds 10 Nov, and ~300 birds over-wintered (see Table 4). 809 birds were recorded in all of Port Stephens 18 Feb (Table 7) which included 247 birds at Worimi NR - a good count for this location (HAS). 50+ birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR) and 25 birds there 31 Mar (DBP), and 50+ birds also at Rudd Park LTP 24 Jul (TBW). 21-50 birds were at Swan Bay 19 Aug (KEM) and Harrington late Sep (HBOC, KEM). Winter records from outside of the Hunter estuary were 29 birds at LTP 15 Jul (KEM) and two birds at both Black Neds Bay and Coon Island Jul (ADJ).

Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*

ID No: 151 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1969, 1972, 1985-86, 2001*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

ID No: 150 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Usual summer migrant. *Additional text deleted - all records will be monitored in future.*

Notable records: 215 birds were recorded in all of Port Stephens 18 Feb (Table 7). The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 76 birds 20 Jan (*the least count since Bird Reports commenced*) and 40+ birds were present 17 Feb and 13 Oct (Table 4). 15 birds were at Fern Bay 7 Oct (CLT) and 1-5 birds at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR) and 31 Mar (DBP) and Harrington 4 May (RIA) and 16-19 Sep (HBOC). There was a winter record of a bird at Moon Island Jul (BRG).

Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

ID No: 149 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 555 birds 17 Feb (*the greatest count since 2002*) and ~70 birds over-wintered (Table 4), while 320 birds were recorded in a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb. *Thus, at least 875 birds were present in the Region in Feb.* Only 177 birds were at Worimi NR in the 18 Feb survey but ~300 birds were roosting there in Sep and Nov-Dec (Table 6). ~60 birds were at Swan Bay 19 Aug (KEM) and 20+ birds at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR). There were winter records of 6+ birds at LTP 15 & 24 Jul (KEM, TBW), in addition to those for the Hunter estuary.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*

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

19 birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 8 Dec (Table 4) - *the smallest known peak count ever*. Elsewhere, six birds were present at Oyster Cove during a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb (Table 7).

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

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

Single birds were recorded at KI (mostly, at the dykes) 11 Mar, 18 Aug, 28 Oct and 8 Dec, and at Speers Point 10 Feb and 2 Oct (HWS, POJ, WAR). *Very few records for the year.*

Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes* (name change)

ID No: 155 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant. Occasionally recorded at coastal/estuarine mudflats during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec, as counts of up to 5 birds

Notable records: 100 birds were recorded in a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb and 18 birds at Worimi NR 15 Sep (Tables 6, 7). The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 33 birds 21 Apr and 20+ birds often were present in the migration period (Table 4). A bird was at SBS 17-19 Jan (HAS/VGF) - *unusual location*. Winter records were of seven birds at Rudd Park LTP 24 Jul (TBW) and 1-3 birds at Bird Island Swansea 20 Jun (CCFOC), Tanilba Bay 15 & 24 Jul (KEM, TBW) and Moon Island Jul (BRG). Six birds were at Stockton Sandspit 21 Aug (KEM) - possibly newly arrived since no birds were recorded on a survey of the estuary 3 days earlier.

Wandering Tattler *Tringa incana* (name changes)

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

ID No: 158 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Usual summer migrant.

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 151 birds 20 Jan and at least one bird over-wintered (Table 4). 13 birds were at/near Worimi NR during a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb and a single bird 17 Mar (Tables 6, 7). There were no records from elsewhere.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*

ID No: 809 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2001).

No reports were received for 2007.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

ID No: 159 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Usual summer migrant.

196 birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 17 Mar (*the greatest count since 2002*) and 100+ birds were present through Jan-Mar (Table 4, others). Ten birds were at Ash Island 26 Oct (LIA) but there were no more records for the Hunter estuary until Nov (Table 4). Encouragingly, birds sometimes utilised a recently rehabilitated area of Ash Island, including 58 birds were there 13 Feb (KEM). The only records from elsewhere were seven birds at Tenambit Common 4 Jan (BRG) and a single bird at Mount Arthur 8 Dec (NEG).

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

ID No: 154 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
 Status: Rare summer migrant (recorded 1993, 1997-98, 2000-02).

No reports were received for 2007.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

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

Birds often roosted at/near Newcastle Baths with peak count of 21 birds in Dec and 13-16 birds regularly present (see Table), with occasional complementary reports from nearby locations of 1-2 birds. The departure date was 18 Apr and the first recorded return was 29 Aug. Elsewhere, 6+ birds were at Swansea Heads/Black Neds Bay 6 Nov (CJB), five birds at Oyster Cove 18 Feb during a survey of Port Stephens (HBOC), and some birds at Bird Island Swansea 20 Jun (BCC), Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC) and Moon Island Nov (BCC). *A bird sometimes at Newcastle baths during Sep/Oct had been banded near Invercargill NZ in November 2006 (per THJ).*

Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Baths

(Surveys by J Thomas)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
13	14	14	14	0	0	0	1	13	13	16	21

Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

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

There were very few records, and all of single birds where numbers were noted - at Hunter estuary locations 17 Feb, 4 Mar and 28 Oct, and at Worimi NR 12 Oct (Tables 4, 6, HHB, KEM).

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

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

A single bird was at Coon Island Nov (BCC). No birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary in the regular monthly surveys until Sep (Table 4); however, 1-2 birds were sometimes present at Stockton Sandspit in early Mar (several reports) and 6+ birds there 4 Mar (KEM *et al.*), and at least 3 birds were at KI dykes 11 Mar (MOA). The peak count was 234 birds 15 Sep. The ponds on Ash Island where the very high 2006 numbers occurred, were monitored daily between 14-22 Oct (straddling the 2006 peak count date of 18 Oct) but no birds were found (LIA).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

ID No: 166 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
 Status: Uncommon summer migrant in the NE of the region.

Many birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR), 13 birds 3 Mar (LIA/NEM), 20+ birds 31 Mar (DBP) and three birds there 3 Apr (MEL). Two birds were at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC).

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

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

300 birds were present at Muddishops Point 7 Mar (LIA/NEM), 200 birds 31 Mar (DBP) and 100+ birds 29 Jan (KEM/ MCR); by 3 Apr only six birds remained (MEL). Relatively few birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary during the regular monthly surveys, with all counts being of <50 birds (Table 4); however, 120 birds were at KI Deep Pond 7 Feb (VGF) and 50-55 birds at Stockton Sandspit 10-18 Mar (several observers). At least nine birds over-wintered in the estuary (Table 4). 59 birds were in Port Stephens 18 Feb - mostly at Worimi NR where 50+ birds were also recorded 20 Jan and 30+ birds 17 Mar and 11 Nov (Table 6). 70+ birds were at Belmont lagoon 7 Jan (KEM) and 6+ birds at Swansea Heads/Black Neds Bay 6 Nov (CJB). 1-5 birds were at Belmont lagoon 21 Jan (KEM), SBS 4 Feb (KEM), Moon Island Jul (BRG) and Coon Island Nov (BCC). 1-2 birds sometimes roosted at Newcastle baths in Mar and Oct-Dec (THJ, BRG).

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

ID No: 978 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant. (*recorded 1995-99, 2001, 2003, 2006*)

A single bird was recorded at KI Deep Pond 8 Feb and 6 Mar (VGF).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

ID No: 163 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 683 birds were in the Hunter estuary 20 Jan and many hundreds of birds over Jan-Mar - often at KI Deep Pond (Table 4, others). 200+ birds were at SBS 3 Jan (KEM) and 100+ birds there 17-19 Jan and 4 Feb (HAS/VGF, KEM), and 120 birds at Tarro 1 Jan (KEM). 20-40 birds were at PNR/Leneghans Flat 19 Jan (KEM), Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM) and Belmont lagoon 7 & 21 Jan (KEM). *Thus, at least 1,000 birds were in the lower Hunter valley in Jan.* Later in the year, 21-50 birds were at Ash Island 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and Irrawang Swamp 24 Oct (MAM), and then 300+ birds at Hexham Swamp 27 Dec (CLT).

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

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

The peak count for the Hunter estuary was 276 birds 20 Jan, with several other records of 200+ birds (Table 4); *this represents a continuation of the decline in numbers since the regular monthly surveys commenced in 1999.* There were no records from elsewhere.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*

ID No: 887 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1979, 2004*).

No reports were received for 2007. *The 2004 record was accepted by NSW ORAC.*

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

	20 Jan	17 Feb	17 Mar	21 Apr	19 May	14 Jul	18 Aug	15 Sep	13 Oct	10 Nov	8 Dec
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	2	2	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	5
Sooty Oystercatcher	5	11	3	2		2	4			10	8
Black-winged Stilt	423	385	358	523	193	32	83	5	26	58	167
Red-necked Avocet	2151	1427	32	16	103	49	370	480	2300	1722	175
Pacific Golden Plover	264	293	58	2	1			16	4	6	24
Red-capped Plover	18	13	19	27	61	48	11	19	20	11	21
Double-banded Plover			8	2							
Lesser Sand Plover	3										
Greater Sand Plover			2								
Black-fronted Dotterel	2	2	8	25	16	36	7	5		3	
Red-kneed Dotterel									2	16	12
Masked Lapwing	81	90	74	104	54	30	41	30	46	26	60
Black-tailed Godwit	170	88	192	17	3	2	7	15	40	35	91
Bar-tailed Godwit	1077	881	807	221	240	305	310	284	503	1226	852
Whimbrel	76	43	11	13	3			31	52		4
Eastern Curlew	325	555	139	70	67	74	176	256	322	424	314
Terek Sandpiper	7	2		12	1				8	13	19
Common Sandpiper							1				1
Grey-tailed Tattler	20	7	29	33	5			12	27	18	31
Common Greenshank	151	108	72	51	21	1	12	29	78	80	127
Marsh Sandpiper	143	117	196		2					13	80
Great Knot		1									
Red Knot								234	150	79	10
Red-necked Stint	23	21	39	49	35	9		1	20	17	20
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	683	482	220	2				2	36		37
Curlew Sandpiper	276	229	34				3	119	151	250	223

*No June survey, because of extremely poor weather all month

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

	4 Jan	2 Feb	22 Mar	14 Apr	06 May	29 Jun	19 Jul	11 Aug	7 Sep	1 Oct	3 Nov	14 Dec
Black-winged Stilt	20		25	41	32			29	13	65	72	4
Red-necked Avocet	1											
Pacific Golden Plover											4	
Masked Lapwing	87	112	80	67	85	84	29	18	24	18	57	55
Latham's Snipe											1	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2										17	1

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus*

ID No: 167 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant. (recorded 1994-95, 2003-04, 2006).

A single bird was at Swan Pond Ash Island 16 Oct (LIA).

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

ID No: 934 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental. (recorded 1995-96, 1998, 2001, 2004).

A single bird was at Ash Island 17-18 Mar (LIA).

Red-backed Button-quail *Turnix maculosus* (name change)

ID No: 013 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1999, 2006).

Three birds were present at KI Deep Pond 10 Feb (VGF). *The 2006 record from the same location was accepted by NSW ORAC.*

Painted Button-quail *Turnix varius* (name change)

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

Two birds were recorded at Wallaby Gully Rd Ellalong 19 Jan (NBL), and single birds at Balickera Apr and Jul (MUJ), George Booth Drive 2 Oct (RIA) and Abermain 20 Dec (MOA).

Red-chested Button-quail *Turnix pyrrhothorax*

ID No: 019 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (recorded 2005).

No reports were received for 2007.

Little Button-quail *Turnix velox*

ID No: 018 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental.

No reports were received for 2007.

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella*

ID No: 173 (Amended) HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2003).

No reports were received for 2007.

Brown Skua *Stercorarius antarcticus* (name changes)

ID No: 980 (Amended) HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncertain (recorded 2001-03).

Single birds were recorded on pelagic surveys off Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM) and Swansea 21 Oct (HAP).

Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus*

ID No: 945 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant (revised from: Uncertain).

10+ birds were recorded on pelagic surveys off Newcastle 22 Jan and Swansea 23 Jan, and 5+ birds on surveys off Newcastle 20 & 21 Jan (all HAP). 2-3 birds were seen daily off Port Stephens over late Jan to early Feb (BIA), and single birds were off Moon Island 24 Feb (CBOC) and Cape Hawke 14 Oct (KEM).

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

	20 Jan	18 Feb	17 Mar	20 Apr	19 May	14 Jul	15 Sep	12 Oct	11 Nov	9 Dec
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher		42	30	30		5	12	6	1	2
Sooty Oystercatcher		2		2		1	2		3	
Red-necked Avocet				7						
Pacific Golden Plover		36	17				3	15		
Red-capped Plover	6	10	37				10	2	11	
Double-banded Plover										
Lesser Sand Plover	2		3							
Masked Lapwing		1	3	<5	1	2	2		4	H
Bar-tailed Godwit	6	247	36+	96		10		101	197	58
Whimbrel	6		6	18			5	7	8	12
Eastern Curlew	207	177	1	5	12	150	300	31	~300	~300
Grey-tailed Tattler							18			1
Common Greenshank		13	1							
Great Knot								1		1
Red-necked Stint	50+	54	37				3		38	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	8							6		1
Curlew Sandpiper								7		

Table 7 Port Stephens Waterbirds Survey*(February 18, 12 HBOC observers!)*

Black Swan	418	Pacific Golden Plover	36
Aust. Wood Duck	41	Red-capped Plover	41
Grey Teal	10	Lesser Sand Plover	3
Chestnut Teal	25	Masked Lapwing	50
Pacific Black Duck	35	Black-tailed Godwit	1
Little Penguin	1	Bar-tailed Godwit	809
Australasian Darter	5	Whimbrel	215
Little Pied Cormorant	97	Eastern Curlew	329
Great Cormorant	55	Terek Sandpiper	6
Little Black Cormorant	17	Grey-tailed Tattler	100
Pied Cormorant	221	Common Greenshank	13
Australian Pelican	156	Ruddy Turnstone	5
Eastern Great Egret	9	Red-necked Stint	59
Striated Heron	11	Arctic Jaeger	1
White-faced Heron	44	Little Tern	4
Little Egret	2	Gull-billed Tern	19
Nankeen Night Heron	8	Caspian Tern	1
Australian White Ibis	192	Common Tern	5
Royal Spoonbill	1	Crested Tern	161
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	108	Silver Gull	449
Sooty Oystercatcher	11		
TOTAL WATERBIRDS: 3,774			

Arctic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus*

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

Four birds were recorded off Nobbys beach 1 Apr (NBL) and three birds at Swansea Heads 6 Nov (CJB). Two birds were off Seal Rocks 25 Feb (HAP) and single birds on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 20 Jan (HAP) and at Nobbys Beach 17 Mar (KEM), Hawks Nest 1 Apr (BIA) and Moon Island Nov (BCC).

Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus*

ID No: 933 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant (*revised from: Uncertain*).

A single bird was within 100m of the Newcastle breakwater 1 Apr (NBL).

Common Noddy *Anous stolidus*

ID No: 122 HBOC Category: 3 (*Revised*) Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1977, 1999*)

No reports were received for 2007.

Black Noddy *Anous minutus*

ID No: 124 HBOC Category: 3 (*Revised*) Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2004*)

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey E of Newcastle 20 Jan (HAP).

White Tern *Gygis alba*

ID No: 972 HBOC Category: 3 (*Revised*) NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Grey Ternlet *Procelsterna cerulea*

ID No: 982 HBOC Category: 3 (*Revised*) NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995, 2002*)

No reports were received for 2007.

Sooty Tern *Onychoprion fuscata* (*name change*)

ID No: 120 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1997, 2001-02, 2004*).

15+ birds were recorded on a pelagic survey off Newcastle 21 Jan and 4+ birds on 20 Jan (HAP). 4-5 birds were off Port Stephens 21-22 Jan (FOC) and 1-2 birds were seen daily off Port Stephens over late Jan to early Feb (BIA).

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons* (*name change*)

ID No: 117 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Yes
Status: Rare summer migrant, except around the mouth of the Manning River.

100+ birds including 3 chicks were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR) and 45 birds 7 Mar (LIA/NEM). There were many reports of birds at Stockton Sandspit over Jan-early Apr and again in Dec, with peak counts of 12 birds 4 Jan and ten birds 2 Dec (CLT, others). Some birds were also recorded at Coon Island Nov (BCC) and occasionally at/near Newcastle baths from late Sep onwards (THJ). **Breeding:** The only confirmed colonies in the Region in 2007 are at Harrington and Mudbishops Point. However, two birds at Stockton Sandspit in Jan-Feb and Dec were flagged, which identified they had bred at the Botany Bay (Sydney) colony in 2003 (per CLT). Also, a bird was seen carrying food towards Stockton Beach 25 Dec (CLT) - several people then searched the southern dunes in Dec 2007 and Jan 2008 but no breeding birds were found. *The two flagged birds were also present in 2006 (CLT).*

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* (name change)

ID No: 111 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Common migrant, some birds over-winter.

19 birds were present in Port Stephens 18 Feb during a full survey (Table 7). Many birds were often at Stockton Sandspit during Mar, with the peak count 36 birds 11 Mar (KEM/CLT, others). 20 birds were present in the Hunter estuary 19 May - variously at KI dykes, Stockton Sandspit, and Ash Island - and 1-5 birds were occasionally at these locations during Feb-Jun, Oct and Dec (Table 4, DDR, KEM, LIG). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were recorded at Worimi NR 17 Mar (HAS/MAC), Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM), Newcastle baths 18 & 26 Aug (THJ) and Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC).

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* (name change)

ID No: 112 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Common migrant, some birds over-winter.

Many birds were present at Hunter estuary locations during Mar-Apr, with peak counts 14 birds 21 Apr and 11 birds 17 Mar, and 1-5 birds often were recorded at those locations in the remainder of the year (Table 4, others). Elsewhere, 6-9 birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR), LTP 15 & 24 Jul (KEM, TBW) and Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), and 1-5 birds were moderately often recorded at Worimi NR (HAS) and 14 discrete and widespread other locations.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (name change)

ID No: 110 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Bird of passage.

200+ birds were recorded at Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and 40 birds there 1 Oct (NEM). Six birds were at Hunter estuary 13 Oct (HWS) and nine birds at Swan Pond Ash Island 16 Oct (LIA), and 1-5 birds (where numbers were noted) were at KI Deep Pond 9 Jan (HAP), GTD 1 Jun (MAM), Morpeth STP 1 Oct and 3 Nov (LIA/NEM), Leneghans Flat 28 Oct (DDR) and Hexham swamp 26 Oct (RIA).

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

ID No: 109 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

20 birds were the Newcastle harbour/baths area 8 & 9 Jan and with 6-11 birds sometimes present during Jan and mid Feb, and the numbers then declining in late Feb (all THJ).

White-fronted Tern *Sterna striata*

ID No: 114 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Uncommon winter migrant.

100 birds (in several large flocks) were recorded on a pelagic survey E of Swansea 21 Oct (HAP). Birds were often in the Newcastle harbour/baths area over Aug-Nov, with peak count being 42 birds 7 Sep (see Table). Four birds were off Newcastle beach 21 Jul (LIG), and a single bird was at Nobbys Beach 24 Mar (KEM).

Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Harbour/Baths

(Surveys by J Thomas)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	42	5	2	0

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

ID No: 953 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Summer migrant. Frequently recorded along the coast over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 500 birds were at Mudbishops Point 7 Mar (LIA/NEM) and 300+ birds 29 Jan (KEM/ MCR), and this location continues to be a stronghold in the Region. 20-30+ birds were in the area around Newcastle harbour/baths 17 Jan and 11 & 18 Mar (KEM, MOA) and 40-45 birds during Nov-Dec (see Table), with occasional other reports of lesser numbers in this vicinity in Mar and from late Oct. A single bird was also recorded in the Hunter estuary 21 Apr (HWS). Elsewhere, 1-2 birds were at Swansea Heads/Black Neds Bay 6 Nov (CJB) and Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), and some birds at Coon Island Nov (BCC).

Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Harbour/Baths*(Surveys by J Thomas)*

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	40	45

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

ID No: 952 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 2006).

No reports were received for 2007.

Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii* (name change)

ID No: 115 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Often recorded along the coast, with counts of up to 50 birds not uncommon (text revised).

Notable records: Many birds (peak counts of 250-300) were often present at/near Newcastle baths Jan and Sep-Oct, and 50+ birds most other months (THJ, others, also see Table). 161 birds were recorded in a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb (HBOC). 50-60+ birds were at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR) and Moon Island 13 Sep (KEM). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Moon Island Nov (BCC) and were feeding a fledged young at Nobbys Beach 24 Mar (KEM).

Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Harbour/Baths*(Surveys by J Thomas)*

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
290	27	46	67	153	122	74	71	250	270	53	47

Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus*

ID No: 126 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1994, 1997).

No reports were received for 2007.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*

ID No: 981 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1998).

A single bird was recorded at Harrington 17, 19 & 23 Sep (HBOC, KEM).

Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae*

ID No: 125 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely & regularly recorded at near-coastal areas, in counts of up to 100 birds.

Notable records: 1000+ birds were at Wallalong 26 Jun (MAM) and Moon Island 13 Sep (KEM). 100+ birds were present in the Hunter estuary most months with peak count of 584 birds 19 May (HWS), and 100+ birds at/near Newcastle baths over Jan-Jun with peak count 380 birds 12 Mar (see Table). 350 birds were at Rathluba Lagoon 8 Apr (MAM) and 449 birds in a full survey of Port Stephens 18 Feb (Table 7). 100+ birds were at Nobbys Beach 17 Jan (KEM), SBS 17-19 Jan (HAS/VGF), Rathluba Lagoon 29 May (MAM), LTP 15 Jul (KEM), Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC), Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT) and Swansea Heads/Black Neds Bay 6 Nov (CJB). **Breeding:** At least 100 dependent young were at Moon Island 13 Sep (KEM) and birds were also nesting there Nov (BCC per MOA). Many birds were on nests at Broughton Island 24-26 Oct and other birds copulating & displaying (CLT), and birds were with a dependent young at Wangi Wangi 11 Jun (GCR).

Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Harbour/Baths*(Surveys by J Thomas)*

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
290	300	380	230	300+	150	20		30	97	14	

Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

ID No: 265 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident.

A total of 27 birds (in flocks of 7 and 20 birds) were recorded around Wollombi 25 Feb (HBOC), and 20+ birds near Bulahdelah 13 Jul (NBL). 6+ birds were at Boarding House Dam Watagans NP 13 Jan (KEM), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans NP 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Congewai valley 31 Aug (per MOA) and Sharpes Creek 14 Dec (KEM). 1-3 birds were regularly present all year at Wyee Point, and up to six birds including some fledged dependent young over Oct-Dec (MDV). 1-5 birds were at Ryhope 4 May (RIA), Awaba SF 10 Jul (MCR *et al.*), Bulahdelah 16 Jul (FOC), Brunkerville 3 Aug (MCR), Baerami Creek 10 Sep (TBO), Gloucester CP 14-16 Sep (BCC), Copeland FP 16 Sep (BCC), Fingal Head 3 Oct (CLT) and Heatons Gap Watagans NP 11 Nov (GOJ). A begging juvenile was with the flock at Boarding House Dam 13 Jan.

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus*

ID No: 267 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 35 birds including four begging juveniles were at GTD 16 Jan (KEM), and ~20 birds at Raymond Terrace 3 & 10 Feb (HUF) and Galgabba Point Aug/Sep (ADJ). Birds were also with begging young at WWW 4 Jan (KEM), Watagans SF 13 Jan (KEM), The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC), Wakefield 27 Jan and Morisset 15 Feb (GCR) and Awabakal NR 4 Dec (HBOC).

Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum*

ID No: 268 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

15 birds were recorded near Kurri Kurri 22 Apr (HAP), and 1-5 birds at Boarding House Dam Watagans NP 13 Jan (KEM), The Basin Olney SF 5-6 Mar (THK), Cooranbong 27 Mar and 19 May (RIA) Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Boarding House Dam 21-22 Apr (HBOC), The Pines Watagans 21 Apr (RIA), Ellalong Lagoon 1 May (HBOC), Kurri Kurri 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Brunkerville 3 Aug (MCR) and "Iomar" HSD Quorrobolong 20 Aug (MOA).

Galah *Eolophus roseicapillus* (name change)

ID No: 273

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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: 800-900 birds were feeding together in a paddock and in nearby trees at Wollar Rd (D6) 29 Jul (KEM), and 100+ birds at Hands Lagoon Bolwarra early Apr (TAH) and Denman 9 Apr (KEM *et al.*). 50+ birds were recorded at Flat Rd Bolwarra 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and 21-50 birds at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Hexham Swamp 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*), Denman 4 Aug (KEM/MCR), “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), Giants Creek 16 Sep (KEM) and Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC). **Breeding:** There were several records, spanning Jan, Mar, Sep and Nov.

Long-billed Corella *Cacatua tenuirostris*

ID No: 272

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

~200 birds were recorded at Hands Lagoon Bolwarra early Apr (TAH), and 80 birds at Jesmond 25 Mar (GCR). 30 birds were at Sunshine 9 Apr (GCR) and 15-20 birds at WWW 1 & 10 Feb (KEM, HBA) and Morpeth STP 3 Nov (LIA/NEM). 6+ birds were present at Wingham 3 May (MVBW), Green Wattle Creek 25 Jun and 7 Oct (MCR *et al.*) and Morisset 11 Oct (GCR), and there were several records of 1-5 birds in the E of the Region. Birds were with fledged young at Morisset 15 Jan (GCR), WWW 1 Feb (KEM), Jesmond 25 Mar (GCR) & Sunshine 9 Apr (GCR).

Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea*

ID No: 271

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds (*text added*).

Notable records: 200+ birds were recorded at “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), and 100+ birds at HWC 24 Jun (HBOC) and frequently at New Lambton (STA). ~60 birds were regularly at Cardiff in Jan-Mar (SAM) and 20-30 birds at Newcastle University 5 Mar and 18 Jun (KEM) and Sunshine 9 Apr (GCR). Birds were feeding fledged young at Sunshine 9 Apr.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

ID No: 269

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: ~300 birds were together near Willow Tree 29 Jul (KEM) and 120 birds at Wambo Rd Bulga Rd 4 Aug (KEM/MCR), and 50+ birds at “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*). 21-50 birds were at “Amosville” via Wollombi 25 Feb (HBOC), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Bolwarra 22 Jul, White Box camp GRNP 28 Jul (KEM), NWR 3 Aug (MCR) and near Broke 4 Aug (KEM/MCR). Birds were with fledged young at Sunshine 8 Apr (GCR), Blackalls Park 16 May (GCR) and Green Wattle Creek 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and were inspecting hollows at Newcastle University 18 Jun (KEM).

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

ID No: 274

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: None recorded

Status: Uncommon resident in the extreme NW of the Region.

6-8 birds were recorded at Warrah Ridge Rd 4 Jul (KEM) and “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), and five birds at Wollar Rd (D6) 17km from Merriwa 26 Apr (TBO/NBL).

Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*

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

Notable records: 400-500 birds continued to roost nightly in fig trees in New Lambton (STA). 50+ birds were at LTP 15 Jul (KEM) and 21-50 birds at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan (KEM/MCR), Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA), Sunshine 5 May (GCR), Kilaben Bay/Rathmines 5 Jun (HBOC), Swan Bay/Worimi NR 14 Jul (HAS/MAC), Salt Ash 15 Jul (KEM) and Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM). Breeding: There were many records, mostly spanning May-Aug but also Sep and Nov.

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*

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

Notable records: 20-30+ birds were at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan (KEM/MCR) and Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM). Birds were on nest at Wangi Wangi 12 Apr (GCR).

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna*

ID No: 258 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Bird of passage.

20-30 birds were recorded near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan (KEM) and at Mt Vincent 15 Mar (FIP), but otherwise, numbers were unexceptional for Jan-Mar. From April onwards, large numbers of birds were present in the Region, with numerous counts of 20+ birds and many counts of 40+ birds, from widespread locations. Also, 50+ birds were at Mt Vincent Apr/May (FIP), Wye Point May (VDM) and Galgabba Point 25 May (ADJ), 70-80 birds at Morpeth 28 May (BRG) and 100+ birds at Vacy 12 May (TAH), and many hundreds of birds at Clarencetown early Nov (RAL). *It seems that more than 1,000 birds were in the Region over May-Dec.* **Breeding:** Birds had dependent young near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan.

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*

ID No: 260 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 50-60+ birds were recorded near Kurri Kurri 8 Jan, 16 Sep and 20 Oct (KEM, HAP) and at Quorrobolong 4 & 12 Aug (CCFOC), and 21-50 birds at Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA) and near Kurri Kurri 1 Sep and 7 Oct (KEM, MCR). Birds were recorded at Green Wattle Creek every month over Mar-Dec, with the peak count being 42 birds in Oct (NEM). Birds were inspecting hollows near Kurri Kurri 25 Aug and 1 Sep (SRM, KEM).

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis*

ID No: 281 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident (*Revised from: Usual resident*). 1-5 birds widely and frequently recorded in the E and central parts of the Region.

Notable records: 40+ birds were present at Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC) and 21 birds at "Tarrawonga" via Wollombi 25 Feb (HBOC). 6-20 birds were at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and Black Rock/Fitness's Rd 24 Aug (NEM). Birds were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*).

Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus*

ID No: 280 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental. (*Recorded 1996, 1998-99, 2005-06*)

A flock of 14 birds was present at Cassilis sports ground 6 Apr (STA).

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*

ID No: 282 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident (*Revised from: Usual resident*). Moderately often recorded in the central and E parts of the Region as up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*).

Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius*

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

Notable records: ~50 birds were present in one large flock near Kurri Kurri TAFE 9 Jul (KEM), and 20+ birds were at WWW 10 Feb (HBA).

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*

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

200+ birds in flocks of 14-40+ were in the grounds of Kurri Kurri TAFE 29 June and 6 Jul, and many birds (78 counted in short period) were still present there 1 Aug (all ROS). There were several other reports of lesser numbers from the Kurri Kurri/Weston area between 22 Apr (single bird recorded) and 1 Sep (8+ birds). 60+ birds were at Quorrobolong 12 Aug and lesser numbers all month, and 28 birds were still present 12 Sep (MOA). 90+ birds were at Belmont 2 May (NBL) and ~20 birds at Morisset 20 & 26 May and 29-30 Sep (MOA, RIA). 13 birds were at Stockton Creek 9 Jul (RIA) and Singleton Army Base 2 Aug (HBA) and 6-10 birds at Cooranbong 19 May (MOA, RIA), Fitness's Rd Martins Creek 24 Aug (NEM), Watagan Forest Rd 4 Sep (NBL/MOA) and North Rothbury 18 Sep (RIA). 1-5 birds were at Tahlee 18 Apr (RIA), Morpeth 13 Jun (RIA), Stockton Creek 18 Jul (RIA), LTP 23 Jul (BIA), Warabrook 5 Aug (MCR) and Ravensworth Sep (MUM). *Numbers are similar to the high counts of 2002 and 2005.*

Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Warabrook 5 Aug (MCR). Birds had a nest with young at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and two pairs were on nest at NWR/ Market Swamp 13 Oct (KEM *et al.*).

Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*

ID No: 310 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded in 2005*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella*

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

Eight birds were in the area around White Box camp 28 Jul (KEM) and four birds at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). Two birds were at Wambo Rd Bulga Rd 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and White Box camp 8 Aug (MCR).

Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*

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

Notable records: A single bird was at Ash Island 1 Sep (MCN) - *uncommon at this location.*

Eastern Koel *Eudynamys orientalis* (name changes)

ID No: 347 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: Young birds were being fed by Red Wattlebird at Warabrook 12 Jan and Green Point 16 Feb (KEM), and birds also were breeding at Balickera Jan (MUJ).

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

ID No: 348 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: The first recorded arrival was 8 Sep at Kotara. Chicks were being raised by Pied Currawong at Finnan Park GTD 4 Jan (KEM), Toronto 11 Jan (BIA) and Salamander Bay 26 Jan (SHB), and by Australian Ravens at Newcastle 20 Dec (THK).

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites basalis* (name change)

ID No: 342 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant, some birds are present all year.

The majority of the widespread and numerous records were of 1-2 birds and were for the period Sep-Oct but, unusually, 25% of them were for Jun-Aug - all of these records were from the W of the Region. Eight birds were in close proximity at Ash Island 19 Sep (FRA). Young birds were being fed by Yellow Thornbills at Myuna Bay area 15 Jan and Gloucester CP 23-24 Sep (KEM).

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chalcites osculans* (name change)

ID No: 341 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Uncommon resident in the central and W of the Region.

Two birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and a single bird at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (KEM).

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus* (name change)

ID No: 344 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual summer migrant, some birds are present all year.

As for 2006, there were unusually few May-Jul records, and the majority of the widespread reports received were for the period Sep-Dec. Young birds were being fed by Yellow Thornbills at Ash Island 13 Feb and Cooperook 14 Dec (KEM).

Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites minutillus* (name change)

ID No: 345 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1992, 2004).

No reports were received for 2007.

Pallid Cuckoo *Cacomantis pallidus* (name change)

ID No: 337 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant

10+ birds were present at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). Birds arrived in the Jerrys Plains area 12 Aug and were often recorded there subsequently, and also were common in the Bolwarra area during Oct/Nov (TAH) as well as at other locations in the central and W of the Region. The earliest recorded arrivals were of birds at White Box camp GRNP 28 Jul (KEM) and Wingen 2 Aug (NEG), and no records at all were received for the first half of the year.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis* (name change)

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

Notable records: 6+ birds were at HWC 15 Jun (KEM). A young bird was being fed by White-browed Scrubwren at BbR 3 Jan (KEM) and birds were breeding at Balickera Dec (MUJ).

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus* (name change)

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

1-2 birds were moderately often recorded over Jan-Feb and then again from mid Sep. There were no records for March, but a bird was heard at Werakata NP 3 Apr (HBA). Unusual records, both in numbers and timing, were of three birds at Singleton Army Base 2 Aug (HBA) and four birds near White Box camp GRNP 8 Aug (MCR).

Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus optatus* (name change)

ID No: 336 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1994, 1999, 2001-02, 2004).

No reports were received for 2007.

Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*

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

1-2 birds were recorded at BbR/NLH 3 Jan, 6 & 13 Mar and 6 Aug (KEM, STA, LIP), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Garden Suburb 14 Apr (HUL), Green Wattle Creek 1 & 3 May (SHB), Teralba 13 May (HCL), George McGovern Park (Rankin Park) 13 May (LIP), Balickera May, Sep and Dec (MUJ), Nords Wharf 2 Aug and 30 Oct (RIA), Weston 14 Oct (ROS) and Adamstown 5 Nov (ANC).

Barking Owl *Ninox rufa* (name change)

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

Birds were heard calling at Gloucester CP 14-16 Sep (BCC) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC), and a bird was found dead by the roadside 16km N of Stroud ~ 15 Sep (BCC).

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

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

Notable records: Four birds were heard at Boarding House Dam 21-22 Apr (HBOC) and three birds at Little Murrays Barrington Tops 18-22 Nov (CLT). Four birds were roosting together at Watagans SF 13 Jan (KEM).

Sooty Owl *Tyto tenebricosa*

ID No: 253 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
Status: Rare resident.

1-2 birds were heard/seen at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Boarding House Dam 21-22 Apr and 17 Aug (HBOC, KEM), Copeland 12 Oct (NBL), Chichester SF 27 Oct (HHB), Allyn River 27 Oct (HTH) and Gloucester Tops 27 Oct (HAP).

Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae*

ID No: 250

HBOC Category: 2

NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: Yes

Status: Rare resident.

Single birds were recorded at Main Creek Dungog 4 Apr (JED), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Fosterton Loop 26 Jun (JED), Awaba SF 10 Jul (MCR *et al.*) and Allyn River 27 Oct (HHB/HTH). Dead birds were found near Bulahdelah 6 Jul (NBL) and at Green Point 14 Oct (WAW).

Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica* (name changes)

ID No: 249

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Past records

Status: Resident.

Single birds were seen/heard at Green Wattle Creek Jul (BRG), Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC) and Hunter estuary 15 Sep (HWS), and a dead bird was found at Lake Liddell 14 Jul (NEG).

Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris* (name changes)

ID No: 252 (Amended)

HBOC Category: 3

NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: Past records

Status: Rare resident.

Single birds were at Ash Island 2 Jan and 28 Aug (KEM, LIP) and Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT), and a dead female bird was found at Stockton Sandspit 19 Aug (CLT).

Azure Kingfisher *Ceyx azurea* (name change)

ID No: 319

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mainly as <10 birds and usually as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 10 birds were at Warakeila 25 Jul (NEM). Monthly counts at Green Wattle Creek peaked at 11 birds in Jan and 10 birds in Dec (NEM). Birds predated Bush Stone-curlew chicks at LTP in early Dec (MOA) and a young Masked Lapwing at Awabakal NR in Aug (ECD).

Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii*

ID No: 324

HBOC Category: 3

Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1998, 2001-02, 2004, 2006).

No reports were received for 2007.

Red-backed Kingfisher *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius* (name change)

ID No: 325

HBOC Category: 3

Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

No reports were received for 2007.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

ID No: 326

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common summer migrant, some birds over-winter at coastal locations (*Revised from: Usual summer migrant, etc.*). Widely and regularly recorded over Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec, mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were inspecting hollows at Green Wattle Creek 7 Oct (MCR/KEM).

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

ID No: 329

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant. Occasionally but widely recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, mostly as counts of <10 birds.

Notable records: 16 birds were in an area near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan (KEM). Four pairs were nesting at Gungal 5 Nov (ALD) and a bird was on nest at East Seaham 13 Oct (GOA).

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

ID No: 318

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Croudace Bay 14 Nov (BRG). The first returns were 25 Sep in Newcastle (BIA) and 2 Oct in Wingen (NEG) - the latter being the second earliest date in 20 years. Birds were nesting at Fennell bay 4-14 Nov (MCC) and had dependent young at HWC 18 Jan and 4 Feb (KEM), Myuna Bay 15 Jan (KEM) and Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/ MCR).

Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor*

ID No: 352

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

1-2 birds were recorded at Harrington RF 30 Jan (KEM/MCR), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC), Gloucester Tops 27 Oct (HAP), Chichester SF 28 Oct (HHB), Allyn River 30 Sep, 28 Oct and 12 Nov (THK, DDR, SHB). Also, a bird was heard at Gap Creek 28 Dec (RIA) - *a rare summer coastal record; the southern limit of the NSW breeding area generally is considered to be the Barrington Tops rainforests (per MOA).*

Superb Lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae*

ID No: 350

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Often recorded in the central part of the Region as counts of 1-2 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar and Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*) and The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC), and five birds at Boarding House Dam 21-22 Apr (HBOC) and Copeland CA 24 Sep (KEM).

Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens*

ID No: 355

HBOC Category: 2

NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: None recorded

Status: Resident.

There were many records of up to four birds at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, with no records from elsewhere. *The absence of winter records possibly reflects visitor preference.*

White-throated Treecreeper *Cormobates leucophaea* (name change)

ID No: 558

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as up to 10 birds (*text simplified*).

Notable records: 15-20 birds were at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and some birds were carrying food. Birds had nests with young at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and Barrington Tops 15 Dec (KEM) and were breeding at Balickera over Sep-Nov (MUJ).

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythroptera*

ID No: 560 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Uncommon resident.

1-2 birds were at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Boarding House Dam 21-22 Apr (HBOC) and Barrington Tops 15 Dec (KEM). A pair was with dependent young at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 15 Dec (KEM) - *this is the first breeding record since 1994.*

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

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

Notable records: 6+ birds were recorded at Kings Gap 4 Aug (KEM/MCR), and birds were feeding young along Jones Reserve Rd 13 Sep (RIA).

Green Catbird *Ailuroedus crassirostris*

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

~20 birds were recorded at Allyn River 5 Feb including a pair with a dependent young (KEM *et al.*). 10+ birds were at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and five birds at Gloucester Tops 27 Oct (HAP). Two adult and two immature birds were at Mungo Brush 2 Apr (BIA) and also four birds at Boarding House Dam Watagans NP 13 Jan and Copeland CA 24 Sep (KEM). 1-2 birds were moderately often recorded all year.

Regent Bowerbird *Sericulus chrysocephalus*

ID No: 684 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes.
Status: Resident.

10+ birds were at Allyn River 5 Feb including a female with a dependent young (KEM *et al.*), and birds had nests with young at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan and Harrington RF 30 Jan (KEM/MCR). 1-5 birds were moderately often recorded in the E of the Region.

Satin Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*). Birds were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and Rathmines 8 Feb (KEM).

Spotted Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus maculatus* (*name change*)

ID No: 680 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Superb Fairy-wren *Malurus cyaneus*

ID No: 529 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: ~150 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan and 87 birds there 22 Jun (KEM), and 30-50 birds regularly at Warakeila (NEM). There were breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Sep-Dec.

Red-backed Fairy-wren *Malurus melanocephalus*

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

At least three birds were at Harrington 5 Jan (BRG), and a single male bird at Bootawah Dam 15 Sep (MVBW).

Variegated Fairy-wren *Malurus lamberti*

ID No: 536 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 20+ birds were recorded at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC). Birds had dependent young at Awabakal NR 5 Jan and Belmont lagoon 18 Dec (both KEM) and also were breeding at Balickera Feb (MUJ).

Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus*

ID No: 526 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident, locally common.

28 birds (*presumably, in many small groups*) were recorded at GTD 2 Feb and 14 birds there 23 Jul and 11 Aug (KEM). 14 birds were at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and 13 birds at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM). 6+ birds were present at GTD 23 Jan (KEM), Warakeila 27 Jan (NEM), Harrington STP 5 Feb (MVBW) and Tomago Wetlands 3 Mar and 15 May (HBOC, MCN/GOA), and 1-5 birds at Balickera Jan, Feb and Nov (MUJ), Belmont lagoon 7 Jan (KEM), Myuna Bay area 15 Jan (KEM), Awaba SF 18 Jan (KEM), HWC 24 Jan (KEM), Warakeila 20 Apr and 7 Oct (NEM), Tomago Wetlands 17 Apr (MCN/GOA), Taylors Beach 28 Aug (GOA), Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC), Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC) and Awabakal NR Dec (BRG).

Pilotbird *Pycnoptilus floccosus*

ID No: 506 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Uncommon resident in the higher altitude parts of Wollemi NP (*recorded 1997, 2000, 2005-06*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Rockwarbler *Origma solitaria*

ID No: 505 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

Two pairs were present at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct and three birds at "Amosville" via Wollombi 25 Feb (both HBOC). 1-2 birds were recorded at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Baerami Creek 7-11 Jun and 10 Sep (MCR, TBO), Mount Sugarloaf 16 Mar (THK) and Wollombi area mid Oct (per TAH). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with young along Putty Rd 17 Sep (FRA).

Yellow-throated Scrubwren *Sericornis citreogularis*

ID No: 493 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

A total of ~40 birds were recorded at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC). 6+ birds were at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Woko NP 16 Sep (BCC), Copeland FP 16 Sep (BCC) and Copeland CA 24 Sep (KEM). 1-5 birds were moderately often recorded all year. **Breeding:** Five pairs were on nests or had nests with young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan, and birds had a nest with young at Copeland CA 24 Sep.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*

ID No: 488 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mainly as 1-5 birds but with counts of up to 20 birds not uncommon.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar and 15 Dec (MCR, KEM), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). There were several records, spanning Sep and Nov-Dec, also, birds were feeding a young Fan-tailed Cuckoo at BbR 3 Jan (KEM).

Large-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis magnirostra* (name change)

ID No: 494 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

13 birds were at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and 6-10 birds at Brunkerville 3 Aug (MCR), Woko NP 16 Sep and Copeland FP 16 Sep (both BCC), Falbrook (J6) 28 Sep - 1 Oct (MCR/CLT) and Copeland CA 24 Sep (KEM). 1-5 birds were moderately often recorded all year. **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gap Creek Watagans SF 3 Feb (MOA) and had dependent young at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*).

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren *Hylacola pyrrhopygia*

ID No: 498 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Uncommon resident, possibly overlooked.

Single birds were recorded near Kurri Kurri 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*) and at Morisset 21 Jul and 13 Oct (RIA), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 1 Oct (CRL), Booti Booti NP 4 Oct (MVBW), Wollombi 28 Oct (TAH) and near Quorrobolong 6 Dec (GED).

Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittata*

ID No: 504 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region as counts of up to 10 birds (*text modified*).

Notable records: Birds were feeding fledged young at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and Vacy 27 Dec (TAH).

Weebill *Smicrornis brevirostris*

ID No: 465 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), White Box GRNP 28 Jul and 8 Aug (KEM, MCR), "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and Wambo Rd Bulga 4 Aug (KEM/MCR). Birds were nest building at Singleton Army Base 2 Aug (HBA) and Wambo Rd 4 Aug.

Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki*

ID No: 454 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 21-50 birds were recorded at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC), Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), Brunkerville 3 Aug (MCR), Jerusalem Creek (M6) 5 Aug and 14 Oct (KEM, HBOC), Woko NP 16 Sep (BCC), Copeland FP 16 & 24 Sep (BCC, KEM) and Falbrook (J6) 28 Sep - 1 Oct (MCR/CLT). Birds had dependent young at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan and were on a nest at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), and also were breeding at Balickera Nov-Dec (MUJ).

Mangrove Gerygone *Gerygone levigaster*

ID No: 460 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Often recorded at mangrove areas as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were recorded at Ash Island 13 Feb (KEM).

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca*

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

Birds were recorded at four separate locations at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep - in counts of 3, 2, 3 and 1 bird - and one pair was nest building (STA *et al.*). Two birds were Wambo Rd Bulga 4 Aug and 2 Sep (KEM/MCR), and single birds at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and Wambo late Nov (RIA). *The nest building at Windy is indicative of breeding but is insufficient to be a breeding record.*

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone albogularis* (name change)

ID No: 453 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Widely and frequently recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: The first recorded return was 25 Aug, when a bird was at Vacy (TAH); however, a bird was heard at HWC often in Jun-Jul (BAW, LIA). Birds were nest building at Gloucester CP 23-24 Sep (KEM) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC).

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata*

ID No: 470 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC), Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*), Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*) and White Box camp 8 Aug (MCR). Birds were nest building at Teralba 5 Aug (LIA/WEJ), on nest near Kurri Kurri 1 Sep (KEM), with dependent young at Elizabeth Beach BBNP 14 Oct (KEM) and carrying food near Polblue swamp 18-22 Nov (CLT), and also bred at Balickera Jul-Aug (MUJ).

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana*

ID No: 471 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Belmont swamp/lagoon 7 Jan, Rathmines 8 Feb, Ash Island 13 Feb (KEM), HWC 13 Jul, GTD 23 Jul and 11 Aug and Giants Creek 28 Jul (all KEM), and at Broke Common 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*). Birds were recorded every month at Green Wattle Creek with 25+ birds in Mar, Jun and Oct (NEM). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Sep-Dec (MUJ), were feeding fledged young at HWC 2 Jan (KEM) and East Seaham 14 Dec (CLT), and were feeding young Shining Bronze-cuckoos at Ash Island 13 Feb, Gloucester CP 23-24 Sep and Cooperook 14 Dec, and a young Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo at Myuna Bay 15 Jan (all KEM).

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

ID No: 486 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Medhurst bridge 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and 21-50 birds at WWW 10 Feb (HBA), Warakeila 20 Apr (NEM), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun and 28 Jul (MCR *et al.*, KEM) and "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*). Birds had nests with young at Bulga 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and Bolwarra 21 Oct (TAH), and were nest building at "Windy" 8-9 Sep.

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*

ID No: 484 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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 recorded at Pinegrove Rd 4 Aug (KEM/MCR).

Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis*

ID No: 476 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Yes
Status: Rare.

Pairs were recorded at two locations at “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep during a targeted excursion (STA *et al.*). The 2006 records for this species were very close to the “Windy” property.

Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*

ID No: 475 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan and 31 Jul (HBOC, TBW) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). Two birds were recorded at “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) - overlapping with the distribution of Inland Thornbill. **Breeding:** Birds were nest building at Tanilba Bay 24 Jul (TBW) and there were several records for Sep-Oct.

Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

ID No: 466 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Rare, in W of Region (recorded 1994, 1998-99, 2001-02).

No reports were received for 2007.

Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*

ID No: 565 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 21-50 birds were recorded near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan (KEM), Singleton army base 22 May (HBOC), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Kurri Kurri TAFE 9 Jul (KEM) and White Box camp 28 Jul (KEM). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Jan and late Jul-Dec.

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were at White Box camp 28 Jul (KEM), “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 15 Dec (KEM) and 6+ birds at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Yallambee (N5) 27 Jan (HBOC), nest building near Polblue Swamp 18-22 Nov (CLT) and had a nest with young at Tenambit Dec (BRG), and also bred at Balickera Nov (MUJ).

Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

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

Notable records: Three pairs were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC). Birds had dependent young at Rathmines 8 Feb (KEM) and also bred at Balickera Jan and Aug-Nov (MUJ).

Pied Honeyeater *Certhionyx variegatus*

ID No: 602 (*Amended*) HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2002, 2003).

Two male birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 30 Sep (HBOC) - seen by several observers but not recorded again despite intensive searching over the following two days.

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*

ID No: 605 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 20+ birds were at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*) and Harrington RF 30 Jan (KEM/MCR). **Breeding:** There were many records spanning Jan-Feb and birds also bred at Balickera Aug-Dec (MUJ).

Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops*

ID No: 614 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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 of up to 100 birds during the Apr-Aug migration passage.

Notable records: 400+ birds were at Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA) and 100+ birds at Catherine Hill Bay 5 May (MOA) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR). 70+ birds in several flocks were flying through Wambo Rd Bulga 2 Sep (KEM). 20+ birds were at Awaba SF 18 Jan (KEM), The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (KEM *et al.*), Boomeri MLNP 19 Aug (HBA) and Kurri Kurri hospital 1 Sep (KEM). An abnormally plumaged bird was at Black Rock/Fitness's Rd 24 Aug (NEM). **Breeding:** There were many records spanning Jan-Feb and Aug-Dec.

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens*

ID No: 608 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental.

No reports were received for 2007.

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis*

ID No: 617 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records

Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of Region as counts of 1-5 birds.

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

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops*

ID No: 619 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and several times at locations near Kurri Kurri Jan, Apr, Jul and Sep (KEM, MCR). Birds were with dependent young near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan (KEM).

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*

ID No: 613 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: 100+ birds were at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and 50+ birds near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan (KEM). 21-50 birds were at Singleton Army Base 22 May and 2 Aug (HBOC, HBA) and White Box camp 28 Jul (KEM). In contrast, birds were unusually scarce in the Green Wattle Creek area (NEM).

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

ID No: 625

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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: 100+ birds were at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR). 21-50 birds were recorded at Singleton army base 22 May (HBOC), White Box camp 28 Jul and 8 Aug (KEM, MCR), Kings Gap 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and Bulga 2 Sep (KEM). Uncommon coastal records were of some birds at Balickera Mar (MUJ) and Sandgate 28 Jun (KEM *et al.*). Birds were with dependent young at Bulga 2 Sep.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

ID No: 633

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region as counts of 10-30 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*) and 21-50 birds at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA), Werakata NP 20 May and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (both HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan, and were on nest at Awaba SF 18 Jan and nest building at Glenrock SRA 7 Feb (both KEM).

Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala*

ID No: 634

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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: 50+ birds were recorded at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*) and Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM) and 20+ birds at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*). **Breeding:** There were many records spanning Jan-Feb and Aug-Oct - including ten pairs had nests with young/dependent young at Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM).

Yellow-throated Miner *Manorina flavigula*

ID No: 635

HBOC Category: 3

Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

ID No: 640

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident in the W of the Region.

6+ birds were recorded at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*) and three birds there 16 Sep (KEM). Three birds were at Medhurst bridge 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and 1-2 birds at Wingen 2 Aug (NEG) and Merriwa 13 Sep (RIA).

Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera*ID No: 712 (*Revised*)

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Regularly recorded near to the coast as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were present at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan (KEM/MCR), Belmont lagoon 10 Mar (KEM), Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA), Boomeri MLNP 19 Aug (HBA) and Swansea Heads 13 Sep (KEM). Birds had dependent young at Elizabeth Beach BBNP 14 Oct (KEM), Newcastle West 1 Nov (GCR) and Coopernook 14 Dec (KEM).

Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia* (name change)

ID No: 603

HBOC Category: 2

NSW: Endangered

Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon winter migrant.

Six birds were recorded at Morisset Hospital Reserve 12 May (RIA), increasing to 25-30 birds 19 May and then 50 birds 20 & 26 May (MOA, RIA); there were no records from this location after 28 May. 1-2 birds were present at Wangwauk SF 3 May (NBL), Galgabba Point 4 & 8 May (CLW, NBL), White Box GRNP 8 Aug (MCR) and near Kurri Kurri hospital 30 Aug (RIA). Three birds were recorded at a property near Quorrobolong 4 Aug and the counts rose to an estimated 20 birds in late Aug. One pair was nesting on 20 Aug, growing to 3 pairs nesting by 13 Sep, which continued through Sep-Oct (all information per MOA). Some birds were also in the Tomalpin area from late Nov, again with nesting taking place - there were three nests present 2 Dec (NBL/FRA) and at least 14 nesting events in total over the period Nov 2007 - Jan 2008 and an estimated 38-40 birds present at the peak (GED per MOA).

Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*

ID No: 638

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 20 birds, and mostly as 1-5 birds.

Notable records: A flock of 24 birds flew over Ash Island 28 Jun (KEM *et al.*) and 20+ birds were also recorded at GTD 23 Jul and 11 Aug (KEM). Six birds were at Warakeila 25 Jul (NEM). **Breeding:** There were records spanning Jan-Feb and Sep-Oct, including birds were feeding young Eastern Koels at Warabrook 12 Jan and Green Point Lake Macquarie 16 Feb (both KEM).

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albifrons*

ID No: 448

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

Birds were regularly present at Hunter estuary locations, particularly Ash Island, with peak count for the estuary being 45 birds 17 Mar (HWS, other observers). The peak count at Worimi NR was 15 birds 19 May and some birds were recorded there most other months (HAS). Ten birds were at Pipers Bay (R6) 3 May (MVBW), six birds at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun and a single bird there 24 Feb (KEM).

Black Honeyeater *Sugomel niger* (name change)

ID No: 589

HBOC Category: 3

Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

No reports were received for 2007.

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

ID No: 586

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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: 30+ birds were present at Catherine Hill Bay 5 May (MOA), 20+ birds at Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA) and 11 birds at Butterwick (L8) 4 Oct (NEM). Birds were breeding at Balickera Aug-Nov (MUJ). At Green Wattle Creek, 25 birds were present in Jan and 54 birds in Dec, and birds were absent over Mar-Jun (NEM).

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater *Glyciphila melanops* (name change)

ID No: 593

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes (revised)

Status: Resident, of coastal heathlands.

6+ birds were present at Awabakal NR 18 Jan and birds had a nest with young (KEM). Some birds were also recorded at Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC) and Booti Booti NP 4 Oct (MVBW). *First breeding record for the Region since 1994.*

Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*

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

1-5 birds were often recorded at near-coastal locations throughout the Region with occasional reports of 6+ birds particularly from HWC and other locations around the Hunter estuary (several observers). 6+ birds were also at Belmont swamp/lagoon 10 Mar (KEM) and Cromarty Bay 28 Aug (TBW). Birds were nest building at HWC 24 Jun (HBOC).

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus* (name change)

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

6+ birds were recorded at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*) and some birds were also present there 22 Sep (HBA).

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

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

20+ birds were present at Awabakal NR 18 Jan (KEM) and Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC), and 6+ birds at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 9 Mar (KEM *et al.*) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR). 1-5 birds were at Glenrock SRA 7 Feb (KEM), HWC 2 Aug (MCR), Kerrapit Rd 22 Sep and 15 Dec (HBA, KEM), Elizabeth Beach BBNP 14 Oct (KEM) and Barrington Tops 15 Dec (KEM). **Breeding:** Two pairs were nesting at Awabakal NR 18 Jan.

White-cheeked Honeyeater *Phylidonyris niger* (name change)

ID No: 632 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Regularly recorded in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 21-50 birds were at Belmont swamp/lagoon 10 Mar (KEM), Galgappa Point 5 May (MOA), HWC 24 Jun (HBOC) and Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan and 18 Sep (KEM/MCR, HBOC).

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*

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

A group of six birds was near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan (KEM) and 1-5 birds often were recorded at the same location over Feb-Aug. Elsewhere, 6+ birds were at Pelton SF 26 May (HBOC) and Werakata NP 9 Sep (GOJ) and 1-5 birds at Pelton SF 25 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Singleton Army Base 2 Aug (HBA), White Box GRNP 8 Aug (MCR) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at Edgeworth 1 May (WAL) and birds were with dependent young in Tomalpin area 20 Dec (MOA). *First breeding records since 1994.*

Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris*

ID No: 583 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: Birds were nesting near Kurri Kurri 20 Oct (HAP).

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*

ID No: 578 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 20+ birds were recorded at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC). Birds had a nest with young at Green Wattle Creek 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), were nest building at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and Towarri NP late Dec (THK), and also bred at Balickera Aug-Sep and again in Dec (MUJ).

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*

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

Notable records: 15 birds were at Green Wattle Creek 6 Apr (NEM) and 10+ birds at Mungo Brush 19 Aug (HBA) and Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM). A bird was at The Hill Newcastle 28-30 Jan (HAP) - *an unusual location*. Birds were on nests at Edgeworth 1 May (WAL) and East Seaham 13 Oct and 14 Dec (GOA, CLT), and were feeding fledged young at Fingal Bay 2 Feb (CLT).

Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus*

ID No: 645 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: Thousands of birds were noted to be migrating through the Harrington area 21 Apr (NBL) and many flocks (each of 6-30 birds) were migrating through lower Hunter early Apr (TAH). 50-80+ birds were at Tomago Wetlands 17 Apr and 15 May (MCN/GOA), Tuncurry 20 Apr (MVBW), Galgabba Point 5 May (MOA), Catherine Hill Bay 5 May (MOA), Tanilba Bay 15 Jul (KEM) and near Kurri Kurri hospital 1 Sep (KEM). 20+ birds were at Kilaben Bay/Rathmines 5 Jun (HBOC), Tilligerry Habitat Tanilba Bay 24 Jul (TBW) and Boomeri MLNP 19 Aug (HBA). **Breeding:** There were many widespread records, spanning Jan and Oct-Dec.

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*

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

Up to three birds were recorded at HWC often during Apr/May (LIA, LIP) and three birds at Galgabba Point 25 May (ADJ) and Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM). Two birds were present at Gloucester 22 Feb (DBP) and near Bulahdelah 5 Apr (BIA). Single birds were at Smiths Lake 16 Apr (MVBW), Maryland 1 Jun (LIG), Weston Jul and 14 Oct (ROS), Merriwa 13 Sep (RIA) and Vacy 22 Sep (TAH). The birds at Smiths Lake and Vacy were with flocks of Noisy Friarbird. *The most records since 1994.*

Striped Honeyeater *Plectorhyncha lanceolata*

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

Notable records: 6-10 birds were at SBS 17-19 Jan (HAS/VGF), White Box GRNP 28 Jul (KEM) and Wambo Rd Bulga 4 Aug (KEM/MCR). **Breeding:** Two pairs had nests near Broke 5 Dec (FRA) and birds were with dependent young at Clarencetown 21 Dec (SLJ).

Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta*

ID No: 598 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon spring-summer visitor to the W of the Region.

A single bird was recorded near Gundy 1 Apr (HUM) and three birds at Widden Valley 27 Oct (HTH).

Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis*

ID No: 443

HBOC Category: 1

NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

20+ birds were recorded at Ellalong late Dec (MEJ) and 20 birds at Wingen 13 Jul (NEG). A flock of 12 birds was present all summer at Woodville (NEM), and 6-12 birds were recorded at two locations near Wollombi 25 Feb (HBOC), SSNR 11 Mar, 21 May and 7 Oct (SAM, MAM, MCR/KEM), Wingen 29 Mar (NEG), Singleton Army Base 2 Aug (HBA), Quorrobolong 4 Aug (CCFOC), Irrawang Swamp 30 Aug (MAM), Gloucester 13 Sep (MCR), Woodville 30 Sep and 9 Oct (NEM) and Cessnock 14 Nov (NIJ). 1-5 birds were frequently recorded at Balickera (MUJ) and moderately often at locations around East Seaham, Bulga, Quorrobolong and Ellalong. Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were at Howes Valley 23 Jun (CBOC), North Rothbury 24-25 Jul (RIA), Kurri Kurri hospital 30 Aug (RIA), Watagan Forest Rd 4 Sep (MOA), Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and Wambo mine late Nov (RIA).

Breeding: There were several reports, spanning Feb and Aug-Dec.

White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

ID No: 445

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident.

Six birds were at a location 12km W of Jerrys Plains late Jan (TAH) and at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), and five birds at Doyles Creek 1 Dec (TAH). Groups of 3 and 4 birds were recorded near White Box GRNP 28 Jul (KEM), and 1-2 birds at Doyles Creek 26 May (TAH), Wollar Rd (D6) 28 Jul and Giants Creek 16 Sep (both KEM).

Australian Logrunner *Orthonyx temminckii* (name change)

ID No: 434

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

A total of six birds were recorded at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC). Two birds were at Woko NP 16 Sep (BCC, NBL) and single birds at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Bulahdelah 18 Apr (RIA), Copeland FP 30 Jan and 16 & 24 Sep (KEM, MCR, BCC) and Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC).

Spotted Quail-thrush *Cinlosoma punctatum*

ID No: 436

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

Five birds were recorded at Watagans locations 20 Oct (HAP), and single birds there 13 Jan (at Watagans SF), 21 Apr and 11 Nov (at Heatons Gap) (KEM, HAP, GOJ) and at Werakata NP 20 May (HBOC). Some birds were also present at North Arm Cove 17 Apr (RIA), Bulahdelah 23 Apr (TAH) and Wollombi mid Oct (per TAH).

Eastern Whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus*

ID No: 421

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 9 Mar (KEM *et al.*).

Varied Sittella *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*

ID No: 549

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: Birds were on nest at Butterwick (L8) 4 Oct (NEM) and nest building at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC).

Ground Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina maxima*

ID No: 423 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1993, 1994, 2000, 2004).

No reports were received for 2007.

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*

ID No: 424 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 10 birds.

Notable records: 13 birds were present at "Amosville" via Wollombi 25 Feb (HBOC). There were several breeding records, spanning Jan-Feb and Oct-Nov.

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*

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

A total of five birds was recorded at Pelton SF 26 May (HBOC) and three birds at "Iomar" via Quorrobolong 12 Aug (per CCFOC) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). 1-2 birds were at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Gloucester mid Feb (DBP), near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan, 30 Aug and 1 Sep (KEM, RIA), Pelton SF 25 Feb (KEM *et al.*), White Box GRNP 28 Jul (KEM), GTD 11 Aug (KEM), two locations at Butterwick (L8) 4 Oct (NEM) and Balickera Nov (MUJ). **Breeding:** Birds were nest building near Kurri Kurri 1 Sep (KEM).

Barred Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina lineata*

ID No: 428 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (recorded 1996, 2000, 2003-04).

No reports were received for 2007.

Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris*

ID No: 429 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: The first recorded return was of a bird at Green Wattle Creek 4 Oct (NEM).

White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii*

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

10+ birds were at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC) and several birds near Broke 23 Nov (FRA). 1-2 birds were recorded at Belmont lagoon 7 Jan and 18 Dec (KEM), Irrawang Swamp 20 Jan (MAM), Doyles Creek 6 Apr and 1 Dec (TAH), WWW 4 Sep and 10 Oct (HBOC, MEL), "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC), Tenambit 1 Oct (TAH), Green Wattle Creek 2 Oct (NEM), Buchanan 2 Oct (RIA), PNR 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), Scone 19 Oct (NEG), Wambo Mine late Nov (RIA) and Doyles Creek 1 Dec (TAH). **Breeding:** Four pairs had nests near Broke 23 Nov and a female was with two dependent young at Doyles Creek 1 Dec (TAH).

Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*

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

All records were from Harrington RF - two birds 5 & 30 Jan (BRG, KEM/MCR), one bird 4 May (RIA) and 6+ birds 16-19 Sep (HBOC).

Crested Shrike-tit *Falcunculus frontatus*

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

Notable records: Four birds were present near Kurri Kurri hospital 20 May (HBOC) and at Woko NP 16 Sep (BCC). Birds were feeding fledged young near Kurri Kurri hospital 8 Jan and 3 Apr (KEM, MCR *et al.*) and at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC).

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea*

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

Eight birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 27 Oct (HAP) - many in the Kerrapit Rd area from where there were several other reports of up to three birds (but, no winter records). 1-2 birds were also recorded in the Polblue swamp area of Barrington Tops 9 Jan (CLT), late Jan (DBP) and 22 Nov (CLT). *As usual, there were no winter records - reflecting observer preference?*

Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis*

ID No: 398 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 10 birds (*text simplified*).

Notable records: Birds were feeding fledged young at Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*) and The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), and were on nest at Harrington 16-19 Sep (HBOC). Birds also bred at Balickera Jan and Nov (MUJ). 20+ birds were present at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan.

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

ID No: 401 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 20+ birds were present at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). The first recorded return was 1 Sep at Green Wattle Creek but there was a winter record of a bird heard at HWC 8 Jul (BAW).

Breeding: There were several records spanning Jan-Feb and Sep-Dec.

Little Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

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

Notable records: 6+ birds were at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan and some birds were feeding fledged young (HBOC).

Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis*

ID No: 419 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1987*).

No reports were received for 2007.

Australasian Figbird *Sphecotheres vieilloti* (name change)

ID No: 432

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region, as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Harrington 30 Jan (KEM/MCR) and 21-50 birds were there 16-19 Sep (HBOC) and at Mallabula 14 Sep (KEM), Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC) and Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC). Birds had dependent young at Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR).

Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*

ID No: 671

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 6+ birds were at Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). Birds were nest building at Tomago Wetlands 16 Oct (MCN) and on nest at Towarri NP 29-31 Dec (THK), and had nests with young or were feeding fledged young at Toronto 15 Jan (KEM), HWC 24 Jan (KEM) and Mudbishops Point 29 Jan (KEM/MCR).

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

ID No: 543

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common summer migrant. Frequently recorded at / 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: 50 birds were at Kurri Kurri 20 Oct (HAP) and 30+ birds at PNR 1 Apr (KEM *et al.*). The first recorded return was 9 Sep at Swansea (BRG). Birds had a nest with eggs at Myuna Bay 15 Jan (KEM) and were with dependent young at HWC 2 Jan and SBS 3 Jan (both KEM) and PNR 16 Dec (HBOC), and also were nesting near Broke 25 Nov (FRA).

Masked Woodswallow *Artamus personatus*

ID No: 544

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: Yes

Status: Rare irruptive visitor (*recorded 1994-95, 2001-02, 2006*).

Around 80 birds were present near Jerrys Plains and ~50 birds near Doyles Creek 29 Sep (both TAH). Four birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 30 Sep (HBOC) and 1-2 birds near Kurri Kurri Hospital 1 & 7 Oct (ROS, MCR/KEM) and at Yarrawa Road 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*).

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus*

ID No: 545

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon irruptive visitor (*revised from: Rare irruptive visitor*).

Around 300 birds were at a site near Kurri Kurri Hospital 1 Oct (ROS) and 100+ birds there 7 Oct (MCR KEM) - 10+ birds were still present 11 Dec (LIA). Around 50 birds were at Doyles Creek 29 Sep and 20+ birds 20 Oct, and birds were feeding fledged young there 1 Dec (TAH). 20+ birds were at Jerrys Plains 29 Sep and 20 Oct (TAH), Jones Reserve Rd 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*), and Yarrawa Road 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*). 10-11 birds were recorded at Weston 28 Sep (ROS) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC), and 1-5 birds at Baerami Creek Rd 29 Sep (STA), George Booth Drive 1-2 Oct and Wallsend Link Rd South 19 Oct (both RIA).

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus*

ID No: 547 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: ~20 birds were at Pelton SF 26 May (HBOC), Boomeri MLNP 19 Aug (HBA) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC), and 12 birds at Black Rock/Fitness's Rd 12 May (NEM) and Broke 25 Nov (FRA). Other records for Apr-Aug were 1-10 birds at Werakata NP 20 May (HBOC), near Kurri Kurri hospital 20 May and 25 Jun (HBOC, MCR *et al.*), Singleton army base 22 May (HBOC), Baerami Creek 7-11 Jun (MCR), Kings Gap, Wambo Rd Bulga and Broke Rd all 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and Black Rock/Fitness's Rd 24-25 Aug (NEM).

Breeding: Birds had a nest near Broke 25 Nov (FRA).

Little Woodswallow *Artamus minor*

ID No: 548 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1987).

No reports were received for 2007.

Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus*

ID No: 702 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: Birds were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Glenrock SRA 7 Feb (KEM) and Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC), and also bred at Balickera Nov (MUJ).

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis*

ID No: 700 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were present at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*). Birds were on nest at WWW 4 Sep (HBOC) and were feeding young at WWW 4 Jan (KEM), Wollombi 25 Feb (HBOC) and East Seaham 14 Dec (CLT).

Australian Magpie *Cracticus tibicen* (name change)

ID No: 705 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 50+ birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan and 7 Oct (KEM, MCR), and 21-50 birds at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM), Pokolbin 12 Jul (KEM/MCR) and Phoenix Park 9 Aug (MAM). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Jan and Aug-Dec.

Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*

ID No: 694 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident (and altitudinal migrant). Widely and regularly recorded as up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun, Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun and Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Jan and Sep-Dec including four reports of birds raising Channel-billed Cuckoos.

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*

ID No: 697 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1995, 1997, 2005).

A single bird was recorded at Mount Coricudgy 12 Sep (TBO).

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus*

ID No: 673

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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 returns were of single birds at HWC 14 Mar (LIP) and Tomago wetlands 23 Mar (MCN), and two birds together at Ash Island 13 Feb (KEM).

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*

ID No: 362

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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: 20+ birds were present at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and 6+ birds at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (KEM *et al.*). The first recorded arrival was of a bird at HRBG 30 Sep (NEM).

Breeding: Birds had nests with young or were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC), Gap Creek Watagans NP 3 Feb (MOA) and Glenrock SRA 7 Feb (KEM), and bred at Balickera Nov-Dec (MUJ).

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa* (*name change*)

ID No: 361

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

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

Notable records: There were 20+ birds at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (KEM *et al.*) and Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 8-14 Apr (MCR *et al.*), and numerous breeding records spanning Jan and Sep-Dec.

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

ID No: 364

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of 1-5 birds and occasionally as up to 10 birds.

Notable records: There were many, widespread breeding records, spanning Jan, Oct and Dec.

Australian Raven *Corvus coronoides*

ID No: 930

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: 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 Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM) and 21-50 birds there 19 Jan, 22 & 25 Jun and 23 Jul (KEM, MCR). 20+ birds were also at Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun and GTD 23 Jul and 11 Aug (MCR *et al.*, KEM). **Breeding:** Birds were on nest near Kurri Kurri 1 Sep (KEM), had dependent young at WWW 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and had a nest with a young Channel-billed cuckoo at Newcastle 20 Dec (THK).

Forest Raven *Corvus tasmanicus*

ID No: 868

HBOC Category: 2

Breeding: Past records

Status: Resident.

6+ birds were at Harrington 16-19 Sep and Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC). 1-5 birds were recorded at Harrington RF 30 Jan and 31 Oct (KEM/MCR, CST), Mungo Brush 2 Apr and 19 Aug (BIA, HBA), Pipers Bay (R6) 3 May (MVBW), Myall Shores 19 Jul (KEM), Vacy 25 Aug (TAH), Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC), Elizabeth Beach BBNP 14 Oct (KEM), Barrington Tops 18-22 Nov (CLT) and Carsons Lookout Thunderbolt Way (N3) Dec (RIA). *More records than usual and from a greater number of locations.*

Little Raven *Corvus mellori*

ID No: 954 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes (*Revised*)
Status: Resident.

~30 birds were present at Martindale 3 Mar (TAH), 20 birds at Baerami Valley 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*). 10+ birds at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and 6+ birds at Waukivory 14 Sep (BCC) and Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC). Some birds were also present at Webbers Creek Rd Paterson late Apr (TAH). A pair was feeding three dependent young at 7 km SE of Gloucester 14 Dec (KEM) - *the first confirmed breeding record for the Region.*

Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*

ID No: 692 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: 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.

Notable records: Four birds were present at HWC 24 Jun (HBOC), with frequent records all year there of 1-2 birds. Other records from around the southern limit of the range were of birds seen/heard at SBS 3 Jan (KEM), East Seaham 20 Apr (HBOC), Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and WWW 31 Oct (CST). 6+ birds were present at Gloucester CP 13-17 Sep (BCC) where birds had a nest with young 23-24 Sep (KEM), and 2-5 birds often were at Warakeila (NEM).

Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*

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

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was at Waukivory 14 Sep (MOA) but there was also a bird present at Monkerai Rd (N6) 16 Aug (DBP). Two late departing birds were at Hunterlake Reserve Watagans 14 Apr (MCR *et al.*). Eleven birds were at Green Wattle Creek 5 Oct (NEM) and 6-10 birds at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan and Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (both HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan and Yallambee (N5) 27 Jan (HBOC), nest building at Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC) and Barrington Tops 15 Dec (KEM), and also bred at Balickera Jan and Oct-Nov (MUJ).

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

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

1-2 male birds were recorded at Vacy 3 & 28 Jan and 22 Sep (TAH). 1-2 birds were also present at Polblue swamp Barrington Tops late Jan (DBP) and Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*). Birds were nest building at Barrington Tops 15 Dec (KEM).

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*

ID No: 728 (*Revised*) HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

1-2 birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Jones Reserve Rd 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and Wollombi 28 Oct (TAH). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Stroud 28 Jan (HCL/KEM) and nest building at Baerami Creek 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC), and were on nest at Wingen 3 & 10 Dec (NEG).

White-eared Monarch *Carterornis leucotis* (*name change*)

ID No: 376 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1993, 2003-06*).

An adult and an immature bird were present at Crowdy Bay NP 29-30 Jan (KEM/MCR).

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*

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

Notable records: At least 80 birds were present at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan including many juveniles and recently fledged young (HBOC). 6+ birds were recorded at Watagans SF 13 Jan (KEM), Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Awabakal NR 29 Sep (NIJ), Falbrook (J6) 28 Sep - 1 Oct (MCR/CLT) and Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC). The first recorded arrival was 14 Sep near Craven (MOA) **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC) and Watagans SF 3 Feb (MOA).

Spectacled Monarch *Symposiarchus trivirgatus* (name change)

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

Three birds were present at The Glen NR 26-28 Jan (HBOC) and White Rock Allyn River 12 Nov (SHB), and six birds at Harrington RF 16-19 Sep (HBOC). 1-2 birds were recorded at Polblue swamp late Jan (DBP), Tank Paddock Minmi 14 Apr (RIA), Crowdy Bay NP 18 Sep (HBOC), Bulahdelah 20 Sep (BIA), Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC), Ash Island RF 26 Oct (LIP) and Allyn River 28 Oct (DDR).

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

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

Notable records: A total of 113 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM). 21-50 birds were present at GTD 2 Feb (KEM), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Craven 15 Sep (BCC) and Hexham Swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and at Morpeth STP Sep, Oct & Dec (LIA/NEM). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Jan-Feb and Sep-Oct.

White-winged Chough *Corcorax melanorhamphos*

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

Notable records: ~40 birds were present at Fishers Hill Rd Vacy 30 Jun (RDB) and 20+ birds at Medhurst bridge 4 Aug (KEM/MCR). **Breeding:** Birds were nest building at East Seaham 10 Aug (CLT) and had a nest with young at Baerami Creek Rd 30 Sep (KEM).

Paradise Riflebird *Ptiloris paradiseus*

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

Two birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 15 Sep (HAP), and single birds at Barrington House 5 Jan (TAH), Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Jerusalem Creek (M6) 5 Aug and 14 Oct (KEM, HBOC) and Gloucester Tops 27 Oct (HAP).

Jacky Winter *Microeca fascinans*

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

Notable records: 15-20 birds were at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and Wambo Rd Bulga 4 Aug (KEM/MCR), and 6+ birds at Kings Gap 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and Baerami Creek 28 Sep - 2 Oct, where some birds were nest building (HBOC).

Scarlet Robin *Petroica boodang* (name change)

ID No: 380 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: None recorded (*Amended*)
Status: Resident (and altitudinal migrant).

Four birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR) and 1-2 birds at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*), Singleton army base 22 May (HBOC), Jones Reserve Rd 26 May (TAH), Green Wattle Creek 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Cassilis Park 14 Jul (MOA), White Box GRNP 28 Jul and 8 Aug (KEM, MCR), East Seaham 10 Aug (CLT) and Baerami Creek 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC).

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

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

Pairs were recorded at four locations at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*), and 1-2 birds at 3km W of Jerrys Plains 3 Mar and 6 Apr (TAH), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Pinegrove Rd 4 Aug (KEM/MCR), Wambo Rd Bulga 4 Aug (KEM/MCR), 2 at Giants Creek 16 Sep (KEM) and Wambo mine late Nov (RIA), and at two locations at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** Pairs were nest building at Wambo Rd Bulga 2 Sep (KEM) and at Windy 8-9 Sep where also another pair was feeding fledged young. An adult male was feeding a female or young bird at WWW 3 Oct (MEL).

Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea*

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

3-5 birds were recorded at Polblue Swamp Barrington Tops late Jan (DBP) and Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*), and single birds at Polblue 6 Jan (TAH) and Gloucester Tops 15 Sep and 27 Oct (HAP), and also at Morpeth in June (BRG).

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea*

ID No: 384 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
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: 20 birds were recorded at Gloucester Tops 15 Sep and ten birds there 27 Oct (HAP), and 6+ birds 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*). A bird was present at Minmi STP 1 Oct (NEM) - a late departure. **Breeding:** Birds had dependent young at Allyn River 5 Feb and were on nest at Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 15 Dec (KEM *et al.*).

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*

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

There were 1-2 birds present at Doyles Creek 6 Apr (TAH), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Giants Creek 28 Jul and 16 Sep (KEM), Wollar Rd (D6) 29 Jul (KEM), Wambo Rd Bulga 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and at two locations at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*).

Pale-yellow Robin *Tregellasia capito*

ID No: 396 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

A total of five birds including a juvenile were recorded at The Glen NR 25-28 Jan (HBOC), three birds at Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC), two birds at Waitui 5 Jan (BRG) and a single bird at Jerusalem Creek 5 Aug (KEM).

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*

ID No: 392 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 20+ birds were present at Barrington Tops 15 Dec (KEM). Birds now are resident at HWC(LIA). There were numerous and widespread breeding records spanning Jan-Feb and Aug-Dec.

Horsfield's Bushlark *Mirafra javanica* (name change)

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

Ten birds were recorded between Bolwarra and Phoenix Park 1 Oct (TAH). 2+ birds were at Largs 17 Jan (BRG/LIN) and single birds at Bolwarra 12 Jan (TAH), Merriwa 13 Sep (RIA) and Yarrawa Road 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*).

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* (name change)

ID No: 993 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Past records
Status: Rare (recorded 1994, 1996, 2003, 2005-06).

Two birds were present at KI Deep Pond 15 Sep (HWS), a usual location in recent years.

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*

ID No: 525 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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 Hexham Swamp 19 Jan and 22 Jun (KEM) and Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT).

Australian Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus australis* (name changes)

ID No: 524 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: Several pairs had dependent young at HWC during late Jan (KEM) and a pair was on nest again there 6 Oct (MAM). Birds also had dependent young at Bolwarra 1 Jan (KEM).

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Broughton Island 24-26 Oct (CLT) and 10-20 birds at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan and 22 Jun and at HWC 15 Jun (all KEM). Birds were carrying food at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan (KEM) and PNR 16 Dec (HBOC).

Little Grassbird *Megalurus grammurus*

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

Notable records: A total of 29 birds (23 heard) were recorded in a survey over a large area of Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM).

Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

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

A single bird was at KI Deep Pond 8 Feb (VGF). There were no further records until 2 Aug, when five birds (4M, 1F) were present at Wingen (NEG). From mid Sep, birds began to be recorded at many locations in the central and W of the Region, the start of a substantial influx from early Oct. 20+ birds were present at Flat Rd Bolwarra 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), and 14 birds were sitting on power lines between Scone & Wingen late Oct (NEG), and there were many other records from near those two areas over Oct-Dec and from many other locations mainly in the W of the Region.

Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis*

ID No: 508 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon summer migrant in central/west of Region.

Ten birds at many locations were recorded in the Yarrawa/Medhurst Bridge area 25 Oct (LIA *et al.*). 3-4 birds were recorded at Yarrawa 29 Sep (TAH), Tomago wetlands 4 Oct (MCN), Bolwarra 1 & 19 Oct (TAH) and Mount Arthur 19 Oct (NEG), and 5+ birds at Flat Rd Bolwarra 7 Oct (MCR/ KEM). 1-2 birds were present at Ash Island 10-20 Jan and 13 Oct (HWS, others), Sandy Hollow 29-30 Sep (STA), Baerami Creek Rd 29 Sep (STA), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 28 Sep - 2 Oct (HBOC), Hexham swamp 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), Leneghans Flat 7 Oct (MCR/KEM), 4km N of Muswellbrook 19 Oct (NEG), Parkville late Oct (NEG), Wingham Brush 26 Nov (ADJ) and Mount Arthur 8 Dec (NEG), and often in the Bolwarra area Oct/Nov (TAH).

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

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

Notable records: 100+ birds were at Blue Gum Hill RP Minmi 25 Jun (KEM *et al.*). Birds had dependent young at Boarding House Dam Watagans NP 13 Jan and Belmont lagoon 18 Dec, and were nest building at HWC 2 Jan (all KEM), and also bred at Balickera Nov (MUJ).

White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosterna* (name change)

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

Five birds were recorded near Bulga 12 Aug (CBOC), three birds at Hands Lagoon 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*) and single birds at 12km W of Jerrys Plains late Jan (TAH), Giants Creek Rd 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*), Gosforth (K9)26 Sep (KEM) and Widden Valley 27 Oct (HTH).

Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena*

ID No: 357 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 500+ birds were present at Ash Island 1 Apr and Pokolbin 12 Jul (KEM *et al.*). 100+ birds were at Morpeth STP Jan, Feb and Nov and 50+ birds Jul and Dec (LIA/NEM). 180-200+ birds were at Hexham Swamp 22 & 25 Jun and there were some other records of 50-100+ birds there (KEM, others) and also at Ash Island/Deep Pond 14 Jan (KEM), Leneghans Flat 2 Feb (KEM), Hands Lagoon 25 Jun (MCR *et al.*) and LTP 15 Jul (KEM). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with young at HWC 13 Oct (KEM) and were on nest at Balickera Oct (MUJ).

Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel* (name change)

ID No: 360 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant; small numbers over-winter. 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 up to 20 birds.

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at WWW 4 Sep (HBOC) and Hunter estuary 15 Sep (HWS), and 50+ birds at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan (KEM). Winter records were of single birds at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM) and Cattai Creek bridge 25 Jul (NBL), and a late-departing bird was at Ellalong Lagoon 1 May (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting near Aberdeen 9 Sep and at Gosforth 26 Sep (KEM).

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans* (name change)

ID No: 359 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant; small numbers over-winter (*Amended from: Resident*). Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.

Notable records: ~400 birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 2 Feb and 105 birds there 14 Apr (LIA/NEM). 50+ birds were present at "Windy" HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*) and 21-50 birds at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan (KEM), Belmont lagoon 21 Jan (KEM), WWW 10 Feb (HBA), Hunter estuary 19 May (HWS), WWW 4 Sep (HBOC), Barrington Reserve 14 Sep (BCC), PNR 16 Dec (HBOC) and Irrawang Swamp 29 Dec (MAM). **Breeding:** Six pairs were nesting at "Windy" 8-9 Sep, and birds had dependent young at Belmont lagoon 7 Jan (KEM).

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

ID No: 990 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Resident.

1-2 birds were recorded at Galgabba Point 30 Aug, 23 Sep and 1 Oct (SRM, HBOC, MCR) and at Belmont swamp/lagoon 10 Mar (KEM), Catherine Hill Bay 5 May (MOA), Caves Beach 23 Sep (HBOC), Black Neds Bay 6 Nov (CJB) and Dudley Dec (BRG).

Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata*

ID No: 779 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

A total of 15 birds were recorded in the Gloucester Tops (Kerrapit Rd area) 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*). 1-5 birds often were present at locations in the Watagans (Gap Creek, Hunterlake Reserve, Boarding House Dam, Watagans SF) in Feb-Apr and Dec (several observers) and also at Allyn River 5 Feb and 28 Oct (KEM *et al.*, DDR), Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Warakeila 25 Jul (NEM), Brunkerville 3 Aug (MCR), Kerrapit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 Sep and 15 Dec (HBA, KEM), Copeland CA 24 Sep (KEM), Falbrook (J6) 28 Sep - 1 Oct (MCR/CLT) and Jerusalem Creek (M6) 14 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds had a dependent young at Wingham Brush 14 Dec (KEM) and also bred at Balickera Oct-Nov (MUJ).

Russet-tailed Thrush *Zoothera heinei*

ID No: 780 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

Five birds were recorded at Kerrapit Rd 9 Mar (MCR *et al.*) and four birds at Woko NP 16 Sep (BCC). 1-2 birds were at Copeland FP 30 Jan and 16 & 24 Sep (MCR, BCC, KEM), Allyn River 5 Feb (KEM *et al.*), Woko NP 16 Sep (MOA), Falbrook (J6) 28 Sep - 1 Oct (MCR/CLT), Chichester SF 28 Oct (HHB) and Sharpes Creek 15 Dec (KEM).

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

ID No: 991 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident, in locations in the Maitland/Cessnock area.

There were regular records of 1-2 birds in the Maitland/Cessnock area. Elsewhere, several birds were at Merriwa 28 Nov (GED) and a bird at Wallsend 24 Nov (CLT), and in the Barrington Tops, birds were present at two locations near Polblue swamp and at Little Murrays 18-22 Nov (CLT). **Breeding:** A pair had a nest with young at Maitland 4 Jan where a bird was also carrying nesting material 9 Dec (KEM).

Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

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

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded at Morpeth STP 4 Jan, 22 Mar and 7 Sep (LIA/NEM), Hinton 8 Apr (MAM), Hexham Swamp 22 & 25 Jun (KEM) and “Windy” HSD (E2) 8-9 Sep (STA *et al.*). **Breeding:** Seven pairs were at varying stages of breeding at Anambah (K9) 26 Sep (KEM) and birds were carrying food at “Windy” and at Flat Rd Bolwarra 7 Oct (MCR/KEM).

Common Myna *Sturnus tristis* (name change)

ID No: 998 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: There were breeding records spanning Jan, Aug, Oct and Dec.

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

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

Notable records: Birds had a nest with young at HWC 2 Jan (KEM) and were on nest at Baerami Valley 27 Oct (HTH).

Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarina jugularis* (name change & corrections)

ID No: 572 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1985-86, 2006).

No reports were received for 2007. *The 2006 record was accepted by NSW ORAC.*

Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata*

ID No: 653 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 50+ birds were at Medhurst bridge 4 Aug (KEM/MCR) and birds were feeding fledged young at Telarah 26 Nov (TAH).

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

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

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 7-11 Jun (MCR), Singleton Army Base 2 Aug (HBA) and Black Rock/Fitness's Rd 24 Aug (NEM).

Plum-headed Finch *Neochmia modesta*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis*

ID No: 662 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: 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: 54-63 birds were recorded at Green Wattle Creek over Jul-Sep - mainly occurring as flocks feeding on an oval (NEM). 21-50 birds were present at HWC 24 Jan (KEM), Belmont lagoon 21 Jan (KEM), WWW 10 Feb and 4 Sep (HBA, HBOC) and Tomago Wetlands 21 Sep (MCN). There were breeding records spanning Jan, Apr-May and Dec.

Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata*

ID No: 652 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident of W and central parts of the Region.

1-5 birds often were recorded in the central and W of the Region; unusually, there were no reports of any larger flocks. Birds were nest building at Widden Valley 27 Oct (HTH).

Beautiful Firetail *Stagonopleura bella*

ID No: 650 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1977*).

See Supplementary Records.

Nutmeg Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*

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

No reports were received for 2007.

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax*

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

At least 26 birds were present at PNR 10 Mar (MOA) and 1-5 birds were there 3 Mar and 16 Dec (FOC, HBOC). Seven birds were at Hunter estuary 20 Jan (HWS) and 1-5 birds at Hexham Swamp 19 Jan and 22 Jun (KEM), East Maitland late Mar (BRG) and Leneghans Flat 28 Oct (DDR). **Breeding:** Birds were nest building at PNR 16 Dec.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

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

Notable records: Three pairs were nesting at Mayfield 23 Jan and birds had a nest with young at HWC 24 Jan (all KEM). *This species may be in decline in the Region, since it is now 7 years since any record of 50+ birds was received. Records of >20 birds will be monitored in future.*

Australasian Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae* (*name change*)

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

Notable records: A total of 32 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 22 Jun (KEM). 6+ birds were at Ash Island over May-Sep (HWS, other observers) and East Seaham 14 Dec (CLT). Birds were displaying at Stockton Sandspit 4 Nov (CLT).

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis* (*split/name changes*)

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

No reports were received for 2007 - *the first year since 1999 that birds were not recorded.*

Green-headed Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla taivana* (split/name changes)
ID No: 8611 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncertain.

No reports were received for 2007.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* (name changes)
ID No: 874 (781 = *lugens*) HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (race *lugens* recorded 1998).

No reports were received for 2007.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*
ID No: 996 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

14 birds were recorded at Ash Island 4 Mar (KEM/MCR) and there were several other reports of up to 6 birds at Hunter estuary locations in Jan-Mar and Aug-Sep. 1-5 birds were present at Tarro 1 Jan (KEM), Maitland 22 Jan (TAH), HWC 2 Aug (MCR), NWR 3 Aug (MCR), WWW 4 Sep and 7 Oct (HBOC, MCR/KEM) and Lorn 28 Oct (DDR).

SUPPLEMENTARY RECORDS

HBOC's Records Appraisal Committee has accepted the records described below:

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

14 birds were present at Morpeth Dec 2006 (BRG).

Letter-winged Kite *Elanus scriptus*

A bird was recorded near Muswellbrook in March 1977, during a drought in inland Australia which led to several records of this species in eastern Australia.

Square-tailed Kite *Lophoictinia isura*

Some birds were recorded at Coopernook SF 30 Dec 2006 (MVBW).

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*

Two birds were present at Worimi NR 18 Nov 2006 (HAS).

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

143 birds were recorded in the Hunter estuary 11 Dec 2007 (HLC) - *a considerably greater count than on any of the regular monthly surveys over Sep-Dec that year.*

Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*

A single male bird was at Harrington 30 Dec 2006 (BRG).

Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

Two birds were recorded at Wybong 6 Nov 2006 (FOC).

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

A single bird was at Coopernook 2 Dec 2006 (MVBW).

Sooty Oystercatcher *Haematopus fuliginosus*

Six birds were present at Boat Harbour 20 Dec 2006 (CLT).

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

There were 14 birds at Soldiers Point 14 Dec 2006 (CLT).

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

A single bird was recorded at Jerrys Plains 27 Aug 2006 (ROS).

Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis*

20 birds were recorded at Ellalong 29 Dec 2006 (MEJ). There were several active nests in the Gloucester area in early 2006, and also birds were feeding fledged young (DBP). From surveys over 2005-2006, 15 groups of birds were located in the Gloucester area, four groups in the Dyers Crossing area, four near Bunyah, six in the Dungog area and several around Booral (DBP).

Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*

Two birds and also a dead bird were recorded at Harrington 30 Dec 2006 (BRG).

Forest Raven *Corvus tasmanicus*

Four birds were present at Rainbow Flat (Q5) 29 Dec 2006 (MVBW).

Beautiful Firetail *Stagonopleura bella*

Some birds were recorded at Red Creek Widden Valley March 1977.

Green-headed Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla taivana*

A single bird present at Ash Island 1 Feb 2003 (HAP) represents the only known dated identification of this species in the Region (*NB some other observers have undated observations, from prior to the splitting of the two sub-species*).

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 *Excalfactoria chinensis*

Some birds are understood to have been recorded at a site at Tomago but unfortunately the details were kept confidential.

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius*

A single male bird was reported to have been at WWW 21 Nov.

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*

3 birds were reported to have been present at Stockton Sandspit 14 Jan. The report was not able to be accepted; however, the subsequent frequent records of 1-2 birds at the same location during March provides good support to the January observation.

CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES

There were not 21 Whistling Kites present at East Seaham in June 2006 (an editing error). The scientific name reported for the Yellow-bellied Sunbird (now called Olive-backed Sunbird) in the 2006 Bird Report was incorrect (another editing error). A small number of changes have been made to the ID numbers for species - this is based on analysis of the Checklist now available from the Birds Australia website (<http://www.birdsaustralia.com.au>).

A review of the published data for surveys of Worimi NR has revealed the following corrections/changes: 15 Oct 2000 - 1 Banded Stilt; 19 Oct 2002 - 1 Pied Oystercatcher; 16 Apr 2004 - 22 Eastern Curlew and 0 Bar-tailed Godwit; 18 Sep 2004 - 0 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper; 22 Jan 2005 - 92 Bar-tailed Godwit; 28 Feb 2005 - 0 Double-banded Plover; 13 Mar 2005 - 26 Pacific Golden Plover; 11 Mar 2006 - 200 Eastern Curlew; 29 Apr 2006 - 4 Masked Lapwing; 18 Nov 2006 - 6 Red-necked Avocet, 0 Masked Lapwing, 2 Banded Lapwing.

ESCAPEES

The species below were recorded in the Region, but are considered to be escapees rather than part of a self-sustaining wild population. Records of feral geese have been ignored.

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Lophochroa leadbetteri*

Three birds were recorded at Johns River 11 Jan (MVBW).

Pale-headed Rosella *Platycercus adscitus*

One bird was present at Pipers Bay (R6) 3 May (MVBW).

Australian Ringneck *Barnardius zonarius*

A bird was at Testers Hollow (Kurri Kurri) 25 Jul (RIA).

Scarlet-chested Parrot *Neophema splendida*

A single male bird was recorded at Ellalong 5-6 Dec 2006 (MEJ).

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

The following abbreviations/acronyms have been used in the Report:

BBNP	Booti Booti National Park	NLH	New Lambton Heights
BbR	Blackbutt Reserve	NP	National Park
BHD	Boarding House Dam (in Watagans)	NR	Nature Reserve
CP	Caravan Park	NWR	Newcastle Wetlands Reserve
FP	Forest Preserve	PNR	Pambalong Nature Reserve
GC	Golf Club	RF	Rainforest
GTD	Grahamstown Dam	SBS	Stockton Borehole Swamp
GRNP	Goulburn River National Park	SF	State Forest
HRBG	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	SRA	State Recreation Area
HSD	Homestead	SSNR	Seaham Swamp Nature Reserve
HWC	Hunter Wetlands Centre, Shortland	STP	Sewage Treatment Plant (<i>sometimes called Wastewater Treatment Works</i>)
KI	Kooragang Island	WTW	Wastewater Treatment Works
KNR	Kooragang Nature Reserve	WWW	Walka Water Works
LTP	Lemon Tree Passage		
MLNP	Myall Lakes National Park		

GRID REFERENCES FOR COMMON LOCATIONS

Grid references for commonly visited locations are:

Aberdare SF	K10	Cessnock	K9/K10
Allyn River	K5	Chichester Dam	M6
Appletree Flat	H8	Chichester SF	K5/L5
Arrowfield	H7	Clarencetown	M8
Ash Island	M10	Coon Island (Swansea Channel)	L11
Awabakal N. R.	M10/11	Cooranbong	K11
Balickera	M9	Copeland Common	N4
Barrington House	L5	Copeland Forest Preserve	M4/M5
Battery Rocks	E6	Copeland Tops State Forest	M4
Bayswater Colliery	H6	Corrie Island	O9
Belmont Swamp & Lagoon	M11	Denman	G7
Blackbutt Reserve (BbR)	M10	Dungog	M7
Black Neds Bay	L11	Ellalong & Ellalong Lagoon	J10
Bootawah	Q4	Fingal Bay	O9
Bolwarra	L9	Forster	R6
Boarding House Dam	K11	Fosterton Loop	M7
Boondelbah Island	P9	Galgabba Point	L11
Booti Booti NP (BBNP)	R6	George McGregor Park	M10
Broke	I9	Glenrock SRA	M10
Broughton Island	P8	Gloucester	N5
Bulahdelah	P7	Gloucester Tops	M5/L5
Bulga	I8	Grahamstown Dam (GTD)	M9
Cabbage Tree Island	P9	Green Wattle Creek	L9
Catherine Hill Bay	L11	Hallidays Point	R5

Harrington	S4	Quorrobolong	K10
Hawks Nest	P8/P9	Rathluba Lagoon	L9
Hexham Swamp NR	L10/M10	Raymond Terrace	M9
Howes Valley	H10	Redhead	M11
Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	M9	Salt Ash	N9
Hunter Wetlands Centre (HWC)	M10	Scone	H5
Irrawang Swamp	M9	Seaham Swamp NR (SSNR)	M8
Jerrys Plains	H7	Seal Rocks	R7
John Brown's Lagoon	L10	Singleton	I8/J8
Kings Gap	TBA	Stockton	M10
Kooragang Island	M10	Stockton Borehole Swamp (SBS)	L10
Kurri Kurri	K9	Swan Bay	N9
Laguna	I10	Swansea, Swansea South	L11
Lemon Tree Passage (LTP)	O9	Taree	Q4
Lenaghans Flat	L10	Tarro	M9
Maitland	L9	Toronto	L11
Market Swamp	M10	Tuncurry	R6
Martindale	G7	University of Newcastle	M10
Medowie	N9	Vacy	L8
Morisset	K11	Waitui	R3
Moon Island (off Swansea)	L11	Walka Water Works (WWW)	L9
Morpeth	L9	Wallingat SF	Q6/Q7
Mount Arthur	H6	Warakeila	L6
Mount Vincent	K10/L10	Warkworth	I8
Mudbishops Point (Old Bar)	R4	Watagans SF & NP	K11
Newcastle	M10	White Box Camp (in GRNP)	C6
Newcastle Wetlands Reserve	M10	Williamtown	N9
New Lambton Heights	M10	Wingen	H4
Old Bar	R4	Wingham/Wingham Brush	Q4
Oyster Cove	N9	Woko NP	M3
Paterson	L8	Woodville	L9
Phoenix Park	L9	Worimi NR	N9
Pokolbin	J9	Wyee Point	L11
Pambalong Nature Reserve (PNR)	L10	Yarrawa	F7

OBSERVER CODES

Although not all reporters are specifically cited in the Report, every observation by every observer was an important input. 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.

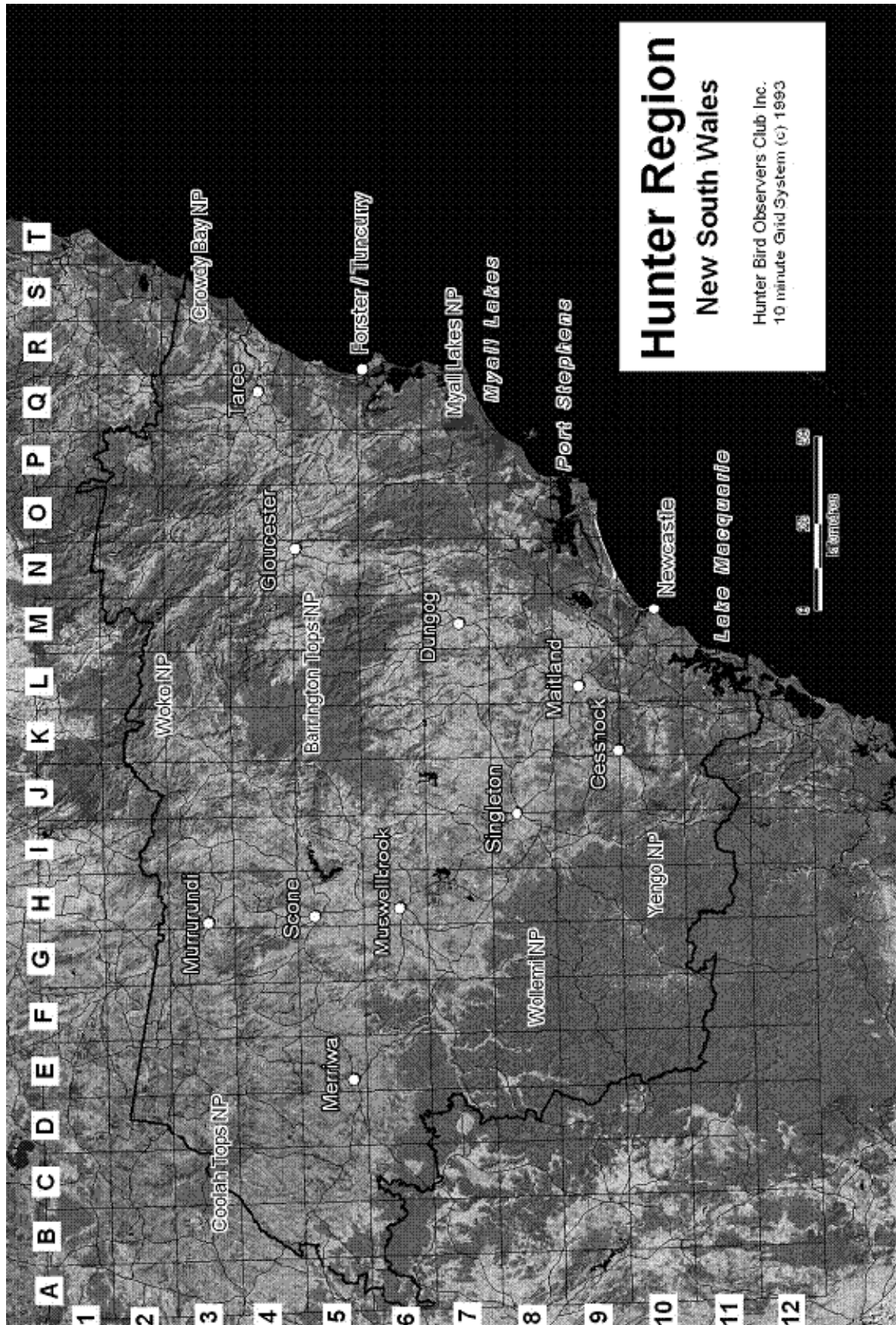
ADJ	Jack Adams	BED	David Bennett
ALD	D Allen	BIA	Birding-Australia (Internet group)
ANC	Craig Anderson	BOR	Robert Boyce
BAP	Paul Baird	BRG	Grant Brosie
BAW	Wilma Barden	BTS	Tony, Suzi Burgin
BCC	Birding NSW Central Coast group		

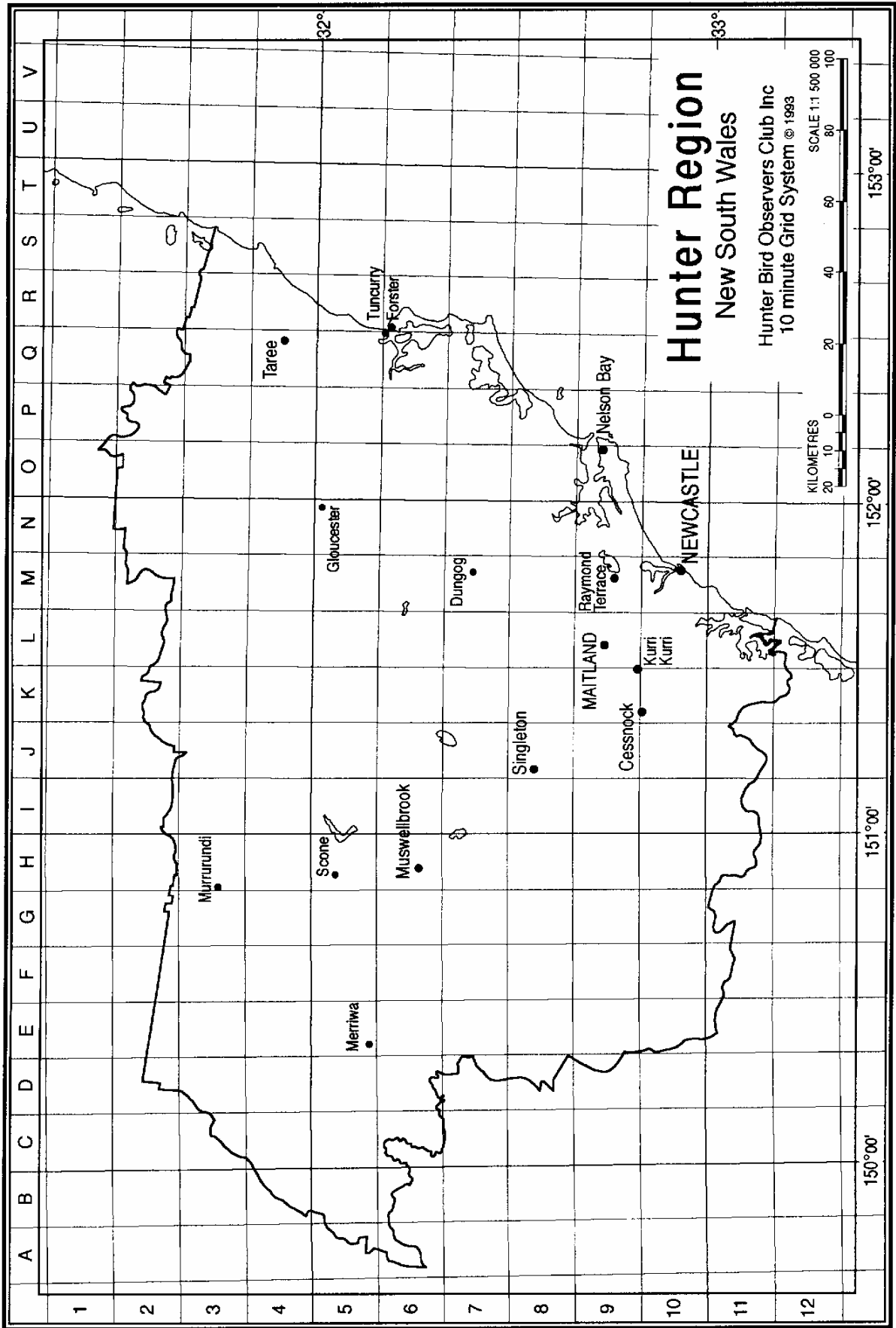
CBOC	Reported in Cumberland Bird Observers Club newsletter	KEM	Michael Kearns
CBJ	Bill, Joan Clark	LIA	Ann Lindsey
CHP	Peter Chegwiddden	LIG	Greg Little
CJB	John, Beth Cockerell	LIN	Nick, Liz Livanos
CLB	Barry Clifton	LIP	Paddy Lightfoot
CLT	Tom Clarke	MAA	Anthony Marchment
CLW	W Clark	MAC	Charles Mann
COF	Frank Cosgrove	MAL	Lesley Marshall
CRG	Greg Crisp	MAM	Max Maddock
CRL	Liz Crawford	MCC	C McGilvray
CST	Crested Shrike-Twits (Twitchathon team)	MCN	Neville McNaughton
DBP	Penny Drake-Brockman	MCR	Robert McDonald
DDR	Dodgy Drongos (Twitchathon team)	MDV	Don, Val Moon
DOG	Greg Douglas	MEJ	Jenny Meynell
DUP	Pam Durie	MEL	Lorna Mee
ECD	Chris, David Eastham	MOA	Alan Morris
FIP	Pamela Fitzsimons	MUJ	Jenny Musicka
FOC	Reported in Birding NSW (Field Ornithologists Club) newsletter	MUM	Michael Murray
FRA	Allan Friis	MVBW	Reported in Manning Valley Birdwatchers newsletter
FRN	Neil Fraser	NBL	NSW Birdline report
GCR	Colin, Rachel Goodenough	NEG	Greg Newling
GED	David Geering	NEM	Mike Newman
GOA	Anthony Gooden	NIJ	Joy Nicholls
GOJ	John Goswell	NIR	Richard Nicholas
HAP	Phil Hansbro	OSP	Paul Osborn
HAR	Richard Harris	PEK	Kristy Peters
HAS	Sue Hamonet	POJ	Jenny Powers
HBA	HBOC Atlassing Survey	POP	Pat Pountney
HBOC	Observation from an HBOC outing or camp	PRC	Catherine Price
HCL	Chris, Liz Herbert	RAL	Lyn Rayward
HEC	Chris Herbert	RDB	Dorothy, Bob Raine
HHB	Hunter Home Brewers (Twitchathon team)	RIA	Allan Richardson
HTH	Hunter Thickheads (Twitchathon team)	ROS	Steven Roderick
HUF	Florence Humphreys	RUR	Rachael Russell
HUL	Liz Huxtable	SAM	Margaret Samuel
HUM	Michael Hunter	SEP	Peter Settle
HWS	HBOC Wader Surveys	SHB	Brett Shields
JED	Dick Jenkin	SMJ	James Smart
KDB	David, Bev Kibble	SMR	Rowley Smith
		SRM	Robert, Margaret Stewart

STA	Alan Stuart	VDI	Inger Van Dyke
TAH	Harold Tarrant	VGF	Fred van Gessel
TAT	Theo Tasoulis	WAL	Les Walker
TBO	Reported in <i>The Bird Observer</i> (BOCA magazine)	WAW	Win Warner
TBW	Reported in Tomaree Birdwatchers newsletter	WAR	Ray Walker
THK	Karen Thumm	WEJ	Judy Westphal
THJ	Judi Thomas	WOL	Lois Wooding

MAPS OF THE HUNTER REGION

The two maps on this and the following page indicate the boundaries for the Region, with 10-minute grid lines for latitude and longitude. The cells thus created have unique alpha-numeric identifiers, which have been used in the Report to indicate the approximate locations for the reported observations.





NOTES