

CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	
INTRODUCTION	1
NOTABLE RECORDS FOR THE YEAR	5
SYSTEMATIC LIST	7
Introduction	7
Birds	8
SUPPLEMENTARY RECORDS	83
CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES	85
UNCONFIRMED RECORDS	85
ESCAPEES	86
DATA FROM REGULAR SURVEYS	87
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	103
GRID REFERENCES FOR COMMON LOCATIONS	103
OBSERVER CODES	104
MAPS OF THE HUNTER REGION	107



*Glossy Ibis: sketch by Chris Herbert
Very few records in 2010*

FOREWORD

It is a great privilege to be writing this year's Foreword. The Annual Bird Report (ABR) has for me been one of life's treasures, something to be flicked through immediately as soon as one gets it, yet something to sit on the shelves for constant reference thereafter. It is at once the product of a huge communal effort by HBOC members and their allies, and testimony to the dedication of Alan Stuart in particular over a number of years. For the Hunter Region this is the best guide that we have to what is seen and what is not, and, when studied over a number of years, to what fluctuations are within the expected range and what are beyond it. As one of the Joint Editors of *The Whistler* over the past few years I am well aware that authors refer regularly to the ABRs to document their claims, and hence of the vital place they play in the effort to give our work in the Hunter Region credibility. The keeping of records, the vetting of records, and the publishing of records in this summarised form lies at the heart of knowing about our birds, of communicating our knowledge of them to other bodies, and hence hopefully of being able to protect their future.

During my fifteen years with HBOC the ABR has grown in stature. It incorporates data from the Atlas data-base, and it now publishes tables on many of the principal sites for shore-birds and water-birds. It looks much more scientific, yet it is still easy for a relative novice to use. If somebody relatively new to bird-watching is intent on looking up the Australasian Pipit, for example, it may take them a while to find it if they are not used to taxonomic order (which is of course subject to regular changes) or the latest 'official' names, but they never know what little gems of information they will find as they thumb their way through. One tip for anybody who cannot trace here a bird that they have found in their field guide is to check there for the scientific name, and then try to locate that in the ABR just in case the common name has changed in the 2008 revision. The pipit used to be Richard's Pipit, but the scientific name is unchanged.

The reader should never forget that the quality of the ABR depends on regular reports covering as much of the Region as possible. Hence everybody can do a great deal, and I regret that I have often not kept up reporting as I should have done. It is easy to think that one only need report things that are out of the ordinary, forgetting that a picture of the normal birdlife of the Hunter Region is in fact more important to us. Without the regular picture we cannot even know what all the rarities are. And when rarities are sighted it may be extremely useful to have an idea of which other species were in the area.

Finally we need to remember that although it is easy to notice what birds are there, it is much less easy to notice when they have gone. We notice the arrival of various cuckoo-species in spring, but how many of us have an accurate idea of when they depart? And how many of us notice when a species suddenly deserts our Region? The 2010 ABR tells us a great deal about what was unusually rare or totally absent that year. I suspect most of these birds will soon be back in usual numbers, but if they do not do so then our lack of records can be used to try to ensure that they get greater attention from ornithologists and official protection from governments. This is not just your report; it is part of the reason why your efforts can be so important for the birds. Use it, enjoy it, and support it.

Harold Tarrant
25 August 2011

*Harold Tarrant has been an important contributor to the development of our knowledge of the birds of the Hunter Region, particularly through his long term studies of the bird populations at locations around Bolwarra, Doyles Creek and Martindale. He is also Joint Editor for HBOC's journal *The Whistler*.*

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 2010. The information is based upon records from many sources.

There is one addition to the list – the New Zealand Storm-Petrel, which was recorded in March during a pelagic survey. There is also one species removed from the list, the Spotted Nightjar, after reviewing the details of the only report (which was from an HBOC camp in Goulburn River NP in 1989). With these two changes, the official Hunter Region list remains at 437 species. For 2010, 351 of these species were confirmed to have been present in the Region and information about those observations is presented in this Report.

148 species were recorded as breeding in the Region in 2010. In the 10 years from 2001, 240 species are confirmed to have bred within the Hunter Region (and for a further 9 species there are pre-2001 records). For records to be accepted as evidence of breeding there must have been an observation of: a brooding bird; a nest with eggs; a nest with young; or a bird making repeated visits to a nest or hollow with food¹. All other situations/behaviours², although interesting and potentially noteworthy, are not treated as confirmed breeding records. To maintain the desired standard for the Bird Report, reporters are requested to correctly specify the type of behaviour. This includes differentiating between young birds being fed in a nest and young birds being fed away from a nest.

In late 2009, the prolonged inland drought finally broke and this had a very noticeable effect on Hunter Region birdlife in 2010. Many species which have been regularly present in recent years were recorded rarely or not at all (for the Red-kneed Dotterel it was the first time this had occurred since the Bird Reports began in 1993). The numbers of many waterbird species decreased significantly (this is particularly evidenced in the counts at the regular survey areas such as Morpeth WTW, Hunter Estuary, Walka Water Works) and the frequency of their being recorded (reporting rate) also decreased substantially.

An unusual aspect of 2010 was that several people tried to see as many species within the Region as they possibly could. This led to an increased number of reports of less common species. Also, the extremes of the Region were visited far more frequently than is the norm, which resulted in new understandings about birdlife in the Region (and, the precise position of the boundaries of the Region became much better understood by everybody involved). Amazingly, one person saw 343 species.

Birds Australia Atlas data

HBOC now receives each year a copy of all data about Hunter Region birds in the BA Atlas project database. The Atlas commenced in 1998, and the 13 years of Hunter Region data are from a total of 13,857 surveys (9,556 area surveys and 4,301 2ha/20 minute surveys). In 2010, there are 1,356 surveys in the database (749 area surveys

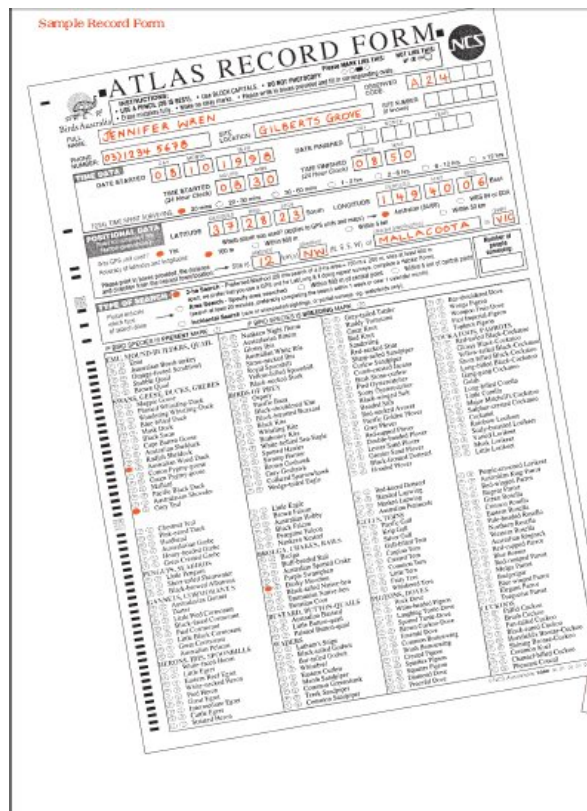
¹ For species known to have bred in the Region in the previous 10 years, evidence of nest building (bird actually sighted at the nest) or birds feeding newly fledged young away from a nest is also treated as a breeding record. However, such evidence is not sufficient for acceptance as a breeding record for rare species or for species for which there are no breeding records for the Region in the previous 10 years.

² Such as, birds seen in courtship display, copulating, carrying nesting material (but the nest not observed), carrying food, feeding juveniles not at a nest.

and 607 2ha surveys). We thank BA for the data and in particular acknowledge the support from Andrew Silcocks, the Atlas project coordinator.

This Bird Report presents statistics relating to the 13 years of Atlas records (i.e. since 1998) and the 2010 results, for all Category 1 and Category 2 species except pelagic birds (for which data collection is haphazard) and species having no Atlas records. The Report details:

- The percentage of 10-minute cells in which each species was recorded³ (for species with 20 or more records in the database), and the Reporting Rate (RR) *in those cells where the species has been recorded*.⁴
- For species with 1-19 records over the 13 year period; the number of cells in which they were recorded, and the number of records.
- The “cell of most interest” for the species over 1998-2010.⁵
- The number of 10-minute grid cells where the species was recorded in 2010, the total number of records for 2010, and the 2010 RR₆ (for those species with sufficient records that RRs seem meaningful).



For more information about the Birds Australia Atlas project, visit: <http://www.birdsaustralia.com.au/our-projects/atlas-birddata.html>

³ The Region straddles 149 10-minute cells (a few, only marginally). Four cells have had no surveys; therefore, 97% is the present maximum percentage of cells in which a species can have been recorded.

⁴ Reporting Rates (number of times recorded ÷ number of surveys conducted) provide an indication of relative abundance; however, RRs can depend on the type of survey (area surveys are longer duration and generally result in higher RRs). Where the 2010 RR differs from the long term RR, this may in part be due to a change in ratio of survey types. As the effect varies from species to species, in-depth analysis is required before drawing conclusions about population changes.

⁵ For example, a cell having a 30% reporting rate from 500 surveys is of “more interest” than one with a 100% reporting rate but only 1-2 surveys conducted in that cell.

⁶ The 2010 RR is for *all cells* for which the species has been recorded over the full 13 years of the Atlas.

HBOC encourages individuals to send in their records for the BA Atlas database (regardless of whatever else they might do with their records). Doing so helps in identifying whether any changes are occurring to the status of species (i.e. the size of the population, and its distribution) at both the regional and national level. Such knowledge is central to our ability to identify the need for conservation measures and to monitor their effectiveness.

Threatened species in the Region

In 2010, the NSW Scientific Committee revised the Regent Honeyeater status from Endangered to Critically Endangered, and the Australasian Bittern status from Vulnerable to Endangered.

The philosophy used for the Bird Reports

- *The list will include all species which are considered by HBOC as confirmed to have been recorded in the Region. This includes records from before the Bird Report series commenced, when these are brought to our attention and are considered acceptable.*
- *All records will be vetted and they will be accepted for inclusion into the Reports only if HBOC's Records Appraisal Committee (RAC) so decides. For records of species with relatively few prior records, it is expected that the observer will have made field notes at the time of observation (or very soon afterwards and prior to consulting a field guide) and/or will have taken a photograph. This rigour greatly assists the RAC in making favourable decisions.*
- *Non acceptance for publication in the Bird Report does not necessarily mean that the RAC considers the observer mis-identified the bird. **The RAC seeks to feel sure that the observer was able to completely exclude all alternative identifications.** In some cases, diagnostic field marks may not have been described adequately by the observer, or there may have been contradictory descriptions of field marks.*
- *The RAC may decide each year that some of the reported observations should appear in the Bird Report as Unconfirmed Records, so that the information is not lost and the observer's written report can be re-assessed in a new light if our understandings about the occurrence of the species in the Region change in future.*
- *In making these decisions, RAC members operate independently and then collegiately, with close scrutiny of all submitted material but also taking into account opinions about the observer's ability/opportunity to eliminate alternative identifications.*
- *The status description for each species is subject to regular review, with the aim of ensuring that the description reflects what is understood to be the current situation. For any year, the main indication of the then-current Hunter Region birdlife will come from considering the status descriptions of the listed species.*
- *For many species, the status description includes mention of the normal distribution range and the typical numbers of birds that are recorded. For those species, only the more notable observations are included into the Report – for example, observations from unusual locations or of exceptional numbers, presence at abnormal times of the year, breeding records.*
- *Breeding status will be assigned to a species only if definite evidence to this effect has been provided, and that such evidence fits within the definition of what constitutes an acceptable breeding record. If there have been no breeding records for a species for 10 or more years, the breeding status will be amended.*

Other comments

A map of the Hunter Region is provided at the back of this Report (and is accessible electronically from Google Maps⁷. This *Area of Interest* was first defined in 1993 based on 14 local government authorities (LGAs). Since that time, some LGA amalgamations have occurred in NSW, and the Hunter Region is best collectively defined now as:

- *The area managed by LGAs for Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Cessnock and Port Stephens (the Lower Hunter sub-region),*
- *The area managed by LGAs for Dungog, Gloucester, Greater Taree and Great Lakes (Northern Hunter sub-region),*
- *The area managed by LGAs for Muswellbrook, Scone and Singleton, and formerly managed by LGAs for Merriwa and Murrurundi (Upper Hunter sub-region), and*
- *The ocean within 100km of the coastline.*

To assist in vetting records, we have classified each species into one of three categories, as described below.

Category 1: All records for the species generally are accepted (records from well outside the known distribution range for the species may require substantiation).

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.

The Records Appraisal Committee assigns these categories and decides whether records can be accepted. For 2010, the Committee members were Sue Hamonet, Ann Lindsey, Fred van Gessel, Phil Hansbro, Mike Newman, Craig Anderson and Mick Roderick.

My sincere thanks go to all the contributors for the 2010 Report.

Alan Stuart
20 August 2011



*Beach Stone-curlews: sketch by
Lois Wooding
The pair in the Manning Estuary
successfully bred in 2010*

⁷ At http://www.hboc.org.au/resources/documents/hunter_region.txt

NOTABLE RECORDS FOR THE YEAR

Notable records for 2010 included the following:

- King Quail *Excalfactoria chinensis* – a pair at Tomago Wetlands 13 Feb
- Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah* – a single bird still present, with intermittent records all year from Bulahdelah and Myall Lakes NP
- Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea* – peak count of 1,505 birds in the Hunter Estuary 17 Apr
- White-faced Storm-Petrel *Pelagodroma marina* – a new breeding population was found on Little Broughton Island
- Black-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta tropica* – six birds off Port Stephens 10 Oct and 1-2 birds off Port Stephens 11 Jul and off Swansea 17 Nov
- White-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta grallaria* – a single bird off Port Stephens 27 Mar
- New Zealand Storm-Petrel *Pealeornis maoriana* – a single bird off Port Stephens 28 Mar
- Fairy Prion *Pachyptila turtur* – 150 birds off Port Stephens 11 Jul
- Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni* – two birds off Port Stephens 10 Oct
- Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna grisea* – birds seem no longer to be breeding on Little Broughton Island
- Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas* – two birds off Port Stephens 27 Mar and a single bird off Nobbys Beach 23 Feb
- Tahiti Petrel *Pseudobulweria rostrata* – a single bird off Port Stephens 27 Mar
- White-headed Petrel *Pterodroma lessonii* – single birds off Port Stephens 17 Jun and 10 Oct
- Gould's Petrel *Pterodroma leucoptera* – a new breeding location was found on Little Broughton Island (becoming the 4th known breeding ground)
- Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* – a single bird off Port Stephens 27 Mar
- Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* – a single bird off Port Stephens 27 Mar
- Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus* – 1-2 birds at Tomago Wetlands 2 Jan and 20 Jul
- Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius* – heard at Tomago Wetlands 29 Dec
- Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius* – single birds at Bungwahl in Jan and Dora Creek late Oct, and 15 birds are estimated to be in Port Stephens, with four known nesting sites
- Beach Stone-curlew *Esacus magnirostris* – a single bird at Miles Island Forster 17 Jul, and the pair at the Manning Estuary bred successfully
- Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris* – 280-300 birds estimated present in the Region in summer (highest numbers ever recorded)
- Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* – the lowest known peak count (118 birds) for the Hunter Estuary
- Wandering Tattler *Tringa incana* – a single bird at Newcastle Baths 16 Nov
- Red-backed Button-quail *Turnix maculosus* – a bird taken into care at Rathmines in Feb
- Common Noddy *Anous stolidus* – single birds off Port Stephens 28 Mar and at Newcastle Baths 7-24 Apr
- Sooty Tern *Onychoprion fuscata* – three birds at Catherine Hill Bay 7 Feb and two birds at Newcastle Baths 1-6 Feb
- Little Tern *Sternula albifrons* – 635 birds in the Region in mid December
- Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus* – some birds at Cassilis 5 May and Bald Hill 12 Sep
- Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus* – several records for May-Jun and 30 Oct

- Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus* – a flock of 6-8 birds near Merriwa 27 Nov
- Barking Owl *Ninox connivens* – pairs at two locations in Yengo NP 28 Apr and 20 Oct
- Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris* – three records from Ash Island
- Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii* – birds at Taylors Beach 19 Jan and Cattai Wetlands 5 Apr and 1-4 Oct
- Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens* – 24 confirmed territories in the Gloucester Tops
- Pilotbird *Pycnoptilus floccosus* – several pairs near Three Ways Wollemi NP 11 Sep
- Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis* – several parties near Bald Hill 11-12 Sep
- Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis* – up to 8 birds often along Durrigere Rd and three birds at Giants Creek Rd 12 Sep
- Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens* – three territories found along Durrigere Rd/ Smeades Rd and one pair was breeding in Apr
- Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia* – up to 19 birds at Putty Rd Milbrodale 23 Apr to 11 Jun, and 3 birds at Galgabba Point 16-26 May
- White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus* – up to four birds at HWC 18-22 Dec
- Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis* – 1-2 birds at Ash Island 13 & 21 Mar

The following species which normally have been present each year (or in most years) were not recorded in 2010:

- Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*
- Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus*

Species for which there were unusually few records in 2010 included:

- Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis* (never common in any year)
- Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*
- Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchotis* (after August)
- Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*
- Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*
- White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*
- Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*
- Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes*
- Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*
- Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (after May)
- Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*
- Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites basalis*
- Pallid Cuckoo *Cacomantis pallidus*
- White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii*
- White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus*

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Introduction

Bird species are listed in taxonomic order; the order and nomenclature follows that of L. Christidis and W. Boles in the 2008 CSIRO publication *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (ISBN 9780643065116).

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.

Some of the records that we receive 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 cell 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. The ID code is maintained by Birds Australia as part of the Checklist of Australian Birds (<http://www.birdsaustralia.com.au>).

BIRDS

Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

ID No: 001 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered population Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident in W of Region.

From BA Atlas: 18 records from five cells, at RR = 6.21%; cell of most interest: B6 (18.2%).

There were several records from locations within or near Goulburn River NP: 10 birds were near Pogygy HSD 16 May (JED), while 3 birds were recorded within the NP 15 Jan (BRG/LIN) and 1-2 birds 20 Jan and 30 Oct (KEM, ROM *et al.*). Elsewhere, two birds were near Ulan 1 & 15 Jan (ROM, BRG/LIN) and two birds at Summerhill Rd (A6) 16 May (JED). **Breeding:** A male was with six young at Ringwood Rd 30 Oct (ROM). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell C6.

Australian Brush-turkey *Alectura lathamii*

ID No: 008 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 33% of cells, at RR = 3.95%; cell of most interest: R5 (33.3%).

Birds were present all year at Saltwater NP with peak count 7 birds 10 Dec (STA), and were also regularly present at Wingham Brush (MVBW, ROM, STA). At least 6 birds are now resident in BbR (WID) and often range now into nearby gardens in New Lambton (STA, LIP). Also, several are now resident in Glenrock SCA (WID). Elsewhere, 1-2 birds were recorded at The Watagans 1 Jan, 2 Mar and 20 Jun (RIA, HBOC), HRBG Jan (ROD), Black Head 12 Jan and 29 Jul (STA), Gloucester area 26-28 Mar (CCB), Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR), both Sharpes Creek and Gloucester Tops Rd 30 Aug (STA *et al.*) and Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*). Although often recorded now at mid-altitude and some lowland rainforest locations, and apparently recovering some of the historic range, birds were recorded only once in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) of Gloucester Tops late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were at a mound at Bow Wow Creek Mt Vincent 25 Jul (HBOC). A 1-2 day old chick at Sharpes Creek 14 Sep was struck and killed by a Laughing Kookaburra (SMJ/MEL). Breeding in Blackbutt Reserve (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 36 records from 14 cells; RR 5.81%

Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis*

ID No: 009 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Uncertain, possibly irruptive.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 15% of cells, at RR = 1.14%; cell of most interest: D2 (9.10%).

1-2 birds were recorded several times at Tomago Wetlands during the year and 8 birds were there 20 Apr (MCN *et al.*). 5+ birds were recorded at Largs 11 Jan (BRG/LIN) and birds were heard at 5-6 locations around Durrigere Rd 28 Jan (BRG/LIN). Elsewhere 1-2 birds were seen/heard at Largs 9 Jan (WID), Phoenix Park 11 Jan (BRG/LIN) and Ringwood Rd mid Feb and 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Four records from cell M10.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 45% of cells, at RR = 4.21%; cell of most interest: S3 (15.2%).

Notable records: 10-12 birds were recorded at Springdale HSD Martindale 24-26 Apr (HBOC), Saltwater NP late Aug (BRG) and Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with eggs at Milham Pond Ash Island in Sep – but the eggs/young were predated in early Oct (CLT). **BA Atlas:** 36 records from 14 cells; RR 3.82%.

King Quail *Excalfactoria chinensis*

ID No: 012 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Rare, possibly overlooked (*recorded 1994, 2000*).

A pair was recorded at Tomago Wetlands 13 Feb (LIN/BRG).

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*

ID No: 199 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded at wetlands around Shortland as counts of up to 50 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 5.18%; cell of most interest: M10 (9.46%).

Most counts at HWC were of 60+ birds with peak counts 95 birds 1 Jun (HBOC) and 75 birds in Apr (Table 12). The only record from elsewhere was of a single bird at Dora Creek 18 Feb (GOC). **BA Atlas:** 14 records from cell M10; RR 3.34%

Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*

ID No: 205 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 8% of cells, at RR = 0.93%; cell of most interest: L10 (2.72%).

215 birds were at Doughboy Hollow 31 May and 167 birds there 6 May; also 40 birds were recorded 2 Apr and 12 birds 28 Sep (CJB, STA, SIA). Two birds were at a property on George Booth Drive regularly in early Feb (ROS). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell L9.

Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*

ID No: 204 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 3.81%; cell of most interest: M10 (3.81%).

30+ birds were at Cattai Wetlands 28 Jan (RIA) and 21 birds there 13 Feb (MVBW). 4-14 birds were recorded at HWC in the summer months (Table 12); however 28 birds were present 5 Dec (LUD) and 30 birds at nearby NWR 14 Aug (LIA). 1-2 birds were at WWW 20 Mar, 12 May & 20 Oct (MOA, Table 1). **BA Atlas:** Five records from two cells.

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata*

ID No: 217 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 12% of cells, at RR = 4.14%; cell of most interest: M9 (19.3%).

Birds were present most months at WWW and in the Hunter Estuary, with peak counts being of six birds 6 Jan and five birds in Oct respectively (Tables 1, 3, others). Elsewhere, 1-3 birds were recorded at Myall Lakes NP 28 Jan and 14 Nov (RIA, RAL), John Browns Lagoon 18 Apr (ALP), HWC 23 May (LIP), Kearsley 6 Jul and 22 Aug (HBOC), Pokolbin 29 Oct (SAM), and GTD over Nov-Dec (RAL, KET, ROM). **Breeding:** Birds had ducklings at Kearsley 22 Aug (HBOC) and GTD 28 Nov (KET). **BA Atlas:** 12 records from five cells; RR 3.51%

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*

ID No: 214 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Rare (*Recorded 1994-5, 1999-2007*).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 34% of cells, at RR = 26.7%; cell of most interest: L10 (63.3%).

Notable records: 1,120 birds were recorded at Port Stephens 12 Feb (*the highest known count from this location*) and 160-200+ birds were there 16 Jan and May and Dec (Tables 7, 8). 100+ birds were at Morpeth WTW over Apr-Dec with peak count 326 birds 26 May (Table 2), and 133 birds were in the Hunter Estuary 28 Aug with 50+ present over Jun-Sep (Table 3). 72 birds were at Hexham Swamp 7 Dec (Table 14). **Breeding:** There were many, widespread breeding records spanning Apr-May and Jul-Dec. **BA Atlas:** 142 records from 18 cells; RR 18.7%.

Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah*

ID No: 206 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2005-09).

The remaining bird of the pair which arrived in 2005 continued to move between Bulahdelah and Bombah Point MLNP, with intermittent records of it received all year (many observers).

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides*

ID No: 207 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare (recorded 1984, 1995, 2001-03, 2006-09).

No reports were received for 2010.

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

ID No: 202 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Up to 20 birds widely and regularly recorded near fresh to brackish waters.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 85% of cells, at RR = 29.1%; cell of most interest: L9 (72.9%).

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Port Stephens 12 Feb and 28 Aug (Table 8), Belltrees 5 May (HBOC) and Appletree Flat 19 May (MCR). **Breeding:** There were several records spanning Feb-Mar and Sep-Dec. **BA Atlas:** 142 records from 42 cells; RR 16.7%.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 10% of cells, at RR = 4.89%; cell of most interest: L9 (24.5%).

The only record was of a single bird on a dam in private property off George Booth Drive late May (RIA per ROM). *Easily the lowest abundance year since the Bird Reports commenced.*

BA Atlas: One record, from cell L9.

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Australasian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

ID No: 212 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Up to 10 birds often recorded at medium-large fresh waters in central and E of Region
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 19% of cells, at RR = 7.84%; cell of most interest: L9 (32.4%).

Notable records: Birds were absent from major wetlands after August (see Tables), and the numbers before then were lower than usual. The peak counts for Morpeth WTW and the Hunter Estuary respectively were just 21 birds 6 Jul and 27 birds 13 Feb (Tables 2, 4). **BA Atlas:** Nine records from two cells; RR 1.69%.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*

ID No: 211 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Often recorded at medium-large waters as counts of up to 50 birds.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 60% of cells, at RR = 16.2%; cell of most interest: L9 (59.5%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded most months at both Morpeth WTW and Hunter Estuary but after the peak counts in January (of 110 and 168 birds, respectively) the numbers generally were low (Tables 2, 3). This situation was reflected throughout the Region, with many fewer birds present than usual for recent years. **Breeding:** Birds had ducklings at Mt View Rd 6 Mar (MOA *et al.*), Parkville 17 Mar (NEG) and Morpeth WTW 7 Oct (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 45 records from 11 cells; RR 4.67%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 34% of cells, at RR = 26.9%; cell of most interest: L9 (59.5%).

Notable records: Birds were present all year in the Hunter Estuary with 500+ over Jan-May and peak count 1,505 birds 17 Apr – the numbers dropped substantially over Jul-Sep but then began to rise (Table 3). Also present all year at Morpeth WTW and WWW, with the respective peak counts 397 birds 26 May and 36 birds 14 Apr (Tables 1, 2). 311 birds were at Hexham Swamp NR 7 Dec (Table 14) and 100+ birds at Cattai Wetlands 13 Jun (ERE). **Breeding:** There were many records from the E of the Region, spanning Mar and Sep-Dec. **BA Atlas:** 148 records from 19 cells; RR 17.5%.

Northern Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

ID No: 948 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 15% of cells, at RR = 2.65%; cell of most interest: M9 (11.6%).

1-5 birds were recorded at Toronto Wetland 6 Apr (HBOC), Wallbridge Reserve Raymond Terrace May and 30-31 Oct (ROM *et al.*, MEL *et al.*), Dora Creek 7 Jun and 16 Oct (GOC) and Belmont Lagoon 14 Sep (TBW). **Breeding:** An adult was with 9 dependent young at Dora Creek 16 Oct (GOC). **BA Atlas:** 12 records from four cells; RR 2.40%

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 86% of cells, at RR = 31.8%; cell of most interest: L9 (84.5%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were present at Morpeth WTW over Mar-Aug with peak count 344 birds 6 Jul (Table 2), and 100+ birds in the Hunter Estuary Jan-Apr with peak count 308 birds 13 Feb (Table 3). 100+ birds were also at Hexham Swamp 30 Oct and 26 Dec (Table 14) and at Cattai Wetlands 13 Jun (ERE). 50+ birds were at WWW 14 Apr (Table 1) and Cattai Wetlands 1-4 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** There were several records, spanning Apr, Sep and Nov-Dec. **BA Atlas:** 250 records from 38 cells; RR 20.3%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 38% of cells, at RR = 8.42%; cell of most interest: L9 (47.9%).

Notable records: 42 birds were at WWW 20 Jul and 25 birds there 9 Aug (Table 1), and 36 birds at Morpeth WTW 6 Jul (Table 2). There were far fewer birds in the Region than has been usual in recent years. **BA Atlas:** 30 records from seven cells; RR 3.63%.

Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*

ID No: 216 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon visitor.
From BA Atlas: 19 records from five cells, at RR = 0.66%; cell of most interest: L9 (12 records).

A female bird was recorded at WWW 26 Jan and a male on 7 Feb (KEM, STA). There were no subsequent reports from anywhere within the Region. **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell L9.



*Blue-billed Duck: sketch
by Chris Herbert*

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*

ID No: 107 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1952, 1955, 1973, 1978, 2000, 2006, 2009).

No reports were received for 2010.

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 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 65% of cells, at RR = 14.3%; cell of most interest: L9 (57.1%).

Notable records: 25 birds were present at WWW 12 May (Table 1). There were far fewer birds in the Region than has been usual in recent years. **BA Atlas:** 65 records from 17 cells; RR 6.46%.

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*

ID No: 062 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 3.60%; cell of most interest: L9 (17.1%).

The only records were of nine birds at WWW 6 Jan and three birds at Deep Pond KI 16 Jan (Tables 1, 3); birds were absent from the Region for the remainder of the year. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

ID No: 060 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 3.09%; cell of most interest: L9 (15.3%).

10+ birds were present all year at WWW except over Jun-Aug when they moved away; the peak count was 37 birds 11 Mar (Table 1). The only records from elsewhere were of 1-2 birds at Bootawah Dam NP 22 Feb (MOA *et al.*) and near Nahiab 10 Apr (FIW). **Breeding:** At least four pairs bred at WWW over Jan-Mar (several observers). **BA Atlas:** 12 records from two cells; RR 5.15%

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

ID No: 957 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Up to 20 birds moderately often recorded at urban locations.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 31% of cells, at RR = 7.32%; cell of most interest: R6 (20.7%).

30-40 birds were recorded at Newcastle Foreshore 2 Feb (HBOC), HWC 1 Jun (HBOC), Hexham Swamp 5 Jul (LIA) and Ash Island 7 Sep (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 20 records from five cells; RR 3.30%

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 36% of cells, at RR = 22.3%; cell of most interest: Q7 (59.0%).

Notable records: 32 birds were feeding together near Cooperook 13 Aug and 16 birds there 28 Jul (STA), while many birds were in the Gloucester area Apr-May (DBP, ROM). Two birds were at Ash Island 11 Jul (MCN) – *unusual at this location*. **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Wingham GC 22 Feb (MOA *et al.*) and bred at Balickera Oct-Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 40 records from 15 cells; RR 5.77%.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 40% of cells, at RR = 22.3%; cell of most interest: L11 (56.9%).

Notable records: 30-40 birds were feeding together at Rutherford 7 Dec (BRG) and 20+ birds were at HWC 6 Jan and 6 Mar (LIP). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Belmont 23 Aug (CJB) and bred at Balickera Sep-Oct (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 106 records from 23 cells; RR 11.7%.



Spotted Dove: sketch by Lois Wooding

Brown Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia amboinensis*

ID No: 029 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-2 birds often recorded in well-forested areas in E and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 48% of cells, at RR = 7.30%; cell of most interest: Q2 (54.7%).

Notable records: 12 birds were recorded at Old Brush (Brunkerville) 2 Nov (HBOC) and 10+ birds at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC). Although often recorded now at mid-altitude and lowland forest locations, birds were found just twice in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 42 records from 19 cells; RR 4.54%.

Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

ID No: 033 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 1.96%; cell of most interest: N5 (4.92%).

Three birds were together at Seal Rocks late Dec (BUD). All other records were of single birds – at Darawank Reserve 18 Jan (MVBW), Wingham Brush 23 Feb (MOA *et al.*), Wallingat NP 11 Apr (ERE), Copeland village early Apr (per ROM), Gloucester Tops Rd 17 Sep (NEM), Bobs Farm 8 Nov (HDM), Allyn River 15 Nov (BRG), Harrington RF 9 Dec (STA), Wang Wauk 30 Dec (per FIW), and in Copeland SCA 31 Jan, Feb, 4-5 Apr, 22 May and 16 Dec (RIA, MCR, ROS). **BA Atlas:** Four records from three cells.

Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 53% of cells, at RR = 5.02%; cell of most interest: C6 (31.4%).

Seven birds were recorded at Belltrees 6 May (HBOC) and 1-5 birds at Werakata NP 8 Jan (GOJ), Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC), Mulbring 23 Jan (LUD), Jones Reserve Rd 24 Apr (STA), Springdale HSD Martindale 24-26 Apr (HBOC), Widden Valley, Doyles Creek Rd, Baerami Creek and Wambo Rd Bulga all 19 May (MCR), Medhurst Bridge 20 Jul (STA), Broke 23 Nov (TBW) and Yengo NP 29 Nov (GRJ *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 24 records from 15 cells; RR 3.24%

Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 1.38%; cell of most interest: M11 (21.1%).

Five birds were recorded at Awabakal NR 14 Nov (LUD), and 1-2 birds at North Tuncurry 16 Mar (ANC), Belmont Lagoon 8 May and early Dec (ROM, BRG), Crowdy Bay NP 23 May (MCR), Jewells 3 Oct (WID), and often at Belmont South (CJB). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 81% of cells, at RR = 28.7%; cell of most interest: L9 (66.1%).

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Hamilton 10 Feb (ANC), Belltrees 4-6 May (HBOC), Jones Reserve Rd and Appletree Flat (H8) both 19 May (MCR). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with eggs at Hamilton 23 Aug (ANC) and were nesting at Belmont 23 Aug (CJB), Balickera Sep (MUJ) and Wingen late Dec (NEG). **BA Atlas:** 193 records from 38 cells; RR 16.6%.

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata*

ID No: 031 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1995, 2003*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata*

ID No: 030 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records

Status: Resident, mainly in central and W of the Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 46% of cells, at RR = 9.58%; cell of most interest: G8 (49.0%).

18 birds were together in a tree in Goulburn River NP 16 May (JED) and 1-5 birds were recorded moderately often in the central and W of the Region. The only near-coastal record was of a single bird at Cattai Wetlands 1 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 33 records from 13 cells; RR 6.02%

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 52% of cells, at RR = 18.2%; cell of most interest: M8 (35.0%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Crowdy Bay NP 23 May (MCR) and 18 birds at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW); 8+ birds were also at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC). A bird was heard calling at Broughton Island late May – *the first record there in 12 years of visits* (ANC). **Breeding:** There were records from Balickera Jul and Sep-Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 174 records from 28 cells; RR 16.7%.

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

ID No: 044 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. 1-2 birds often recorded in well-forested areas in E and central parts of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 56% of cells, at RR = 10.2%; cell of most interest: G10 (51.4%).

Notable records: More than 20 birds were recorded while ascending Gloucester Tops Rd 24 Dec (ROM). Three birds were at Yaraandoo Duns Creek 2 Oct (NEM). **BA Atlas:** 70 records from 21 cells; RR 6.80%.

Wompoo Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus magnificus*

ID No: 025 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded.
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 15% of cells, at RR = 3.89%; cell of most interest: N5 (11.5%).

12+ birds were in a fruiting tree in Upper Allyn River 17 Oct (ROM) and 6+ birds at Copeland SCA 9 Sep (DBP). 1-2 birds were recorded at Cobark 31 Jan (ROM *et al.*), Harrington RF 14 Aug (STA), Saltwater NP late Aug and 8 Nov (BRG, STA), Farquhar Park (Manning Entrance SP) 7 Oct (MVBW), Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (ROM *et al.*), “Belltrees” Upper Lansdowne 13 Nov (STA *et al.*) and Koppin Yarrat Rd (S3) 5 Dec (MOT). There were six records of 1-2 birds from areas around Copeland (Tops/SCA/Common) – 1 and 31 Jan, 4-5 and 27 Apr, 16 Nov and 24 Dec (many observers). Also, a bird was present at Coal Point 14 & 16 Nov (BKW). **BA Atlas:** Seven records from seven cells; RR 2.46%

Superb Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus superbus*

ID No: 023 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1996, 1999, 2006, 2009*)

No reports were received for 2010.

Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Pied Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula bicolor*

ID No: 026 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental.

No reports were received for 2010.

Topknot Pigeon *Lopholaimus antarcticus*

ID No: 027 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 32% of cells, at RR = 3.15%; cell of most interest: K5 (23.2%).

150 birds were in trees at Gloucester 12 Apr (DBP) – the count was made after the birds had been disturbed by a Collared Sparrowhawk. Also, 50+ birds were at Freemans Waterhole 31 May (OCG) and 20+ birds at Seal Rocks 21 Feb (HBOC). Six birds were at Saltwater NP 15 Jun (STA) and 10+ birds together in a fruiting tree in Upper Allyn River 17 Oct (ROM). All other records were 1-5 birds – at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW), Dingo Tops NP 22 Feb (MOA *et al.*), Gloucester 26-28 Mar (CCB), Mayfield 12 Apr (CHP), Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR), Cabbage Tree Island 24 Aug (CLT), Pacific Palms late Aug (BRG), Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*), Saltwater NP 8 Nov (STA), Allyn River 15 Nov (BRG) and Gloucester Tops Rd 27 Nov (KET). Although frequently found now at mid-altitude and lowland rainforest locations, birds were recorded just once in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 17 records from nine cells; RR 2.35%

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 46% of cells, at RR = 5.03%; cell of most interest: M8 (17.9%).

Notable records: 13 birds were recorded in Gloucester Tops 18-19 Sep (BIA). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with eggs at Waratah 21 Aug – they have nested at the same place for 3 years now (ALD). There were nests with young at Warners Bay Nov (WAR), Dudley 4 Dec (POJ) and Broke 5 Dec (BRG). **BA Atlas:** 13 records from 11 cells; RR 2.14%.

White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis*

ID No: 330 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 13% of cells, at RR = 1.62%; cell of most interest: G10 (16.1%).

Four birds were at Lees Pinch Goulburn River NP 11 Feb (ROM) and 1-2 birds at Goulburn River NP 15 Jan and 22 Jan (BRG/LIN, WID/ROM), Curricabundi NP 30-31 Jan (DBP *et al.*), Columbey NP 3 Mar (per NEM), Polblue 28 Apr (ERE) (*late departure*) and Cattai Wetlands nightly 1-3 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with egg at Duns Creek 23 Nov – *at the exact same location as in 2009* (NEM). **BA Atlas:** Three records from two cells.

Australian Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*

ID No: 317 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 27% of cells, at RR = 4.81%; cell of most interest: G10 (53.2%).

1-2 birds were moderately often recorded in the central and W of the Region. The most easterly records were from Old Gibber Track MLNP 21 Jan (WIT), Cattai Wetlands 1-4 Oct (HBOC) and Balickera Oct & Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 12 records from nine cells; RR 5.33%

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 44% of cells, at RR = 4.10%; cell of most interest: Q6 (15.7%).

Notable records: 1,000+ birds in several flocks (one was of ~300 birds) flew over Crowdy Bay NP 5 Jan (ROM) and 1,000+ over a 3km area of Belmont 28 Nov (ANC). 300+ birds were feeding over a fire at Tomago 26 Dec (LUD) and 250-400 birds over Mandalong Swamp 1 Jan (RIA), Myall Lakes NP 20 Jan (WIT), Bulahdelah 30 Nov (ROM) and Hexham Swamp 4 Dec (ROM). 100+ birds were recorded at Warners Bay 9 Jan (WAR) and Morisset 10 Jan (RIA). There were many records of 50+ birds. A single bird was at Whitebridge 25 Sep (WID) – *the first recorded arrival back to Australia for the year (TAM)*. There were no further records until 8 Nov after which birds became widespread. **BA Atlas:** 23 records from 16 cells; RR 2.48%.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

ID No: 335 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 10% of cells, at RR = 1.13%; cell of most interest: G10 (9.68%).

~40 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 26 Jan (KEM) and 20-30 birds at Awabakal NR 6 Jan (BRG *et al.*). All other records were of 1-2 birds: at NLH 9 Jan (WID), Cooranbong 17 Jan (RIA), Harrington mid Jan (ROM), Old Gibber Track MLNP 21 Jan (WIT), Crowdy Bay 28 Jan (ROM), Seal Rocks 13 Feb (BRG/LIN) and Manning Entrance SP 7 Oct (MVBW). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell Q4. *The January bias to the records seems unusual.*

Wilson's Storm-Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

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

Birds were recorded in eight of 11 pelagic surveys from Port Stephens, with peak count 150 birds 10 Oct and three other counts of 50+ birds (Table 17). 100+ birds were also present during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*). 1-2 birds were between Broughton and Cabbage Tree islands 25 Jul (ANB), ~3km offshore from Newcastle 27 Sep (ROS) and ~10km offshore from Port Stephens 21 Nov (ROM *et al.*).

White-faced Storm-Petrel *Pelagodroma marina*

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

Birds were present in all the May-Dec pelagic surveys off Port Stephens with peak counts of 15 birds 11 Jul and 15 Dec (Table 17). **Breeding:** Surveys in Oct and Dec of three small islands within the Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park confirmed that birds continue to breed on North Rock and Inner Rock (per CAS). A breeding population was newly discovered on nearby Little Broughton Island in late 2010 (Wingspan Vol 21 No 2).

Black-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta tropica*

ID No: 066 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon visitor (*recorded 2002, 2006, 2009*).

Six birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 10 Oct and a single bird on the 11 Jul survey (Table 17). Two birds were present during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*).

White-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta grallaria*

ID No: 944 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2006, 2007*).

A single bird was recorded at the continental shelf during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 27 Mar (Table 17). *This was accepted by ORAC as the 15th record for NSW.*

New Zealand Storm-Petrel *Pealeornis maoriana*

ID No: TBA HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*New to list*).

A single bird was recorded (and photographed) 28 Mar ~40km offshore from Port Stephens, a few km beyond the edge of the continental shelf, (HPS). The report was accepted by BARC as the first Australian record for this rare species.

Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*

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

20 birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 10 Oct and 2-5 birds in similar surveys over Jul-Dec (Table 17), and also six birds during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*). Also, a bird was just 100m off Newcastle Baths 30 Nov (RIA). One bird on 10 Oct was sub-species *antipodensis* and had been banded as a chick at Antipodes Island 16 Dec 2002 (per ROM). *Some summer records – unusual but not unprecedented.*

Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris* (amended from *Thalassarche*)

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 during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 11 Jul and 10 birds on 19 Sep (Table 17). 12 birds were off Fingal Bay 20 Jul and many birds near Seal Rocks 19 Jul (ANB). 1-5 birds were off Forster 5 Jul (MVBW), close offshore from Newcastle 27 May, 22 Jul and 4 Aug (ROM, RIA), ~8km offshore from Newcastle 31 Aug (ROS) and on pelagic surveys off Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*) and off Port Stephens 2 May, 17 Jun and 12 Dec (Table 17). Of the four birds recorded 17 Jun, three were sub-species *melanophris* and one was *impavida* (ROM/STA). A young bird with a fish hook caught in its bill/neck was rescued at Merewether Beach 13 May (per ALD).

Shy Albatross *Thalassarche cauta* (amended from *Thalassarche*)

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

In pelagic surveys from Port Stephens, three birds were recorded 11 Jul, two birds (both were *cauta/steady* sub-species) 19 Sep and a single bird 10 Oct (Table 17, ROM). Two birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*) and a single bird was off Newcastle Baths 8 Sep (THJ).

Yellow-nosed Albatross *Thalassarche chlororhynchos* (amended from *Thalassarche*)

ID No: 089 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Common winter migrant at >5 km from shore.

~110 birds were off Newcastle 6 Jul, mostly sitting on the water (ROM/RIA), and 50 birds were following a fishing boat off Nobbys Beach 7 Jul (THJ). 35-50 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys off Port Stephens over Jun-Sep (Table 17) and ~20 were off Newcastle 22 Jul (ROM). All other records were of 1-5 birds – off Awabakal NR 6 Jun (ROM), Forster 5 Jul (MVBW), Newcastle 27 May, 8 Jul, 4 Aug and 3 Sep (ROM, THJ, RIA), ~8km offshore of Newcastle 31 Aug (ROS) and during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*).

Buller's Albatross *Thalassarche bulleri* (amended from *Thalassarche*)

ID No: 931 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Uncertain. (recorded 2003, 2007).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.

No reports were received for 2010.

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.

The only confirmed record was of a single bird during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 19 Sep (Table 17).

Cape Petrel *Daption capense*

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

In pelagic surveys from Port Stephens, seven birds were recorded 11 Jul, one bird 19 Sep and two birds 14 Oct (Table 17). Also, two birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*).

Broad-billed Prion *Pachyptila vittata*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Antarctic Prion *Pachyptila desolata*

ID No: 084 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2000)

No reports were received for 2010.

Slender-billed Prion *Pachyptila belcheri*

ID No: 942 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded several times in 2002)

No reports were received for 2010.

Fairy Prion *Pachyptila turtur*

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

150 birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 11 Jul, 80 birds 17 Jun and a single bird 19 Sep (Table 17). Several birds were between Broughton and Cabbage Tree Islands early Jul (ANB).

White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*

ID No: 915 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1968, 2003).

No reports were received for 2010.

Black Petrel *Procellaria parkinsoni*

ID No: 917 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant (revised from: Accidental). (recorded 2000, 2006-07).

Two birds were present during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 10 Oct (Table 17).

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna pacifica* (amended from *pacificus*)

ID No: 069 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common summer migrant. Several hundred birds are often recorded Jan-Mar and late Aug-Dec (text amended).

Notable records: 5,000-10,000 birds were passing in a continuous stream off Crowdy Head 1 Feb (BRG/LIN) and 1,000-2,000 were following two fishing trawlers inside Port Stephens 26 Feb (ROM/STA). ~2,000 birds were off Nobbys Beach 3 Sep (ROM). 600-800 birds were following a trawler ~6km off Newcastle 26 Jan (ROS) and 500-600 birds were recorded off Newcastle Bight 27 Aug (ROM *et al.*) and during pelagic surveys from Port Stephens Feb-Mar and Sep (Table 17). There were several other records of many hundreds of birds during Jan-Feb and late Aug-Nov. **Breeding:** Surveys in Oct and Dec of 3 small islands within the Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park confirmed that populations still breed on Little Broughton Island, Inner Rock and North Rock (per CAS).

Buller's Shearwater *Ardenna bulleri*

ID No: 975 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant (recorded 1995, 2000-01, 2009).

No reports were received for 2010.

Flesh-footed Shearwater *Ardenna carneipes*

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

300 birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 27 Feb and 30-60 birds during similar surveys over Feb-May and 10 Oct (Table 17). 1-4 birds were present on two other surveys from Port Stephens as well as at ~6km off Newcastle 26 Jan (ROS) and ~10km off Port Stephens 21 Nov (ROM *et al.*).

Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna grisea*

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

In pelagic surveys from Port Stephens, three birds were recorded 12 Dec, two birds 28 Mar and one bird 27 Mar (Table 17). A single bird was recorded during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*). **Breeding:** Surveys in Oct and Dec failed to find any breeding population on Little Broughton Island, from where there are historical records (Wingspan Vol 21 No 2).

Short-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna tenuirostris*

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

Notable records: Around 10,000 birds were moving south on migration passage at 5-10km offshore during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 10 Oct (ROM *et al.*). There were many records of small numbers of birds over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec. Three birds were still present 2 May (Table 17) – *late departure*. ~5,000 dead and dying birds were found along Newcastle Bight 17 Nov (LIA *et al.*) and 70-90 dead birds were at Bar Beach 20 Oct (NIR), Redhead Beach 25 Oct (per LIA), Nobbys Beach/ Merewether 28 Oct (THJ) and Manning Point Beach 8 Nov (STA). **Breeding:** Surveys in Oct and Dec of 3 small islands within the Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park found previously unknown populations on North Rock and Inner Rock, and confirmed that birds continue to breed on Little Broughton Island (per CAS).

Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas*

ID No: 853 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant (*revised from: Accidental*) (*recorded 2000, 2006*).

Two birds were flying together at ~5-10km from the continental shelf during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 27 Mar (ROM *et al.*) and a single bird was off Nobbys Beach 23 Feb (ROM).

Fluttering Shearwater *Puffinus gavia*

ID No: 068 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant and bird of passage.

10,000+ birds were present offshore from Forster/Tuncurry 30-31 Aug (HAM). 3,000+ birds in several streams were recorded off Newcastle Bight 27 Aug (ROM *et al.*) and 1,000+ were off Newcastle Baths 30 Sep (THJ). Large groups were also recorded off Nobbys Beach 4 Aug (ROM/RIA) and at ~8km offshore of Newcastle 31 Aug (ROS), whilst ~30 birds were off Nobbys Beach 22 Jul (ROM). 1-5 birds were recorded several times off Newcastle beaches during Sep-Nov (many observers), in pelagic surveys from Port Stephens throughout the year (Table 17), off Crowdy Head 1 Feb (BRG/LIN), off Boat Harbour 2 Jul (LUD), 2-4 km off Nobbys Beach 3 Jul (ROS) and 10km off Port Stephens 21 Nov (ROM *et al.*).

Hutton's Shearwater *Puffinus huttoni*

ID No: 913 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Bird of passage (*probably overlooked*).

Five birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 19 Sep and 1-3 birds during several other pelagic surveys throughout the year (Table 17) and off Newcastle Beach 19 Oct (RIA).

Little Shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*

ID No: 067 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002, 2007*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Tahiti Petrel *Pseudobulweria rostrata*

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

A single bird was recorded at the continental shelf during a pelagic survey off Port Stephens 27 Mar (ROM *et al.*).

Juan Fernandez Petrel *Pterodroma externa*

ID No: 810 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 1988*).

No reports were received for 2010.

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 2010.

White-headed Petrel *Pterodroma lessonii*

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

Single birds were recorded during pelagic surveys from Port Stephens 17 Jun and 10 Oct (Table 17). *Unusually, the 10 Oct bird was only ~15 km from shore i.e. a considerable distance shoreward from the continental shelf.*

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.

25 birds were present during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 10 Oct and eight birds 27 Feb, and single birds in Mar, Jun, Sep and Dec (Table 17). Six birds were recorded during a pelagic survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*).

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.

60 birds were present during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 11 Jul and 20 birds in the corresponding 17 Jun survey (Table 17). 1-5 birds were recorded in other Port Stephens pelagic surveys over Mar-Oct (Table 17) and in a survey from Swansea 17 Nov (HAP *et al.*).

Gould's Petrel *Pterodroma leucoptera*

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

Single birds were recorded during pelagic surveys from Port Stephens 28 Mar and Swansea 17 Nov (Table 17, HAP *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were found nesting at three locations on Little Broughton Island in late 2010 (Wingspan Vol 21 No 2) – *this is a newly identified territory and is the 4th island off Port Stephens where the birds have been recorded breeding.*

Cook's Petrel *Pterodroma cookii*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

White-necked Petrel *Pterodroma cervicalis*

ID No: 774 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer visitor (*recorded 2001, 2004-07*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Black-winged Petrel *Pterodroma nigripennis*

ID No: 955 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2007*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Pycroft's Petrel *Pterodroma pycrofti*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Little Penguin *Eudyptula minor*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in four cells, at RR = 4.30%; cell of most interest: P9 (11.2%).

Six birds were at Main Beach Hawks Nest 20 Jan (JED), five birds in Port Stephens 26 Feb (ROM/STA), and four birds at Shoal Bay 7 May (CLT) and off Port Stephens 27 Mar (Table 17). 1-2 birds were at Swansea Inlet 22 Jan (ERE), Nobbys Beach 26 Jan and 5 Jul (ROS, RIA), Crowdy Head 1 Feb (BRG/LIN), Shoal Bay 24 Mar and 12 Apr (CLT, ADJ), Fingal Bay 22 Jun (TBW), Cabbage Tree Island 24 Aug (CLT), Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (CLT) and Port Stephens 10 Oct and 12 Dec (STA). **Breeding:** Surveys in Oct and Dec of 3 small islands within the Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park found previously unknown populations (of <10 pairs) on Little Broughton Island and Inner Rock, and none on North Rock (per CAS). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*

ID No: 095 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental.

No reports were received for 2010.

Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator*

ID No: 104 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Regular non-breeding visitor, with 1-5 birds often recorded close offshore Mar-Oct.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 4.38%; cell of most interest: P9 (21.6%).

Notable records: ~600 birds in 3 groups of ~200 birds were at varying distances offshore of Nobbys Beach 27 May (ROM). 300-400+ birds were also present in this area 26 Jun and 14 Jul (THJ, LIN) and 100-200 birds 3 & 6 Jul (ROS, ROM/RIA); there were many records of lesser numbers over Apr-Sep (many observers). 100+ birds were recorded during pelagic surveys from Port Stephens May-Jul and 50 birds 19 Sep (Table 17) while 30+ birds were off Moon Island Swansea 3 May (RIA). Arrival: two birds were off Crowdy Head 19 Feb and off Seal Rocks 21 Feb (MOA et al. HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 18 records from seven cells; RR 5.28%.

Red-footed Booby *Sula sula*

ID No: 103 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1985, 2008).

A single bird was recorded ~10km offshore during a pelagic survey off Port Stephens 27 Mar (HPS). *The report was accepted by ORAC as the 9th record for NSW.*

Masked Booby *Sula dactylatra*

ID No: 105 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1979).

No reports were received for 2010.

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*

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

A single bird was recorded at the continental shelf during a pelagic survey off Port Stephens 27 Mar (HPS).

Australasian Darter *Anhinga novaehollandiae*

ID No: 101 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Often recorded at medium to large waters, as counts of up to 5 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 32% of cells, at RR = 9.15%; cell of most interest: L9 (37.9%).

Notable records: 22 birds were in Port Stephens 26 Jul and 11 birds 12 Feb (Table 8), 17 birds at Morpeth WTW 17 Dec (Table 2) and ten birds at Harrington 1 Feb (FIW). **Breeding:** There were many nests with young at Nulama (near Taree) 16 Jan (MVBW), and birds had nests with eggs at East Seaham 9 Feb and 12 Oct (GOA *et al.*, HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 79 records from 15 cells; RR 9.37%.

Little Pied Cormorant *Microcarbo melanoleucos*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 66% of cells, at RR = 25.6%; cell of most interest: L9 (57.1%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded most months in Port Stephens with peak count of 189 birds in Aug (Table 8). 20+ birds were in the Swansea area Feb-May with peak count 83 birds in Mar (Table 18). 40 birds were at Morpeth WTW 11 Nov (Table 2) and 21 birds at Harrington Inlet 1 Feb (FIW). **Breeding:** There were 16 nests at Toronto Wetland 2 Jan (HLC) and 4 nests at NWR 14 Aug (LIA). Birds were on nest at East Seaham 12 Oct (HBOC) and near Firefly Forster 5-6 Dec (FIW). **BA Atlas:** 162 records from 33 cells; RR 14.7%.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

ID No: 096

HBOC Category: 1

Breeding: Yes

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 44% of cells, at RR = 14.8%; cell of most interest: S4 (38.2%).

Notable records: 31 birds were at Forster/Tuncurry 4 Feb (Table 16) and 39 birds in Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8). **BA Atlas:** 53 records from 15 cells; RR 6.67%. *Apparently there was no breeding recorded at the regular locations NWR/Market Swamp and Toronto Wetland.*

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 55% of cells, at RR = 20.9%; cell of most interest: L9 (60.3%).

Notable records: The peak count at Swansea/Lake Macquarie was 446 birds in Jan, with high numbers Jan-Mar and Dec (Table 18). 285 birds were at Forster/Tuncurry 4 Feb (Table 16). The peak count in Port Stephens was 177 birds in Oct with 29-43 present most months (Table 8). 280 birds were in the Manning Estuary 13-14 Jan and 50+ birds there 1 Feb, Apr and Nov-Dec (Table 9, FIW). 149 birds were in the Hunter Estuary 13 Mar and 30-43 birds Jan-Feb and Aug-Oct (Table 3). Elsewhere, 21-50 birds were at WWW several times (Table 1), Gloucester 22 May (MCR), John Browns Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC), Morpeth WTW 17 Dec (Table 2) and Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (Table 1). **Breeding:** Birds were on nest near Firefly Forster 5-6 Dec (FIW). **BA Atlas:** 125 records from 26 cells; RR 12.7%. *Apparently there was no breeding recorded at the regular locations NWR/Market Swamp and Toronto Wetland.*

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 29% of cells, at RR = 14.1%; cell of most interest: S4 (42.7%).

Notable records: 202 birds were in Port Stephens 12 Feb with 50+ birds present most months (Tables 7, 8). 20+ birds were recorded at: Manning Estuary most summer months with peak counts 57 birds 4-5 Feb and 81 birds 1 Feb (Table 9, FIW); Forster/Tuncurry Jan and Sep-Dec with peak count 30 birds 10 Dec (Table 16); Swansea/Lake Macquarie Jan-Mar with peak count 33 birds in Feb (Table 18); Fingal Head-Birubi Point 13 Oct (Table 5) and Gir-um-bit NP 16 Jan and 28 Aug (Table 7). **Breeding:** There were 4 nests at NWR 14 Aug (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 63 records from 15 cells; RR 9.31%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 40% of cells, at RR = 32.7%; cell of most interest: S4 (66.2%).

Notable records: Birds were regularly recorded in large numbers (50-100+) at Port Stephens (peak count 199 birds May), Hunter Estuary (peak count 113 birds 13 Feb) and Forster/Tuncurry (peak count 145 birds 16 May). Other regular high counts were from Morpeth WTW (40+ birds Jan, Oct and Dec, 117 birds 1 Feb), Swansea/Lake Macquarie (40+ birds Jan-Oct, 122 birds May) and Manning Estuary (20+ most months, 89 birds Apr) (see Tables). Also, 116 birds were at Harrington 1 Feb (FIW). **BA Atlas:** 150 records from 22 cells; RR 18.2%.

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

ID No: 183 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Yes
Status: Rare resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 1.27%; cell of most interest: S3 (11.8%).

Birds were recorded at four distinctly separate areas (Hunter Estuary, Bulahdelah, Cattai/Harrington and near Forster). Five birds (an adult and a pair with 2 young) were in a paddock near Cattai Creek 23 Oct (CCB), three birds at Cattai Wetlands 7 Oct (RIA) and there were occasional other records from the Harrington/Cattai area during the year. There were many records all year of single birds (male and female) in the lower Hunter (Ash Island-Hexham Swamp-Raymond Terrace-East Seaham) and a pair was together at Hexham Swamp 13 Dec (SVP). Single birds were recorded at Bulahdelah 1 Jul (MVBW), Wang Wauk 7 Aug and Coolongolook 8 Aug (both FIW), and a single bird at Wallamba River CP near Forster 11 Jul (FIW). **BA Atlas:** Four records from four cells.

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

ID No: 197 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: None recorded
Status: Rare resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 1.10%; cell of most interest: L10 (1.49%).

A single bird was at Tomago Wetlands 2 Jan and two birds there 20 Jul (MCN *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell M10.

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius*

ID No: 195 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Rare.

A bird was heard at Tomago Wetlands 29 Dec (MCN/LIA).

Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis*

ID No: 196 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Past records
Status: Rare resident.
From BA Atlas: 12 records from eight cells; cell of most interest: L11 (four records).

Single birds were recorded at Nulama 16 Jan (MVBW), Cockle Creek Barnsley 8 Mar (ROM/WID), Eleebana 1 Apr (GOA) and Gloucester River 17 Nov (ERE). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*

ID No: 189 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common visitor. Moderately often recorded as 1-2 birds throughout the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 52% of cells, at RR = 7.51%; cell of most interest: L10 (24.3%).

Notable records: Four birds were recorded near Gloucester 2 Jan and 22 May (DBP, MCR) and three birds at Manning Entrance SP 23 May (MCR). **BA Atlas:** Three records from three cells. *There were very few birds in the Region, probably because of the good conditions inland.*

Eastern Great Egret *Ardea modesta*

ID No: 187 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. 1-5 birds often recorded at medium to large waters in central & E of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 41% of cells, at RR = 24.0%; cell of most interest: L9 (48.7%).

Notable records: 72 birds were recorded in the Hunter Estuary 13 Feb and 6-14 birds most other months (Table 3). 12-21 birds were in Port Stephens several times, including 20 birds at Gir-um-bit NP 18 Apr (Tables 7, 8). 33 birds were at Morpeth WTW 17 Dec with numbers slowly rising over Sep-Nov (Table 2). 20+ birds were at HWC 14 Feb (LIP) and Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (Table 14) with 10+ birds at both locations sometimes over Oct-Dec (Tables 12, 14). **Breeding:** Nesting continued at HWC Jan-Feb (LIP) and then started again late in the year; 42 nests were present 20 Dec (LIA *et al.*). There were 20 nests/nest building at Toronto Wetland 2 Jan (HLC). **BA Atlas:** 113 records from 19 cells; RR 14.5%.

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*

ID No: 186 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-2 birds moderately often recorded at medium to large waters in E of the Region (*text modified*).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 26% of cells, at RR = 9.16%; cell of most interest: L9 (29.0%).

Notable records: 3-5 birds were recorded at HWC 6 Jan (LIP), Hunter Estuary 13 Feb (Table 3), Swansea/Lake Macquarie May (Table 18), Morpeth WTW 4 Sep and 17 Dec (Table 2) and Port Stephens Jul-Dec (Table 8). **Breeding:** There was one nest at HWC 20 Dec (LIA *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 22 records from nine cells; RR 2.76%. *The poorest breeding season on record, and also no large counts at any of the usual locations.*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 42% of cells, at RR = 18.8%; cell of most interest: L9 (64.7%).

Notable records: 174 birds were recorded at Morpeth WTW 9 Apr (Table 2) and 100+ at HWC Jan-Mar and Dec (Table 12). 50+ birds were present at Hunter Estuary Jan-Feb, Raymond Terrace 15 Feb (MAM), and Morpeth WTW 26 May and 11 Nov (Tables 2, 3). **Breeding:** Nesting continued at HWC Jan-Mar (LIP) and then started again late in the year; 158 nests were present 20 Dec (LIA *et al.*). There were 18 nests at Toronto Wetland 2 Jan (HLC). For the 3rd year in succession there was no nesting at Seaham Swamp NR (MAM). **BA Atlas:** 60 records from 16 cells; RR 6.82%.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

ID No: 193 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident. 1-2 birds moderately often recorded at coastal locations.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 5.78%; cell of most interest: S4 (15.3%).

Notable records: 4 birds were recorded in the Hunter Estuary 16-18 Dec (Table 3). **BA Atlas:** 14 records from seven cells; RR 3.11%.



*Striated Heron: sketch
by Chris Herbert*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 85% of cells, at RR = 35.3%; cell of most interest: M10 (52.9%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were in the Hunter Estuary most months Jan-Jun with peak count 99 birds 26 Jun; numbers dropped substantially for the remainder of the year (Table 3). 30-55 birds were in Port Stephens Feb-Aug (Table 8) and 21-50 birds at Morpeth WTW 9 Apr (Table 2), Milhams Pond 12 May and 25 Jul (MCN) and Hexham Swamp 18 Apr and 7 Dec (Table 14). **Breeding:** Pairs had nests with young at Gloucester early Sep (DBP) and Lochinvar 24 Oct (HBOC), – the former failed soon afterwards – and a pair was with a juvenile at Stockton Sandspit 5 Dec (CLT). **BA Atlas:** 219 records from 32 cells; RR 18.9%.

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, as 1-5 birds. From BA Atlas: Recorded in 19% of cells, at RR = 10.6%; cell of most interest: M10 (21.1%).

Notable records: Ten birds were in the Hunter Estuary 25 Sep (Table 3) and eight birds in Port Stephens 26 Jul (Table 8) and at HWC Oct-Nov (Table 12). **Breeding:** There were no nests at HWC 20 Dec (LIA *et al.*) – *the first zero count on record*. **BA Atlas:** 24 records from nine cells; RR 3.66%.

Eastern Reef Egret *Egretta sacra*

ID No: 191 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records

Status: Uncommon resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 1.34%; cell of most interest: P9 (10.1%).

1-2 birds were frequently recorded along the Birubi-Fingal coastline (Table 5) and at Newcastle Baths (THJ, NIR, others). Two birds were at Seal Rocks 13 Feb (BRG/LIN) and Fishermans Cove (Port Stephens) 26 Feb (WOL), and single birds at Seal Rocks mid Feb (ROM), Fingal Bay 22 Jun (TBW), Cabbage Tree Island 24 Aug (CLT), Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (CLT), Merewether Baths occasionally over Jun-Jul (NIR, THJ, HUB). **BA Atlas:** Two records from two cells.

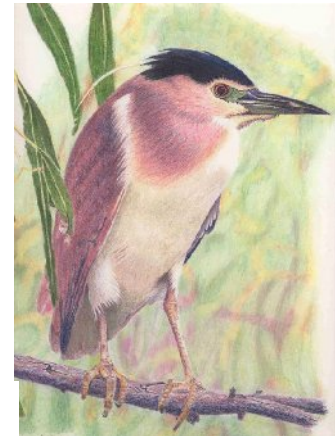
Nankeen Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

ID No: 192 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 26% of cells, at RR = 5.05%; cell of most interest: O9 (10.0%).

Very few birds were recorded at HWC (peak count of 12 birds 29 Oct) and birds were absent Apr-Aug (Table 12). The peak count at Wallbridge Reserve was 12 birds 6 Sep; Aug-Sep were the only months with >6 birds recorded there (MAM). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were at Swan Bay 5 Jan (EGD/LUD), Saltwater NP (*a new location*) 5 Feb and 23 Sep (STA), Wingham Brush 19 Jun (MVBW), Stockton Sandspit 20 Jun (CLT), Raymond Terrace 3 Jul and 30-31 Oct (LUD, MEL *et al.*, BRG *et al.*), and Balickera Oct-Nov (MUJ). **Breeding:** Two pairs had chicks at HWC 26 Mar (LIA) and a pair bred at Balickera – fledging one chick (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 25 records from five cells; RR 3.50%.



Nankeen Night-Heron:
sketch by Chris Herbert

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

ID No: 178 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Bird of passage.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 1.79%; cell of most interest: L10 (7.59%).

The only records were of 20 birds near Cattai Creek mid Jan (ROM), two birds at Hexham Swamp Minmi 1 Nov (NEM) and single birds at Leneghans Flat 28 May (LIG) and Belmont Jun (MCR). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell L10.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 37% of cells, at RR = 28.6%; cell of most interest: O9 (60.2%).

Notable records: 530 birds were at Maitland Tip 5 Jan and 400+ birds at Ashtonfield 5 & 28 Jan (MAM). 100-300+ birds were recorded at HWC all months except Jun-Jul with 400+ present 15 Aug (Table 12, LIP). 202 birds were in Port Stephens May (Table 8) and 100+ birds were recorded at Raymond Terrace 8 Feb (MAM), Hunter Estuary 13 Feb (Table 3), Maitland Waste Depot 30 Oct (MAM) and Hexham Swamp 7 & 26 Dec (Table 14). 18 birds were at

Scone 7 Apr – uncommon in area (NEG). **Breeding:** Because of good winter rains, nesting at HWC began in July; 415 nests (most with advanced chicks) were present 25 Aug (HBOC). 159 nests were present 20 Dec (presumably, these were from a fresh round of breeding activities). *This is the largest breeding colony ever recorded for the Region.* **BA Atlas:** 125 records from 16 cells; RR 14.7%.

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*

ID No: 180 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Usual bird of passage. 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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 65% of cells, at RR = 16.7%; cell of most interest: L9 (45.8%).

Notable records: There were far fewer birds than usual in the lower Hunter Estuary with peak count of just 1,000 birds in Aug and the influx (of 300+ to ~1,000 birds) was limited to the Jun-Aug period i.e. a shorter period than usual (MAM). **BA Atlas:** 26 records from 11 cells; RR 2.43%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 32% of cells, at RR = 17.1%; cell of most interest: L9 (51.3%).

Notable records: 60+ birds were in the Hunter Estuary Feb-Mar and 39-41 birds Jun-Jul (Table 3) and 20+ birds at Port Stephens Oct and Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (Tables 8, 14).

Breeding: Birds were with dependent young at Stockton Sandspit 2 May (CLT) and Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 71 records from 14 cells; RR 8.16%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 30% of cells, at RR = 5.29%; cell of most interest: L10 (12.6%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded less frequently than in recent years, and essentially were absent from the lower Hunter Valley. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Eastern Osprey *Pandion cristatus*

ID No: 241 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-2 birds often recorded at estuaries/coastal lakes northwards from Port Stephens.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 16% of cells, at RR = 7.50%; cell of most interest: S4 (33.1%).

Notable records: Birds continue to be reported from Broughton Island and may be resident there (ROS, CLT, ANC). Two pairs are at Lake Macquarie (many observers) and the records extended to Stockton Borehole Lagoon 8 Jun (HCL) and Awabakal NR 29 Nov (HAP). There were frequent records from the Hunter Estuary and nearby (including Williamstown/Medowie), but always of a single bird. A non coastal record was of a single bird at Seaham Swamp 24 Feb (MAM) (*birds have been recorded further inland*). A bird dropped its prey after being harassed by a White-bellied Sea-Eagle at Harrington 12 Aug (STA). **Breeding:** There were many records over Jun-Nov – from Tuncurry and Failford in the north; Corrie Island, Karuah and Gir-um-bit NP around Port Stephens; Swansea and Marks Point around Lake Macquarie. There were 4 active nests within a 1.5km radius at Forster/ Tuncurry (MVBW). *The Corrie Island nest is new (JAG).* **BA Atlas:** 40 records from 11 cells; RR 8.81%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 64% of cells, at RR = 9.70%; cell of most interest: S3 (26.9%).

Notable records: Three birds were at Mount Arthur 29 Jun (NEG). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Kooragang Island 8 Aug (KIM). **BA Atlas:** 22 records from 15 cells; RR 2.57%.

Letter-winged Kite *Elanus scriptus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Square-tailed Kite *Lophoictinia isura*

ID No: 230 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 0.78%; cell of most interest: QA4 (3.29%).

Two birds were at Alderley Creek Stroud 23 Apr (per LIA). Single birds were recorded at East Maitland 23 Jan and 10 Feb (BRG), Weston 24 Jan (ROS), Ashtonfield Jan (ROM), East Cessnock 5 Feb (ROM), Manning Point 20 Mar (KIM), Crowdy Bay NP 23 May and 12 Aug (MCR, STA), Taree 8 Aug (BRG/LIN), Coopernook 14 Aug (BRG), Cundletown 19 Sep (MVBW), and at three separate locations (Cattai Wetland, Crowdy Bay NP, Harrington) 8 Aug (FIW). A bird took a young Satin Bowerbird at Lakes Way Seal Rocks 13 Feb (BRG/LIN). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at Coopernook SF 4 Oct (ROM/WID). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Pacific Baza *Aviceda subcristata*

ID No: 234 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident in the E and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 21% of cells, at RR = 2.64%; cell of most interest: M8 (24.6%).

Three birds were at Mt Vincent 15 May (FIP). 1-2 birds were recorded at Brandy Hill 1 Jan (MEL), regularly at Nulkaba Feb (LAB), near Lorne 21 Feb (MOA *et al.*), Glenrock SRA 23 Feb (TBW), Pelton 12 Mar (ROM), Green Wattle Creek 15 Apr (NEM), Balickera Apr and Aug-Nov (MUJ), George Booth Drive 3 times over May-Jun (ROS), Coopernook SF 5 Jun (MVBW), Nelson Bay 23 Jun (MAA), Wang Wauk 1 Jul (MVBW), near Quorrobolong 31 Jul (CCB) and at Koppin Yarrat Rd (S3) 5 Dec (MOT), and in BbR Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec (NIJ). **Breeding:** Birds nested at Balickera in Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** Two records from two cells.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 42% of cells, at RR = 17.7%; cell of most interest: P9 (45.7%).

Notable records: Eight birds were recorded in the Raymond Terrace/GTD area 3 Jul (LUD), six birds in the Hunter Estuary 17 Apr (HWS) and five birds at Seal Rocks 21 Feb (HBOC). There were inland records of single birds at Bylong Rd Widden 28 Mar (DGG) and O'Brien Crossing Goulburn River 30 Sep (NEM/LIA). A bird harassed an Eastern Osprey of its prey at Harrington 12 Aug (STA) and another bird took a Short-tailed Shearwater off Port Stephens 10 Oct (ROM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Fame Cove in spring (per ROM) and at Balickera Oct (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 88 records from 22 cells; RR 10.2%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 44% of cells, at RR = 20.4%; cell of most interest: L9 (39.2%).

Notable records: 14 birds were perched at sites around PNR 30 Oct (MEL *et al.*). 13 birds were at Hexham Swamp 30 Oct (LIA) and also 9 birds present 19 Dec (NEM). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at East Seaham 13 Apr and 12 Oct (HBOC) and Karuah 24 Jul (ALD). **BA Atlas:** 96 records from 19 cells; RR 11.2%.

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*ID No: 227 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes (*revised*)

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 3.27%; cell of most interest: S4 (21.7%).

Manning Valley: 1-2 birds were often recorded all year at locations between Saltwater NP and Crowdy Bay NP, inland to around Taree (STA, MVBW, others). **Forster/Great Lakes:** A pair was at Blueys Beach 10 Apr (ERE) and single birds at Black Head 29 Jul (STA), Pacific Palms late Aug (BRG) and Forster 30 Sep (DUP). **Port Stephens:** Pairs were at Raymond Terrace several times in Jul and 22 Oct (LUD) and at LTP 19 Jul (WAR). Single birds were recorded at Bulls Island 13 Apr (HIP), Boat Harbour 19 May (CLT), Soldiers Point 19 Jul (CLT), Raymond Terrace 14 Aug (BRG) and several locations around Port Stephens in May (WOL). **Hunter Valley:** A pair was recorded at Ash Island 17 Jul (ALD) and a single bird there 5 Feb (ROM). Single birds were at locations around the Harbour/Estuary 11 Feb, 5 May, 1 Jun, 23 Oct and 20 Nov (various observers). **South:** An adult was at Catherine Hill Bay on 4 occasions in June (ERE) – *rare for birds to be S of Newcastle*. **Breeding:** A pair with two chicks was at Boomerang Beach 18 Oct (MVBW) – *surprisingly, the first confirmed breeding record that we have received for the Region*. Also, two juveniles were at Crowdy Bay NP 1 Feb (BRG/LIN). **BA Atlas:** 26 records from seven cells; RR 6.88%.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

ID No: 229 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

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

From BA Atlas: Eight records from six cells.

Single birds were recorded from the Hinton-Morpeth-Seaham area 2 & 26 Jan, early Apr, 25 Jun, 31 Aug, late Oct and 29 Nov (various observers). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

ID No: 221 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 54% of cells, at RR = 4.61%; cell of most interest: M8 (28.2%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** A pair was with two dependent young at Bobs Farm 9 Oct (HDM), two young birds were at Bulga 5 Dec (BRG), and birds bred at BbR Jan (NIJ) and Balickera Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 21 records from 11 cells; RR 2.14%.

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus*

ID No: 222 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 33% of cells, at RR = 2.32%; cell of most interest: G10 (45.2%).

Notable records: Two birds were together at Boat Harbour 11 Oct (CLT). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Wingen 15 Dec (NEG). **BA Atlas:** 13 records from seven cells; RR 1.63%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 27% of cells, at RR = 3.21%; cell of most interest: M8 (14.4%).

Notable records: 3+ birds were at Manchester Rd Gloucester Tops 31 Jan (ROM *et al.*) and two birds at Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR), Stockton Borehole Lagoon 8 Jun (HCL) and Cardiff 15 Oct (ALD). The pair at Cardiff was interacting and crashed into the ground after a tumbling descent. White phase birds were recorded at New Lambton 4 Jan (FAA), Stockton Borehole Lagoon 11 Feb (HLC), Maitland 3 May (SMJ) and Heatherbrae 28 Aug (NEM). **Breeding:** Pairs had dependent young at BbR 30 Aug (NIJ) and at HWC 23 Dec (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 11 records from five cells; RR 1.61%.

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

ID No: 218 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded

Status: Uncommon resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 12% of cells, at RR = 1.03%; cell of most interest: G7 (2.63%).

Single birds were near Gloucester 26-28 Mar (CCB) and Jerrys Plains 12 Sep (ROM *et al.*), and an immature bird at Cobark 31 Jan (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell M10.

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans*

ID No: 219 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. 1-2 birds are moderately often recorded near medium to large waters in the E of the Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 23% of cells, at RR = 12.4%; cell of most interest: L10 (28.9%).

Notable records: Four birds were at Tomago Wetlands 19 Jan and 17 Aug (MCN *et al.*) and in the Hunter Estuary 26 Jun and 28 Aug (HWS). Three birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 26 Jan and 6 Sep (KEM, LIA), Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (CLT) and Floraville 7 Nov (LAW). **BA Atlas:** 54 records from nine cells; RR 9.42%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 83% of cells, at RR = 11.4%; cell of most interest: M8 (17.3%).

Notable records: 13 birds were together in a paddock near Goulburn River NP 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), six birds at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan and five birds at Springdale HSD Martindale 25 Apr (both HBOC). Four birds were recorded at Stroud Road 25 Mar (CCB), Mount Arthur 29 Jun (NEG and East Seaham 24 Aug (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were on nest at Sawyers Gully 2 Aug (GOJ) and also nested at Mt Arthur in Spring (NEG). **BA Atlas:** 68 records from 32 cells; RR 6.36%.

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides*

ID No: 225 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 33% of cells, at RR = 2.39%; cell of most interest: H7 (8.57%).

Two birds were present at GTD 16 Feb (LUD), HWC 20 Jul (ERE) and Quorrobolong 31 Jul (CCB). A dark phase bird was at Mt Arthur 23 May (NEG), and single birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp 26 Jan (KEM), Mount Arthur 9 & 17 Mar and 23 May (NEG), Stockton Sandspit 6 Apr (MOA), Wallaby Scrub Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD), Mt Thorley 8 Jun (ALP), Jerrys Plains and Jones Reserve Rd both 12 Sep (ROM *et al.*), Balickera Oct (MUJ), Ash Island 4 Dec (TAH), Bolwarra 7 Dec (TAH) and Tea Gardens 8 Dec (CLT). **BA Atlas:** Four records from four cells.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 78% of cells, at RR = 12.8%; cell of most interest: L9 (18.1%).

Notable records: 11 birds were present at Mount Arthur 29 Jun, along with 10 other raptors of five species (NEG). **Breeding:** Birds were copulating at Warners Bay 15 Mar (WEJ). **BA Atlas:** 54 records from 21 cells; RR 5.75%.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

ID No: 239 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded, as counts of 1-2 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 61% of cells, at RR = 6.43%; cell of most interest: L8 (12.8%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **BA Atlas:** 33 records from 18 cells; RR 3.85%.

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis*

ID No: 235 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded, usually as single birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 46% of cells, at RR = 4.84%; cell of most interest: L9 (16.2%).

Birds were with dependent young at Stockton Sandspit 6 Mar (VGF). **BA Atlas:** 27 records from 13 cells; RR 3.88%.

Black Falcon *Falco subniger*

ID No: 238 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 1.21%; cell of most interest: L9 (5.38%).

A pair was attacking a flock of Common Starlings near Wingen 21 Dec (NEG). Single birds were recorded at/near Ringwood Rd Merriwa 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), Hexham Swamp 26 Jan (KEM), Mt Arthur 23 May (NEG), Wingen 18 Oct (NEG), Mulbring 31 Oct (WID *et al.*) and Merriwa 27 Nov (LIA). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 36% of cells, at RR = 2.88%; cell of most interest: L9 (7.11%).

Notable records: A bird was using a car at 75kph for cover at Scone 4 Jul (NEG). A bird took a Dollarbird at Wingen 6 Feb (NEG). **Breeding:** A pair was with a juvenile at Tomaree Head Port Stephens 24 Nov (LUD). **BA Atlas:** 18 records from seven cells; RR 2.41%.

Brolga *Grus rubicunda*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*

ID No: 058 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Up to 20 birds are widely and frequently recorded at small-large waters.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 21.2%; cell of most interest: L9 (72.4%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded in the Hunter Estuary Jan-Feb and HWC Feb, and 21-50 birds at HWC Jan and Mar-Apr and Hunter Estuary Mar (Tables 3, 12). **Breeding:** Birds were with dependent young at East Seaham 13 Apr (HBOC), Deep Pond 20 Nov (ROM) and Firefly (Forster) 5-6 Dec (FIW). **BA Atlas:** 147 records from 23 cells; RR 15.6%.

Lewin's Rail *Lewinia pectoralis*

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

From BA Atlas: 16 records from nine cells; cell of most interest: S4 (four records).

Five birds were calling at Belmont Lagoon early Dec (BRG) and 1-2 birds were recorded there 3 Feb and mid Apr (BRG/LIN, ROM). Single birds were at Medowie 7 Jan (LUD), Barrington West Rd 31 Jan (ROM *et al.*), Market Swamp 14 Aug (LIA) and Deep Pond 20 Nov (ROM). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 15% of cells, at RR = 2.87%; cell of most interest: S3 (15.9%).

Three birds were recorded at Medowie 7 Jan (LUD) and 1-2 birds often at HWC Feb and Sep-Dec (Table 12, others), Dora Creek Jan-Mar and Nov (GOC) and Hexham Swamp Jan, Jul and Sep-Oct (Table 14, others). Elsewhere, 1-2 birds were at Medowie 2 Jan (LUD), Moorland 21 Feb (MOA *et al.*), Deep Pond 13 Mar (ROM), Bombah Point 19 Mar (OSP), Gloucester area 26-28 Mar (CCB), Stockton Sandspit 20 Jun (CLT), Medowie Oct (LUD), Lansdowne 3 Oct (STA) and Newcastle Airport Oct (LUD). **Breeding:** Birds were with dependent young at Dora Creek 20 Jan and 10 Feb (GOC), HWC 11 & 14 Feb (LIP) and Hexham Swamp 30-31 Oct (LIA, MEL *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Seven records from three cells.

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*

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

From BA Atlas: 19 records from eight cells; cell of most interest: L9 (seven records).

No reports were received for 2010. *Only the fourth year that this has happened since the Bird Reports commenced.* **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Australian Spotted Crake *Porzana fluminea*

ID No: 049 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 4% of cells, at RR = 1.67%; cell of most interest: M10 (1.69%).

One bird was at PNR 12 Nov (ROM). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis*

ID No: 051 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 4% of cells, at RR = 0.92%; cell of most interest: L9 (2.83%).

Two birds were at Belmont Lagoon 3 Feb (BRG/LIN) and PNR 27 Oct (ROM), and single birds at PNR 26 Jan (KEM), HWC 28 Jan (LIP) and John Browns Lagoon 25 Nov (STA). **Breeding:** An adult was with a chick at WWW 9 Feb (MEL *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Two records from two cells.

Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis*

ID No: 055 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Not recorded
Status: Uncommon irruptive visitor.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 0.94%; cell of most interest: L10 (2.48%).

No reports were received for 2010. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 63% of cells, at RR = 17.8%; cell of most interest: L9 (59.5%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded all year at HWC with 50+ birds present Feb and Apr-Aug (Table 12). 20+ birds also were at WWW Feb and Jun-Aug (Table 1) and Kearsley 6 Jul and 22 Aug (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were with chicks at HWC Oct-Dec (LIP), Green Wattle Creek 12 Nov (NEM) and Firefly (Forster) 5-6 Dec (FIW), and were nest building at Old Brush Brunkerville 2 Nov (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 128 records from 25 cells; RR 11.9%.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

ID No: 059 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Up to 50 birds widely and often recorded at medium to large waters.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 39% of cells, at RR = 11.8%; cell of most interest: L9 (54.7%).

Notable records: 116 birds were recorded at WWW 6 Jan and 46-61 birds Feb-Mar. Small numbers persisted all year there and also at HWC (Tables 1, 12). However, far fewer birds were recorded compared to previous years and birds were absent all year from Morpeth WTW and mostly absent from KI Deep Pond (see Tables 2, 3). **Breeding:** Birds were with dependent young at HWC Oct-Nov (LIP). **BA Atlas:** 38 records from nine cells; RR 4.94%.

Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*

ID No: 174 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident.

From BA Atlas: 16 records from six cells; cell of most interest: O9 (nine records).

Port Stephens: There were 15 birds estimated present with four known nesting sites (The Curlew Crier, No 4, June 2010). A 26 Aug night census found birds at four locations – Bobs Farm (two birds at a known nesting site), LTP (single bird), Karuah (single bird at a known nesting site) and Karuah GC (two birds). Two birds were heard at Karuah mid Nov (ROS).

Elsewhere: A bird was heard several times near Bungwahl in Jan (LEJ). A bird was present at Dora Creek 16-18 Oct and a nearby location 29 Oct - 5 Nov (MOA, GOC). A young bird was rescued at Horseshoe Beach 16 Feb and later released at Tilligerry NR Port Stephens 17 Feb (NIR/ROM) – it was again taken into care at Anna Bay 3 Mar and later released (MOA).

Breeding: A pair (which included the bird that twice was taken into care) made two breeding attempts at LTP over Oct-Dec, chicks hatched both times but the first batch did not survive. A pair at Tilligerry Creek was nesting in mid-late Oct for the 3rd time in the season, previous attempts having been unsuccessful (WOL). **BA Atlas:** Four records from two cells.

Beach Stone-curlew *Esacus magnirostris*

ID No: 175 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Critically Endangered Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident in the Manning Estuary, rare elsewhere.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in four cells, at RR = 1.22%; cell of most interest: R4 (7.72%).

The resident pair at the Manning Estuary was recorded intermittently as 1-2 birds Feb-May and Aug-Oct, mainly from Manning Entrance SP and occasionally from Harrington Beach SP (STA, others). Elsewhere, a single bird was recorded at Miles Island Reserve Forster 17 Jul (JRR). **Breeding:** The Manning pair had an advanced chick Apr-May (STA, MCR) and a nest with egg early Nov (MVBW/CRB). **BA Atlas:** Seven records from two cells.

South Island Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus finschi*

ID No: 744 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 2004).

No reports were received for 2010.

Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*ID No: 130 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 13% of cells, at RR = 15.9%; cell of most interest: S4 (44.6%).

Birds were regularly recorded at six locations (based on many reports – see Tables for main details): Swansea/Lake Macquarie (peak count 9 birds in Feb and Oct); Hunter Estuary (peak count 37 birds 14 Mar and 6 Apr); Newcastle Bight (peak count 15 birds 26 Aug); Port Stephens (peak counts 144 birds 12 Feb and 148 birds 26 Jul); Forster/Tuncurry (peak counts 55 birds 5 Feb and 60 birds 30 Mar); Manning Estuary (peak count 26 birds 13-14 Jan). There were occasional records from elsewhere. ***In summer, 280-300 birds are estimated to have been present in the Region (highest numbers ever recorded), and 200-220 birds in winter.*** **Movements:** Two birds recorded in the Hunter Estuary several times early in the year had been banded as runners in northern NSW – one at Broadwater NP Nov 2008 and the other at Clarence River Estuary Jan 2009. **Breeding:** Two chicks which hatched at Stockton Sandspit in late 2009 remained with the parents until rejected during April/May. The pair made two breeding attempts in Sep/Oct, the second attempt succeeded and at year end the chick was continuing to progress (all CLT). Two pairs each with 2 chicks were recorded along Newcastle Bight 8 Oct and one advanced chick was present 17 Nov (MAW, LIA), and a pair had a chick at Harrington Beach SP 13 Jan (STA). **BA Atlas:** 78 records from nine cells; RR 17.5%.

Sooty Oystercatcher *Haematopus fuliginosus*ID No: 131 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 4.39%; cell of most interest: N9 (10.3%).

The peak count at the Newcastle Baths roost was 38 birds in Feb-Mar with 20+ present most months except during the breeding season (Table 15). Some of these birds were also recorded at other Newcastle locations (e.g. Stockton Sandspit, KI Dykes, Merewether Baths) during the year (Table 4, various observers). Birds were recorded most months along the Birubi-Fingal coastline with peak count 10 birds 7 Dec (Table 5), and most months in Port Stephens with peak counts 24 birds 26 Jul and 19 birds 12 Feb (Table 8, Table 7, various observers). 13 birds were at Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (CLT). Four birds were recorded in the Manning Estuary 28-29 Jul and 1-3 birds there occasionally (Table 9, FIW, MOA *et al.*), and 1-2 birds at Crowdy Head 21 Feb, 13 Aug & 9 Nov (MOA *et al.*, STA), Blueys Beach 10 Apr (ERE), Elizabeth Beach 22 Jul (MVBW), Moon Island 23 Oct (RIA), Boomerang Beach 26 Oct (MVBW), Gir-um-bit NP 14 Dec (TBW) and Forster/Tuncurry occasionally (Table 16). ***60-70 birds are again estimated to have been present in the Region.*** **BA Atlas:** 24 records from three cells; RR 5.87%.

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

ID No: 146 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Up to 20 birds are moderately often recorded at medium to large waters in the E of the Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 18% of cells, at RR = 15.9%; cell of most interest: L9 (38.2%).

Notable records: 250-300+ birds were in the Hunter Estuary until late May, with most birds then departing; only small numbers were recorded occasionally thereafter (Table 4, other observers). **Breeding:** A pair was nesting at Pokolbin Lake 6 Mar (MOA *et al.*) and a juvenile was at Stockton Sandspit 8 Aug (LUD). **BA Atlas:** 25 records from six cells; RR 4.29%.



Black-winged Stilt: sketch by Chris Herbert

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

ID No: 148 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
 Status: Usual visitor. In times of inland drought, thousands of birds can be in the Hunter Estuary.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 10.5%; cell of most interest: M10 (15.1%).

Several hundred birds were still present in the Hunter Estuary in early Jan, but nearly all birds departed soon after; only 3-5 birds were recorded later in Jan and in Feb and none thereafter except for two birds present 28 Aug (Table 4, HCL). *This is the first time in ten years to have no months with 1,000+ recorded.* **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

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 2010.

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

ID No: 137 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
 Status: Summer migrant.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 8.60%; cell of most interest: R4 (16.9%).

Hunter Estuary: The peak count was 263 birds 20 Feb and 5 & 19 Mar and 200+ birds were regularly present Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec; two birds over-wintered (Table 4, also Table below). Most birds departed between 1-9 Apr, with the first significant returns occurring 24 Sep (HCL). Manning Estuary: The peak count was 181 birds 13-14 Jan and most summer counts were of 50+ birds with 110 birds recorded 29-30 Mar (Table 9). 21 birds were present 28-29 Jul (suspected to have been on passage as there were no other winter records). Elsewhere: Seven birds were in Port Stephens 12 Feb, two birds at Tanilba Bay Oct and a single bird at Birubi Point Oct (both WOL). *From the above data, at least 435 birds were present in the Region in Jan.* **BA Atlas:** 30 records from four cells; RR 8.17%.

Monthly Peak Counts at Hunter Estuary Locations

(From ~weekly surveys by L Crawford & C Herbert. No surveys were done May-August)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
254	263	263	148	125	145	238	202

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

ID No: 136 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
 Status: Uncommon summer migrant.
 From BA Atlas: Seven records from cell M10.

Single birds were recorded at Newcastle Bight 21 Dec (JAG) and Manning Entrance SP 29 & 31 Dec (RIA/ROM). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

ID No: 895 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
 Status: Accidental (recorded 1967).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 8% of cells, at RR = 13.5%; cell of most interest: N9 (28.2%).

Notable records: Manning Estuary: 40 birds were present at Harrington 1 Feb (FIW) and 20+ birds at Manning Entrance SP 23 May (MCR); 10-20 birds were recorded most other months (Table 9). Hunter Estuary: 38 birds were present 15 May, 16 birds 27 Feb and 28 Aug and 7-14 birds Mar and every month over Jun-Oct (Table 4, RIA, THJ). Newcastle Bight: 37 birds were recorded 17 Mar and 18-22 birds Jan and May, only low counts subsequently (Table 6). Port Stephens: 20 birds were present 12 Feb and 13 birds in Aug (Table 8), and 10 birds were at Gir-um-bit NP 27 Jun (Table 7). **Breeding:** There were 16 attempts at Stockton Sandspit during the year with 9 nests hatching young and 12 hatchlings surviving to independence. These attempts included the latest finish (18 Apr) and earliest start (25 Jul) on record for breeding at the Sandspit. Elsewhere, a pair was nesting at Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (all reports are from CLT). **BA Atlas:** 39 records from five cells; RR 10.3%.

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

ID No: 140 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Winter migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 10% of cells, at RR = 2.83%; cell of most interest: N9 (13.2%).

General: The first recorded arrival was 28 Jan when a single bird was at Newcastle Bight. The last record was of a bird at Manning Estuary 23-24 Sep. Manning Estuary: 20-50+ birds were present over Mar-Aug with peak count 66 birds 13-14 Aug (Table 9). Newcastle Bight: the peak count was 112 birds 13 May, with 20-50+ present over Mar-Aug (Table 8). Port Stephens: 9-14 birds were recorded at Gir-um-bit NP over Apr-Jul, and 6 birds were elsewhere in the greater Port area in Aug (Tables 7, 8). Elsewhere: 20+ birds were present at Moon Island 3 May (RIA). 1-2 birds were sometimes recorded in the Hunter Estuary (mostly, at Stockton Sandspit) from late Feb, with the peak count six birds 15 May (Table 4, others). **BA Atlas:** 13 records from four cells; RR 3.46%.

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*

ID No: 139 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 4% of cells, at RR = 1.61 %; cell of most interest: N9 (7.89%).

1-2 birds were recorded at Stockton Sandspit over Jan-Mar (many observers) and a single bird was at Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8). **BA Atlas:** Two records from cell M10.

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*

ID No: 141 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2004-05, 2007-09).

No reports were received for 2010.

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 32% of cells, at RR = 7.91%; cell of most interest: L9 (19.8%).

Notable records: 11 birds were at HWC Feb and 4-6 usually present there over Jan-May (Table 12). 6+ birds were at the Wollombi Millpond 9 May (GRJ) and Kearsley 22 Aug (HBOC). **Breeding:** A pair was with two young at Lochinvar 24 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 21 records from seven cells; RR 2.93%.

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus*

ID No: 132 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Bird of passage.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 3.86%; cell of most interest: M10 (6.17%).

No reports were received for 2010 (*the first time this has happened since the Bird Reports began*). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*

ID No: 135 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon bird of passage.
From BA Atlas: 13 records from 11 cells.

17 birds were present near Morpeth 24 Oct and 11 birds at Largs 9 Oct (ROM). 1-2 birds were also recorded in this general area 2 & 9 Jan and 31 Oct (BRG/LIN, WID, ROM). Single birds were at KI Dykes 26 Jun (LIA) and Newcastle Bight 27 Aug (ROM *et al.*) – the latter an unusual location. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*

ID No: 133 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely & regularly recorded as up to 20 birds near medium-large waters.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 82% of cells, at RR = 38.7%; cell of most interest: L9 (79.2%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded in the Hunter Estuary all months except Apr and Aug-Sep, with peak counts 130 birds 13 Mar and 112 birds 16-18 Dec (Table 4). 112 birds were at Hexham Swamp 26 Dec with 80 birds there 7 Dec (Table 14). 40+ were present many months at Morpeth WTW with peak count 83 birds 11 Mar (Table 2). 50+ birds were at Port Stephens May and Jul (Table 8). **Breeding:** There were many, widespread records spanning Feb, Apr and Jul-Dec. **BA Atlas:** 303 records from 39 cells; RR 25.7%.

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*

ID No: 171 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon resident, more usual in N of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 1.79%; cell of most interest: L10 (3.47%).

There were several records over Jan-Feb, May and Oct-Nov of 1-2 birds at the well known location John Browns Lagoon (many observers). 1-2+ birds were also at Cattai Wetlands 28 Jan, 5 Apr and 23 Oct (RIA, WIF, CCB). There were also records of birds at Breese Rd Forster early in year (OSP), Firefly Forster 5-6 Dec (FIW) and Minmi STP 19 Dec (NEM). **Breeding:** A pair was nesting at John Browns Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC) and birds also were recorded breeding at Wang Wauk 10 Apr and 23 May and Cattai Wetlands in Jul (FIW). **BA Atlas:** Three records from two cells.

Australian Painted Snipe *Rostratula australis*

ID No: 170 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncertain (*all records since 1993 have been summer ones*).
From BA Atlas: 15 records from two cells; cell of most interest: L10 (ten records).

No reports were received for 2010. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 6.01%; cell of most interest: L9 (24.7%).

Notable records: 14 birds were present at Hexham Swamp 26 Dec and 7-9 birds 7 & 14 Dec (LIA). 10 birds were at Pacific Dunes GC Medowie 9 Nov and 12 Dec (TBW, LUD *et al.*). 8+ birds were at Leneghans Flat 2 Jan (THJ) and six birds at Bolwarra 11 Jan (BRG/LIN). *Very few records of any birds were received, particularly in the latter part of the year.* **BA Atlas:** Seven records from five cells.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

ID No: 152 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No

Status: Summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 5.38%; cell of most interest: M10 (8.73%).

The peak count for the Hunter Estuary was 118 birds 13 Feb with no birds over-wintering (Table 4). *The lowest numbers on record; the trend since 2003 continues to be one of steady decline.* Elsewhere, two birds were at North Pindimar (Port Stephens) 20 Jan (WIT) and one bird at Newcastle Baths in Apr (THJ). **BA Atlas:** Three records from two cells.

Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica*

ID No: 815 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1983-84, 1988*).

No reports were received for 2010.

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; many young birds remain over winter.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 14.4%; cell of most interest: N9 (59.4%).

Notable records: The peak count in Hunter Estuary was 1,091 birds 13 Feb with ~870-1000+ present all summer and 370 birds over-wintering (Table 4). In Port Stephens, the peak count was 876 birds 12 Feb and 424 birds were present in winter (Table 8) – *the highest winter counts to date for the land and boat based surveys (STA/WOL)*. Up to 275 birds were recorded in the Manning Estuary in summer months and 80-100 birds over-wintered (Table 9). Many summer counts at Swansea/Lake Macquarie were of 80-100+ birds and 26 birds during winter (Table 18). There was also a winter record of two birds at Forster/Tuncurry 16 Jun (STA). *A bird banded at Stockton Sandspit on 2 April 2004 was found nesting in Alaska on 18 June (per VGF)*. **BA Atlas:** 72 records from nine cells; RR 14.9%.

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 2010.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

ID No: 150 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Usual summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 11.8%; cell of most interest: N9 (45.5%).

271 birds were recorded in Port Stephens 12 Feb and 27 birds over-wintered (Table 8). Most Hunter Estuary counts were 20-36 birds but 83 birds were present 22-23 Oct (Table 4). 17 birds were at Manning Estuary 13-14 Jan and 15 birds at Moon Island 23 Oct (RIA). A single bird roosted at Newcastle Baths often over Oct-Dec (THJ, others). **BA Atlas:** 30 records from five cells; RR 7.73%.

Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

ID No: 149 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 23.1%; cell of most interest: N9 (57.5%).

Notable records: 376 birds were in Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8) – *comparable with most other summers there and representing ~1% of the total world population.* The peak count in the Hunter Estuary was 387 birds (*also ~1% of the world population*). 20-30+ birds were in the Manning Estuary in summer and 10-13 birds at Swansea/Lake Macquarie (Tables 9, 18). About 75 birds over-wintered, most of these in the Hunter Estuary (55 birds). **BA Atlas:** 66 records from seven cells; RR 15.4%.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*

ID No: 160 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No

Status: Summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in four cells, at RR = 3.17%; cell of most interest: M10 (3.76%).

The peak count at Fern Bay was 33 birds 13 Feb with 20-24 birds recorded there from late Jan; all other records were of 12-19 birds (Table 4, ROM, STA, BIA). Elsewhere, two birds were in Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8). **BA Atlas:** Two records from cell M10. *The February counts are an apparent reversal of the trend of declining numbers in the Region.*

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

ID No: 157 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in four cells, at RR = 2.29%; cell of most interest: M10 (2.50%).

1-3 birds were sometimes recorded at Hunter Estuary locations in Feb-Mar, Sep-Oct and Dec (Table 4, others). A single bird was in Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes*

ID No: 155 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 6.60%; cell of most interest: N9 (17.3%).

Birds were regularly recorded at Fern Bay/Stockton and in Port Stephens in summer, with peak counts of 35 birds 13 Mar and 49 birds in Dec respectively (Tables 4, 8). Small numbers were present at Manning Estuary and Swansea/Lake Macquarie (peak counts of 4 birds and 7 birds). Seven birds over-wintered in Port Stephens (Table 8). **BA Atlas:** 12 records from four cells.

Wandering Tattler *Tringa incana*

ID No: 156 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1999, 2008*).

A single bird was at Newcastle Baths 16 Nov (RIA, others) – the bird could not be relocated on subsequent days.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

ID No: 158 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No

Status: Usual summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 10.8%; cell of most interest: M10 (19.3%).

The peak count for the Hunter Estuary was 109 birds 16 Jan; 70-100+ birds were present most summer months and 6 birds over-wintered (Table 4). Six birds were in Port Stephens Dec (Table 8) and four birds at Hexham Swamp 31 May (LIA); some birds were also at North Pindimar 20 Jan (WIT). Winter records of single birds at Hexham Swamp Jun-Jul and Milhams Pond Ash Island Jun (Tables 10, 14). **BA Atlas:** Four records from cell M10.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in four cells, at RR = 8.02%; cell of most interest: M10 (10.7%).

40+ birds were in the Hunter Estuary Jan-Mar with peak count 80 birds 13 Feb; however, only small numbers (peak count 14 birds) returned for the latter part of the year (Table 4). There were no records from outside of the Estuary. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

ID No: 154 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant (recorded 1993, 1997-98, 2000-02, 2008-09).

No reports were received for 2010.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

ID No: 129 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 2.28%; cell of most interest: M10 (2.18%).

The peak count at Newcastle Baths was 24 birds in Apr, with 18-20 birds present most summer months (Table 15); the birds were also occasionally recorded at nearby locations. Seven birds were at Moon Island 3 May and three birds 23 Oct (RIA), and five birds were at Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8). 1-2 birds were recorded at Newcastle Bight 17 Nov and Manning Estuary Nov-Dec (Tables 6, 9). *Winter records:* A single bird roosted at Newcastle Baths often in May and again in Jul (THJ). Also, up to 3 birds were present 3-4 Aug – with no further records until 5 Sep (THJ). **BA Atlas:** Eight records from three cells.

Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in four cells, at RR = 3.60%; cell of most interest: M10 (4.86%).

Three birds were at Stockton Sandspit 5 Jan (BRG *et al.*) and 1-2 birds at Hunter Estuary locations 16 Jan, 25 Sep and 28 Nov (Table 4, HAP). Single birds were also recorded in the Manning Estuary 1 Feb and 23 Oct (FIW, CCB). **BA Atlas:** One record from cell S4.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in five cells, at RR = 5.08%; cell of most interest: M10 (5.75%).

Small numbers were present in the Hunter Estuary most summer months, while in the Sep-Nov migration passage, the peak count was 173 birds 22-23 Oct (Table 4). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were recorded at Swansea/Lake Macquarie Jan and Nov (Table 18), Newcastle Baths 29 Sep, early Oct and in Dec (ROM *et al.*, Table 15), Manning Estuary Oct-Dec (Table 9) and Gir-umbit NP 18 Dec (Table 7). **BA Atlas:** Four records from two cells.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

ID No: 166 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant in NE of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in six cells, at RR = 0.94%; cell of most interest: R4 (6.58%).

Birds were recorded in the Manning Estuary over Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec, with a peak count of 27 birds 29-30 Mar (Table 9). Three birds were present along Newcastle Bight 18 Oct (FAA) and a single bird there 15 Dec (Table 6). *One of the 18 Oct birds had been banded in South Australia (~1200 km distance) at an unknown date.* **BA Atlas:** Five records from two cells.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

ID No: 162 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 9.80%; cell of most interest: R4 (17.7%).

138 birds were in the Manning Estuary 13-14 Jan but only 10-30+ in the other summer months; (Table 9). The peak counts at Port Stephens and Swansea/Lake Macquarie also were in Jan, 43 and 31 birds respectively (Tables 7, 8, 18). In both cases, numbers were much lower in other months. Only 4-6 birds were in the Hunter Estuary over Jan-May and a single bird (at Stockton Sandspit/Newcastle Baths briefly from late Oct) in the latter part of year (Table 4, ROM *et al.*, CLT). Up to 12 birds over-wintered in the Manning Estuary and up to 10 birds in Port Stephens, while a single bird was at Stockton Sandspit 26 Jun (LIG). *In January, an estimated 216 birds were in the Region but <40 in other summer months and often <20 birds. However, 23 birds may have over-wintered.* **BA Atlas:** 23 records from four cells; RR 6.91%.

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

ID No: 978 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant (*recorded 1995-99, 2001, 2003, 2006-09*).
From BA Atlas: Ten records from three cells; cell of most interest: M10 (seven records).

No reports were received for 2010.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

ID No: 163 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Usual summer migrant. Up to 20 birds moderately often recorded at coastal ephemeral wetlands over Jan-Apr and Oct-Dec.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 9.28%; cell of most interest: M10 (13.7%).

Notable records: Several hundred birds were present in the Region over Jan-Feb, mainly in the Hunter Estuary where the peak count was 337 birds 13 Feb (Tables 4, 14). The only other reports were of 1-2 birds at Tomago 23 Oct and Stockton 30 Oct and 4 birds at Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (LIA, WID *et al.*, Table 14). **BA Atlas:** Six records from three cells.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

ID No: 161 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Common summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 6.52%; cell of most interest: M10 (9.69%).

The peak count for the Hunter Estuary was 241 birds 16 Jan but far fewer birds were present all other months (Table 4) and the trend of decline appears to be continuing. The only record from elsewhere was of two birds along Newcastle Bight 15 Jul (Table 6). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus*

ID No: 167 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant. (recorded 1994-95, 2003-04, 2006-07).

No reports were received for 2010.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

ID No: 934 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental. (recorded 1995-96, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007).

No reports were received for 2010.

Red-backed Button-quail *Turnix maculosus*

ID No: 013 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1999, 2006-07).

A bird was taken into care at Rathmines in Feb and later released at Balickera (HAS/MUJ).

Painted Button-quail *Turnix varius*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 21% of cells, at RR = 1.75%; cell of most interest: G10 (40.3%).

1-2 birds were recorded at Yaraandoo Duns Creek 6 Jan and 14 Jun (NEM), Putty Rd Milbrodale 29 Apr & 14 May (ROM), California Trail Wollemi NP 12 Sep (ROM *et al.*), Giants Creek 30 Sep (NEM/LIA) and Balickera Jan-Feb and Oct-Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** Five records from three cells.

Red-chested Button-quail *Turnix pyrrhothorax*

ID No: 019 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Accidental (recorded 2005, 2008).

No reports were received for 2010.

Little Button-quail *Turnix velox*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella*

ID No: 173 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 2003, 2009).

No reports were received for 2010.

Brown Skua *Stercorarius antarcticus*

ID No: 980 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncertain (recorded 2001-03, 2007-08).

From BA Atlas: One record, from cell M10 in 2007.

1-2 birds were recorded on pelagic surveys from Port Stephens 2 May and Jul-Oct (Table 17) and a single bird off Nobbys Beach 4 Aug (ROM/RIA). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus*

ID No: 945 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Seven records from eight cells.

15 birds were recorded on a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 28 Mar, and 12 birds on the surveys 27 Feb and 12 Dec (Table 17). 8-10+ birds were off Nobbys Beach 5 Feb and at 10km off Port Stephens 21 Nov (ROM *et al.*). There were several widespread records of 1-3 birds over Jan-Feb and Nov. **BA Atlas:** Two records from two cells.

Arctic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus*

ID No: 128 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 0.75%; cell of most interest: O9 (1.88%).

Six birds were resting on the water inside Port Stephens 23 Jan (EGD) and eight birds were recorded offshore from Port Stephens 10 Feb (ROS). There were several records over Jan-Mar and Nov, widespread but all from close to shore or within Port Stephens, Newcastle Harbour and the mouth of Lake Macquarie. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus*

ID No: 933 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

Three birds were recorded on a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 10 Oct and a single bird 26 Feb (Table 17).

Common Noddy *Anous stolidus*

ID No: 122 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare (*recorded 1977, 1999, 2008-09*)

A single bird was recorded on a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 28 Mar (Table 17). Then, a bird was present at/near Newcastle Baths from 7-24 Apr (THJ/NIR, many others).

Black Noddy *Anous minutus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

White Tern *Gygis alba*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Grey Ternlet *Procelsterna cerulea*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Sooty Tern *Onychoprion fuscata*

ID No: 120 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Rare summer migrant.

Three birds were at Flat Rocks Catherine Hill Bay 7 Feb (ERE). At least two different birds (based on plumage differences) were at Newcastle Baths and nearby locations 1-6 Feb (many observers).

Little Tern *Sternula albigrons*

ID No: 117 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Endangered Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon summer migrant. Over Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec, usually present in large numbers at Manning Estuary and in counts of up to 5 birds elsewhere along the coast.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 8% of cells, at RR = 4.30%; cell of most interest: S4 (24.4%).

Notable records: A coastline survey in mid December found 635 birds in the Region, including 249 adults in breeding plumage (FAA). 300-400+ birds were in the Manning Estuary Nov-Dec and 100+ birds Jan-Feb; some birds had arrived by late Jul (Table 9). Good numbers were present at Swansea/Lake Macquarie early in the year, with peak count 60 birds in March (Table 18). 31 birds were at Newcastle Bight 15 Dec (MAW) and 18 birds in Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8). Most counts for the Hunter Estuary were low, but 12 birds were feeding at Stockton Sandspit 26 Jan (KEM) and 17 birds there 26 Mar (CLT). A single bird was at ~10km off Port Stephens 11 Nov (ROM *et al.*) – rarely recorded far from shore. **Breeding:** The Manning Estuary colonies continued to be active. Also, four pairs were incubating at Newcastle Bight 10 Dec (NEM *et al.*) although it is understood no chicks eventuated. **BA Atlas:** 23 records from four cells; RR 6.34%.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*

ID No: 111 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Common bird of passage all year.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 8% of cells, at RR = 5.00%; cell of most interest: M10 (6.45%).

45 birds were in the Hunter Estuary 13 Mar and 21 birds 15 May, also 11 birds were at Stockton Sandspit 20 Apr and 7 birds 27 Feb (Table 3, ALD, RIA). 12 birds were at Gir-um-bit NP 25 Sep (Table 7). There were relatively few other records compared with recent years, and all were of ≤ 6 birds. **BA Atlas:** Five records from four cells.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

ID No: 112 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Common bird of passage. 1-5 birds moderately often recorded close to the coast all year.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 9.51%; cell of most interest: N9 (32.5%).

Notable records: 31 birds were in Port Stephens Aug and 9-10 birds in Feb and May and 16+ birds 27 Jun (Tables 7, 8). 30 birds were in the Hunter Estuary 17 Apr and 8-21 birds over Mar-Jul (Table 3). 12 birds were at Swansea/Lake Macquarie May (Table 18) and eight birds at Morpeth WTW 11 Mar (Table 2). 6 adults and 6 juveniles were together on an islet in Wallis Lake 12 Sep (CRB). **BA Atlas:** 43 records from nine cells; RR 9.25%.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

ID No: 110 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: No
Status: Spring migrant and bird of passage.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 2.22%; cell of most interest: L9 (6.17%).

There were remarkably few records for the year. 30 birds were at Hexham Swamp Minmi 1 Nov (NEM), a single bird at Ash Island 22 Jan (LIG) and three birds at GTD in late Dec (ROM). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell M10.

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

ID No: 109 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Eight records from two cells.

No reports were received for 2010.

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

ID No: 884 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1968).

No reports were received for 2010.

White-fronted Tern *Sterna striata*

ID No: 114 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No
Status: Winter migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 5% of cells, at RR = 0.84%; cell of most interest: S4 (5.80%).

39 birds were in the Manning Estuary 23-24 Sep but far fewer were there generally over May-Oct (Table 9). 1-2 birds occasionally were at Newcastle Baths Aug-Sep (Table 15) with 3 present 2 Sep and 4 birds 14 Sep (RIA, ROM) and also a single bird at Merewether Baths 5 Sep (THJ). One bird was recorded during a pelagic survey from Port Stephens 11 Jul (Table 17). **BA Atlas:** Eight records from three cells.



White-fronted Tern: sketch by Grant Brosie

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

ID No: 953 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Summer migrant. Frequently recorded along the coast in Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec as 1-10 birds, and in larger numbers in the Manning Estuary.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 10% of cells, at RR = 3.71%; cell of most interest: S4 (17.2%).

Notable records: Birds were present in the Manning Estuary Jan-Mar and Nov-Dec with peak counts 300+ in Jan and Nov. Also present at/near Newcastle Baths Jan-Mar and Oct-Dec with peak count 120 birds in Dec (Table 15). 150+ birds were at Moon Island 23 Oct (RIA) – *the first known records for this location and the highest known counts for the Swansea area.* ~75 birds were feeding at Port Stephens entrance 21 Nov (ROM *et al.*). 45 birds were in Newcastle Harbour 23 Feb (LIG), while 21 birds were feeding around Stockton Sandspit 26 Jan (KEM). **BA Atlas:** 13 records from four cells; RR 3.31%.

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

ID No: 952 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 2006, 2008*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*

ID No: 115 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Up to 50 birds are often recorded along the coast.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 16% of cells, at RR = 19.6%; cell of most interest: S4 (56.1%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were at Manning Estuary most months with peak count 700+ on 9-10 Dec and 526 present 13-14 Jan (Table 9), also 464 birds were at Harrington Inlet 1 Feb (FIW). 100+ birds were at Newcastle Baths most months with peak count 500 birds Sep and 300+ were present May-Aug (Table 15). 100+ were present at Forster/Tuncurry most months with peak count 280 birds 29 Jul (Table 16). 250+ birds were at Moon Island 3 May and 100+ 23 Oct (RIA), 220 birds in Port Stephens 12 Feb (Table 8) and 234 birds at Newcastle Bight 17 Mar with 146 also present 9 Dec (Table 6). **Breeding:** 200-300 pairs were breeding on Moon Island Nov (MOA). A pair was copulating at Newcastle Baths 14 Sep (ROM). **BA Atlas:** 86 records from 14 cells; RR 17.3%.

Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus*

ID No: 126 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1994, 1997, 2008-09*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*

ID No: 981 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Past records

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1998, 2007-08*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Silver Gull *Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*

ID No: 125 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Up to 100 birds are widely & regularly recorded at near-coastal areas.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 23% of cells, at RR = 31.1%; cell of most interest: L11 (49.1%).

Notable records: Birds were regularly recorded in large numbers at eight locations: Swansea/Lake Macquarie (peak count 310 birds Dec; 100+ regularly); Newcastle Baths area (peak count 700 birds Apr-May; 100+ most months); Hunter Estuary locations (1043 birds 13 Mar, high numbers Jan-May); Newcastle Bight (peak count 441 birds 28 Jan, 100+ in summer months); Birubi-Fingal coastline (peak count 269 birds 13 Mar, 100+ most months); Port Stephens (829 present in May; 200+ often); Forster/Tuncurry (peak count 375 birds 16 Jun, 100+ most months); and the Manning Estuary (peak count 657 birds 28-29 Apr, 100+ Jan-Apr) – see the Tables for details. Elsewhere, 2,000+ birds were at Moon Island 23 Oct (RIA) and several hundred birds at Broughton Island 14-16 Sep and 10 Nov (CLT). **Breeding:** Many pairs were breeding on Coon Island Nov (MOA). **BA Atlas:** 109 records from 19 cells; RR 19.5%.

Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami*

ID No: 265 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 36% of cells, at RR = 4.95%; cell of most interest: P2 (25.0%).

Watagans/Lake Macquarie: 20 birds were recorded at Wollombi 4 Mar (GRJ), ten birds there 12 Sep (TAH) and six birds 25 Aug (GRJ). 2-3 birds were at Wyee Point several times in Feb, Aug and Oct and six birds 28-29 Aug (MDV). 1-5 birds were recorded in the Watagans several times in Jan (STP/MAT) and at Nords Wharf 10 & 22 Jan, 5 Feb and 19 Apr (ERE) and Laguna 31 Jul (RDB). Manning: Several birds were at Killabkah NP 22 Aug and a single bird at Cedar Party 12 Jun (MVBW). Central: Six birds were recorded at Copeland SCA 4 Jul (MVBW) and 1-5 birds at Pembroke Rd (C4) 25 Jan (STA), Curricabundi NP 30 Jan (DBP *et al.*), Coolah Tops NP 24 Jan (HBOC), Gloucester 26-28 Mar (CCB), Duns Creek 17 May (NEM), Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR) and Devils Hole Barrington Tops NP 13 Jun (LUD). West: 1-3 birds were at Durrigere Rd 23 Jan and 15 Aug (WID/ROM, WOL), Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR), Baerami Creek 25 May (per ROM) and Wollemi NP 11-12 Sep (ROM *et al.*). Elsewhere: 1-5 birds were at Crowdy Bay NP 23 May (MCR), Medowie 22 Jul (LUD) and Whitebridge 29 Nov (WOP). **Breeding:** Pairs were with juveniles at White Box Camp Goulburn River NP 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), Nords Wharf 22 Jan and 5 Feb, and Wyee Point 30 Sep - 3 Oct (MDV). **BA Atlas:** 20 records from 15 cells; RR 4.31%.

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus*

ID No: 267 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Up to 20 birds widely and often recorded in the E and central parts of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 66% of cells, at RR = 13.9%; cell of most interest: S3 (34.8%).

Notable records: 60+ birds were at Wyee Rd 23 Mar (CLT), 39 birds at Medowie 20 Aug (LUD) and 21 birds at Wyee 25 May (MDV). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP). **BA Atlas:** 86 records from 31 cells; RR 7.93%.

Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum*

ID No: 268 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 18% of cells, at RR = 6.76%; cell of most interest: G10 (54.8%).

12+ birds were recorded at Kitchener Werakata NP 11 Jul (FIP), nine birds at Laguna 12 Apr (RDB), eight birds at Kearsley Werakata NP 6 Jul (HBOC) and six birds at Quorrobolong 31 Jul (CCB). 1-5 birds were at The Watagans 22 Jan (STP/MAT), Yengo NP 19 Feb, early Mar and 29 Apr (per ROM), Narone Creek Rd 27 Feb (GRJ), Ellalong 20-21 Mar (ERE), Laguna 31 Jul and 18-19 Sep (RDB) and Wollemi NP (E10) 20 May and 11-12 Sep (MCR, ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Five records from four cells.

Galah *Eolophus roseicapillus*

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 85% of cells, at RR = 31.9%; cell of most interest: L9 (66.6%).

Notable records: ~150 birds were at Belltrees 4 May and 100+ birds at Springdale HSD Martindale 25 Apr (both HBOC). 50+ birds were at Appletree Flat (H8) 19 May (MCR) and 21-50 birds at Windy HSD 21 May (MCR), Kearsley 6 Jul (HBOC) and Lochinvar 24 Oct (HBOC). A *Corella spp* hybrid was present at Nulkaba Aug (LAB). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and were on nest at Gir-um-bit NP 20 Nov (MEL *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 226 records from 53 cells; RR 18.9%.

Long-billed Corella *Cacatua tenuirostris*

ID No: 272 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 5.33%; cell of most interest: L9 (22.1%).

~200 birds were present at Bolwarra 6 Jul (TAH) and 21-50 birds were at Dora Creek Jun/Jul (GOC) and Morpeth WTW 26 May and 17 Dec (LIA). 6-20 birds were recorded at Mulbring 23 Jan (LUD), John Browns Lagoon 22 Aug (HBOC), and Morpeth WTW 7 Oct and 11 Nov (LIA), and 1-5 birds at Nulkaba Feb (LAB), Eleebana 31 May (GOA), Gir-um-bit NP 13 Mar and 28 Aug (HAS/MAC, MEL *et al.*), Myuna Bay May (CCB), Morpeth WTW 4 Sep (LIA), Green Wattle Creek 1 Oct (NEM), PNR 2 Oct (CCB) and Mulbring 31 Oct (WID *et al.*). **Breeding:** A pair had dependent young at Dora Creek Jun/Jul (GOC). **BA Atlas:** 15 records from seven cells; RR 2.76%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 36% of cells, at RR = 7.62%; cell of most interest: O9 (20.4%).

Notable records: 220 birds were recorded at LTP 20 Jul (LIA), ~120 birds at Forster/Tuncurry 30 Mar (STA), and 51-80 birds at Medowie 29 Jan (LUD) and Dora Creek May-Jul (GOC). 20+ birds were at Dora Creek Mar (GOC), Bureen 20 Jul (STA) and Morpeth WTW 7 Oct (LIA). Birds have recently extended their range to Gloucester (DBP). **Breeding:** Birds were with dependent young at Dora Creek Mar and May (GOC). **BA Atlas:** 43 records from 14 cells; RR 5.39%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 80% of cells, at RR = 20.6%; cell of most interest: L9 (32.4%).

Notable records: Around 300 birds were at Springdale HSD Martindale 25 Apr (HBOC), 130 birds at Pogy HSD Ringwood Rd 21 Jul (STA) and 120 birds at Bureen 20 Jul (STA). 93 birds were at Appletree Flat 20 Jul (STA) and 21-50 birds at Belltrees 4 May (HBOC), Doyles Creek Rd and Jones Reserve Rd 19 May (MCR) and Windy HSD 21 May (MCR). **BA Atlas:** 125 records from 38 cells; RR 11.1%.

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

ID No: 274 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded

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

From BA Atlas: 23 records from 11 cells (several as escapees); cell of most interest: E2 (nine records).

Some birds were at Cassilis 5 May (LIN/BRG), and a bird was inspecting a hollow near Bald Hill 11 Sep (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Two records, from cell E2.

Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*

ID No: 254 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Often recorded in the E of the Region as counts of up to 20 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 40% of cells, at RR = 21.4%; cell of most interest: O9 (61.4%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were at Nobbys Park 18 Nov and 70+ birds there 22 Nov (THJ). Very large numbers (not counted) were at Medowie during early Feb (LUD). 50+ birds were at HWC 13 Apr and 23 May and 20+ regularly there Aug-Nov (LIP) and at Crowdy Bay NP 23 May (MCR). Many hundreds continue to roost at night in Lambton (STA). **Breeding:** A pair was with a dependent young at Dora Creek Jul (GOC) and a bird was on nest at Gir-um-bit NP 20 Nov (MEL *et al.*) and also bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 230 records from 33 cells; RR 24.4%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 29% of cells, at RR = 13.5%; cell of most interest: S3 (59.4%).

Notable records: Many birds were at Wallambah River 5 Aug (ROM) and 40 birds at Cattai Wetland 27 Apr (STA). **BA Atlas:** 97 records from 19 cells; RR 11.6%.

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna*

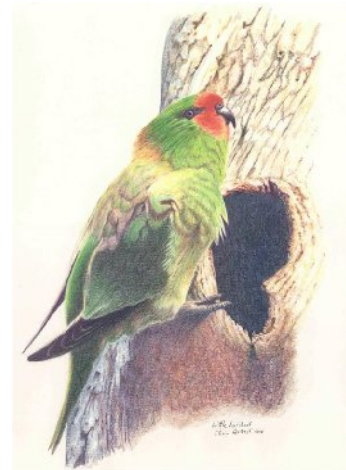
ID No: 258 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Irruptive visitor and bird of passage.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 49% of cells, at RR = 4.98%; cell of most interest: H4 (28.1%).

100+ birds were in Werakata NP 8 Jan (GOJ) and 20+ birds at Durrigere Rd 28 Jan (BRG/LIN), but most records over Jan-Apr were of <10 birds, although widespread. In May there was an influx to the Region, with many more records over May-Aug although still mostly of low numbers; however, 100+ birds were estimated to be present in Newcastle suburbs in May (ROM). There were no reports after 30 Oct. **Breeding:** Several pairs had nests with eggs at East Seaham 9 Feb (GOA *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 73 records from 29 cells; RR 8.00%.

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*

ID No: 260 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of up to 10 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 9.88%; cell of most interest: C6 (31.4%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were in Werakata NP 8 Jan (GOJ), ~50 birds at Galgabba Point 27 May (ROM) and 21-50 birds at Nords Wharf 5 Feb (ERE), Wallaby Scrub Rd 13 Mar (DGG), Kitchener Werakata NP 21 Mar (ALP/TWD), Aberdare SF Pelton 28 Mar (ALP) and Medhurst Bridge Martindale 19 May (MCR). **BA Atlas:** 50 records from 16 cells; RR 6.16%.



*Little Lorikeet: sketch
by Chris Herbert*

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis*

ID No: 281 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. 1-5 birds widely and frequently recorded in E and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 81% of cells, at RR = 17.0%; cell of most interest: Q7 (63.9%).

Notable records: 21-50 birds were recorded at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC), Narone Creek Rd Wollombi 9 May (GRJ), Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR) and Yaraandoo Duns Creek May (NEM). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC) and Wingen 15 Dec (NEG), and a pair was with young at Nulkaba Feb (LAB). Birds also bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). A pair nested on the ground at Medowie from mid Dec; the eggs were predated within 2 weeks of laying (LUD). **BA Atlas:** 148 records from 45 cells; RR 12.3%.

Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus*

ID No: 280 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded

Status: Rare resident in W of Region.

From BA Atlas: 13 records from three cells; cell of most interest: C6 (seven records).

2-3 birds were recorded at a rest area near Cassilis 16 & 21 May and early Jun (JED, MCR, ROM) and at Durridgere Rd 21 May (MCR). Some birds were also at Goulburn River NP 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Four records from two cells.

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*

ID No: 282 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. Up to 20 birds moderately often recorded in the central & E of the Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 82% of cells, at RR = 14.8%; cell of most interest: L5 (73.1%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded in all of the 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Wingen 15 Dec (NEG) and also bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 172 records from 36 cells; RR 15.0%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 42.7%; cell of most interest: L9 (71.6%).

Notable records: 21-50 birds were present at HWC 6 Mar (LIP), Belltrees 4-6 May (HBOC), Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR) and Kearsley 6 Jul (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Oct (MUJ) and also bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 326 records from 54 cells; RR 25.3%.

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*

ID No: 309 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Endangered Breeding: No

Status: Uncommon winter migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 2.55%; cell of most interest: J10 (2.97%).

2-4 birds were recorded near Wallamba River CP 31 May and often in Jul and early Aug (FIW, OCG, ROM). Small numbers were also heard/seen at Diamond Head Crowdy Bay NP 25 Apr (ROS), Metford 13 May (per ROM), Galgabba Point Swansea 16 May (ADJ/MCR) and two locations near Paxton 7 Jun (ROS). Also see Supplementary Records. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 54% of cells, at RR = 10.6%; cell of most interest: L9 (41.8%).

Notable records: 21-50 birds were present at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC), Cassilis 16 May (JED), Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR) and Broke 1 Jun (SMR). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with young near Pogy HSD (Goulburn River NP) 16 May (JED). **BA Atlas:** 41 records from 24 cells; RR 4.83%.

Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*

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

A flock of 6-8 birds was present just W of Merriwa 27 Nov (LIA).

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella*

ID No: 302 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 1.75%; cell of most interest: C6 (20.0%).

Birds were present at 5 discrete locations along Ringwood Rd 12 Feb (ROM). Four birds were at Goulburn River NP 28 Jan (BRG/LIN) and three birds at Myall Lakes NP 15 Feb (KBD). 1-2 birds were also recorded in the Ringwood Rd/Goulburn River NP area 15 & 22 Jan, 5 May and 30 Oct (several observers) and at Baerami Creek 25 May (per ROM). **BA Atlas:** Four records from two cells.

Ground Parrot *Pezoporus wallicus*

ID No: 311 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Probably extinct in the wild within the Region (*last recorded 1925*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*

ID No: 349 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Often recorded in the E of the Region, usually as counts of 1-2 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 38% of cells, at RR = 8.85%; cell of most interest: Q7 (66/0%).

Notable records: Three birds were present at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW). **BA Atlas:** 40 records from 16 cells; RR 4.81%.

Eastern Koel *Eudynamys orientalis*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 10.8%; cell of most interest: O9 (20.0%).

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was a bird heard at Nelson Bay 10 Sep (EGD). A bird, presumably on passage, was heard 5-6 km offshore from Newcastle 13 Sep (ROS). Seven birds were interacting together in a tree at Weston mid Nov (ROS). **Breeding:** Young birds were being fed by Red Wattlebirds at Gir-um-bit NP 16 Jan (HAS *et al.*) and Bolwarra 30 Nov (TAH), and there was a chick at Medowie 7 Jan (LUD). **BA Atlas:** 56 records from 20 cells; RR 6.08%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 56% of cells, at RR = 9.45%; cell of most interest: O9 (17.8%).

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was of a bird at Elermore Glen 29 Aug (IMK); by 2 Sep there had been many records (per MOA). **Breeding:** Young birds were being fed by Pied Currawongs at One Mile Beach Jan and Boomerang Beach Dec (MVBW), and by Australian Magpies at Tuncurry 13 Jan (MVBW). **BA Atlas:** 45 records from 20 cells; RR 4.20%.

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites basalıs*

ID No: 342 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant, with regular records in winter. 1-2 birds are moderately often recorded throughout the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 48% of cells, at RR = 3.46%; cell of most interest: M8 (8.66%).



Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo:
sketch by Sally Stuart

There were no exceptions to the general description of status.
BA Atlas: Five records from four cells.

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chalcites osculans*

ID No: 341 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon resident in the central and W of the Region.
From BA Atlas: 20 records from 13 cells; cell of most interest: G10 (four records).

Single birds were recorded at two locations in Goulburn River NP several times in Jan and at a second location there 15 Jan (BRG/LIN, KEM, WID/ROM) and just W of Ulan 15 Jan (BRG/LIN) and at Ringwood Rd 12 Feb (ROM). **BA Atlas:** Three records from two cells.

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus*

ID No: 344 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant, with regular records in winter. 1-2 birds are moderately often recorded throughout the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 58% of cells, at RR = 7.22%; cell of most interest: M8 (17.0%).

Notable records: Four birds were at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 69 records from 29 cells; RR 6.14%.

Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chalcites minutillus*

ID No: 345 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (recorded 1992, 2004).

No reports were received for 2010.

Pallid Cuckoo *Cacomantis pallidus*

ID No: 337 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 42% of cells, at RR = 4.16%; cell of most interest: G10 (27.4%).

A bird was present at Springdale HSD Martindale 25 Apr (HBOC) – *late departure* – and the first recorded arrival was of a bird at Green Wattle Creek 8 Sep (NEM). Several birds were in the Cessnock area 28 Sep (ROM), and single birds were recorded at Gloucester 26-28 Mar (CCB), Rothbury 9 Sep (ROS), Giants Creek Rd 12 Sep (LIA/NEM), Durrigere Rd 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*) and Gir-um-bit NP 20 Nov (MEL *et al.*). Also, birds were regularly present at Balickera Sep-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** Four records from four cells.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

ID No: 338 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded, mainly as <5 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 79% of cells, at RR = 16.6%; cell of most interest: M8 (30.9%).

Notable records: Six birds were at Yaraandoo Duns Creek and five birds at Green Wattle Creek 18 Aug (both NEM). Birds were recorded in 55% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A fledged young was being fed by a Golden Whistler at Saltwater NP 10 Dec (STA). **BA Atlas:** 182 records from 39 cells; RR 15.0%.

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*

ID No: 339 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 3.99%; cell of most interest: M8 (10.6%).

Birds were recorded Mar-Apr at Balickera (MUJ) and at Saltwater NP 4 Mar (MVBW), but there were no records from elsewhere after late Jan, until first recorded arrival at Darawank NR 24 Sep (STA). Single birds were recorded occasionally in the E of the Region Oct-Dec and 3-4 birds at Cattai Wetlands 2-4 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 28 records from 18 cells; RR 2.82%.

Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus optatus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*

ID No: 248 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 1.92%; cell of most interest: M8 (15.2%).

There were many records all year of 1-2 birds in BbR, especially in Jan when the pair was regularly roosting beside a creek bed. There were also several records from Balickera over Mar-May and Jul (MUJ). Elsewhere, birds were seen or heard at Nords Wharf 8 Feb (ERE), Glenrock SCA Feb (KIM), Columbey NP 3 Mar (per NEM), Kahibah 17 Mar (WID), Dora Creek 15 Apr (GOC), Cardiff 17 Apr (per HUL), Waratah GC 17 Apr (per HUL), Edgeworth mid Apr (ROM/WID), Bow Wow Gorge 27 Apr (FIP), Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR), Gloucester Tops Rd 13 Oct (MEL), Floraville 27 Oct (LAW), Gresford 30 Oct (BRG *et al.*) and Seal Rocks late Dec (BUD). **Breeding:** A pair bred in BbR during 2010, and the juvenile was still present with them in Feb 2011 (LIP). **BA Atlas:** Three records from two cells.

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*

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

Pairs were recorded at Big Yango (in Yengo NP) 28 Apr (ROM), and at a second location in Yengo NP 20 Oct (ROS *et al.*). Also see Supplementary Records.

*Barking Owl: sketch by
Grant Brosie*



Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

ID No: 242 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
 Status: Resident. Occasionally but widely recorded as single birds or pairs.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 48% of cells, at RR = 6.38%; cell of most interest: G10 (54.8%).



There were no exceptions to the general description of status.
BA Atlas: 21 records from ten cells; RR 2.61%.

Southern Boobook:
 sketch by Sally Stuart

Sooty Owl *Tyto tenebricosa*

ID No: 253 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
 Status: Rare resident.
 From BA Atlas: Nine records from five cells; cell of most interest: M5 (four records).

1-2 birds were recorded at Copeland Tops 25 Jan (RIA), Edgeworth mid Apr (ROM/WID), Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR), Wollemi NP (L8) 3 Apr (per HLC) and Gloucester Tops 18-19 Sep (BIA). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae*

ID No: 250 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
 Status: Rare resident.
 From BA Atlas: 15 records from ten cells; cells of most interest: H8 & N9 (three records each).

A bird took a Grey-headed Flying Fox *Pteropus poliocephalus* at Weston 31 Jan (ROS) – *an unusual prey for this species*. Single birds were seen/heard at Freemans Waterhole 1 Feb (STP/MAT), Green Point Lake Macquarie 14 Mar (ROS) and Gresford 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*), and a bird was roosting near Fassifern Station 3-5 Mar (KEM, WRO). Also see Supplementary Records. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica*

ID No: 249 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
 Status: Resident.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 0.83%; cell of most interest: D2 (31.8%).

Single birds were recorded at Bucketts Way 1 Jan (BRG/LIN), Ringwood Rd Merriwa 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), Old Gibber Track MLNP 21 Jan (WIT), Goulburn River NP 20 & 22 Jan (KEM, WID/ROM), Ash Island 31 Mar (ROM/WID), Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR), Yarrawa 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*), Gresford 30 Oct (BRG *et al.*) and Mount Arthur 20 & 27 Dec (NEG). **BA Atlas:** One record from cell K4.

Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris*

ID No: 252 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Past records
 Status: Rare resident.

Birds were seen three times on Ash Island during the year (MCN). Despite several attempts, none were found in Crowdy Bay NP (ROM, others).

Azure Kingfisher *Ceyx azurea*

ID No: 319 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
 Status: Resident. Moderately often recorded in the E of the Region, as single birds.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 39% of cells, at RR = 4.78%; cell of most interest: M8 (21.7%).

Notable records: Pairs were recorded at Tomago Wetlands 17 Aug and 21 Sep (MCN *et al.*) and at Murrays Run Rd 20 Sep (FIM). **BA Atlas:** 21 records from nine cells; RR 2.64%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 94% of cells, at RR = 42.6%; cell of most interest: O9 (68.2%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Rathmines/Myuna Bay 5 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** Pairs bred at Gloucester mid Jan (DBP) and Balickera Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 360 records from 71 cells; RR 27.5%.

Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii*

ID No: 324 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

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

A single bird was at Taylors Beach Port Stephens 19 Jan (ROS) and at least one bird at Cattai Wetlands 5 Apr and regularly over 1-4 Oct (WIF, HBOC).

Red-backed Kingfisher *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius*

ID No: 325 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 2002).

No reports were received for 2010.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

ID No: 326 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common summer migrant, some birds over-winter at coastal locations. Widely and regularly recorded over Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec, mostly as 1-5 birds.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 72% of cells, at RR = 15.6%; cell of most interest: N9 (44.5%).

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was at Forster 11 Sep (MVBW); however there were a number of winter records: at Hunter Estuary locations 15 May, 26 Jun and 8 Aug (HWS, LUD), Cattai Wetlands 15-16 Jun (STA), Swan Bay 20 Jun (LUD) and Harrington Beach SP 29 Jul (STA). 6+ birds were at Rathmines/Myuna Bay 5 Oct, East Seaham 12 Oct (both HBOC) and Green Wattle Creek Oct-Dec (NEM). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Swan Bay 5 Jan (EGD/LUD), and bred at Gloucester mid Jan (DBP) and Balickera Oct-Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 99 records from 31 cells; RR 8.15%.

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

ID No: 329 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant. Up to 10 birds occasionally but widely recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 52% of cells, at RR = 4.73%; cell of most interest: G10 (35.5%).

Notable records: 14 birds were together at Wingen 17 Jan after a storm (NEG). The first recorded arrival was 7 Sep at North Rothbury (ANC). **BA Atlas:** 15 records from 12 cells; RR 1.85%.

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

ID No: 318 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant. 1-5 birds widely and frequently recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 68% of cells, at RR = 13.3%; cell of most interest: O9 (30.4%).

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was early Sep at Boomerang Beach (MVBW). 6+ birds were at Rathmines/Myuna Bay 5 Oct and Dudley 7 Dec (both HBOC). A bird was taken by a Peregrine Falcon at Wingen 6 Feb (NEG). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and Wingen 15 Dec (NEG), and also bred in BbR Jan-Feb (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 81 records from 28 cells; RR 6.97%.

Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor*

ID No: 352 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon altitudinal migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 13% of cells, at RR = 3.94%; cell of most interest: Q2 (17.4%).

5 birds (2 together and 3 others) were at Gap Creek Watagans 22 Sep (ROS), also 5 birds were at Copeland SCA 6 Aug (ERE) and at a property near Upper Lansdowne 14 Nov (STA *et al.*), and several birds were at Upper Allyn River 17 Oct (ROM). 1-2 birds were recorded at Cherry Tree Upper Allyn 1 Jan (LIP), Black Head 6 & 9 March (per MOA), Bow Wow Gorge 21-22 Mar (FIP), Harrington RF several times over Aug-Sep (STA, BRG, ANC), Copeland SCA 9 Sep (DBP), Sharpes Creek 26 Sep and 28 Nov (JED, ERE), Fosterton Loop Dungog Oct (JED), Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*, ROM *et al.*), Koppin Yarrat Rd (S3) 30 Nov (MOT) and Copeland Tops 24 Dec (ROM). **BA Atlas:** 11 records from six cells; RR 3.67%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 47% of cells, at RR = 14.9%; cell of most interest: M5 (59.3%).

Notable records: 17 birds were present along 4.5 km of Bangalow Rd Watagans 20 Jun (CRL *et al.*). Four birds were in a tree together in Gloucester Tops 15 Oct (STA/BAP). Birds were recorded in 68% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A pair had a nest with young at Laguna 31 Jul (RDB). **BA Atlas:** 73 records from 21 cells; RR 15.2%.

Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens*

ID No: 355 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded

Status: Resident of the Barrington Tops/Gloucester Tops IBA.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in two cells, at RR = 22.7%; cell of most interest: L5 (31.7%).

Systematic surveys in the Gloucester Tops at >1150m from late Aug-Dec yielded 24 confirmed territories, and an additional 18 locations not able to be confirmed as territories. The density of confirmed territories ($\geq 3.6/\text{km}^2$) was very similar to the results from a similar study conducted in the 1980's (NEM *et al.*). The results were supported by opportunistic records from Jan, May and Sep-Dec from the more readily accessible parts of the survey area – along Kerripit Rd and Gloucester Tops Rd and near Gloucester Falls. **BA Atlas:** 48 records, from cell L5. *The large number of records and the increase in reporting rate compared with the previous 12 years reflects the more intensive surveying that occurred in 2010.*



Rufous Scrub-bird:
sketch by Grant Brosie

White-throated Treecreeper *Cormobates leucophaea*

ID No: 558 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 24.4%; cell of most interest: L5 (68.8%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Coolah Tops NP (D3/C3) 25 Jan (HBOC). Birds were recorded in 100% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Myall Lakes NP 22 Jan (WIT), and were breeding at Balickera May and Aug-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 302 records from 55 cells; RR 24.0%.

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythrops*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 19% of cells, at RR = 7.25%; cell of most interest: C3 (28.6%).

Gloucester Tops: Birds were recorded in 32% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*) and there were also records for Kerripit Rd in Jan and May. *Barrington Tops:* 1-5 birds were at Pheasants Creek Rd 19 Jan (NEG), Cobark Rest Area 26 Jan, Devils Hole 26 Jan and Polblue 26-27 Jan (all RIA), and Junction Pools 23 Dec (CLT/ADJ). *Elsewhere:* Six birds were at Breeza Lookout Coolah Tops NP (C3) 25 Jan (HBOC). 1-5 birds were recorded at Copeland Common 1 Jan (BRG/LIN), Gap Creek Watagans 1 Jan (RIA), Hunter Track Wollemi NP (E10) 20 May (MCR) and Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at Junction Pools 23 Dec. **BA Atlas:** 11 records from four cells.

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

ID No: 555 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
 Status: Usual resident. 1-5 birds moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of the Region.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 31% of cells, at RR = 9.94%; cell of most interest: E6 (53.0%).

Notable records: Birds had a nest with young in Goulburn River NP 16 May (JED). **BA Atlas:** Ten records from four cells.

Green Catbird *Ailuroedus crassirostris*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 29% of cells, at RR = 5.33%; cell of most interest: Q2 (28.1%).

1-2 birds were moderately often and widely recorded in rainforest habitats. Three birds were together at Curricabundi NP 30-31 Jan (DBP *et al.*) and at Upper Allyn River 17 Oct (ROM). **BA Atlas:** 24 records from 13 cells; RR 3.98%.

Regent Bowerbird *Sericulus chrysocephalus*

ID No: 684 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes.
 Status: Resident. 1-2 birds moderately often recorded in forests in the E of the Region.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 28% of cells, at RR = 3.64%; cell of most interest: R5 (36.6%).

Notable records: Eight birds were recorded at Seal Rocks 15 Dec (JED) and six birds (2m and 4f) at Blueys Beach 10 Apr (ERE). Four birds were at Harrington 23 May (MCR), Saltwater NP 23-24 Sep (STA), Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC), Catherine Hill Bay 13 Oct (CCB), and three birds at BbR 20 Apr (LIG/NIJ), NLH 15 May (LIP) and Bangalow Rd Watagans 20 Jun (HBOC). **Breeding:** A pair was feeding fledged young at Mungo Brush MLNP 20 Jan (WIT), and birds bred at Saltwater NP and Black Head in Apr/May (FIW) and also bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 32 records from 15 cells; RR 4.17%.

Satin Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

ID No: 679 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
 Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 10 birds.
 From BA Atlas: Recorded in 69% of cells, at RR = 17.7%; cell of most interest: R5 (48.3%).

Notable records: Ten birds were together in a fruiting tree in Upper Allyn River 17 Oct (ROM), and ten birds at Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR). **Breeding:** Birds bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 136 records from 39 cells; RR 11.9%.



*Satin Bowerbird: sketch
 by Chris Herbert*

Spotted Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus maculatus*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 94% of cells, at RR = 51.9%; cell of most interest: L8 (68.4%).

21-50 birds were recorded all year at HWC (LIP) and often at Green Wattle Creek (NEM), Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW), Belltrees 4-6 May (HBOC), Tomago Wetlands May-Jul (MCN *et al.*), Hexham Swamp 9 Aug and 6 Sep (LIA) and Yaraandoo Duns Creek 17 Aug and 2 Oct (NEM). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and there were breeding records at Balickera Sep-Oct and Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 566 records from 66 cells; RR 43.0%.

Red-backed Fairy-wren *Malurus melanocephalus*

ID No: 541 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Uncommon resident, in north of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 3.14%; cell of most interest: Q6 (6.43%).

1-5 birds were often recorded at Cattai Wetlands (MVBW, STA, HBOC), and three separate flocks of up to 5 birds were at Curricabundi NP 30-31 Jan (DBP *et al.*). Birds were also present at Cobark Barrington Tops NP 26 Jan (RIA), Manchester Rd Gloucester 31 Jan (WID *et al.*), Harrington RF 1 Feb (BRG/LIN), Crowdy Head 16 & 23 May (STA, MCR), Brimbin NR 21 Aug (MVBW), Hillsville Dam 4 Nov (MVBW) and Firefly Forster 5-6 Dec (FIW). **BA Atlas:** 13 records from four cells.

Variegated Fairy-wren *Malurus lamberti*

ID No: 536 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Up to 10 birds are regularly recorded in the E and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 63% of cells, at RR = 18.3%; cell of most interest: M8 (29.8%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Jan (MUJ) and were with dependent young at Belmont Lagoon early Dec (BRG). **BA Atlas:** 155 records from 32 cells; RR 13.0%.

Southern Emu-wren *Stipiturus malachurus*

ID No: 526 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 20% of cells, at RR = 4.76%; cell of most interest: M8 (26.0%).

Birds were often recorded all year at both Tomago Wetlands and Cattai Wetlands, with peak counts of 14 birds 20 Jul and 20+ birds 2 Oct respectively (MCN *et al.*, HBOC, others), and also regularly at Balickera Jan-Jun (MUJ). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were at Awabakal NR 5 Jan (SMJ *et al.*), Belmont Lagoon 6 Jan and 3 Feb (BRG *et al.*), Old Gibber Track MLNP 21 Jan (WIT), Curricabundi NP 30-31 Jan (DBP *et al.*), Polblue 26-27 Jan (RIA), Cobark 31 Jan (ROM *et al.*), Winda Woppa 11 May (CLT), Harrington 23 May (MCR), HWC 3 Sep (SRM) and Awabakal NR 14 Nov (LUD). **Breeding:** A pair had dependent young at Polblue 26-27 Jan (RIA). **BA Atlas:** 33 records from eight cells; RR 5.41%.

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).

Several pairs were calling near Three Ways Wollemi NP 11 Sep, with three birds seen (ROM *et al.*).

Rockwarbler *Origma solitaria*

ID No: 505 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 19% of cells, at RR = 10.9%; cell of most interest: G10 (47.1%).

Five birds in two groups were at Yengo NP 29 Nov (GRJ *et al.*) and four birds in three groups at Holyclare HSD near Yengo NP (I9) 14 Jan (ALP/TWD). Also, five birds were recorded near Mogo Camp Yengo NP 20 Mar (ERE). 1-2 birds were at Brokenback 25 Feb (GOJ), Laguna 12 & 17 Apr and 31 Jul (RDB), Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR), Wollemi NP 11 Sep (ROM *et al.*), Goulburn River NP 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*), Wollombi 30 Nov (GRJ) and Thompsons Rd Bulga no date (ALP/TWD). **BA Atlas:** Seven records from four cells.

Yellow-throated Scrubwren *Sericornis citreogularis*

ID No: 493 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 38% of cells, at RR = 6.42%; cell of most interest: M5 (40.7%).

1-5 birds were often recorded all year in suitable habitats in the central and E of the Region. Birds were recorded in 18% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A pair had a nest with young at Saltwater NP 5 Feb (STA). **BA Atlas:** 38 records from 18 cells; RR 6.54%.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*

ID No: 488 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Common resident. 1-5 birds are widely and regularly recorded; with 6-10 birds not uncommon (*text modified*).

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 84% of cells, at RR = 28.3%; cell of most interest: L5 (69.2%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded in 95% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). 20+ birds were at HWC Apr and May (LIP). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and also bred at Balickera Sep and Nov (MUJ) and at BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 346 records from 64 cells; RR 27.3%.

Large-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis magnirostra*

ID No: 494 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 34% of cells, at RR = 5.74%; cell of most interest: M5 (33.0%).

1-5 birds were often recorded all year in suitable habitats in the central and E of the Region. Birds were recorded in 41% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 48 records from 16 cells; RR 7.84%.

Chestnut-rumped Heathwren *Hylacola pyrrhopygia*

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

Status: Uncommon resident (*text modified*).

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 13% of cells, at RR = 3.87%; cell of most interest: G10 (33.9%).

1-2 birds were recorded at two locations in Goulburn River NP 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), near Ulan 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), Goulburn River NP 22 Jan (WID/ROM), Durridgere Rd 25 Apr and 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*), Pine Grove Rd 18 May (BRG), near O'Brien Crossing 15 Jun (BRG) and at George Booth Drive 31 Oct (WID *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Four records, from two cells.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 43% of cells, at RR = 12.7%; cell of most interest: H8 (44.7%).

Notable records: 20 birds in several small parties were at Springdale HSD Martindale 25-26 Apr (HBOC). **Breeding:** A pair was feeding fledged young at The Drip Goulburn River NP 16 May (JED), and had a nest with young near Pine Ridge SF 11 Sep (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 64 records from 17 cells; RR 11.0%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 9.49%; cell of most interest: H8 (70.2%).

Notable records: 40 birds were recorded at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC) and 20+ birds at Jones Reserve Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD). **Breeding:** A pair was nest building at Kearsley 6 Jul (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 63 records from 23 cells; RR 10.8%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 57% of cells, at RR = 16.1%; cell of most interest: M5 (63.7%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW) and Copeland SCA 22 May (MCR). Birds were recorded in 36% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Aug and Oct-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 181 records from 35 cells; RR 16.5%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 6.05%; cell of most interest: M10 (8.12%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **BA Atlas:** 17 records from four cells; RR 5.14%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 2.96%; cell of most interest: H8 (21.3%).

1-2 birds were recorded at W of Ulan 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), Ringwood Rd 11 Feb (ROM), three locations in Goulburn River NP 12 Feb (ROM), Wallaby Scrub Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD), Jones Reserve Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD), Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May and Medhurst Bridge 19 May (both MCR), Bald Hill 11 Sep and Goulburn River NP 30 Oct (both ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Six records from three cells.

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone albogularis*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 72% of cells, at RR = 13.2%; cell of most interest: L8 (24.6%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Cattai Wetlands 3 Oct (HBOC). Perhaps the first arrival was 20 Aug, when a bird was heard at Martins Creek (NEM). However, a bird was heard at the same general location 14 Jun (NEM) and so possibly it over-wintered. Several birds had arrived at Rothbury 9 Sep (ROS). **Breeding:** A pair was nest building at Seaham Swamp NR 3 Oct but the nest did not survive (MAM). Birds bred at Balickera Oct (MUJ) and were on nest at Broke 5 Dec (BRG). **BA Atlas:** 86 records from 31 cells; RR 7.52%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 77% of cells, at RR = 16.0%; cell of most interest: L8 (40.8%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were often at Green Wattle Creek over Feb-Jun (NEM). Birds were recorded in 86% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were nest building at Black Rock Rd Martins Creek 14 Jun (NEM), had a nest at Kearsley South Fire Trail 22 Aug (HBOC), and bred at Balickera Jul-Sep (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 172 records from 39 cells; RR 14.4%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 79% of cells, at RR = 27.5%; cell of most interest: M8 (49.9%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at WWW 9 Feb (MEL *et al.*) and Belltrees 5 May (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan and Pembroke Rd 24 Jan (DBP, STA), and had a nest with eggs at Wingen 18 Oct (NEG) – the nest later was destroyed in a storm. **BA Atlas:** 235 records from 40 cells; RR 18.9%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 77% of cells, at RR = 13.7%; cell of most interest: G7 (47.4%).

Notable records: 70 birds were recorded at Belltrees 6 May (HBOC), and 20+ birds at both Medhurst Bridge and Widden Valley 19 May (MCR). **Breeding:** A pair was feeding fledged young at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 108 records from 34 cells; RR 9.12%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 56% of cells, at RR = 6.68%; cell of most interest: H8 (41.1%).

Notable records: 50 birds were recorded in two 500m radius survey areas at Belltrees 5-6 May (HBOC). 20+ birds were at Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR). Some birds were at Green Wattle Creek 15 Apr – the first records from there for 18 months (NEM). **BA Atlas:** 54 records from 20 cells; RR 6.01%.

Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis*

ID No: 476 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Yes
Status: Rare in extreme NW of Region.

Several parties were near Bald Hill 11 Sep (ROM *et al.*).

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 83% of cells, at RR = 31.8%; cell of most interest: L5 (82.2%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct and 27 birds there 13 Feb (HBOC, MVBW), and 25 birds were at East Seaham 13 Apr (HBOC). Birds were recorded in 100% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at BbR 21 Aug (NIJ) and had a nest with young at Murrays Run Rd 19 Sep (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 432 records from 64 cells; RR 33.3%.

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*).
From BA Atlas: 14 records from seven cells; cell of most interest: C6 (six records).

Two pairs were found along Durridgere Rd 19 Jan (KEM), with several subsequent records in Jan, Apr, May and Oct and the peak count being 6-8 birds 23 Jan. Also, three birds were at Giants Creek Rd 12 Sep (LIA/NEM) – *the most easterly known record for the species in the Region*. **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell B6.



Southern Whiteface:
sketch by Grant Brosie

Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*

ID No: 565 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. 1-5 birds are widely and regularly recorded, and counts of up to 20 birds are not uncommon.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 85% of cells, at RR = 28.9%; cell of most interest: L8 (52.1%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded in 77% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Apr and late Aug-Dec. **BA Atlas:** 375 records from 57 cells; RR 29.3%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 83% of cells, at RR = 17.5%; cell of most interest: H4 (72.0%).

Notable records: 60+ birds were at Belltrees 6 May (HBOC). Birds were recorded in 59% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A pair had a nest with young at East Seaham 12 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 246 records from 49 cells; RR 19.8%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 81% of cells, at RR = 26.2%; cell of most interest: K11 (51.9%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded in 68% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and bred at Balickera Sep-Oct and Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 310 records from 58 cells; RR 24.3%.

Pied Honeyeater *Certhionyx variegatus*

ID No: 602 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002-03, 2007-08*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*

ID No: 605 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. 1-5 birds are regularly recorded in the E and central parts of the Region, and often as up to 20 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 70% of cells, at RR = 32.9%; cell of most interest: R5 (85.7%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Seal Rocks 21 Feb (HBOC), Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb and 3 Oct (MVBW, HBOC), Harrington 23 May and Copeland SCA 22 May (both MCR). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Sep-Nov (MUJ) and also at BbR during the year (NIJ), and were nest building near Karuah 14 Dec (TBW). **BA Atlas:** 396 records from 56 cells; RR 32.1%.

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 Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec, and of up to 100 birds during the Apr-Aug migration passage.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 93% of cells, at RR = 44.2%; cell of most interest: L8 (77.3%).

Notable records: Around 1,000 birds on migration passage passed over Putty Rd Milbrodale 23 Apr with another ~1,000 birds seen elsewhere that day (ROM). 200 birds were recorded at Springdale HSD Martindale 26 Apr and 300+ birds at Ash Island 7 Sep (both HBOC). 100+ birds were at PNR 21 May (CLT). **Breeding:** There were records at Balickera throughout Aug-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 529 records from 69 cells; RR 40.6%.

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens*

ID No: 608 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Yes (Revised)
Status: Uncertain (revised from: Accidental).

Some birds were discovered at Durridgere Rd 23 Apr (RIA). This led to many subsequent visits by observers to this relatively remote area and established that there were two locations along Durridgere Rd and another location at nearby Smeades Rd where birds were frequently recorded and perhaps are resident (many reporters). **Breeding:** A pair was feeding two fledged young at Durridgere Rd 23 Apr (RIA). **BA Atlas:** Six records from cell B6.

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis*

ID No: 617 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident. 1-5 birds moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 51% of cells, at RR = 7.26%; cell of most interest: B6 (69.4%).

Notable records: 15 birds were recorded over a large area of Belltrees 5 May (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 65 records from 23 cells; RR 10.1%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 31% of cells, at RR = 8.23%; cell of most interest: G10 (61.4%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Kitchener Werakata NP 21 Mar (ALP/TWD). **BA Atlas:** 39 records from 15 cells; RR 6.26%.

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*

ID No: 613 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. Up to 20 birds are moderately often recorded in W and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 34% of cells, at RR = 7.53%; cell of most interest: L8 (20.0%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** A pair was on nest near Kurri Kurri 29 Aug (ROS). **BA Atlas:** 34 records from eight cells; RR 4.55%.

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

ID No: 625 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Up to 20 birds moderately often recorded in the W and central parts of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 52% of cells, at RR = 10.0%; cell of most interest: G8 (66.8%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC), Medhurst Bridge and Baerami Creek 19 May (both MCR). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Ringwood Rd 12 Feb (ROM). **BA Atlas:** 64 records from 19 cells; RR 7.87%.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

ID No: 633 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 10-30 birds moderately often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 43% of cells, at RR = 16.3%; cell of most interest: L10 (32.5%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **BA Atlas:** 90 records from 23 cells; RR 13.4%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 35.3%; cell of most interest: L9 (57.4%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were at Belltrees 4-6 May, and 20+ birds at Toronto Wetland 6 Apr and Rathmines/Myuna Bay 5 Oct (all HBOC). **Breeding:** There were several records, spanning late Aug-Nov. **BA Atlas:** 323 records from 59 cells; RR 26.8%.

Yellow-throated Miner *Manorina flavigula*

ID No: 635 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2003, 2009*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

ID No: 640 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident in the W of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 13% of cells, at RR = 7.48%; cell of most interest: F6 (18.8%).

20+ birds were at Medhurst Bridge 28 May (ROM). There were frequent records all year of 1-5 birds from widespread locations in the W of the Region. The most easterly records were of a single bird at Ironbark Lane Cessnock 2 Sep (ROM) and two birds at Hunter Valley Gardens (Pokolbin) early in the year (HAP). **BA Atlas:** 17 records from six cells.

Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera*

ID No: 712 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Regularly recorded near to the coast as counts of up to 20 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 32% of cells, at RR = 22.4%; cell of most interest: R5 (83.7%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Crowdy Bay NP 23 May (MCR). **BA Atlas:** 174 records from 20 cells; RR 26.0%.

Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia*

ID No: 603 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Critically Endangered Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon bird of passage.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 77% of cells, at RR = 8.93%; cell of most interest: K9 (8.43%).

The first record was of a single bird at Kitchener 12 Mar (ROM) where up to 5 birds were then present until 21 Mar. Subsequently, some birds were recorded at Putty Rd Milbrodale, from 23 Apr to 11 Jun, with the peak count 19 birds (15 in a single flock) present on 14 May but most other records being of far lesser numbers (ROM, others). Elsewhere, 1-3 birds were recorded at Galgabba Point 16-26 May (MCR/ADJ, many others). **BA Atlas:** Four records from three cells.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 77% of cells, at RR = 18.8%; cell of most interest: P9 (46.6%).

Notable records: 24 birds were at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and nesting at Belmont 6 Oct (CJB), and were feeding young Eastern Koels at Gir-um-bit NP 16 Jan and Bolwarra 30 Nov (HAS *et al.*, TAH). **BA Atlas:** 179 records from 43 cells; RR 14.7%.

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albifrons*

ID No: 448 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 8% of cells, at RR = 10.9%; cell of most interest: N9 (27.4%).

Birds were often recorded (by many observers) at four locations: Ash Island (peak count 30 birds 9 Jul); Hexham Swamp NR (peak count 20 birds 6 Sep); Gir-um-bit NP (peak count 5 birds 15 May and 28 Aug); and Tomago Wetlands Mar and Jun-Jul (peak count 3 birds). Also, two birds were at Newcastle Bight 27 Aug (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 27 records from three cells; RR 7.87%.

Black Honeyeater *Sugomel niger*

ID No: 589 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Accidental (*recorded 2002, 2009*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Scarlet Honeyeater *Myzomela sanguinolenta*

ID No: 586 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-5 birds are often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 63% of cells, at RR = 12.7%; cell of most interest: M8 (33.2%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Medowie SCA 5 Jan (EGD/LUD), Green Wattle Creek 1 Oct (NEM), Yaraandoo Duns Creek 2 Oct (NEM) and Cattai Wetlands 1-3 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** There were records at Balickera spanning Sep-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 106 records from 30 cells; RR 9.31%.

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater *Glyciphila melanops*

ID No: 593 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident, of coastal heathlands.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 3.53%; cell of most interest: R6 (17.5%).

1-2 birds were at Awabakal NR 6 & 27 Jan and 10 Jul (BRG *et al.*, JED, ROM), Old Gibber Track MLNP 21 Jan (WIT) and Crowdy Bay NP 28 Jan (RIA). **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*

ID No: 597 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-5 birds are often recorded in shrublands at/near coastal locations (*text added*).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 26% of cells, at RR = 8.61%; cell of most interest: R6 (26.1%).

Notable records: 10+ birds were at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC) and eight birds were within a 500m radius in Crowdy Bay NP 13 Aug (STA). Two birds were often at Telarah over Aug-Oct (TAH) – *uncommon in Maitland area*. A bird was at Gloucester from 3 Dec – *new to this location* (DBP), and also a bird was recorded at Medhurst Bridge 28 May (ROM) – *very few prior records for the W of the Region*. **BA Atlas:** 73 records from 11 cells; RR 12.6%.

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*

ID No: 630 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 7.77%; cell of most interest: L5 (19.2%).

Gloucester Tops: Birds were recorded in 68% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*) and there were some complementary reports early in the year, including one of 20+ birds at various sites 19 Jan (BRG). **Barrington Tops:** 1-3 birds were at Honeysuckle Walk 19 Jan (NEG), Moppys rest area 26 Jan, Devils Hole 26 Jan, Thunderbolts Lookout 26 Jan and Pheasant Creek Rd 26 Jan, and also at several locations between Moppys and Thunderbolts Lookout 26 Jan (all RIA). **BA Atlas:** 27 records from three cells; RR 19.7%. *The increased number of records and reporting rate compared with the previous 12 years reflects the more intensive surveying of key habitat which occurred in 2010.*

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

ID No: 631 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 28% of cells, at RR = 3.89%; cell of most interest: R6 (21.8%).

6+ birds were recorded at Seal Rocks 21 Feb (HBOC) and there were many birds at Awabakal NR 14 Nov (LUD). 1-5 birds were present at Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR), Milbrodale 4 Jun (ROM), Blueys Beach (R7) 16 Jun (STA), Awabakal NR 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*) and Dudley 7 Dec (HBOC). Birds were recorded twice in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 13 records from 12 cells.

White-cheeked Honeyeater *Phylidonyris niger*

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 30% of cells, at RR = 17.5%; cell of most interest: R5 (50.3%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were present at Old Gibber Track MLNP 21 Jan (WIT). 21-50 birds were recorded in Crowdy Bay NP 1 Feb, 23 May and 13 Aug (BRG/LIN, MCR, STA).

Breeding: Birds had a nest with young at Stockton Sandspit 2 Oct (CCB) and also bred at Balickera Oct (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 124 records from 19 cells; RR 16.2%.

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*

ID No: 580 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident in central/west of Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 13% of cells, at RR = 2.65%; cell of most interest: C6 (11.4%).

6+ birds were recorded at Kitchener Werakata NP 19 Mar (ROM) and 1-5 birds at locations within the NP (near Kitchener and near Pelton) 12 & 26 Mar, 16-17 Apr and 18 Jul (ROM, WID, ERE). Elsewhere, 1-5 birds were at two locations at Goulburn River NP 20 Jan and one location there 4 Jun (KEM, per ROM), Ringwood Rd 5 May (BRG/LIN) and Giants Creek Rd 12 Sep (LIA/NEM). **BA Atlas:** 11 records from five cells.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 6.30%; cell of most interest: G10 (56.5%).

Notable records: 28 birds were at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 35 records from 18 cells; RR 4.41%.

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*

ID No: 578 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Up to 20 birds often recorded in the E and central parts of the Region over Jan-Mar and Aug-Dec, and counts of 21-50 birds are not uncommon over Apr-Jul.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 68% of cells, at RR = 11.3%; cell of most interest: G10 (54.3%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera during Oct-Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 79 records from 30 cells; RR 7.45%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 37% of cells, at RR = 6.90%; cell of most interest: L9 (30.9%).

Notable records: Seven birds were at Merewether 12 Jan (ALD) and Nulkaba Feb (LAB).

Breeding: Birds were nest building at Warners Bay 31 Aug and Gir-um-bit NP 23 Oct (MAC, WOL *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 35 records from 14 cells; RR 4.74%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 24.7%; cell of most interest: C6 (62.9%).

Notable records: Birds were abundant in Crowdy Bay NP for ~3 months from late Apr with many flocks of 50-100 birds; >1,000 birds were estimated to be present in the NP 16 May and somewhat lesser numbers 14 Jun (ROS, STA). Thousands of birds in many small flocks were moving through Stockton 26 Apr (KIM). **Breeding:** Birds were nest building at Darawank NR 24 Sep (STA). **BA Atlas:** 216 records from 51 cells; RR 16.7%.

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*

ID No: 646 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Bird of passage.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 23% of cells, at RR = 1.27%; cell of most interest: G2 (15.0%).

1-2 birds were recorded at Milbrodale 15 May (ERE), Medhurst Bridge 19 May and 21 Sep (MCR, MOA) and Goulburn River NP 29 Oct (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Two records from two cells.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 42% of cells, at RR = 8.74%; cell of most interest: G8 (7.21%).

Notable records: ~30 birds were at Putty Rd Milbrodale 23 Apr and many birds still there 14 May (ROM). 20+ birds were at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC), and 6-8 birds at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW), Springdale HSD Martindale 24 Apr (HBOC), Bulga 15 May (ERE), Kings Gap, Medhurst Bridge and Baerami Creek 19 May (all MCR). **Breeding:** A bird was nest building at Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 89 records from 23 cells; RR 9.92%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 5.55%; cell of most interest: G8 (7.21%).

A single bird was present at Medhurst Bridge 12 Sep (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** One record from cell G8.

Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis*

ID No: 443 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Parties of up to 5 birds are moderately often recorded in the central and W of Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 38% of cells, at RR = 10.2%; cell of most interest: L9 (31.4%).

Notable records: 16+ birds were recorded at Pioneer Rd Singleton 21 Jan (ERE) and 12-15 birds at Kitchener Werakata NP 18 Jul (WID). 6-10+ birds were at Mt View Rd 6 Mar (MOA *et al.*), East Seaham 13 Apr (HBOC), Belltrees 4-6 May (HBOC), Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR), Bulga 9 Jun (SMR) and Kearsley 6 Jul (HBOC). Five groups were recorded near Quorrobolong 31 Jul (CCB) and two large groups at Abernethy 16 May (ALD). Four groups are resident near Nulkaba (LAB). An easterly record was of a flock near Swan Bay (N9) 5 Jan (EGD/LUD). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Oct (MUJ), were feeding fledged young near Quorrobolong 31 Jul (CCB) and had a nest with eggs at Woodville 25 Aug (NEM). **BA Atlas:** 46 records from 14 cells; RR 5.84%.

White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

ID No: 445 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon resident in central and W of Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 9% of cells, at RR = 10.3%; cell of most interest: C6 (21.0%).

Six birds were recorded at Durrigere Rd 16 May (JED), and 1-5 birds there 19 Jan and 5 & 8 May (KEM, BRG/LIN, ROS), and also at Goulburn River NP 15 & 28 Jan and 30 Oct (BRG/LIN, (ROM *et al.*), Ringwood Rd 22 Jan (WID/ROM), Laguna 18-19 Sep (RDB) and Doyles Creek 30 Sep (TAH). **BA Atlas:** Six records from three cells.

Australian Logrunner *Orthonyx temminckii*

ID No: 434 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 9.51%; cell of most interest: Q2 (34.4%).

3-4 birds were recorded at Copeland SCA 31 Jan and 22 May (ROM *et al.*, MCR) and 1-2 birds at Jerusalem Creek 3 Jan (MEL), Gloucester Tops 25 Jan (WID/ROM), Cobark Rest Area Barrington Tops NP 26 Jan (RIA), Careys Peak Track 30 Aug and 17 Dec (STA *et al.*), Copeland SCA 9 Sep (DBP), Sharpes Creek 28 Nov (ERE), Koppin Yarrat Rd (S3) 30 Nov (MOT) and Copeland Tops 24 Dec (ROM). **BA Atlas:** Eight records from two cells.

Spotted Quail-thrush *Cinclosoma punctatum*

ID No: 436 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 22% of cells, at RR = 54.2%; cell of most interest: G10 (53.2%).

A pair and group of four birds were present at Kitchener Werakata NP 19 Mar (ROM), and five birds near Brokenback 25 Feb (GOJ). A pair and a separate single bird were at California Trail Wollemi NP (M9) 21 Oct (NEM/LIA) and three birds at Awaba SF 24 Mar (GOC). Single birds were recorded at Columbey NP 4 Mar (NEM), Laguna 12 & 17 Apr (RDB) and Curracabundi NP 28-30 May (DBP *et al.*), and at several locations around Kurri Kurri 29 Aug (ROS) and Wollemi NP 11-12 Sep (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Four records from four cells.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 67% of cells, at RR = 29.3%; cell of most interest: R5 (83.0%).

Notable records: 14 birds were present at Green Wattle Creek 18 Aug and 12 Nov (NEM). Birds were recorded in 86% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of the Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 346 records from 42 cells; RR 28.0%.

Varied Sittella *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*

ID No: 549 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident. Widely and moderately often recorded as counts of 1-5 birds.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 56% of cells, at RR = 7.82%; cell of most interest: K11 (17.8%).

Notable records: 7-8 birds were at Yaraandoo Duns Creek 6 Jan and 6 Apr (NEM). **BA Atlas:** 38 records from 21 cells; RR 4.79%.

Ground Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina maxima*

ID No: 423 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1993-94, 2000, 2004).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 34.3%; cell of most interest: L9 (53.7%).

Notable records: 25 birds were together at Broke Rd 23 Apr (ROM) and 12 birds were recorded in a 500m radius at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC). **Breeding:** There were several records, spanning Jan and Oct-Nov. **BA Atlas:** 273 records from 54 cells; RR 21.3%.

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*

ID No: 425 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Uncommon resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 36% of cells, at RR = 3.35%; cell of most interest: G10 (27.4%).

1-2 birds were moderately often recorded over Aug-Nov and occasionally earlier in the year. Four birds were at Kitchener Werakata NP 21 Mar (ALP/TWD) and 3+ birds at Black Rock Rd Martins Creek 14 Jun (NEM) and Cattai Wetlands 2 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 27 records from nine cells; RR 4.00%.

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 2010.

Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris*

ID No: 429 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. 1-2 birds moderately often recorded Jan to mid-Mar and mid-Sep onwards.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 51% of cells, at RR = 4.96%; cell of most interest: M8 (14.5%).

Notable records: Birds were present until at least 12 Apr, when recorded at Laguna. The first known return was 13 Oct, when a bird was at Sharpes Creek 13 Oct (MEL). Seven birds were at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb (MVBW), 4+ birds at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC), and birds were very common in Goulburn River NP 15 Jan (BRG/LIN). **BA Atlas:** 36 records from 16 cells; RR 3.85%.

White-winged Triller *Lalage sueurii*

ID No: 430 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 34% of cells, at RR = 2.29%; cell of most interest: F7 (15.1%).

A single bird was recorded at for Doyles Creek 20 Feb. No other reports were received for 2010 – *the least number of records since the Bird Reports commenced*. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*

ID No: 431 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Uncommon summer migrant.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 4.42%; cell of most interest: S4 (12.7%).

A pair was with 2 dependent young at Harrington RF 28 Jan (RIA) and there were several records from this location over Jan-May and Aug-Dec. Elsewhere, birds were recorded at Copeland SCA 31 Jan and 4-5 Apr (ROM *et al.*, ROS) and Fig Tree Crowdy Bay NP 4 Oct (ROM/WID). **BA Atlas:** Five records from cell S4.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 52% of cells, at RR = 5.91%; cell of most interest: G10 (48.6%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status.

Breeding: Birds were feeding fledged young at Harrington RF 20 Feb (MOA *et al.*); also four birds including two juveniles were together there 9 Dec (STA). Birds bred at Balickera in Dec (MUJ).

BA Atlas: 21 records from ten cells; RR 2.16%.



*Crested Shrike-tit:
sketch by Sally Stuart*

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea*

ID No: 405 HBOC Category: 2 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: None recorded
Status: Resident of highland areas.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 6.76%; cell of most interest: L5 (28.4%).

Gloucester Tops: Birds were recorded in 77% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*), with several complementary reports including 6+ birds along 4km of the Careys Peak Track 17 Dec (STA), and were also present there 19 Jan and 22 May (BRG, MCR). Elsewhere: Some birds were present at Polblue 28 Apr and 21-23 Dec (ERE, CLT/ADJ), near Mount Allyn 23 Nov (NEM) and Junction Pools Barrington Tops NP 23 Dec (CLT/ADJ). **BA Atlas:** 30 records from two cells; RR 19.4%. *The increased number of records and reporting rate compared with the previous 12 years reflects the more intensive surveying of key habitat which occurred in 2010.*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 83% of cells, at RR = 28.0%; cell of most interest: L8 (43.7%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded in 86% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A bird was feeding a young Fan-tailed Cuckoo at Saltwater NP 10 Dec (STA). **BA Atlas:** 375 records from 62 cells; RR 29.5%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 87% of cells, at RR = 22.6%; cell of most interest: G8 (53.9%).

Notable records: 10+ birds were at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC). The first recorded arrival was 21 Aug, at Martins Creek; a bird was also at Duns Creek 24 Aug (both NEM). However, two birds were at HWC 6 Jun (LIP). A bird was at Gloucester Falls 18 Nov (STA/NEM) – *very uncommon in the high country*. **Breeding:** A pair had a nest with young at Pembroke Rd 23-26 Jan (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 203 records from 50 cells; RR 15.7%.

Little Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 89% of cells, at RR = 29.5%; cell of most interest: C6 (62.9%).

Notable records: Birds were recorded in 86% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** A pair bred at Balickera in Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 332 records from 65 cells; RR 25.8%.

Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Australasian Figbird *Sphecotheres vieilloti*

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 38% of cells, at RR = 9.62%; cell of most interest: R5 (53.7%).

Notable records: 40+ birds were at Carrington 10 Nov (ALD) and 20+ birds at Seal Rocks 21 Feb (HBOC) and Harrington 23 May (MCR). Also, many birds were in Gloucester Apr (DBP). **Breeding:** A pair had a nest with young at Warners Bay 1 Jan (WAR) and birds bred at Gloucester mid Jan (DBP). **BA Atlas:** 88 records from 24 cells; RR 9.67%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 75% of cells, at RR = 14.8%; cell of most interest: Q6 (33.6%).

Notable records: Eight birds were at Green Wattle Creek 12 Nov and six birds there 18 Oct (NEM); also, six birds were at HWC 6 Jan (LIP). **Breeding:** Birds were on nest at Gir-um-bit NP 16 Jan (HAS *et al.*), Pacific Palms 20 Nov (MVBW) and Broke 5 Dec (BRG), and were feeding a young cuckoo at Pacific Dunes GC Medowie 12 Dec (LUD *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 127 records from 37 cells; RR 10.1%.

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

ID No: 543 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common summer migrant. Frequently recorded at medium to large fresh waters in E of the Region over Jan-Apr and from mid-Aug onwards as counts of up to 20 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 75% of cells, at RR = 10.6%; cell of most interest: L10 (22.8%).

Notable records: Late departing birds were at Belmont Lagoon 8 May (ROM) and Gloucester 22 May (MCR). The first recorded arrival was 15 Aug, when two birds were at Cattai Wetlands (STA). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Rathmines/Myuna Bay 5 Oct (HBOC) and Belmont Lagoon early Dec (BRG), and two pairs had dependent young at Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 52 records from 14 cells; RR 7.84%.

Masked Woodswallow *Artamus personatus*

ID No: 544 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Rare irruptive visitor (*recorded 1994-95, 2001-02, 2006-09*).
From BA Atlas: Seven records from five cells.

No reports were received for 2010. **BA Atlas:** Nil records.

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus*

ID No: 545 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon irruptive visitor.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 15% of cells, at RR = 0.94%; cell of most interest: G8 (3.37%).

The only records were of up to four birds including two juveniles at HWC 18-22 Dec (ROS, ROM) – *not previously recorded at this location in 24 years of data collection (SRM)*. **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell M10.

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus*

ID No: 547 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant; some birds are present all year. Occasionally but widely recorded as counts of 1-10 birds, mainly over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 52% of cells, at RR = 5.49%; cell of most interest: G8 (26.4%).

Notable records: There were widespread records of birds present in the central and W of the Region over Apr-May, including ten birds at Springdale HSD Martindale 24 Apr (HBOC) and 16 birds at Poggy HSD Goulburn River NP 16 May (JED). The first recorded arrival was 20 Aug, when six birds were at Old Gibber Track MLNP (NEM). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Widden Valley 28 Jan (BRG/LIN). **BA Atlas:** 21 records from nine cells; RR 2.70%.

Little Woodswallow *Artamus minor*

ID No: 548 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1987*).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 87% of cells, at RR = 29.8%; cell of most interest: L11 (46.4%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** Birds were feeding young at Lochinvar 24 Oct, Dora Creek 9 Nov and Dudley 7 Dec (HBOC, GOC), and also bred in BbR during the year (NIJ). **BA Atlas:** 284 records from 54 cells; RR 22.2%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 85% of cells, at RR = 27.4%; cell of most interest: L9 (48.2%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** Birds were with dependent young at Wyee Point 6 Dec (MDV) and juveniles were present at Morpeth WTW 7 Oct and 17 Oct (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 254 records from 46 cells; RR 20.2%.

Australian Magpie *Cracticus tibicen*

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 93% of cells, at RR = 58.0%; cell of most interest: L9 (87.1%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Belltrees 4-6 May (HBOC) and 21-50 birds at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC), HWC 14 Feb and 13 Apr (LIP), Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR) and Tomago Wetlands 20 Jul (MCN *et al.*). **Breeding:** There were many records, spanning Sep-Nov and also birds were feeding a young Channel-billed Cuckoo at Tuncurry 13 Jan (MVBW). **BA Atlas:** 553 records from 70 cells; RR 42.1%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 32.6%; cell of most interest: K11 (51.9%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Baerami Creek and Widden Valley 19 May and Kerripit Rd Gloucester Tops 22 May (all MCR). Birds were recorded in 82% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at HWC 28 Oct (LIA) and Wingen 15 Dec (NEG), and feeding young Channel-billed Cuckoos at One Mile Beach Jan and Boomerang Beach Dec (MVBW). **BA Atlas:** 314 records from 65 cells; RR 24.3%.

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*

ID No: 697 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Uncommon resident of highlands in far SW of the Region (recorded 1995, '97, 2005, '07, '09).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 21% of cells, at RR = 6.60%; cell of most interest: R6 (27.7%).

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was 1 Feb, when a bird was present at Harrington RF (BRG/LIN). Single birds at Broke 23 Feb to 1 Mar (TWD), Bulga 15 May (ERE) and Milbrodale 21 May (ROM) – *it is unusual to have such westerly records*. **BA Atlas:** 42 records from ten cells; RR 5.72%.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 48% of cells, at RR = 8.13%; cell of most interest: K11 (20.6%).

Notable records: An early arrival was a single bird at Copeland SCA 6 Aug (ERE); there were no further records until 29 Sep when a bird was at Saltwater NP (DBP). Single birds were at Wallaby Scrub Rd 13 Mar (DGG) and HWC 26 Oct (LIP) – *both are unusual locations and birds perhaps were on migration passage*. Birds were recorded just 3 times in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Jan and Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 51 records from 26 cells; RR 4.89%.

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa*

ID No: 361 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. Widely and regularly recorded as counts of up to 20 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 91% of cells, at RR = 49.2%; cell of most interest: L8 (75.1%).

Notable records: 20-30+ birds were present at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb and 2-3 Oct (MVBW, HBOC), HWC 13 Apr (LIP), Green Wattle Creek 18 Aug and 8 Sep (NEM), Yaraandoo Duns Creek 7 Sep (NEM) and Ash Island 7 Sep (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 589 records from 74 cells; RR 45.2%.

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

ID No: 364 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. 1-5 birds are widely and regularly recorded, and occasionally up to 10 birds.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 93% of cells, at RR = 43.6%; cell of most interest: L9 (79.5%).

Notable records: 14 birds were at Hexham Swamp 9 Aug (LIA). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at WWW 20 Oct (MEL *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 401 records from 63 cells; RR 30.9%.

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 (*text modified*).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 93% of cells, at RR = 43.7%; cell of most interest: L9 (68.7%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at Nobbys Beach 4 Mar (THJ) and HWC 23 May (LIP). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at HWC 20 Nov (LIP) and Wingen 15 Dec (NEG). **BA Atlas:** 369 records from 65 cells; RR 28.2%.

Forest Raven *Corvus tasmanicus*

ID No: 868 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records
Status: Resident, in the NE of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 20% of cells, at RR = 4.97%; cell of most interest: R6 (16.4%).

1-5 birds were regularly recorded at both Harrington and Saltwater NP (STA, WID) and at Myall Lakes NP 22 Jan (WIT), Seal Rocks 21 Feb (HBOC) and Crowdy Bay NP 23 May (MCR). **BA Atlas:** 32 records from five cells; RR 8.94%.

Little Raven *Corvus mellori*

ID No: 954 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 26% of cells, at RR = 2.37%; cell of most interest: N5 (24.1%).

60+ birds were recorded at Ringwood Rd Merriwa 15 & 19 Jan (BRG/LIN, KEM) and 20+ birds near Stratford 25 Jan (WID/ROM). 6-10+ birds were at Cobark Barrington Tops NP 26 & 31 Jan (RIA, ROM *et al.*), Belltrees 5-6 May (HBOC), Baerami Creek, Medhurst Bridge and Widden Valley 19 May (all MCR) and Gloucester CP area 22 May (MCR). Birds were heard at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 21 records from nine cells; RR 4.42%.

Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*

ID No: 692 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident. Often recorded as up to 10 birds in the area bounded by Dungog, Gloucester, Maitland and Port Stephens.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 42% of cells, at RR = 9.80%; cell of most interest: R4 (41.9%).

Notable records: Ten birds were recorded at Green Wattle Creek 10 Mar (NEM). 1-2 birds were at Ash Island 26 Jun (HWS), WWW 9 Aug (MEL *et al.*), John Browns Lagoon 31 Oct (WID *et al.*) and HWC 20 Nov (LIP). Birds were recorded most months at Mulbring (ROM) – *this may now be the southernmost population*. **BA Atlas:** 113 records from 28 cells; RR 11.7%.

Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*

ID No: 365 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Summer migrant. Up to 5 birds are moderately often recorded Jan-Mar and mid-Sep onwards.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 59% of cells, at RR = 7.40%; cell of most interest: M8 (14.7%).

Notable records: A late departing bird was at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC). The first recorded arrival was 24 Sep, when birds were at Curracabundi NP and Darawank NR (DBP, STA). **BA Atlas:** 56 records from 20 cells; RR 5.28%.

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*

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

Gloucester Tops: There were several records of birds in the Kerripit Rd area in Jan; however, there was only one record in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Barrington Tops:** A pair was at Devils Hole and a bird was carrying food near Thunderbolts Lookout 26 Jan (both RIA).

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*

ID No: 728 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 49% of cells, at RR = 4.38%; cell of most interest: G8 (22.1%).

Three birds were at Belltrees 4-6 May (HBOC). 1-2 birds were recorded at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23-26 Jan (HBOC), Berrico area (M5) 25 Jan (WID/ROM), Widden Valley 28 Jan and 19 May (BRG/LIN, MCR), Springdale HSD Martindale 24-26 Apr (HBOC), Doyles Creek Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD), Windy HSD 21 May (MCR), Newline Rd Raymond Terrace 27 Jun (LUD), Wingen 6 Sep (NEG), Giants Creek 13 & 30 Sep (NEM/LIA), East Seaham 28 Sep (TBW), Balickera Sep (MUJ), and Manning Entrance SP 7 Oct (MVBW). **BA Atlas:** 19 records from eight cells; RR 2.81%.

White-eared Monarch *Carterornis leucotis*

ID No: 376 HBOC Category: 3 NSW: Vulnerable

Breeding: No

Status: Uncertain (*Recorded 1993, 2003-08*)No reports were received for 2010 (*despite several visits by some to the Fig Tree site*).**Black-faced Monarch** *Monarcha melanopsis*

ID No: 373 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual summer migrant. 1-5 birds are moderately often recorded over Jan-Mar and Sep-Dec.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 46% of cells, at RR = 8.02%; cell of most interest: M5 (31.9%).

Notable records: The first recorded arrival was 19 Sep, when present near Sharpes Creek (BIA). Ten birds were at Cattai Wetlands 1 Oct (HBOC). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Jan and Nov-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 53 records from 20 cells; RR 5.44%.

Spectacled Monarch *Symposiarchus trivirgatus*

ID No: 375 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon summer migrant.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 21% of cells, at RR = 1.78%; cell of most interest: S4 (15.3%).

There were many records from Harrington RF over Jan-Feb and Sep-Dec (many observers), and also at least one bird was present there 15 Aug (ANC). 1-2 birds were also recorded at Copeland Common 1 Jan (BRG/LIN), Manning Point 14 Mar (KIM), Upper Allyn River 31 Oct and 15 Nov (BRG *et al.*), Upper Lansdowne 13 Nov (STA *et al.*), Copeland SCA 16 Nov (RIA), Saltwater NP 10 Dec (STA) and Seal Rocks 15 Dec (JED). **Breeding:** A pair was nest building at Harrington RF early Dec (FIW). **BA Atlas:** Eight records from four cells.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 88% of cells, at RR = 42.9%; cell of most interest: L9 (87.6%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded at HWC 13 Apr (LIP), Gloucester 22 May (MCR) and Hexham Swamp 16 Jun (LIA). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 367 records from 51 cells; RR 28.8%.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 62% of cells, at RR = 13.2%; cell of most interest: H8 (36.9%).

Notable records: A flock of 45 birds were near Quorrobolong 31 Jul (CCB). 20+ birds were at Belltrees 5 May (HBOC), Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR) and Yaraandoo Duns Creek 14 Jun (NEM). **Breeding:** A bird was on nest at Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (MEL *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 57 records from 22 cells; RR 8.04%.

Paradise Riflebird *Ptiloris paradiseus*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 6% of cells, at RR = 5.03%; cell of most interest: M4 (13.0%).

Three birds (2m, 1f) were recorded in the Gloucester Tops 18-19 Sep (BIA). However, no birds were recorded in 91 surveys of 22 x 1 km transects in high altitude area (>1,150m) of the Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*) Single birds were at Upper Allyn River 17 & 31 Oct (ROM *et al.*), Copeland SCA 16 Nov (RIA), Sharpes Creek/Gloucester Tops 12 Oct and 27 Nov (HBOC, KET) and Copeland Tops 24 Dec (ROM). **BA Atlas:** Four records from three cells.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 74% of cells, at RR = 14.3%; cell of most interest: G8 (61.5%).

Notable records: 18 birds in four groups were at Yaraandoo Duns Creek 15 Jun (NEM). 6+ birds were at Springdale HSD Martindale 25-26 Apr (HBOC), Doyles Creek Rd 19 May and Appletree Flats (H7) 19 May (both MCR). **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Ringwood Rd 12 Feb (ROM). **BA Atlas:** 105 records from 22 cells; RR 9.56%.

Scarlet Robin *Petroica boodang*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 32% of cells, at RR = 2.25%; cell of most interest: G10 (35.5%).

Four birds were recorded at Belltrees 5 May and three birds at Kearsley 6 Jul (both HBOC). 1-2 birds were at Gloucester Tops 19 Jan (BRG), Coolah Tops NP 24 Jan (HBOC), Breeza Lookout Coolah Tops NP (C3) 25 Jan (HBOC), Polblue 26-27 Jan (RIA), Stewarts Brook Rd (J5) 5 May (STA *et al.*), Bulga 15 May (ERE), Putty Rd Bulga 16 May (BRG/LUD), Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR), Bulga 21 May (per ROM). **BA Atlas:** Five records from four cells.

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 19% of cells, at RR = 4.76%; cell of most interest: H8 (35.5%).

Five birds were near Bulga 15 May (ERE) and four birds at Durridgere Rd 5 May (BRG/LIN) and Pine Grove Rd 18 May (BRG). Three birds were present at Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR) and Pine Grove Rd 23 May (ALP). 1-2 birds were recorded at Durridgere Rd 19 Jan, 25 Apr, 21 Jul and 30 Oct (several observers), Wallaby Scrub Rd and Jones Reserve Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD), Doyles Creek Rd and Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR) and near Pine Ridge SF 11 Sep (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 11 records from five cells.

Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea*

ID No: 382 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident (and altitudinal migrant).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 15% of cells, at RR = 2.89%; cell of most interest: L5 (10.6%).

Barrington Tops: 50+ birds were in the Polblue area 28 Apr (ERE), two family groups (adults & juveniles) 26-27 Jan (RIA) and six birds present there 21-23 Dec (CLT/ADJ). Birds were abundant at Little Murray 2 Apr (ERE). 1-5 birds were at Pheasants Creek Rd Walk 19 Jan (NEG), Little Murray 21-22 Dec and Junction Pools 23 Dec (both CLT/ADJ). *Gloucester Tops*: Birds were recorded in 23% of 22 x 1 km transects in high altitude area (>1,150m) over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*) with some complementary records by others. 1-5 birds were also present 19 & 25 Jan (BRG, WID/ROM). *Elsewhere*: Up to ten birds were at Belltrees 4-6 May and several birds were at Big Dicky Dans TSR 5 May (both HBOC). 1-3 birds were recorded at Medhurst Bridge 24 Apr (STA), Hunter Track Wollemi NP (E10) 20 May (MCR), Crowdy Bay NP 14 Jun (STA) and Wingen 12 Jul (NEG). **Breeding**: Birds were with dependent young at Pheasants Creek Rd 19 Jan (NEG). **BA Atlas**: 16 records from five cells; RR 6.27%. Also see Supplementary Records. 2 at Baerami Creek Wollemi NP 9-12 Jun (HBOC),

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea*

ID No: 384 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual resident (altitudinal migrant). 1-5 birds are often recorded at low-mid altitudes Apr-Aug and mid-high altitudes in other months (*text simplified*).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 56% of cells, at RR = 5.31%; cell of most interest: M5 (27.5%).

Notable records: A single bird was at Ash Island 18 Sep (MCN) – *not previously known at this location*. Birds were recorded in 68% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas**: 69 records from 23 cells; RR 6.62%.

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*

ID No: 385 HBOC Category: 1 NSW: Vulnerable Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident, in west of Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 5.55%; cell of most interest: H8 (16.3%).

Four birds were recorded at Wambo Rd Bulga 19 May (MCR), eight birds at Giants Creek Rd 12 Sep (LIA/NEM) and three birds near Bulga 15 May (ERE). 1-2 birds were present at Durrigere Rd 19 Jan and 5 May (KEM, BRG/LIN), Ringwood Rd 12 Feb and 5 May (ROM, BRG/LIN), Wallaby Scrub Rd 14 Mar and 13 Jul (DGG), Springdale HSD Martindale 24-25 Apr (HBOC), Goulburn River NP 16 May and 4 Jun (JED, ROM), Medhurst Bridge 25 May (per ROM) and Giants Creek 30 Sep (NEM/LIA). **Breeding**: Birds were feeding fledged young at Ringwood Rd 12 Feb (ROM) and were with juveniles at Wallaby Scrub Rd 13 Mar (DGG). **BA Atlas**: Nine records from four cells.

Pale-yellow Robin *Tregellasia capito*

ID No: 396 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 2.73%; cell of most interest: M5 (13.0%).

3+ birds were at Copeland Common 1 Jan and Copeland SCA 22 May (BRG/LIN, MCR). 1-2 birds were at Copeland SCA 31 Jan and 27 Apr (ROM *et al.*, ERE). There was only one record from 91 surveys of 22 x 1 km transects in high altitude area (>1,150m) of the Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas**: Five records from four cells.

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*

ID No: 392 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Common resident. 1-5 birds are widely and regularly recorded, and occasionally 6-10 birds (*text modified*).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 84% of cells, at RR = 29.3%; cell of most interest: L8 (48.8%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were at Cattai Wetlands 3 Oct (HBOC). Birds were recorded in 91% of 22 x 1 km transects of a high altitude area (>1150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Kearsley South Fire Trail 22 Aug (HBOC) and feeding fledged young at Saltwater NP 29 Sep (DBP) and Brunkerville 2 Nov (HBOC), and also bred at Balickera Nov (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 84 records from 65 cells; RR 29.3%.

Horsfield's Bushlark *Mirafrja javanica*

ID No: 648 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: None recorded
Status: Uncommon summer migrant in central and W of region.
From BA Atlas: 20 records from nine cells; cell of most interest: G7 (five records).

Many birds were present and displaying at Largs 11 Jan and birds also were common along Durrigere Rd 15 & 28 Jan (all BRG/LIN). Good numbers were also reported to be present near Morpeth 8 Jan (ROM). 1-2 birds were at Largs 9 Jan (WID), Phoenix Park 11 & 26 Jan (BRG/LIN, KEM), Mount Arthur 29 Jan (NEG) and Springdale HSD Martindale 25 Apr (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell G8.

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

ID No: 993 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: Past records
Status: Rare (*recorded 1994, 1996, 2003, 2005-07*).

No reports were received for 2010.

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.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 34% of cells, at RR = 11.8%; cell of most interest: L10 (29.9%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were recorded in the Hunter Estuary 16 Jan and 15 May (HWS) and at Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (CLT). **BA Atlas:** 84 records from 12 cells; RR 10.1%.

Australian Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus australis*

ID No: 524 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Usual summer migrant; some birds are resident. 1-10 birds are often recorded near medium-large waters during Jan-Apr and Sep-Dec (*text simplified*).
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 40% of cells, at RR = 8.97%; cell of most interest: L9 (32.9%).

Notable records: 20+ birds were in the Hunter Estuary 16 Jan (HWS). **BA Atlas:** 50 records from 11 cells; RR 5.88%.

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

ID No: 523 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-5 birds usually recorded near medium to large waters in the E of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 9.65%; cell of most interest: M10 (15.0%).

Notable records: 6+ birds were at Broughton Island 14-16 Sep (CLT). **BA Atlas:** 58 records from eight cells; RR 11.9%.

Little Grassbird *Megalurus gramineus*

ID No: 522 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes
Status: Resident. 1-5 birds usually recorded near medium to large waters in the E of the Region.
From BA Atlas: Recorded in 14% of cells, at RR = 11.7%; cell of most interest: L9 (25.0%).

Notable records: 10-20 birds were recorded at Hexham Swamp over Aug-Dec (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 54 records from five cells; RR 12.7%.

Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

ID No: 509 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant in central/west of Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 31% of cells, at RR = 4.49%; cell of most interest: E6 (25.8%).

1-2 birds were recorded near Denman 2 Jan (BRG/LIN) and at Pembroke Rd (C4) 23 & 25 Jan (STA), Springdale HSD Martindale 24-26 Apr (HBOC), Bulga 15 May (ERE), Yarrawa and Medhurst Bridge 19 May (both MCR), Giants Creek Rd 12 Sep (LIA/NEM), Durrigere Rd 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*) and Martindale 5 Dec (TAH). **BA Atlas:** Eight records from four cells.

Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis*

ID No: 508 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Uncommon summer migrant in central/west of Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 1.76%; cell of most interest: D2 (22.7%).

Three birds were present at Summerhill Rd 28 Jan (BRG/LIN) and single birds near Morpeth 8 Jan and at Ringwood Rd 15 Jan (both ROM). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell J8.

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 east of the Region during Apr – mid-May and mid-Jun – Jul.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 81% of cells, at RR = 29.1%; cell of most interest: L11 (41.7%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **Breeding:** Birds were feeding fledged young at Gloucester 2 Jan (DBP) and bred at Balickera Sep and Nov-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 290 records from 54 cells; RR 22.8%.



*Silvereye: sketch
by Lois Wooding*

White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosterna*

ID No: 358 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Past records

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 14% of cells, at RR = 1.95%; cell of most interest: G7 (4.39%).

Nine birds were recorded near Martindale 12 Feb, seven birds there 28 May and five birds 12 Sep (ROM *et al.*). Six birds were present along Ringwood Rd 22 Jan (WID/ROM) and 1-2 birds at Goulburn River NP 15 Jan (BRG/LIN), Widden Valley 19 May (MCR) and O'Brien Crossing 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Two records, from two cells.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

ID No: 879 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (recorded 1988).

No reports were received for 2010.

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 up to 50 birds near medium-large waters.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 94% of cells, at RR = 39.6%; cell of most interest: L9 (66.3%).

Notable records: 100-200 birds were often at Hexham Swamp but the numbers rose dramatically in autumn, with 1,150 birds present 23 Mar and then 2,000 birds present 31 May (LIA). 500-600 birds were at Ash Island over Jun-Jul (MCN/STA). An albino bird was at Kurri Kurri early Feb (LIG). **Breeding:** Birds bred at Balickera over Aug-Oct (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 304 records from 57 cells; RR 23.4%.

Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel*

ID No: 360 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant; small numbers over-winter. Up to 20 birds are frequently recorded at medium to large waters in east/central of the Region Jan to mid-Mar and from early Aug.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 50% of cells, at RR = 7.96%; cell of most interest: L9 (19.0%).

Notable records: 30-40 birds were often recorded at Hexham Swamp in Jan and from early Aug onwards (LIA), and 40 birds were at Tomago Wetlands 18 Nov (MCN *et al.*). 20+ birds were also at Lochinvar 24 Oct (HBOC). The first recorded arrival was 12 Aug, when 5-6 birds were at Cattai Wetlands (STA); however, two birds were present at WWW 17 Jul (BRG *et al.*).

Breeding: At Hexham Swamp, there were 13 active nests 30 Oct, 14 active nests 26 Dec, and birds had nests with young 20 Jan (LIA). **BA Atlas:** 31 records from nine cells; RR 4.34%.

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*

ID No: 359 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Summer migrant; some birds over-winter. Up to 20 birds are occasionally but widely recorded.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 59% of cells, at RR = 6.66%; cell of most interest: L9 (15.5%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were present at Little Murrays Barrington Tops NP 21-22 Dec (CLT/ADJ), 47 birds at Hexham Swamp 20 Jan (LIA) and 30+ at Barrington Tops 29 Jan (CLT). **BA Atlas:** 39 records from 18 cells; RR 3.71%.

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

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

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Records from six cells, at RR = 6.14; cell of most interest: M11 (29.6%).

Six birds were recorded at Swansea Heads 3 Feb (BRG/LIN) and 1-2 birds at Swansea mid Apr and Belmont Lagoon 8 May (both ROM). A single bird was at Cooranbong 17 Jan (RIA) and two birds at Gateshead 27 Aug (PEK) – *records away from the Swansea area are unusual.*

BA Atlas: Nil records.

Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata*

ID No: 779 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 28% of cells, at RR = 3.61%; cell of most interest: M5 (25.3%).

20+ birds were recorded 24 Dec during large transects through Gloucester Tops and Copeland Tops (ROM). Four birds were together at Dingo Tops NP 22 Feb (MOA *et al.*). There were several records in summer of 1-2 birds from Gloucester Tops, Barrington Tops and locations around Copeland, and also from Balickera over Apr-Jul (MUJ). 1-2 birds were also recorded at Watagans 2 Mar (HBOC), Stewarts Brook Rd (J5) 5 May (STA *et al.*), Woko NP 13 May (CLT), Baerami Creek 19 May (MCR), Bow Wow Gorge Mount Vincent 25 Jul (HBOC), Curracabundi NP 23-24 Sep (DBP), Upper Allyn River 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*), Koppin Yarrat Rd (S3) 30 Nov (MOT) and Barrington House late Dec (ROM). **BA Atlas:** Seven records from six cells.

Russet-tailed Thrush *Zoothera heinei*

ID No: 780 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 4.82%; cell of most interest: M5 (14.3%).

Three pairs were recorded at Wingham Brush 15 Jun (ERE) and 1-2+ birds there 23 Feb and 8 Aug (MOA *et al.*, BRG/LIN). Two pairs were at Copeland SCA 31 Jan (ROM *et al.*) and there were some other records of 1-2 birds from locations around Copeland during the year. 1-2 birds were also recorded at Gloucester area 26-28 Mar (CCB), Sharpes Creek several times over late Aug-Nov (various observers), at Barrington House 17 Oct and late Dec (ROM), Upper Allyn River 17 & 31 Oct (ROM *et al.*, BRG *et al.*) and Upper Lansdowne 13 Nov (STA *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** Eight records from seven cells.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*

ID No: 991 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident, in central and W of the Region.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 16% of cells, at RR = 1.04%; cell of most interest: K4 (22.2%).

Birds continue to be recorded in the Maitland area. They were heard regularly at Weston Aug-Sep where numbers are increasing (ROS). A few birds were regularly present at Singleton (ALP) and birds are resident in Aberdeen (NEG). 1-2 birds were recorded at Scone 19 Sep (NEG) and Merriwa 30 Oct (ROM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell L5.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 74% of cells, at RR = 23.8%; cell of most interest: L9 (64.7%).

Notable records: 100+ birds were recorded near Gungal 23 Jan (STA) and at Hexham Swamp 16 Jun and 7 Dec (LIA). **Breeding:** Birds were nesting at Lochinvar 24 Oct (HBOC). **BA Atlas:** 66 records from 18 cells; RR 7.40%.

Common Myna *Sturnus tristis*

ID No: 998 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Usual resident. Widely and often recorded as counts of up to 50 birds (*text modified*).

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 64% of cells, at RR = 21.5%; cell of most interest: L9 (69.2%).

Notable records: 50 birds were massed together at Lambton 1 Feb (STA). **BA Atlas:** 135 records from 33 cells; RR 12.4%.

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

ID No: 564 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 74% of cells, at RR = 13.1%; cell of most interest: G8 (45.7%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. Birds were recorded just twice in 91 surveys of a high altitude area (>1,150m) of Gloucester Tops over late Aug-Dec (NEM *et al.*). **BA Atlas:** 130 records from 49 cells; RR 10.9%.

Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarina jugularis*

ID No: 572 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded 1985-86, 2006*).

See Unconfirmed Records.

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 up to 10 birds.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 17% of cells, at RR = 4.40%; cell of most interest: G7 (25.4%).

Notable records: 68 birds were on the ground together at Mount Arthur 18 Jul and 45 birds there 17 Mar (both NEG), and a large flock was at Medhurst Bridge 24 Apr (per STA). **BA Atlas:** Five records from cell G8.

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.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 56% of cells, at RR = 9.88%; cell of most interest: G8 (54.3%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded along Jones Reserve Rd 16 May (BRG/LUD) and 26 birds at Wingen 6 Sep (NEG). **BA Atlas:** 70 records from 20 cells; RR 7.35%.

Plum-headed Finch *Neochmia modesta*

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

From BA Atlas: 11 records from seven cells; cell of most interest: G8 and C6 (three records each).

10-15 birds were at O'Brien Crossing 3 & 15 Jun (ROM, BRG) and 2 birds there 16 May (JED). 1-2 birds were at 5km E of Jerrys Plains 16 May (JED). **BA Atlas:** Two records from cell C6.

Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 84% of cells, at RR = 27.6%; cell of most interest: L8 (45.3%).

Notable records: 50+ birds were recorded at Cattai Wetlands 13 Feb and 2-3 Oct (MVBW HBOC), Green Wattle Creek 2 May (NEM) and HWC 13 Apr (LIP). 21-50 birds were at Green Wattle Creek 13 Apr and 8 Sep (NEM), Brimbin NR 28 Apr (STA), Belltrees 6 May (HBOC), HWC 23 May and Aug-Sep (LIP), Yaraandoo Duns Creek May-Jul and Oct (NEM), Crowdy Bay NP 14 Jun (STA) and East Seaham 24 Aug (HBOC). **Breeding:** There were records from Balickera in Mar-Apr, Jun and Oct-Dec (MUJ). **BA Atlas:** 267 records from 59 cells; RR 21.2%.

Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 22% of cells, at RR = 9.75%; cell of most interest: G8 (22.6%).

15-20 birds were recorded along Ringwood Rd 5 May and birds were found at several other locations in the W of Region that day (BRG/LIN). Ten birds were present at Springdale HSD Martindale 24-26 Apr (HBOC) and 1-5 birds were often recorded in the Region's west during Jan-Feb, Apr-Jun and Sep-Oct (probably reflecting greater observer activity those months). **Breeding:** Two pairs were nest building at Ringwood Rd 20 Jan (KEM). **BA Atlas:** 18 records from five cells; RR 11.9%.

Beautiful Firetail *Stagonopleura bella*

ID No: 650 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No
Status: Rare resident (*reported in 2009*).

No reports were received for 2010.

Nutmeg Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*

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

No reports were received for 2010.

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax*

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 11% of cells, at RR = 2.09%; cell of most interest: L10 (5.42%).

20+ birds were at KI Deep Pond 12 Feb and 15 May (ROM) and flocks of 16-20 birds in the Hunter Estuary 17 Apr (HWS) and at Hexham Swamp 24 Sep (CLT). 9-10 birds were at Cooranbong 17 Jan (RIA) and near Jewells 3 Oct (WID). 1-5 birds were recorded at Killabakh NP 8 Apr (MVBW), Tomago Wetlands 21 Sep and 18 Nov (MCN *et al.*), Hunter Estuary 22 Oct (HWS), Leneghans Flat 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*), Seaham Park 23 Nov (TBW), Cattai Wetlands 11 Dec (MVBW) and Hexham Swamp 26 Dec (LIA). **BA Atlas:** Three records from two cells.

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 20 birds.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 47% of cells, at RR = 9.05%; cell of most interest: S4 (25.5%).

There were no exceptions to the general description of status. **BA Atlas:** 27 records from six cells; RR 3.62%.

Australasian Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

ID No: 647 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

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

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 64% of cells, at RR = 10.9%; cell of most interest: L9 (25.8%).

Notable records: 15 birds were recorded at Tomago Wetlands 16 Mar with 7-11 birds present there most months Mar-Dec (MCN *et al.*). 15+ birds were at Ash Island 21 Mar (STA) and 11-13 birds at Hexham Swamp 23 Mar, 6 Sep and 7 Dec (LIA). **Breeding:** Birds had a nest with young at Mt Arthur 15 Dec (NEG) and were carrying food at Phoenix Park 26 Jan (KEM). **BA Atlas:** 83 records from 16 cells; RR 9.01%.

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis*

ID No: 877 HBOC Category: 2 Breeding: No

Status: Rare summer migrant.

Two birds were recorded at Ash Island 13 Mar (MCN) and a single bird there 21 Mar (STA).

Green-headed Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla taivana*

ID No: 8611 HBOC Category: 3 Breeding: No

Status: Accidental (*recorded in 2003*).

No reports were received for 2010.

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

No reports were received for 2010.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

ID No: 996 HBOC Category: 1 Breeding: Yes

Status: Resident.

From BA Atlas: Recorded in 7% of cells, at RR = 2.07%; cell of most interest: L9 (6.58%).

20 birds were recorded at Bolwarra 19 Sep and ten birds at Maitland 23 Sep (both TAH). 1-5 birds were at Maitland 16 Aug and 31 Oct (BRG *et al.*) and Ash Island 21 Mar, 23 Oct and 20 Nov (STA, MCN). **BA Atlas:** One record, from cell M10.

SUPPLEMENTARY RECORDS

HBOC's Records Appraisal Committee has accepted the pre 2010 records detailed below:

Australian Brush-turkey *Alectura lathamii*

Birds were nesting at Wingham Brush October 2009 (FOC).

Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

At least 4 birds were present over 3 days at Wambo Colliery during Sep 2008 (RIA).

Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis*

A single bird was recorded near Toronto 18 Aug 2009 (per KEM).

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis*

A single bird was near Goulburn River NP 30 Dec 2009 (FOC).

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis*

A pair was at Red Head Dec 2009, while an adult with 6 chicks were recorded at Green Point Forster 20 Dec 2009 (both MVBW).

Black-tailed Native-hen *Gallinula ventralis*

A single bird was recorded at Leneghans Flat 11 Dec 2009 (FOC).

Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*

1-2 birds have occasionally been recorded near Bungwahl since early 2008 (LEJ).

Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*

Three pairs with chicks were at Manning Entrance SP Dec 2009 (MVBW).

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Single birds were recorded at Manning Entrance SP Feb 2008 and Dec 2009 (both FIW).

Painted Button-quail *Turnix varius*

A single bird was at Wang Wauk 8 Dec 2009 (MVBW).

Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

A pair bred at Carey Bay during Nov/Dec 2009 (CRL).

Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae*

A bird roosted sometimes in a *Melaleuca* tree near Fassifern Station in 2009 – in the same tree as was used in 2010 (per KEM).

Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*

Eight birds were recorded at Gloucester 24 May 2005 (DBP).

Pale-yellow Robin *Tregellasia capito*

A single bird was at Wingham Brush October 2009 (FOC).

Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata*

A small family party was recorded at Wingham Brush October 2009 (FOC).

CORRECTIONS AND CHANGES

The record of Ground Cuckoo-shrike from Wingen April 1988, which was reported in the 2009 Bird Report, was of 3 birds not one bird (NEG).

UNCONFIRMED RECORDS

Some reports were not able to be accepted by HBOC's Records Appraisal Committee – either because of insufficient information having been provided by the time of printing or else a non definitive description supplied (such that alternative identifications were not able to be eliminated). 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. As a general comment, it is strongly recommended that detailed field notes be made at the time of sighting of an unusual species (or as soon as possible afterwards) and that photographs be taken if possible – regardless of their quality these can be very helpful for confirming the identification.

White-bellied Storm-Petrel *Fregetta grallaria*

A bird seen only briefly and distantly at the continental shelf during a pelagic survey off Port Stephens 27 Feb most likely was of this species.

Giant-Petrel spp *Macronectes spp*

Six birds were feeding on a Humpback Whale carcass 6 Jun and single birds were seen off Newcastle 5 Jul and off Port Stephens 19 Sep. In all cases, the birds did not come close enough to be identified to species level.

Magellanic Penguin *Spheniscus magellanicus*

A single bird was reported to have been off Elizabeth Beach (Booti Booti NP) 15 Mar. The bird was in the water and not all the distinguishing features for the species were able to be seen. Several people searched nearby beaches over the following 2-3 days but the bird was not found again.

Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens*

Calls, which were not positively able to be assigned to Rufous Scrub-birds, were heard from along Gloucester Tops Rd (at 876m altitude) 31 Oct and at Burruga Swamp (K5) 8 Nov. Both these locations would be new for HBOC's database.

Thrush *Zoothera spp*

Birds which could not be identified to species level were present at Myall Lakes NP 20 Jan, Seal Rocks 21 Feb and Bangalow Rd Watagans 20 Jun.

Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarina jugularis*

A report of two birds present at Bolwarra 3 Jan has been referred to the NSW Ornithological Records Appraisal Committee for their review.

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis*

A single bird was reported from Wallbridge Reserve Raymond Terrace 7 Dec.

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.

Pale-headed Rosella *Platycercus adscitus*

Single birds were recorded near Sandy Hollow 29 May (LIG) and at 5km W of Merriwa 20 Nov (per MOA).

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

A single bird was at Newcastle Baths 22 Apr (LIG).

Barbary Dove *Streptopelia roseogrisea*

A single bird was at Hamilton 15 Dec (BEG).

Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

Birds are resident in BbR (NIJ) and are regularly present in nearby New Lambton gardens (STA).



Laughing Kookaburra: sketch by Chris Herbert

DATA FROM REGULAR SURVEYS

Many areas in the Hunter Region are surveyed regularly and systematically. We encourage this since it helps identify changes occurring to the survey area or to the local status of individual species. Data relating to waterbirds from such surveys are presented in the following section of the Report. Space permitting, this practice will be continued in future Bird Reports. *NB for space reasons, only those species which were recorded at the survey sites in the current year are listed in the tables.*

Table 1 Waterbirds at Walka Waterworks

(Regular surveys by J Smart, P Baird & L Mee)

	6 Jan	10 Feb	11 Mar	14 Apr	12 May	12 Jun	20 Jul	9 Aug	7 Sep	20 Oct	11 Nov	9 Dec
Wandering W-Duck					2					1		
Musk Duck	6	4	6	3	4	3	2		3	2		
Black Swan	1		2	2	2	2	2	2	3	8	8	8
Aust. Wood Duck	12	6			7	1	2	3		10	4	9
Australasian Shoveler				2								
Grey Teal	4	2		30	1	12	10					
Chestnut Teal	1	9	5	36	10	8	14	4	20	8	15	20
Pacific Black Duck	17	12	25	54	35	25	9	14	36	22	26	30
Hardhead	4			2	1	2	42	25	7	4	8	1
Blue-billed Duck	1	2				1						
Australasian Grebe	16	2	12	17	25	11	13	16	8	1	2	3
Hoary-Headed Grebe	9											
Great Crested Grebe	14	13	37	22	20	4			15	10	12	23
Australasian Darter	3			3	1				1	1	2	
Little Pied Cormorant	8	1	8	17	12	5	4	6	3	1	1	
Great Cormorant		1										
Little Black Cormorant	27	18	6	31	4	4	22	11	27	7	18	13
Australian Pelican	4	2			15					2		
Eastern Great Egret	1			1						1		
Cattle Egret	1	5		18				3	7	1		
White-faced Heron	2	1	2	2	3	3	1	2	1	1		
Australian White Ibis				2								
Straw-necked ibis								12	7			
Royal Spoonbill	8	3	1	13		1	2	3				
Purple Swamphen	13	11	14	10	11	7	11	20	16	7	8	8
Dusky Moorhen	12	28	18	16	16	31	24	30	15	16	16	17
Eurasian Coot	116	61	46	13	8	10	10	14	23	11	14	9
Black-fronted Dotterel	2		2	1								
Masked Lapwing	5	2		2	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	2

Table 2 Waterbirds at Morpeth Wastewater Treatment Works*(Regular surveys by A Lindsey & M Newman)*

	4 Jan	1 Feb	11 Mar	9 Apr	26 May	28 Jun	6 Jul	2 Aug	4 Sep	7 Oct	11 Nov	17 Dec
Black Swan	49	21	17	173	326	131	158	179	145	110	211	214
Australian Wood Duck		12	2	5	1	4	2	2	4			
Australasian Shoveler	1			4	8	18	21	2				
Grey Teal	110	24		5	14	106	53	34	14	26	31	2
Chestnut Teal	247	62	137	377	397	148	139	120	82	100	106	138
Pacific Black Duck	55	26	108	264	343	299	344	100	131	79	77	28
Hardhead	9					16	36	3	4			2
Australasian Grebe					1	14	9	13	13			1
Australasian Darter	2	2	1	2		1			1		8	17
Little Pied Cormorant	1	2	1		2					1	40	3
Great Cormorant	4	4								5	5	2
Little Black Cormorant	8	2								4	13	23
Pied Cormorant	2	2	2	1					2	2	2	2
Australian Pelican	58	117	9	5	13	16	27	17	6	43	18	48
Eastern Great Egret				1	1	1		1	4	6	10	33
Intermediate Egret									3			3
Cattle Egret	1	3	43	174	52	41		6	10	3	74	24
Little Egret					1							
White-faced Heron		7	19	30	3	11	9	2	6	2	1	1
Australian White Ibis			5	11		1	15			15		47
Straw-necked Ibis		12		19								5
Royal Spoonbill									2	2	1	
Purple Swamphen	6	4	1	1	5		1	1	5			8
Dusky Moorhen	1											3
Black-winged Stilt	32	3		2	19		2	8	4	9		
Masked Lapwing	18	65	83	51	39	11	21	40	63	40	67	33
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2											
Gull-billed Tern									1			
Caspian Tern		1	8							2		
Silver Gull		5	16									

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

	16 Jan	13 Feb	13 Mar	17 Apr	15 May	26 Jun	24 Jul	28 Aug	25 Sep	22/23 Oct ¹	20 Nov	16/18 Dec ¹
Musk Duck	1					1	4	2	3	5	3	3
Black Swan	29	24	80	13	26	55	78	133	67	29	45	80
Australian Wood Duck						6	2	2	1			2
Australasian Shoveler	12	27	25	7	12	8						
Grey Teal	168	50	5	13	2	34	9			2	20	40
Chestnut Teal	963	890	574	1505	541	240	45	15	16	29	103	251
Pacific Black Duck	157	308	101	142	42	40	40	22	8	6	19	32
Hardhead	8		1				4					
Australasian Grebe	7		1	1			1					
Hoary-headed Grebe	3											
Darter	4	2	3	3	1	3	4	3		3		2
Little Pied Cormorant	6	8	7	3	3	8	3	3	2	3	4	2
Great Cormorant	2	3				2	1	6	4	2	8	2
Little Black Cormorant	43	37	149	11	26	8	14	35	30	31	15	6
Pied Cormorant	14	16	6	5	3	7	3	18	15	14	9	9
Australian Pelican	84	119	56	52	82	78	59	65	65	59	108	106
White-necked Heron										1		
Eastern Great Egret	14	72	6	8	6	6	10	12	7	8	9	3
Intermediate Egret	1	3							2	1	2	
Cattle Egret	86	56		1		7			2		5	26
Striated Heron	1	2	1	1		1		2			1	4
White-faced Heron	52	71	59	93	31	99	48	36	25	14	12	20
Little Egret	5	2	6	1	3	3	2	6	10	5	6	5
Australian White Ibis	73	111	90	74	34	59	44	49	35	5	50	71
Straw-necked Ibis				2		1	43		1			
Royal Spoonbill	14	69	60	21	17	41	39	15	1	3	12	2
Purple Swamphen	53	53	39	15	15	11	30	4	2	11	21	16
Dusky Moorhen		1			1				1		3	1
Eurasian Coot	12	1										
Little Tern	9	3									1	
Gull-billed Tern		6	45		21			6		5		
Caspian Tern	1	4	11	30	8	21	11	1	3		3	2
Common Tern	31	16	14	1						3		
Crested Tern	15	9	10	13	5	9	6	6	4	2	7	4
Silver Gull	639	336	1043	498	212	18	20	17	7	5	43	40

¹Some areas were surveyed on different days – the highest count for each species has been used

Table 4 Waders in the Hunter Estuary
(Multi-observer surveys conducted at high tide roost sites)

	16 Jan	13 Feb	13 Mar	17 Apr	15 May	26 Jun	24 Jul	28 Aug	25 Sep	22/23 Oct ¹	20 Nov	16/18 Dec ¹
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	21	10	11		3	2	4	4	4	4	6	7
Sooty Oystercatcher			22	4	12	9			11	3	6	
Black-winged Stilt	303	319		266	279	5	6					5
Red-necked Avocet	5	3						2				
Pacific Golden Plover	225	209	175	1	2	2	2		67	6	162	162
Red-capped Plover	3	2	8	2	38	7	4	16	9	14	6	7
Lesser Sand Plover	1											
Double-banded Plover					6							
Black-fronted Dotterel	4	3	1	8	28	16	11		1		1	5
Banded Lapwing						1						
Masked Lapwing	75	80	130	44	64	65	50	42	34	45	71	112
Black-tailed Godwit	106	118	83	44					12	35	97	83
Bar-tailed Godwit	1002	1091	918	230	304	368	370	330	400	930	960	874
Whimbrel	22	22	26	11	15		26		8	83	6	36
Eastern Curlew	225	387	107	32	37	34	55	148	175	233	223	244
Terek Sandpiper	12	33	17	13	1					3	14	19
Grey-tailed Tattler	19	10	35					2	5	9	20	25
Common Sandpiper		3	2						2			2
Common Greenshank	109	106	97	34	11	1	6	16	34	51	71	76
Marsh Sandpiper	49	80	42	9	1					6	14	14
Great Knot	1								2			
Red Knot	2	3		4				3	170	173	56	11
Red-necked Stint	6		1		4							
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	264	337										
Curlew Sandpiper	241	147	9	1				13	75	64	144	112

¹Some areas were surveyed on different days – the highest count for each species has been used

Table 5 Coastline Waterbirds (Birubi Point - Fingal Head)*(Land based surveys by L. Wooding)*

	29 Jan	26 Feb	13 Mar	23 Apr	18 May	11 Jun	22 Jul	8 Sep	13 Oct	24 Nov	7 Dec
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	352	15		28					34		
Australasian Gannet				49	22	10	6	10			3
Little Pied Cormorant		5	2	2			1	2	2		1
Great Cormorant	14	12	3					2	23	9	4
Little Black Cormorant		1	1	3					1		
Pied Cormorant	9	14	3	2				1	22	9	
White-faced Heron		1					1			1	
Eastern Reef Egret		2	1	1				1		2	1
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher											2
Sooty Oystercatcher	9	5	9			3	6	6	6	2	10
Masked Lapwing		4	4	4	2	4		2			
Pacific Golden Plover									1		
Gull-billed Tern		1									
Crested Tern	34	274	77	167	85	196	86	31	36	1	24
Silver Gull	212	217	269	219	167	160	125	56	67	88	141

Table 6 Newcastle Bight Waterbirds*(Regular counts by Ann Lindsey/Mike Newman/Warren Mayers)*

	28 Jan	17 Mar	13 May	15 Jul	27 Aug	17 Nov	9 Dec	15 Dec
Pied Cormorant	3							2
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	3	2	14	7	2	5	7	9
Red-capped Plover	18	37	22		6	4	8	3
Double-banded Plover	1	40	112	82				
Banded Lapwing					1			
Ruddy Turnstone						1		
Sanderling								1
Curlew Sandpiper				2				
Little Tern							6	31
Gull-billed Tern	4							
Common Tern								3
Crested Tern	28	234	4	5	4	87	146	40
Silver Gull	441	181	22	20	25	155	43	173

Table 7 Waterbirds at Gir-um-bit NP and Swan Bay*

(Surveys conducted at high tide)

	16 Jan	Feb	13 Mar	18 Apr	15 May	27 Jun	24 Jul	28 Aug	25 Sep	23 Oct	20 Nov	18 Dec
Black Swan	225			6				1	2			30
Aust. Wood Duck			3			2		3		4	16	2
Chestnut Teal	16			14	8			5		6		1
Australasian Darter					1							
Little Pied Cormorant			1	1		2		17		1	4	2
Great Cormorant	1								7		2	5
Pied Cormorant	20				4	3		22	13	9	12	8
Australian Pelican			3	2	3		3	5	1	1	8	
Eastern Great Egret	1		20	1		1	2	1	1	4	4	1
White-faced Heron			1		6	19	3					
Aust. White Ibis	6		6		6	13		1	1	3		
Royal Spoonbill			2									
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	6		6	20	6	11	4	2	2	3	2	20
Sooty Oystercatcher			6		3	4	3			2	1	2
Red-capped Plover	2		1		5	10	5	11	4			
Double-banded Plover				9	14	10	13					
Masked Lapwing	2		4	2	2	6	2	2		4	4	8
Bar-tailed Godwit	213		65	55	133	82	38	54	58	237	137	206
Whimbrel	16		58	15					22	2	9	2
Eastern Curlew	~300		44	46	32		43	50 ¹	78	50	300	200
Grey-tailed Tattler			1	14						1		2
Red Knot												4
Red-necked Stint	41				3	5	10	4				
Gull-billed Tern									12			
Caspian Tern					5	16+		24				
Crested Tern	36		7	1	4	5		3		12	3	25
Silver Gull	15			2	2	5				2	1	

*The data in this table are also included into Table 8 ¹flying over – landed at Little Swan Bay

Table 8 Port Stephens Waterbirds*(Surveys at high tide)*

	Feb ²	May ¹	Jul ²	Aug ¹	Oct ¹	Dec ¹
Black Swan	1120	160	46	40	99	206
Australian Wood Duck	11	30	14	28	11	14
Grey Teal	2		4			
Chestnut Teal	30	36	13	32	30	32
Pacific Black Duck	17	18	3	4	4	6
Australasian Gannet			2	1		
Australasian Darter	11	7	22	5	3	1
Little Pied Cormorant	153	114	167	189	120	68
Great Cormorant	39	1	1	3	6	6
Little Black Cormorant	43	6	33	44	177	29
Pied Cormorant	202	38	73	55	68	71
Australian Pelican	121	199	99	156	152	84
Eastern Great Egret	13	17	6	12	21	7
Intermediate Egret		2	3	4	5	3
Cattle Egret			30			
Striated Heron	5		2	1		4
White-faced Heron	51	55	40	30		8
Little Egret			8			
Australian White Ibis	87	202	47	65	59	56
Straw-necked Ibis					7	
Royal Spoonbill	5	16	13	13	27	
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	144	94	148	34	48	80
Sooty Oystercatcher	19	3	24	7	5	14
Pacific Golden Plover	7				2	
Red-capped Plover	20	5	3	13		
Double-banded Plover		14		6		
Lesser Sand Plover	1					
Masked Lapwing	24	63	51	31	39	39
Bar-tailed Godwit	876	372	424	303	436	448
Whimbrel	271		27		8	10
Eastern Curlew	376	33	14	116	90	265
Terek Sandpiper	2					
Common Sandpiper	1					
Grey-tailed Tattler	22	4	7	14	39	49
Common Greenshank						6
Ruddy Turnstone	5					
Red Knot						4
Red-necked Stint	43	3		4	15	
Arctic Jaeger	5					
Little Tern	18					
Gull-billed Tern	2					
Caspian Tern	10	9		31	1	
Common Tern	7					
Crested Tern	220	45	24	30	43	42
Silver Gull	192	829	75	252	243	373

¹ Land based surveys at 10 locations, led by L Wooding ² Boat based surveys by HBOC members in 6 teams (12 Feb, 26 July)

Table 9 Waterbirds at Manning Estuary
(Surveys by A Stuart at high tide at Harrington and Muddishops Point)

	13/14 Jan	4/5 Feb	29/30 Mar	28/29 Apr	17/18 May	15/16 Jun	28/29 Jul	13/14 Aug	23/24 Sep	1/3 Oct	8/9 Nov	9/10 Dec
Black Swan	22	42	42	35	28	4	4	5	12	10	8	6
Australian Wood Duck		14		8				2				
Australasian Darter					1		2		1			
Little Pied Cormorant		1	1	2	3	3			2	3		
Great Cormorant	5	10		2					4		10	6
Little Black Cormorant	280	4		55	2	4			1	8	88	71
Pied Cormorant	48	57		2			1		20		34	34
Australian Pelican	42	33	14	89	46	53	25	17	30	58	30	34
Eastern Great Egret	1					1						
Intermediate Egret						1						
Striated Heron			1	1		1						
White-faced Heron		2	5	4		2	2			2	1	1
Little Egret		1			1	2	1			1		
Beach Stone-curlew		1	2	3	3			1	2			
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	26	25	24	17	6	8	13	14	5	8	10	10
Sooty Oystercatcher	1		2				4		3	1		
Pacific Golden Plover	181	80	110	4			21	2	57	35	58	79
Red-capped Plover	15	19	16	19	10	14	12	16	9	14	14	10
Double-banded Plover		2	26	40	28	57	46	66	1			
Masked Lapwing	10	6	3	8		2	4	1	1	4	2	2
Bar-tailed Godwit	275	145	247	175	82	99	44	80	119	132	89	73
Whimbrel	17	3	7	4		1		4	4	1	2	
Eastern Curlew	32	33	3	1	4	1	2	10	14	11	23	16
Grey-tailed Tattler	3	1										4
Ruddy Turnstone											2	1
Red Knot										4	5	4
Sanderling	24	17	27								13	21
Red-necked Stint	138	13	33	7	7	1	12	19	21	19	6	20
Little Tern	120	110	69	65	14		7			42	300+	400+
Gull-billed Tern						1						
Caspian Tern	2	1	1	3	1	4	2	5	1		1	1
White-fronted Tern					2	5	7		39	4		
Common Tern	310	152	50								300+	70
Crested Tern	526	183	57	368	101	162	55	144	150	159	371	700+
Silver Gull	150	119	158	657	74	89	59	5	16	57	72	90

Table 10 Waterbirds at Milhams Pond (on Ash Island)*(Monthly maximum counts from surveys led by N McNaughton)*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Black Swan										4		1
Grey Teal	7								1			2
Chestnut Teal	9	2	5	2	40	4	6	5	1	3	3	7
Pacific Black Duck	1				2	2	3	2		2	3	
Pied Cormorant						1						
Australian Pelican		1										
Black-necked Stork			1									
Eastern Great Egret	1			1	2	1	1	1			4	2
Cattle Egret											26	
White-faced Heron	6	10	11	9	25	17	25	8	2	1	2	1
Australian White Ibis	3	1	10	6	52	26	9	5	10	2	32	24
Straw-necked Ibis								1	1			
Royal Spoonbill						1	1					2
Black-winged Stilt						5						
Red-capped Plover								2	2	1		
Masked Lapwing				2	4	3	2	2	3	6	2	8
Eastern Curlew	5	7	5			2		1	1	3	3	4
Common Greenshank						2						
Marsh Sandpiper				1								

Table 11 Waterbirds at Phoenix Flats (on Ash Island)*(Maximum monthly counts from surveys by N McNaughton)*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Grey Teal							1	2				
Chestnut Teal		2				4	2	2		1	1	4
Pacific Black Duck						1	2	2		2	2	2
White-faced Heron	1	1	1	1	1	1		2			3	
Australian White Ibis					11			20			6	
Pacific Golden Plover	4	4	3									1
Red-capped Plover						5				3	1	
Masked Lapwing	2		2	2	2	2	2	2	7	3	6	6
Eastern Curlew	1		4							1	1	1

Table 12 Waterbirds at Hunter Wetlands Centre
(Highest monthly counts from surveys by R & M Stewart, P Lightfoot, A Lindsey)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Magpie Goose	60	63	70	75	20+	70	67	65	58	30	30	3
Wandering Whistling-Duck	4	5							8	10	10	14
Musk Duck					1							
Black Swan					3		2	2	6	6	7	1
Australian Wood Duck						2		2			2	
Australasian Shoveler	7											
Grey Teal	20+	2				4	2	6	2	4	1	
Chestnut Teal	10	6+	2	30	50+	12	27	37	30	30	30	10
Pacific Black Duck	6+	10	6+	30	20+	20	18	12	17	36	31	48
Hardhead		1	1	1		1	5	8	6	2	2	
Australasian Grebe	3	1	2	3	4	4	5	10	3	4	11	4
Darter			2	1								
Little Pied Cormorant	1	2	2	2		2	1	2	1	6	6	4
Great Cormorant									1	1		
Little Black Cormorant	1	6	5						1	7	12	3
Australian Pelican	6	6	1	1	2	3	2	3	2	4	3	1
Eastern Great Egret	6+	20+	6+		1	1		1	3	16	10	13
Intermediate Egret	3	1	1		1					2	2	2
Cattle Egret	100+	100+	100+						50	49	83	100+
White-faced Heron				1	1		2		2		1	
Little Egret		1	2						3	8	8	
Nankeen Night Heron	1	2	2						2	12	3	2
Australian White Ibis	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+	12	71	400+	300+	100+	100+	300+
Straw-necked Ibis		2										
Royal Spoonbill	5	4	2	3	1		2			1		1
Buff-banded Rail		2							1	1	1	2
Spotless Crake	1											
Dusky Moorhen	20+	50+	20+	50	50+	50+	50+	50+	24	22	33	20
Purple Swamphen	20+	50+	20+	20+	5	7	20	20	9	10	10	11
Eurasian Coot	6+	6+		2	1	1	3	2	3	5	9	3
Black-winged Stilt	6											
Red-necked Avocet	6											
Black-fronted Dotterel	6	11	2	4	5							
Masked Lapwing	6+	6+	2	5	7	1	2	2	5	3	1	2
Latham's Snipe	3		3									

Table 13 Waterbirds at Tomago Wetlands*(Systematic surveys led by N McNaughton)*

	Jan ¹	16 Feb	16 Mar	20 Apr	20 May	15 Jun	20 Jul	17 Aug	21 Sep	14 Oct	18 Nov	21 Dec
Black Swan						1	3	2				
Chestnut Teal	6	2	6	3		6	1		5	2	5	
Pacific Black Duck	2	4	13	4	2		1	1	4	3	2	
Australasian Darter	2	2										
Little Pied Cormorant	3			2	1					1		
Little Black Cormorant	5		1							2	7	
Pied Cormorant			1			2	2					3
Australian Pelican						1						
Australasian Bittern	1						2					
Australasian Little Bittern												H
White-necked Heron										1		
Eastern Great Egret	3		1				1		1	2	1	3
Intermediate Egret	1											
Cattle Egret									2			
White-faced Heron	2	2	3	1	2	9	6	5	3	1	5	4
Australian White Ibis	2		1		2							
Royal Spoonbill	3		11								9	
Purple Swamphen						3	9	13		2	1	
Black-winged Stilt						1						
Masked Lapwing	4	5	2	2	4	4	2	10	3	1	2	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	23									1		

¹Visits on 1 Jan, 16 Jan and 19 Jan – the highest count for each species has been used

Table 14a Main Waterbirds at Hexham Swamp*(Systematic surveys from Hexham side, led by A Lindsey)*

	20 Jan	23 Mar	18 Apr	31 May	16 Jun	5 Jul	9 Aug	6 Sep	30 Oct	7 Dec	26 Dec
Black Swan	2			31	22	26	40	8	6	72	24
Grey Teal										16	14
Chestnut Teal				8	19	5	8	6	11	311	60
Pacific Black Duck		21	12	4	14	18	11	8	106	13	108
Australasian Darter										2	
Little Pied Cormorant		2	2				1				3
Little Black Cormorant	3								2	3	25
Pied Cormorant											1
Australian Pelican							1	1	11	2	13
Eastern Great Egret	1	1						5	14	6	21
Cattle Egret										11	
White-faced Heron	5	20	49	4	5	2	7			33	15
Little Egret										1	6
Australian White Ibis					7	31	11	25	6	176	147
Straw-necked Ibis								10			
Royal Spoonbill							1		6	3	21
Purple Swamphen		1			1	1					
Buff-banded Rail						1		1	2		
Black-winged Stilt	2				11	188				20	
Red-capped Plover					1						
Black-fronted Dotterel	3			1	6	4	1				1
Masked Lapwing	6	46	10	22	10	4	5	6	16	80	112
Latham's Snipe										9	14
Common Greenshank				4	1	1					
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	40										4
Silver Gull		3									

Table 14b Main Waterbirds at Hexham Swamp*(Systematic surveys from Minmi side, led by M Newman)*

	9 Jan	1 Nov	19 Dec
Black Swan		90	89
Grey Teal		2	
Chestnut Teal		2	
Pacific Black Duck		47	5
Australasian Grebe	4		
Little Pied Cormorant	1	16	
Little Black Cormorant			2
White-necked Heron		1	
Eastern Great Egret		3	
Intermediate Egret			3

	9 Jan	1 Nov	19 Dec
Cattle Egret	25	9	5
White-faced Heron		2	1
Glossy Ibis		2	
Aust. White Ibis	37	59	29
Royal Spoonbill		1	
Purple Swamphen		11	6
Pacific Golden Plover		14	
Masked Lapwing		39	
Comb-crested Jacana			1
Whiskered Tern		30	

Table 15 Monthly Peak Counts at Newcastle Baths/Harbour*(Monthly peak counts from frequent surveys by J Thomas)*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Australasian Darter	1	1	2	3	2		1	1	1	2	1	1
Little Pied Cormorant	1	2		1	3	3	2	2	3	1	2	
Great Cormorant	5	4	8	2	1	2	2	1	3	7	7	5
Little Black Cormorant	7	8	4	7	7	5	15	7	8	9	5	3
Pied Cormorant		1	1	4	1		1	1	2	2	2	1
Australian Pelican	5	3	16	2	27	4	11	12	12	5		4
Eastern Great Egret							1					
White-faced Heron	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	1		2		1
Eastern Reef Egret				1						1		
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	2				1		1	3	2	1	1	
Sooty Oystercatcher	28	38	38	33	16	24	13	8	15	13	22	25
Masked Lapwing		2	2			2		5	2	3	5	2
Black-tailed Godwit				1								
Whimbrel									1	1	1	1
Grey-tailed Tattler										1		2
Ruddy Turnstone	18	19	20	24	1		2	3	6	8	18	18
Red Knot									1			1
Red-necked Stint	1									1		
Sooty Tern		1										
Little Tern	2									4	3	2
Caspian Tern									2			
White-fronted Tern								2	1			
Common Tern	52	65	20							25	50	120
Crested Tern	72	110	120	220	400	365	400	300	500	62	136	260
Silver Gull	120	200	500	700	700	110	250	30	120	45	42	230

Table 16 Waterbirds at Forster/Tuncurry
(Surveys by A Stuart at intermediate tide at Wallis Lake entrance)

	12 Jan	4 Feb	30 Mar	29 Apr	16 May	16 Jun	29 Jul	12 Aug	24 Sep	9 Nov	10 Dec
Australian Wood Duck							7	7		1	
Pacific Black Duck									1		
Australasian Darter								1			
Little Pied Cormorant	1	1					2		1		1
Great Cormorant	3	31	2			1		2	1	5	5
Little Black Cormorant	8	285	1			1	2		7	11	3
Pied Cormorant	28	7	6	2	1	1	2		21	27	30
Australian Pelican	92	92	107	122	145	139	96	137	122	107	122
White-faced Heron			1	1							
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	2	55	60	36	31	20	18	16	15	13	17
Sooty Oystercatcher		2	2						2		2
Masked Lapwing		2		2	2	1	3	1	2		2
Bar-tailed Godwit	5	2	22	19		2	13	0	7	6	0
Eastern Curlew		3	2	2							4
Caspian Tern			12	12	5	7	9	4	2		
Common Tern		1									
Crested Tern	231	63	67	156	134	84	280	212	175	145	221
Silver Gull	317	157	222	187	165	375	68	74	62	134	107

Table 17 Birds from Pelagic Surveys
(Counts from surveys departing from Port Stephens led by M Roderick)

	26 Feb	27 Feb	27 Mar	28 Mar	2 May	17 Jun	11 Jul	19 Sep	10 Oct	14 Oct	12 Dec
Wilson's Storm-Petrel		1	20	60	100+	6			150	50	2
White-faced Storm-Petrel					3	2	15	8	7	5	15
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel							1		6		
White-bellied Storm-Petrel			1								
New Zealand Storm-Petrel				1							
Wandering Albatross							5	3	20	4	2
Black-browed Albatross					2	4	20	10			1
Shy Albatross							3	2	1		
Yellow-nosed Albatross					2	50	35	40	1		
Northern Giant-Petrel								1			
Cape Petrel							7	1		3	
Fairy Prion						80	150	1			
Black Petrel									2		
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	30+	600	500	600	80			500	150	200	250
Flesh-footed Shearwater	30+	300	50	60	50			1	40	1	
Sooty Shearwater			1	2							3
Short-tailed Shearwater	1	11	3	10	3				10000	40	5
Streaked Shearwater			2								
Fluttering Shearwater			3		1		4	1	4	1	
Hutton's Shearwater		1	1	3		1		5	1		1
Tahiti Petrel			1								
White-headed Petrel						1			1		
Great-winged Petrel		8		1			1	1	25		1
Providence Petrel			1	4	3	20	60	3	4	4	
Gould's Petrel				1							
Little Penguin			4					1	1		
Australasian Gannet		1	3		100	130	160	50	6	6	10
Red-footed Booby			1								
Brown Booby			1								
Brown Skua					2		2	1	1		
Pomarine Jaeger	1	12		15	1						12
Arctic Jaeger		3	1	2						1	5
Long-tailed Jaeger	1								3		
Common Noddy				1							
White-fronted Tern							1				
Little Tern									1		
Crested Tern	2	3	10	8	5	10	2	5	5	1	7
Silver Gull			4		3	30	10	5	10		

Table 18 Waterbirds from Swansea/Lake Macquarie Surveys*(Maximums based on high and low tide counts led by J Adams/A Taylor)**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Oct	Nov	Dec
Black Swan	120	251	262	300	145	22	51	44
Australian Wood Duck		4		6	18	9		10
Australasian Darter	1	2	3	4	8	2	1	1
Little Pied Cormorant	4	34	83	20	43	21	14	12
Great Cormorant	5	3		1	4			2
Little Black Cormorant	446	185	222	19	26	16	31	68
Pied Cormorant	32	33	20	14	13	6	18	18
Australian Pelican	45	65	106	51	122	48	22	10
Eastern Great Egret	7	1	6		1			
Intermediate Egret		2			4			
Striated Heron		1			1			1
White-faced Heron	2	7	3	14	3			
Little Egret		4		5	3	1	4	4
Australian White Ibis		9	26	10	14			
Royal Spoonbill				5	10			
Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	7	9	6	5	4	9	4	3
Masked Lapwing		5	7	2	5	1	4	4
Bar-tailed Godwit	100	82	86	40	26	17	81	73
Whimbrel	7	2	1	5			3	5
Eastern Curlew	3	12	13			1	2	10
Grey-tailed Tattler	2	3	7	4	1		3	4
Red Knot	5						2	
Red-necked Stint	31	14	25			2	3	
Little Tern	33	55	60	10		12	19	4
Caspian Tern	3	5	2	5	12		2	3
Common Tern	42	17	14	10		20		
Crested Tern	13	22	20	20	9	60	68	2
Silver Gull	198	163	151	149	256	269	292	310

**No surveys June to September*

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

The following abbreviations/acronyms have been used in the Report:

AP	Airport	MLNP	Myall Lakes National Park
BbR	Blackbutt Reserve	NLH	New Lambton Heights
BHD	Boarding House Dam (in Watagans)	NP	National Park
CP	Caravan Park	NR	Nature Reserve
FP	Forest Preserve	NWR	Newcastle Wetlands Reserve
GC	Golf Club	PNR	Pambalong Nature Reserve
GTD	Grahamstown Dam	RF	Rainforest
GRNP	Goulburn River National Park	SCA	State Conservation Area
HRBG	Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	SBS	Stockton Borehole Swamp
HSD	Homestead	SF	State Forest
HWC	Hunter Wetlands Centre, Shortland	SP	State Park
IBA	Important Bird Area	SRA	State Recreation Area
KI	Kooragang Island	SSNR	Seaham Swamp Nature Reserve
KNR	Kooragang Nature Reserve	WTW	Wastewater Treatment Works
LTP	Lemon Tree Passage	WWW	Walka Water Works

GRID REFERENCES FOR COMMON LOCATIONS

Grid references for commonly visited locations are:

Aberdare SF	K10	Catherine Hill Bay	L11
Allyn River	K5	Cessnock	K9/K10
Appletree Flat	H8	Chichester Dam	M6
Arrowfield	H7	Chichester SF	K5/L5
Ash Island	M10	Clarencetown	M8
Awabakal N. R.	M10/11	Coon Island (Swansea Channel)	L11
Balickera	M9	Cooranbong	K11
Barrington House	L5	Copeland Common	N4
Battery Rocks	E6	Copeland Forest Preserve	M4/M5
Bayswater Colliery	H6	Copeland Tops State Forest	M4
Belltrees	I4	Corrie Island	O9
Belmont Swamp & Lagoon	M11	Denman	G7
Blackbutt Reserve (BbR)	M10	Dungog	M7
Black Neds Bay	L11	Durrigere Rd	A6
Bootawah	Q4	Ellalong & Ellalong Lagoon	J10
Bolwarra	L9	Fingal Bay	O9
Boarding House Dam	K11	Forster	R6
Boondelbah Island	P9	Fosterton Loop	M7
Booti Booti NP (BBNP)	R6	Galgabba Point	L11
Broke	I9	George McGregor Park	M10
Broughton Island	P8	Glenrock SRA	M10
Bulahdelah	P7	Gloucester	N5
Bulga	I8	Gloucester Tops	M5/L5
Cabbage Tree Island	P9	Grahamstown Dam (GTD)	M9

Green Wattle Creek	L9	Phoenix Park	L9
Gir-um-bit NP	N9	Pokolbin	J9
Hallidays Point	R5	Quorrobolong	K10
Harrington	S4	Rathluba Lagoon	L9
Hawks Nest	P8/P9	Raymond Terrace	M9
Hexham Swamp NR	L10/M10	Redhead	M11
Howes Valley	H10	Salt Ash	N9
Hunter Region Botanic Gardens	M9	Scone	H5
Hunter Wetlands Centre (HWC)	M10	Seaham Swamp NR (SSNR)	M8
Irrawang Swamp	M9	Seal Rocks	R7
Jerrys Plains	H7	Singleton	I8/J8
John Brown's Lagoon	L10	Stockton	M10
Kings Gap	F7	Stockton Borehole Swamp (SBS)	L10
Kooragang Island	M10	Swan Bay	N9
Kurri Kurri	K9	Swansea, Swansea South	L11
Laguna	I10	Taree	Q4
Lemon Tree Passage (LTP)	O9	Tarro	M9
Lenaghans Flat	L10	Toronto	L11
Maitland	L9	Tuncurry	R6
Market Swamp	M10	University of Newcastle	M10
Martindale	G7	Vacy	L8
Medowie	N9	Waitui	R3
Morisset	K11	Walka Water Works (WWW)	L9
Moon Island (off Swansea)	L11	Wallingat SF	Q6/Q7
Morpeth	L9	Warakeila	L6
Mount Arthur	H6	Warkworth	I8
Mount Vincent	K10/L10	Watagans SF & NP	K11
Mudbishops Point (Old Bar)	R4	White Box Camp (in GRNP)	C6
Newcastle	M10	Williamtown	N9
Newcastle Wetlands Reserve	M10	Wingen	H4
New Lambton Heights	M10	Wingham/Wingham Brush	Q4
Old Bar	R4	Woko NP	M3
Oyster Cove	N9	Woodville	L9
Pambalong Nature Reserve (PNR)	L10	Wyee Point	L11
Paterson	L8	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.

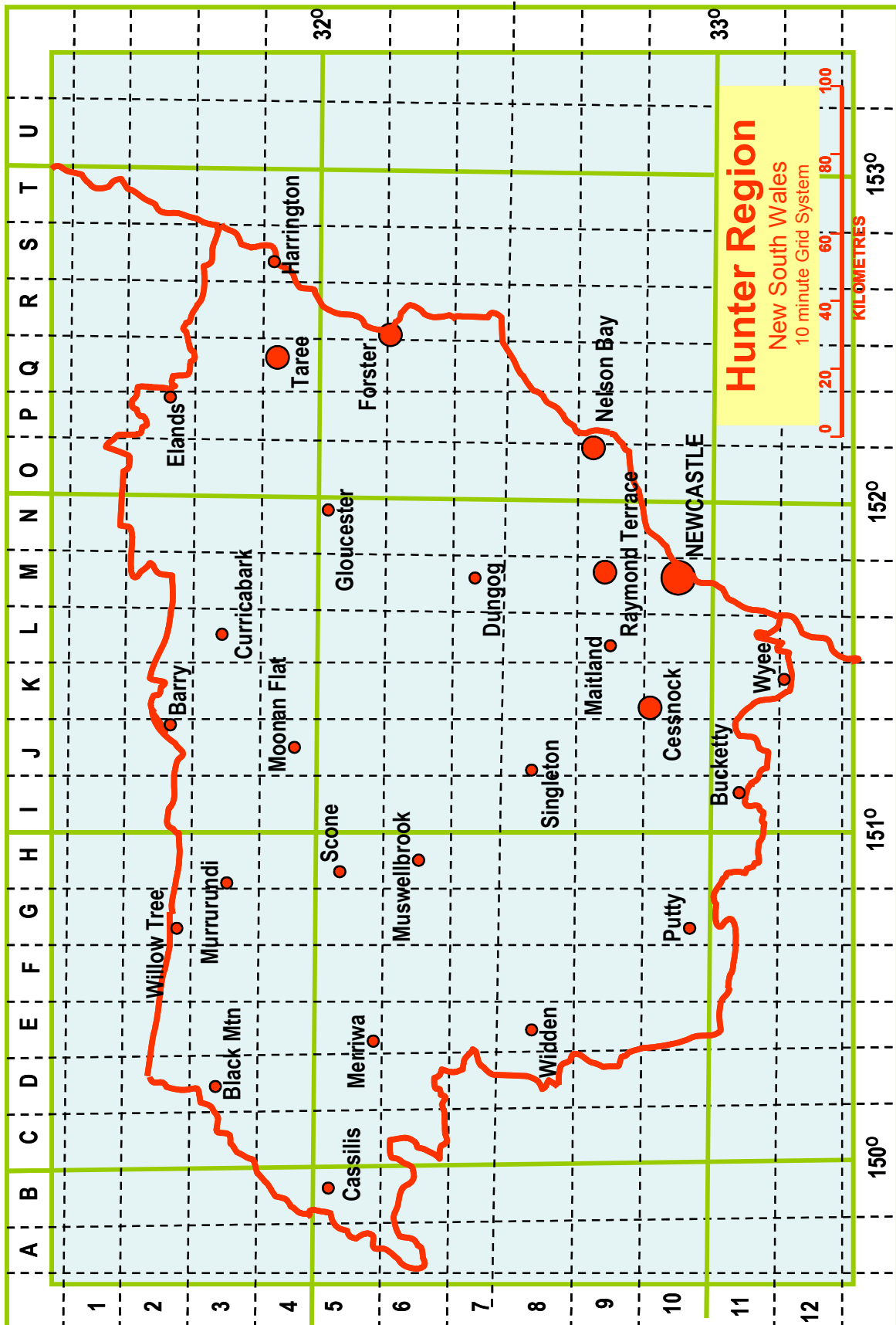
ADJ	Jack Adams	BAP	Paul Baird
ADL	Lorna Adlem	BEG	G. Beering
ALD	Daniel Allen	BIA	Birding-Aus (Internet group)
ANB	Britt Anderson	BKW	Kathrine, Warwick Baguley
ANC	Craig Anderson	BOH	Hayley Boyce

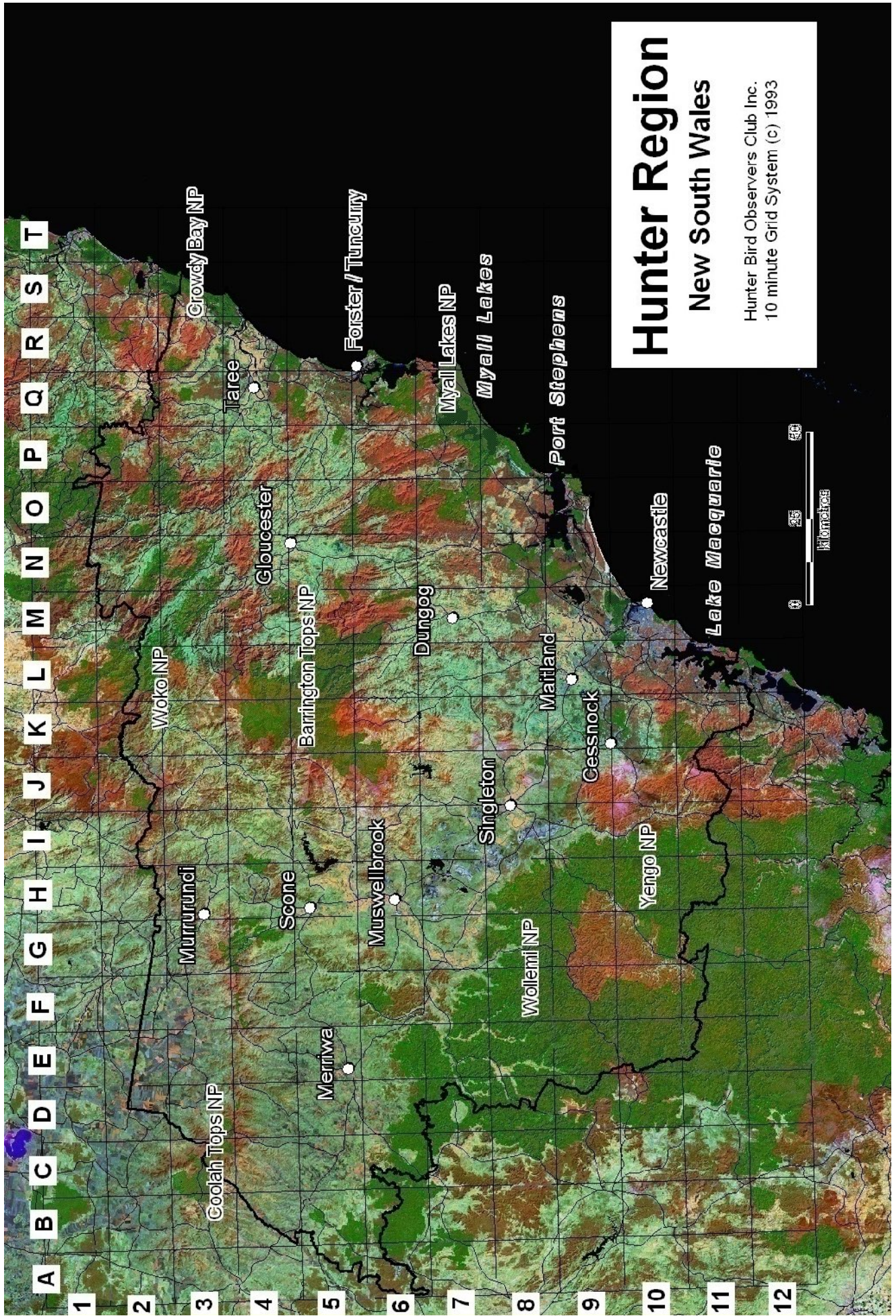
BOR	Robert Boyce	HUB	Report posted to Hunterbirding e-mail group
BRG	Grant Brosie	HUF	Florence Humphreys
BUD	David Bulbert	HUL	Liz Huxtable
CAS	Susanne Callaghan	HWR	Report posted to HBOC website
CBOC	Reported in Cumberland Bird Observers Club newsletter	HWS	HBOC Wader Surveys
CCB	Central Coast group of Birding NSW	IMK	Kay Imrie
CHP	Peter Chegwidan	JAG	Geoff James
CJB	John, Beth Cockerell	JAM	Mavis Jackson
CLT	Tom Clarke	JEC	Carolyn Jeffery
CRB	Brian Crisp	JED	Dick Jenkin
CRL	Liz Crawford	JOD	Di Johnson
DBP	Penny Drake-Brockman	JRR	Rebecca, Rudi Jacobs
DGG	Gaye, Graham Drady	KBD	Bev, David Kibble
DUG	G. Dunlop	KEM	Michael Kearns
DUP	Pam Durie	KET	Tony Keene
EGD	Darryl Eggins	KIM	Marj Kibby
ERE	Report posted on www.ereamae.etc (NSW Birdline)	LAB	Brian Laut
FAA	Adam Fawcett	LAW	Winsome Lambkin
FIM	Melva Fisher	LEJ	Jenny Lewis
FIP	Pamela Fitzsimons	LIA	Ann Lindsey
FIW	Win Filewood	LIG	Greg Little
FLC	C. Fleet	LIN	Nick Livanos
FOC	Reported in Birding NSW (Field Ornithologists Club) newsletter	LIP	Paddy Lightfoot
FRA	Allen Friis	LDJ	Denise, John Lombard
FRN	Neil Fraser	LUD	Darryl Luck
GOA	Anthony Gooden	MAC	Charles Mann
GOC	Colin, Rachel Goodenough	MAM	Max Maddock
GOJ	John Goswell	MAT	Toni Marsh
GRJ	Robert, Janine Greig	MAW	Warren Mayers
HAM	Max Haste	MCN	Neville McNaughton
HAP	Phil Hansbro	MCR	Robert McDonald
HAS	Sue Hamonet	MDV	Don, Val Moon
HBOC	Observation from an HBOC outing or camp	MEL	Lorna Mee
HCL	Chris, Liz Herbert	MMA	Mandy McDonald
HDM	Dianne, Michael Hatfield	MOA	Alan Morris
HID	Dennis Hirst	MOT	Tim Morris
HIP	Pam Hill	MRA	Ray McLean
HPS	Hunter Pelagic Survey (organised by M Roderick)	MUJ	Jenny Musicka
		MVBW	Reported in Manning Valley Birdwatchers newsletter

NBL	NSW Birdline report	SRM	Robert, Margaret Stewart
NEG	Greg Newling	STA	Alan Stuart
NEM	Mike Newman	STP	Peter Struik
NIJ	Joy Nicholls	TAA	Andrew Taylor
NIR	Richard Nicholas	TAH	Harold Tarrant
OCG	Graeme O'Connor	TAM	Mike Tarburton
PEK	Kristy Peters	TBW	Tomaree Birdwatchers
POJ	Jenny Powers	THJ	Judi Thomas
PRC	Catherine Price	TUM	Maureen Turner
RAL	Lyn Rayward	TWD	Diane Twose
RDB	Dot, Bob Raine	VGF	Fred van Gessel
RIA	Allan Richardson	WAR	Ray Walker
ROD	Dianne Rogers	WEJ	Judy Westphal
ROM	Mick Roderick	WID	Dan Williams
ROS	Steve Roderick	WIT	Tom Wilson
SAM	M. Samuel	WOL	Lois Wooding
SIA	Alwyn Simple	WOP	P. Woods
SMJ	Jim Smart	WRO	Ron Warnock
SMR	Rowley Smith		

MAPS OF THE HUNTER REGION

The boundaries of the Region are shown in the two maps which follow, with latitude and longitude lines in a 10-minute grid. Each cell in the grid has a unique alpha-numeric identifier, used in the Report to indicate the approximate locations for the reported observations.





Hunter Region
New South Wales
 Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc.
 10 minute Grid System (c) 1993