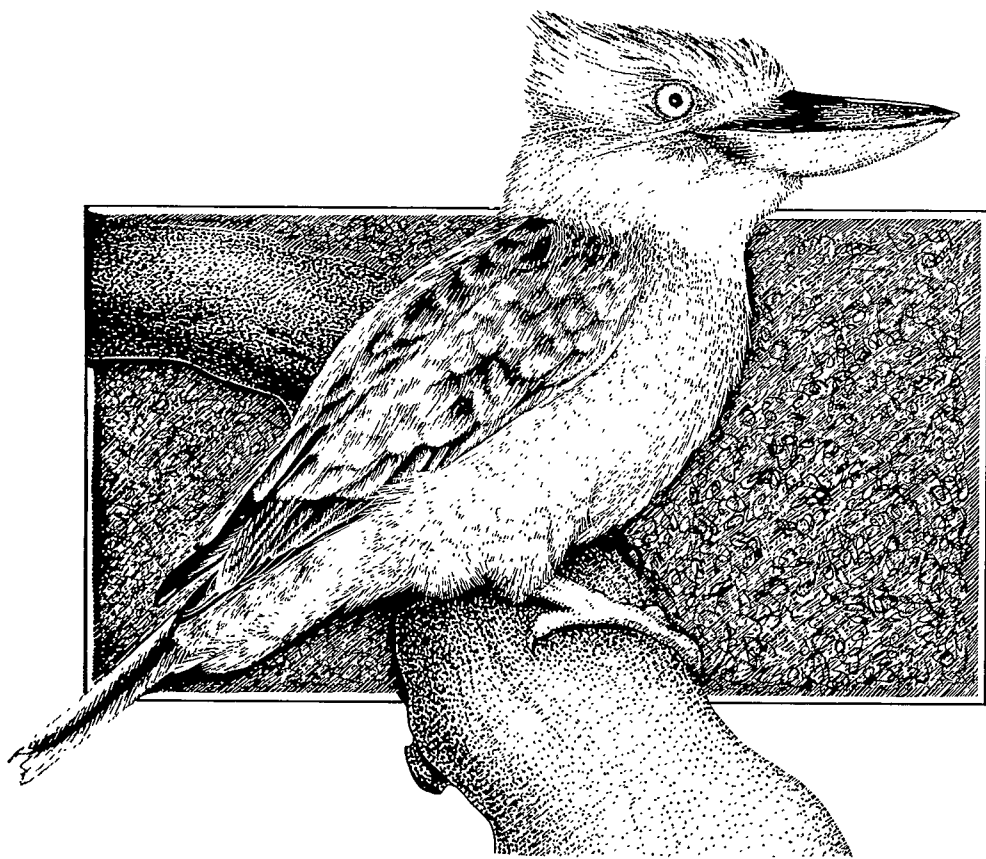


Records of the Western Australian Museum
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Birds of the Gascoyne Region, Western Australia

G.M. Storr



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Blue-winged Kookaburra (*Dacelo leachii*)

drawn by Jill Hollis.

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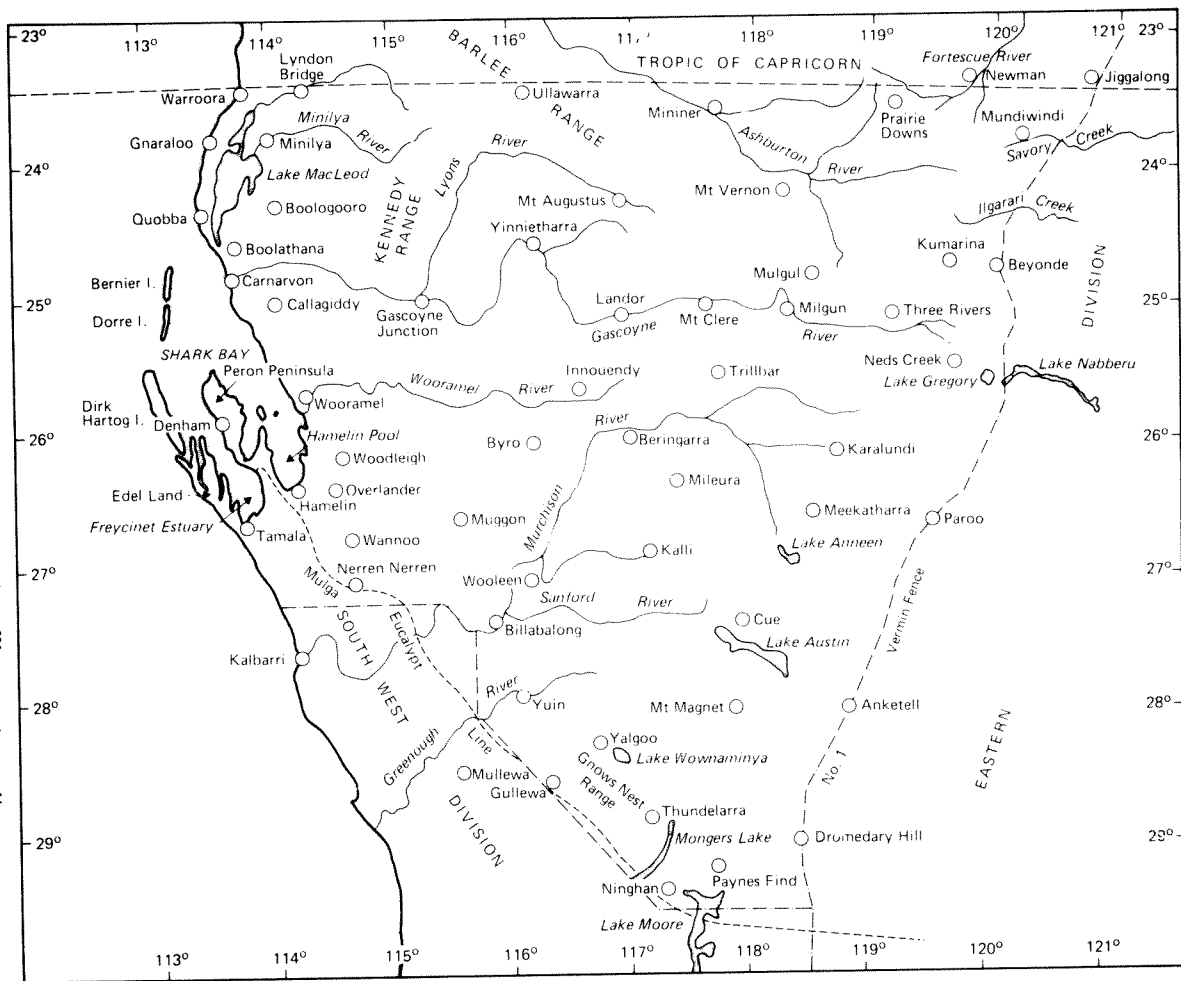
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Figure 1 Map of the Gascoyne region, Western Australia



ABSTRACT

This paper is essentially an annotated list of the 273 species of bird recorded from the Gascoyne region, in the arid and semi-arid mid-west of Western Australia.

INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth in a series of regional avifaunas covering Western Australia. Previous papers dealt with the Kimberley (Storr 1980, *Spec. Publ. West. Aust. Mus.* No. 11), the north-eastern interior (Storr 1981, *Rec. West. Aust. Mus.* 9: 65-99) and the Pilbara (Storr 1984, *Rec. West. Aust. Mus.* Suppl. No. 16). The scope of the present work is the same as the others, i.e. to summarize for each species our knowledge of local distribution, ecological status, relative abundance, habitat preferences, breeding season (defined by the months eggs are laid in), clutch size* (prefixed by C for eggs, and B for broods which have left the nest but are still independent), and movements. Taxonomic references cited in earlier papers are not repeated here.

The Gascoyne region is here defined as that part of the North-West Land Division lying to the south of the Tropic of Capricorn (see Figure 1). All but the far south-west falls within the arid zone, with mean annual rainfall 18-25 cm. The far south-west is semi-arid with 25-35 cm per annum. In the south-west most of the rain falls from April to October, in the north-east from December to June.

Almost all of the region is located to the north and east of the 'mulga-eucalypt line'. Here the prevailing plant formations are woodlands, scrubs and thickets of *Acacia* spp.; mulga (*A. aneura*) predominates in the northern and eastern interiors, bowgada (*A. ramulosa* and *A. linophylla*) in the south and west. In the northern three-quarters there are many intermittent streams fringed with river gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), *Casuarina obesa* and *Melaleuca* spp. In the southern interior the watercourses lack definite channels and spread out into a maze of salt pans, which are surrounded by flats of samphire and lignum. The only extensive area of deep red sands is located on the Kennedy Range; here the ridges are clothed with various shrubs and low trees, and the interdunes with *Triodia*.

In the country south of the 'mulga-eucalypt line' eucalypt woodlands predominate on the heavier soils; mixed scrubs, thickets and heaths on the sands.

Mangroves (*Avicennia marina*) are well-developed along the muddy low-lying coast between the Gascoyne and the Wooramel; there are smaller stands at Lake MacLeod and in the far north of Peron Peninsula. Elsewhere on the mainland coast and on islands, cliffs of aeolian limestone alternate with sandy beaches.

* Many of the available egg data have no information on the state of incubation; rather than reject such data I have decided to risk the inclusion of some incomplete clutches.

Most of the region is grazed by sheep, goats and cattle. The consequent thinning of the ground vegetation and provision of stock-watering troughs have resulted in some large changes in status, certain parrots, pigeons, finches and corvids being the main beneficiaries.

This paper is based on the collections of the Western Australian Museum, the literature (especially papers by T. Carter, F.L. Whitlock, A.A. Burbidge *et al.* and M.G. Brooker *et al.*) and the unpublished observations of several naturalists, notably J.R. Ford, R.E. Johnstone, L.A. Smith, G.M. Storr, N. Kolichis, P.J. Fuller, J.A. Smith, T.A. Barnes, R.P. Jaensch, G.B. Pearson and R.L. Pink. I am grateful to J.R. Ford, N. Kolichis, R.E. Johnstone and P.J. Fuller for reading the manuscript.

LIST OF BIRDS

CASUARIIDAE

Dromaius novaehollandiae novaehollandiae (Latham) Emu

Range. Greater part of mainland, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land; also Faure I.

Status etc. Nomadic, e.g. three adults banded near Cue in June 1969 were recovered 440 km WSW, 360 km SW and 540 km NW respectively 3, 6 and 8 months later. Moderately common to common on lightly wooded flats or riverine and coastal plains with good grass and herbage, usually in ones, twos or family parties, occasionally flocks (up to 50); scarce or uncommon in overgrazed or densely wooded country; absent from waterless tracts. Breeding late April—early June; C/7(1), 8(2), 9(2), 10(1), 13(1).

PODICIPEDIDAE

Podiceps novaehollandiae novaehollandiae Stephens Black-throated Grebe

Range etc. Visitor (all seasons) to greater part of mainland. Uncommon; usually in ones or twos, occasionally flocks (up to 100). River pools, ephemeral waters (flooded claypans, lignum swamps and gravel pits) and bore overflows. One breeding report (16 nests at 15 km NNE Cue): March; C/7(1).

Podiceps poliocephalus Jardine and Selby Hoary-headed Grebe

Range etc. Visitor (all months) to greater part of mainland. Seasonally common in south-eastern interior (Nannine south-west to Yalgoo), but generally scarce or uncommon; usually in small parties, occasionally hundreds. Claypans and lignum swamps flooded by heavy winter as well as summer rain, river pools, large dams and bore overflows. Breeding north to Warriedar Claypan and Lake Anneen: March—early November; C/4-5 (mostly 4).

Podiceps cristatus australis Gould Great Crested Grebe

One record: flocks of 4 and 20 birds observed by J.A.K. Lane on northern Lake MacLeod, 13-14 May 1977.

SPHENISCIDAE

Eudyptula minor novaehollandiae (Stephens) Little Penguin

Status etc. Said to stray as far north as False Entrance (Edel Land).

DIOMEDEIDAE

[*Diomedea melanophris* Temminck Black-browed Albatross

One record: a bird tentatively identified by I. Abbott (1979, *Corella* 3: 94) 8 km W of Dorre I. in July 1978.]

[*Diomedea chrysostoma* Forster

Grey-headed Albatross

One record: a bird a few kilometres W of Cape Inscription in July 1938 tentatively identified by J. Gregory (1941, *Emu* 41: 23) as *D. chrysostoma*, but nothing in his description precludes *D. cauta*.]

Diomedea chlororhynchos Gmelin

Yellow-nosed Albatross

Status. Common visitor (mid May—late November) to open seas; usually single, occasionally in flocks (up to 36), especially in attendance on fishing boats.

PROCELLARIIDAE

Macronectes giganteus (Gmelin)

Southern Giant Petrel

Status. Scarce visitor (June—July); usually single. Nestlings banded on Anvers I., Signy I. and Bird I. (South Georgia) have been recovered in the region a few months later.

Macronectes halli Mathews

Northern Giant Petrel

One record: a nestling banded on Macquarie I. in February 1970, recovered off Cape Cuvier in July 1970 (*Aust. Bd Bander* 8: 87).

Daption capense (Linnaeus)

Cape Petrel

Status. Scarce visitor (July) to open seas, in ones or twos.

Pterodroma lessonii (Garnot)

White-headed Petrel

One record: one seen on 26 May 1919 by E.W. Ferguson (1921, *Emu* 21: 106) in south-western seas well offshore.

Pterodroma mollis mollis (Gould)

Soft-plumaged Petrel

Status. Common visitor (May—July) to seas well offshore, up to 12 following ships.

[*Halobaena caerulea* (Gmelin)

Blue Petrel

One record: a bird tentatively identified on 26 May 1919 by E.W. Ferguson (1921, *Emu* 21: 105) in south-western seas well offshore.]

Puffinus pacificus (Gmelin)

Wedge-tailed Shearwater

Range etc. Common visitor (late August—mid May), feeding in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 100), sometimes close to mainland (Quobba). About 1 000 pairs breeding on small, rocky *Nitraria*-covered islands in Freycinet Estuary (Slope, Friday, Lefebre, Charlie, Freycinet, Double, Baudin): mid November—early December; C/1 (invariably). This is the only dimorphic population in Australian seas, c. 20% of birds being white-breasted (D.L. Serventy 1972, *Emu* 72: 175).

Puffinus assimilis Gould

Little Shearwater

One record: two birds seen by G.M. Storr at 5 km WNW Babbage I. during a light south-easterly on 16 May 1963.

OCEANITIDAE

Oceanites oceanicus (Kuhl)

Wilson's Storm Petrel

Status. Moderately common passage migrant (April–July and October–November); usually single, occasionally in twos or threes.

PHAETHONTIDAE

[*Phaethon rubricauda* Boddaert

Red-tailed Tropic-bird

A tropic-bird south-west of Dirk Hartog I. in late September 1927 was tentatively identified as this species by E. Ashby (1929, *Trans. R. Soc. S. Aust.* 53: 56).]

PELECANIDAE

Pelecanus conspicillatus Temminck

Australian Pelican

Range. Northern half of region, south to Freycinet Estuary, Hamelin Pool, the lower Gascoyne (upstream to Gascoyne Junction) and the upper Ashburton. Status etc. Common visitor; in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally large flocks (up to 600). Mainly sheltered seas; also large pools on Lake MacLeod and major watercourses (including Tunnel Creek and the Lyons). Breeding in small numbers on Pelican I: April–May; C/2(2).

SULIDAE

Sula bassana serrator (Gray)

Gannet

Range etc. Rare visitor (mid May–late August) to seas south of 24° 50'S; usually single.

PHALACROCORACIDAE

Phalacrocorax sulcirostris (Brandt)

Little Black Cormorant

Range. Northern half of region, south to the Gascoyne and upper Murchison (Kalamunda Pool).

Status etc. Moderately common; in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 20). Larger pools on rivers and Lake MacLeod. One breeding report: three nests in river gums on the Gascoyne at Mt Clere; June; C/5(1).

Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae Stephens

Great Cormorant

Range. Northern half of region, south to the Gascoyne.

Status etc. Rare visitor; single or in small parties (up to 6). Mainly large pools on Lake MacLeod and major watercourses; also estuaries. One breeding report: a nest in a river gum on the Gascoyne at Mt Clere; early April.

Phalacrocorax varius (Gmelin)

Pied Cormorant

Range. Sheltered seas (but not the highly saline Hamelin Pool and Lharidon Bight) and Lake MacLeod.

Status etc. Very common in Denham Sound (especially along east coast of Dirk Hartog I.) and in Freycinet Estuary; common to moderately common elsewhere (including east coast of Bernier and Dorre Is; north-east coast of Peron Peninsula south to Herald Gut, Faure I. and Pelican I.; mainland coast from Miaboolia Beach south to Long Point; and deep pools on Lake MacLeod). Breeding in thousands on east coast of Dirk Hartog I. (Quoin Bluff South and Egg I.) and in smaller numbers on islands in Freycinet Estuary (Lefebre, Charlie, Freycinet, Double, Wilds, Mary Anne, North Guano), on Faure and Pelican Is, in mangroves at Lake MacLeod and Carnarvon, and on beacons 13 and 25 km W Denham: late April—early September; C/2-4.

Phalacrocorax melanoleucos melanoleucos (Vieillot)

Little Pied Cormorant

Range. Northern half of region, south to Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet), the Wooramel and upper Murchison (Oilba Pool, Kalamunda Pool); casual further south (seasonal swamp at Yalgoo and large dam at Nallan).

Status etc. Uncommon; in ones or twos. Mainly river pools. Breeding at Landor in June and in Freycinet Estuary (Charlie and Salutation Is) in September; C/5(1).

Anhinga melanogaster novaehollandiae (Gould)

Darter

Range. Northern half of region, south to the lower Gascoyne and upper Murchison, and east to Chalk Springs (between Mt Vernon and Mulgul), Coondil Pool (Mt Clere) and Oilba Pool (Moorarie).

Status etc. Uncommon; in ones, twos or small parties (up to 10). Permanent pools on Lake MacLeod and larger watercourses. One breeding report (Coondil Pool): B/2; October.

FREGATIDAE

Fregata ariel (Gray)

Lesser Frigatebird

Status. Rare vagrant. Reported by Davies and Chapman (1975, *Emu* 75: 56) at Monkey Mia in late August—early September 1972.

ARDEIDAE

Ardea pacifica Latham

Pacific Heron

Range. Greater part of mainland but not Peron Peninsula, Edel Land or much of south-west.

Status etc. Moderately common in north and east, scarce south of the Wooramel and west of Yalgoo; usually single, occasionally in small parties (up to eight). River pools, floodwaters and bore overflows. Breeding (mainly at gum-fringed pools in north-east): January–March and August; C/3(2), 4(2).

Ardea novaehollandiae Latham

White-faced Heron

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula and Bernier, Dirk Hartog and Faure Is.

Status etc. Common; usually single, commonly in small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 60). River pools, tidal flats and creeks, inundated claypans and lignum swamps, bore overflows and floodwaters. Breeding (mainly at gum-fringed pools) February–April and July–August; C/4(3), 5(1).

Egretta alba alba (Linnaeus)

Great Egret

Range. Northern half of region south to the Gascoyne; casual further south (Yalgoo).

Status etc. Moderately common on northern Lake MacLeod, the lower Gascoyne (upstream to Gascoyne Junction) and the Lyons, usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties (up to six); rare elsewhere. Mainly large river, lake and estuarine pools; also inundated samphire and lignum swamps.

Egretta garzetta nigripes (Temminck)

Little Egret

Range. Mainland coast from the Gascoyne south to the Wooramel; casual at northern Lake MacLeod.

Status etc. Moderately common; usually in ones or twos, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Mangrove creeks and nearby tidal pools.

Egretta sacra (Gmelin)

Eastern Reef Heron

Range. Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is; coasts and islands of Denham Sound, Useless Inlet and Freycinet Estuary; northern mainland coast south to a little beyond Carnarvon (Oyster Creek).

Status etc. Locally common (Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is and mainland coast between Cape Cuvier and Point Quobba), but generally uncommon to moderately common; usually in ones or twos. Mainly tidal reef flats; also mangrove creeks. Breeding August–September; C/2(1), 3(1). White phase rare and only reported from Point Quobba, Carnarvon, Bernier I. and Dirk Hartog I.

Butorides striatus stagnatilis (Gould) Mangrove Heron

Range. Northern Peron Peninsula, south nearly to Denham (Little Lagoon) and Hopeless Reach; mainland coast from a little north of Carnarvon (Miaboolia Beach) south to Long Point; and mangrove-fringed pools in northern Lake MacLeod (east and south-east of Gnaraloo).

Status etc. Common; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties (up to five). Shallow water in vicinity of mangroves. Breeding August–October; C/2(1), 3(3).

Nycticorax caledonicus hilli Mathews Rufous Night Heron

Range. Northern half of region, south to the Gascoyne; casual further south (Woodleigh).

Status etc. Moderately common at tree-fringed pools on northern Lake MacLeod and larger rivers (Ashburton, Lyons, Gascoyne), single or in small parties (up to eight); rare elsewhere.

[*Botaurus poiciloptilus* (Wagler) Brown Bittern

One dubious record: the type of *B. p. westralensis* Mathews, said to have been collected at Shark Bay in December 1880.]

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Threskiornis aethiopicus moluccus (Cuvier) Sacred Ibis

Status. Rare visitor. Observed at Moogooree (one c. March 1952), northern Lake MacLeod (one in November 1982) and Carnarvon (June 1966).

Threskiornis spinicollis (Jameson) Straw-necked Ibis

Range. Throughout the mainland.

Status etc. Highly nomadic, e.g. two young birds banded near Moora and Gingin were recovered in the Carnarvon district (600 km northwards) one and two months later. Uncommon to very common on coastal and near-coastal plains; scarce to moderately common in lake country of south-eastern interior from Lake Anneen south-west to Yalgoo; scarce elsewhere; ordinarily in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 100), but in winter 1952 a flock of 2000 reported at Booloogooro (D.L. Serventy 1953, *West. Aust. Nat.* 3: 182). Damp grassy flats, inundated lignum swamps and claypans, river pools, floodwaters, bore overflows and dams.

Plegadis falcinellus (Linnaeus) Glossy Ibis

Status etc. Possibly resident at bore overflows near Hamelin HS, where 1-23 birds observed on nine occasions between 1964 and 1984 in March, April,

July, September, November and December. Otherwise only recorded at 9 km NNE Minilya Bridge (three at roadside puddle in May) and 5 km SE of Yalgoo (one at claypan in August).

Platalea flavipes Gould Yellow-billed Spoonbill

Range. Northern half of region south to the Wooramel and upper Murchison (Oilba Pool).

Status etc. Uncommon visitor; in ones, twos or small parties (up to nine). Pools on larger rivers (including the Minilya and Lyons) and flooded claypans. Two breeding reports; *c.* six nests in river gums in a pool in the Gascoyne near Mt Clere in autumn 1961, and a nest and three eggs at Breberle Lake on 20 September 1984.

ANATIDAE

Anseranas semipalmata (Latham) Pied Goose

One record: eight at Carnarvon in July 1952 (D.L. Serventy 1953, *West. Aust. Nat.* 3: 177) during a period of widespread irruption of northern Australian birds.

Dendrocygna eytoni (Eyton) Plumed Whistling Duck

Five records: observed by T. Carter (1889, *Zoologist* (3) 13: 267) among the abundant waterfowl at large pools on the Lyons in October 1888; a flock of 120 on a pool on Boolathana Station in August 1984 (M.K. Morcombe, *p. comm.*); a party of 6 at the Carnarvon Sewage Farm on 27 May 1982 (J. O'Donohue 1984, *West. Aust. Bd Rept* No. 6: 12); a flock of 25 on the upper Murchison (Irridabubba Pool) in October 1963 (H.B. Shugg 1964, *West. Aust. Nat.* 9: 119); and one at Nallan Claypan on 16 September 1984 (R.P. Jaensch and G.B. Pearson).

Cygnus atratus (Latham) Black Swan

Range. Greater part of region.

Status etc. In wet years a common breeding visitor to lake country of south-eastern interior (Lake Anneen south-west to Yalgoo) and to far north-west (floodout of the Minilya), in flocks (up to 800); otherwise a scarce to moderately common non-breeding visitor, in pairs or small flocks (up to 20). Inundated saltlakes, claypans, lignum swamps and billabongs, river pools, bore overflows and saltwork ponds. Breeding mainly March–May, exceptionally October–November; C/4(1), 5(7), 6(3), 7(2).

Stictonetta naevosa (Gould) Freckled Duck

Range etc. Rare visitor to interior, north to Breberle Lake; in small flocks (up to 35). One breeding report (at a swamp 10 km SE Thundelarra): October; C/7(2).

Tadorna tadornoides (Jardine and Selby) Mountain Duck
Range. Throughout the region, including Dirk Hartog I. and Freycinet Estuary.
Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor (more plentiful in south than north); usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Flooded saltlakes, claypans and lignum swamps, river pools, bore overflows, tidal pools, large dams and sheltered seas. One breeding report (Oilba Pool, upper Murchison): July: C/5.

Anas superciliosa Gmelin Black Duck
Range. Throughout the mainland.
Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor (more plentiful in south than north); usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Flooded claypans and teatree-lignum swamps, river pools and bore overflows. Breeding March–May; C/9(1).

Anas gibberifrons gracilis Buller Grey Teal
Range. Throughout the region, including Dirk Hartog I.
Status etc. Highly nomadic, e.g. a bird banded in Tasmania was recovered four years later at Lake Austin. Moderately common to very common visitor (much the commonest anatid in region); in ones, twos, small parties or flocks (up to 200). Flooded saltlakes, claypans, and teatree-lignum swamps, floodwaters, bore overflows, dams and saltwork ponds. Breeding throughout range (including Dirk Hartog I.): March–August; C/8(1), 9(2), 10(2), 12(1), 14(2).

Anas rhynchotis rhynchotis Latham Blue-winged Shoveler
Range. Western and southern, north to Minilya, Breberle Lake and Lake Anneen.
Status etc. Uncommon visitor, in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 30). Flooded teatree-lignum swamps, saltlakes and claypans, river pools and bore overflows.

Malacorhynchus membranaceus (Latham) Pink-eared Duck
Range. Throughout the mainland.
Status etc. Uncommon visitor; in pairs or small flocks (up to 35). Mainly flooded saltlakes, claypans, teatree-lignum swamps and billabongs; also river pools and bore overflows. One dated breeding report (15 km NNE Cue): March; C/6.

Aythya australis (Eyton) Hardhead
Range. Throughout the mainland.
Status etc. Scarce visitor; single or in small parties (up to 12). Mainly flooded lignum-teatree swamps; also river pools, large dams and saltwork ponds. Said to have nested in lignum swamp 13 km SE Thundelarra.

Chenonetta jubata (Latham)

Wood Duck

Range. Throughout the mainland.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor; usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Grassy flats beside water (lignum swamps, river pools, billabongs and flood waters). Two dated breeding reports: February–March; C/9(2).

Oxyura australis Gould

Blue-billed Duck

Range etc. Rare visitor to south-east, north to Nallan.

ACCIPITRIDAE

Elanus caeruleus notatus Gould

Black-shouldered Kite

Range. Throughout the mainland.

Status etc. Moderately common (at least in winter) on open or lightly wooded coastal plains, especially about the Minilya, Gascoyne and Wooramel; scarce in interior; usually single, occasionally in small parties (up to four). One dated breeding report (Minilya Bridge): August; C/4.

Elanus scriptus Gould

Letter-winged Kite

One record from extreme north-west: large numbers about the lower Minilya in October–November 1888 (T. Carter 1889, *Zoologist* (3) 13: 268).

Hamirostra melanosternon (Gould)

Black-breasted Kite

Range. Throughout the mainland.

Status etc. Uncommon; usually single. Open or lightly wooded country. One breeding record (Tunnel Creek): September; C/2.

Haliastur indus girrenera (Vieillot)

Brahminy Kite

Range. Mainland coast about Carnarvon (Miaboolia Beach south to Oyster Creek); casual inland.

Status etc. Uncommon; usually single. Mainly about mangroves; occasionally visiting northern Lake MacLeod and western edge of Callagiddy Station and ascending the Gascoyne for a few kilometres.

Haliastur sphenurus (Vieillot)

Whistling Kite

Range. Greater part of region, but not the waterless coastal country south and west of Hamelin.

Status etc. Common; usually single, occasionally in twos or small parties (up to four). Lightly to moderately wooded country, especially near water; attracted to dead kangaroos along highways. Breeding April–August; C/2(6).

Milvus migrans affinis Gould

Black Kite

Range. Greater part of region south to Woodleigh and Wydgee.

Status etc. Ordinarily a scarce visitor to northern half (south to the lower Gascoyne and upper Murchison); usually single, rarely in small flocks (up to 13). Moderately common to very common in some years, e.g. 1952 and 1980, often in flocks (up to 100). Lightly wooded country.

Accipiter fasciatus fasciatus (Vigors and Horsfield)

Brown Goshawk

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common; usually single, occasionally in twos. Well-wooded country, especially along watercourses; also mangroves. Breeding August–September; C/4(1).

Accipiter cirrocephalus cirrocephalus (Vieillot)

Collared Sparrowhawk

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common; usually single, occasionally in twos. Well-wooded country, especially about water; also mulga scrubs. Breeding July–October; C/3(1), 4(1).

Aquila morphnoides morphnoides Gould

Little Eagle

Range. Northern half of region, south to the Wooramel and upper Murchison; casual further south (Hamelin, Tamala) and on Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common; usually single. Well-wooded country (including mulga), especially about watercourses; occasionally attracted to road-kills. Breeding July–August; C/2(1).

Aquila audax (Latham)

Wedge-tailed Eagle

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Common; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties (up to 10). Lightly wooded country, especially on sheep stations and along roads (where it is attracted to dead kangaroos, emus and sheep). Breeding late May–mid August; C/1(5), 2(31). Generally sedentary, but a nestling banded on Nullarbor Plain was shot 11 months later at Doolgunna, 800 km north-west.

Haliaeetus leucogaster (Gmelin)

White-breasted Sea Eagle

Range. Mainland coast south to Gladstone; northern Lake MacLeod; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet); Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Common on Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is, uncommon to moderately common elsewhere; usually single, occasionally in small parties (up to six). Breeding on islands (Bernier, Dirk Hartog, Double, White) and on mainland near Cape Cuvier: mid May—early August; C/2(5).

Circus assimilis Jardine and Selby Spotted Harrier

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Nomadic. Uncommon to moderately common; usually single. Sparsely wooded country. Breeding August (and ? September); C/3(3).

Circus aeruginosus approximans Peale Marsh Harrier

Status etc. Rare visitor (September—November) to canegrass swamps and bore overflows on coastal plains; single. Casual in interior (Lake Anneen).

Pandion haliaetus cristatus (Vieillot) Osprey

Range. Mainland coast south to a little beyond Carnarvon; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; Freycinet Estuary (nesting on Eagle, Friday, Charlie, White, Mary Anne, Baudin, South Guano, Salutation, Three Bays and Smiths Is and two islets in Depuch Loop); Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Common on Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is and in Freycinet Estuary; now rare elsewhere. Breeding late June—mid September; C/2(3), 3(5).

FALCONIDAE

Falco subniger Gray Black Falcon

Range. Greater part of interior south to Woodleigh and Ninghan.

Status etc. Rare visitor (three of the six observations were in far north-east); single. Very open mulga.

Falco peregrinus macropus Swainson Peregrine Falcon

Range. Throughout the mainland.

Status etc. Scarce visitor; in ones or twos. Favouring vicinity of water, e.g. bore overflow at Hamelin. Breeding September; C/3(1).

Falco longipennis longipennis Swainson Australian Hobby

Range. Throughout the mainland; also (in passage) Bernier and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Moderately common resident and autumn-winter visitor; usually single, occasionally in twos or hunting with Pied Butcherbirds. Lightly wooded country. Breeding August—September; C/3(6).

Falco hypoleucos Gould

Grey Falcon

Range. North-west, south to the Gascoyne and east to Williambury and Gascoyne Junction.

Status etc. Rare visitor; single.

Falco berigora berigora Vigors and Horsfield

Brown Falcon

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common; usually single, occasionally in twos, rarely flocks (up to 13). Lightly wooded country; occasionally attracted to road-kills. Breeding July–August (? early September); C/1(3), 2(3), 3(5), 4(4).

Falco cenchroides cenchroides Vigors and Horsfield

Australian Kestrel

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land, Freycinet Estuary (Slope, Baudin, Salutation and Three Bays Is) and Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Common resident and very common autumn-winter visitor; usually single, occasionally in twos, rarely loose aggregations (6-30) in passage. Open or lightly wooded country. Breeding late July–early October; C/2(4), 3(12), 4(39), 5(18), 6(3); on or near coast nesting in holes in cliffs and on old crow nests, in interior on old crow and babbler nests, in hollow eucalypts, on ledges in breakaways and in old mine-shafts.

MEGAPODIIDAE

Leipoa ocellata Gould

Mallee Fowl

Range. At present north nearly to Tamala, the southern quarter of Peron Peninsula, the southern boundary of Woodleigh and Talisker Stations, Jingemarra and Cogla Downs. Formerly further north on northern Peron Peninsula and east coast of Hamelin Pool, and much further north (*vide* T. Carter 1917, *Ibis* (10) 5: 572-3) in the scrub between Lake MacLeod and the sea.

Status etc. Formerly common and widespread; now locally common (Toolonga Nature Reserve and Gnows Nest Range) but generally scarce and patchily distributed through loss or deterioration of habitat. Mainly mallee and tea-tree scrub in west and south, mainly acacia thickets (especially bowgada *A. linophylla*) in north and east. Breeding August–December; C/25(1).

PHASIANIDAE

Coturnix novaezelandiae pectoralis Gould

Stubble Quail

Range. Greater part of region, including Dirk Hartog, Baudin and Salutation Is.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor (mainly April–November) to coastal plains and to lakeside flats in south-eastern interior, in ones, twos or small parties (up to 15); rare in north-eastern quarter. Open or lightly wooded grasslands, and samphire-nittraria flats. Two breeding reports: April and August.

TURNICIDAE

[*Turnix varia varia* (Latham) Painted Button-quail
One unconfirmed record from extreme south: observations by I.C. Carnaby in hillside scrub 20 km SW Ninghan HS.]

Turnix velox (Gould) Little Button-quail
Range. Greater part of region but possibly not far south-west (no reports from south or west of Overlander); an unconfirmed report from Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Nomadic. Common in good years, rare or absent in droughts; in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 10). Lightly wooded country, with good grass (*Aristida*, *Cenchrus*, *Triodia* etc.) and herbage, especially along minor water-courses. Breeding March–September; C/3(1), 4(3).

GRUIDAE

Grus rubicundus (Perry) Brolga
One record: some seen near Overlander in 1952 (the year in which many northern birds appeared in southern Australia).

RALLIDAE

Gallirallus philippensis mellori (Mathews) Banded Land Rail
Five records from vicinity of Shark Bay: specimens (WAM A7271, A6705) collected at Carnarvon in September 1953 and at Woodleigh in January 1950; one heard by R.P. Jaensch and G.B. Pearson at McNeill Claypan on 19 September 1984; an observation on Dirk Hartog I. (T. Carter 1923, *Ibis* (11) 5: 218); and two seen by N. Thomas at *Typha* on mill overflow near Nanga on 29 October 1984.

Porzana fluminea Gould Spotted Crake
Range. South-western, north to the Carnarvon district and east to beyond Yalgoo (15 km S Edah).

Status etc. Common resident in *Typha* and other dense herbage around lagoon formed by bore overflow near Hamelin HS, and possibly resident in similar vegetation along bore-drains on Yaringa Station; also visiting ephemeral waters (lignum and canegrass swamps). Old nests found at Hamelin. Also unconfirmed reports of Spotted Crake (*P. tabuensis*) from Hamelin and Yaringa.

Porphyrio porphyrio bellus Gould

Swamphen

One record: observations by L.A. Smith and R.E. Johnstone of a bird (presumably of this subspecies) at No. 4 Bore, 25 km SSW Yaringa, 17 November 1982; here there was much *Typha* on drains and the flooded ground between them.

Gallinula ventralis Gould

Black-tailed Native Hen

Range. Throughout the mainland.

Status etc. Nomadic. Locally very common in wet years, but generally scarce to moderately common; usually in small parties, occasionally large flocks (up to 200). Flooded lignum swamps, claypans, canegrass swamps and teatree swamps, river pools, floodwaters and bore overflows. Breeding March–April and August (? July)–October; C/6(4).

Fulica atra australis Gould

Coot

Range. Greater part of region, but not waterless country south and west of Hamelin.

Status etc. Scarce to moderately common (most plentiful on coastal plains and in lake country of south-east; least in north-east); usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 200). Flooded claypans and lignum-teatree swamps, bore overflows, river pools, floodwaters and large dams. Breeding March; C/5-7.

OTIDIDAE

Otis australis Gray

Australian Bustard

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Locally resident (Dirk Hartog I.) but generally nomadic. Rare to moderately common; usually in ones, twos or small parties, rarely small flocks (up to 20). Open or lightly wooded country. Breeding March and July–August; C/1(3).

ROSTRATULIDAE

Rostratula benghalensis australis (Gould)

Painted Snipe

One record: a male (WAM A9532) collected at Carnarvon in November 1963.

HAEMATOPODIDAE

Haematopus longirostris longirostris Vieillot

Pied Oystercatcher

Range. Mainland coast south to Carnarvon; Faure and Pelican Is; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula (south to Denham and Guichenault Point); Bernier, Dorre

and Dirk Hartog Is; Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet and Freycinet, Wilds, Mary Anne, Baudin, North Guano, Three Bays and Salutation Is).

Status etc. Common on Dirk Hartog I., uncommon to moderately common elsewhere; usually in ones or twos. Sandy beaches and tidal flats. Breeding August–September; C/1(1), 2(4).

Haematopus fuliginosus ophthalmicus Castelnau and Ramsay Sooty Oystercatcher
Range. Mainland coast south to Point Quobba; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common; in ones, twos or small parties (up to six). Mainly rocky coasts.

Taxonomy. These birds are included in this subspecies even though the extent of orbital skin (judging by two specimens from Quobba and Dorre I.) is considerably less than in Kimberley and Pilbara birds. It seems from Hartert's remarks (1927, *Novit. zool.* 34: 17) that birds from Point Cloates (just north of our region) show a similar tendency towards the nominate race.

CHARADRIIDAE

Vanellus tricolor (Vieillot)

Banded Plover

Range. At present greater part of region, including Dirk Hartog I., Edel Land and Peron Peninsula.

Status etc. Resident and autumn-winter visitor. Moderately common to common in south and west, scarce in north-east (north of the upper Gascoyne); usually in pairs or small parties, rarely flocks (up to 25). Sparsely vegetated flats, especially near water (including windmills). Breeding north to the Barlee Range and Mt Vernon: mainly June–August (? early September), also February–April in north; C/2(1), 3(3), 4(12), 5(1).

Before this century it was absent from most (if not all) of the region, e.g. the Calvert Expedition failed to record it between Mullewa and Wiluna in winter 1896. It colonized Dirk Hartog I. c. 1915 and the Peron Peninsula and Murchison Goldfield a few years later.

Pluvialis squatarola (Linnaeus)

Grey Plover

Range. Northern shores of Lake MacLeod; mainland coast south to Long Point; coasts of northern Peron Peninsula south to Little Lagoon and Monkey Mia; shores of Useless Inlet; Bernier and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Visitor (August–May). Moderately common on Dirk Hartog I., uncommon elsewhere; usually in ones, twos or small parties. Sandy beaches and tidal flats.

Pluvialis fulva (Gmelin)

Eastern Golden Plover

Two records: a specimen collected by O.H. Lipfert on Bernier I on 1 September 1910, and two observed by J. Ford (1966, *West. Aust. Nat.* 10: 72) at bore overflow near Hamelin HS in December 1965.

Charadrius ruficapillus Temminck

Red-capped Plover

Range. Most coasts and coastal plains, including Bernier and Dirk Hartog Is, Lake MacLeod and bore overflows in Yaringa-Hamelin area; lake country of south-eastern interior (Lake Anneen south-west to Lake Wownamina and Mongers Lake); casual elsewhere in interior.

Status etc. Moderately common to common; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Mainly sandy beaches, near-coastal pools and sparsely vegetated flats, and shores of saltlakes; also edge of river pools, freshwater lagoons and large dams. Breeding July–August; C/2(2).

Charadrius mongolus mongolus Pallas

Mongolian Sand Plover

Status uncertain. A few unconfirmed reports (August–March) of small flocks near Carnarvon and Denham.

Charadrius leschenaultii Lesson

Large Sand Plover

Range. Mainland coast south to Long Point; Peron Peninsula south to Lharidon Bight; Bernier and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (all months); in ones, twos or small parties (up to 12). Tidal flats and sandy beaches.

Charadrius melanops Vieillot

Black-fronted Plover

Range. Greater part of mainland, but not Peron Peninsula or far south-west.

Status etc. Moderately common; in ones or twos. Mainly edge of river pools; also edge of saltlakes, claypans, lignum swamps and bore drains and overflows. Breeding August–September; C/3(1).

Charadrius veredus Gould

Oriental Plover

Status. Rare visitor to north-western coastal plains. Two records: three birds observed by L.A. Smith and R.E. Johnstone at 37 km SSE Quobba in October 1980, and reported by A. Chenery (1928, *S. Aust. Orn.* 9: 228) 30 km E Carnarvon in October 1927.

Charadrius cinctus (Gould)

Red-kneed Plover

Range. Coastal plains from the Gascoyne south to Hamelin and inland to Callagiddy and Woodleigh, and saltlake country of south-eastern interior (Lake Anneen south-west to Lake Wownamina); also larger rivers (the Gascoyne-

and upper Murchison).

Status etc. Moderately common in wet years but generally uncommon; usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 40). Flooded salt-lakes, claypans, lignum-teatree swamps and canegrass swamps; also bore overflows and river pools. Breeding February–March and July–October; C/3(2), 4(12), 5(1).

Peltohyas australis (Gould) Australian Dotterel

Range. Arid interior west to Mt Phillip, Dairy Creek, Byro and Warriedar; casual further west (coastal plains between the lower Lyndon and Gladstone, and Dirk Hartog I.).

Status etc. Uncommon; ones, twos or small parties. Sparsely vegetated plains, stony flats and samphire flats. Breeding March–April and July–August; C/3 (5).

SCOLOPACIDAE

Numenius minutus Gould Little Whimbrel

Status uncertain. R.P. Jaensch and G.B. Pearson saw 24 on heavily grazed, muddy edges of McNeill Claypan on 19 September 1984. Other reports from the Carnarvon district and Peron Peninsula lack details.

Numenius phaeopus variegatus (Scopoli) Whimbrel

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod; mainland coast south to Long Point; northern Peron Peninsula; Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Common visitor (all months); in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 30). Tidal flats, especially near mangroves; also sandy beaches.

Numenius madagascariensis (Linnaeus) Eastern Curlew

Range. Mainland coast south to Long Point; northern Peron Peninsula; Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (all months); in ones, twos or small parties (up to eight). Tidal flats, especially near mangroves.

Limosa limosa melanuroides Gould Black-tailed Godwit

One record: one or two birds observed at bore overflow near Hamelin HS in November and December 1964 and 1965 (J. Ford 1966, *West. Aust. Nat.* 10: 72).

Limosa lapponica baueri Naumann Bar-tailed Godwit

Range. Northern shores of Lake MacLeod; mainland coast south to New Beach; northern Peron Peninsula south to Little Lagoon and Guichenault Point; Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common visitor (August–June); usually in small flocks, occasionally hundreds. Mainly tidal flats.

Tringa stagnatilis (Bechstein) Marsh Sandpiper

Range. Mainland coast and coastal plains from the Lyndon River floodout south to Hamelin.

Status etc. Uncommon visitor (October–December); in ones, twos or small parties (up to 10). Bore overflows and saltwater pools.

Tringa nebularia (Gunnerus) Greenshank

Range. Mainland coast south to Greenough Point; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; shores of Useless Inlet; Dirk Hartog I.; interior inland to Lake Austin.

Status etc. Visitor (August–June). Uncommon to moderately common on or near coasts, scarce in interior; usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 70). Tidal flats, inundated saltlakes and lignum-teatree swamps, bore overflows, river pools and flooded marl-pits.

Tringa glareola Linnaeus Wood Sandpiper

Range. Coastal plain from the Gascoyne south to Hamelin; casual in interior (26 km NW Mileura).

Status etc. Visitor (November–April). Common at bore overflow near Hamelin HS (up to 80 birds at a time); scarce elsewhere (river pools and claypans).

Tringa terek (Latham) Terek Sandpiper

One record: two observed by L.A. Smith and R.E. Johnstone 4 km S Bush Bay in November 1982.

Tringa hypoleucos Linnaeus Common Sandpiper

Range. Mainland coast and coastal plains south to Hamelin; Peron Peninsula; shores of Useless Inlet; Dirk Hartog and Salutation Is; interior (Minilya, Gascoyne, Murchison and Sanford Rivers).

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (late August–early May), usually in ones or twos. Tidal flats, beaches, river pools and bore overflows.

Tringa brevipes (Vieillot) Grey-tailed Tattler

Range. Mainland coast south to Bush Bay; northern Peron Peninsula; Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (September–June); usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 19). Tidal mud and reef flats; also bore-drain at Hamelin.

Arenaria interpres interpres (Linnaeus)

Ruddy Turnstone

Range. Mainland coast south to Long Point; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; shores of Useless Inlet; most islands and rocks in Freycinet Estuary; Bernier and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Visitor (August–late May). Common on islands, moderately common elsewhere; in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 12). Tidal reef, mud and sandflats and rocky coasts.

Calidris canutus canutus (Linnaeus)

Red Knot

Range. Northern shores of Lake MacLeod; mainland coast at the Gascoyne estuary; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula south to Little Lagoon and Monkey Mia; Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (December–May); in ones, twos or small flocks. Tidal flats.

Calidris tenuirostris (Horsfield)

Great Knot

Range. Mainland coast at the Gascoyne estuary; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (September–March); in ones, twos or small flocks. Tidal flats.

Calidris alba (Pallas)

Sanderling

Range. Mainland coast at Gascoyne estuary; northern coast of Peron Peninsula (Herald Bight); casual in interior (brackish pool on the Murchison near Meeberrie).

Status etc. Rare visitor; in ones, twos or small parties (up to six). Sandy beaches and estuarine sandbanks.

Calidris ruficollis (Pallas)

Red-necked Stint

Range. Mainland coast and coastal plains south to Hamelin; coasts of Peron Peninsula south to Lharidon Bight; shores of Useless Inlet; Dirk Hartog I.; casual in interior (Lakes Anneen and Austin).

Status etc. Common visitor (August–June); usually in small flocks (up to 44). Tidal flats, sandy beaches, saltlakes, saltwork ponds and bore overflows.

Calidris subminuta (Middendorff)

Long-toed Stint

Two records: two birds seen by R.P. Jaensch and G.B. Pearson at muddy edge of McNeill Claypan on 19 September 1984; and a specimen (WAM R9660) collected at a brackish pool on the Murchison near Meeberrie in November 1966.

Calidris acuminata (Horsfield) Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Range. Mainland coast and coastal plains south to Hamelin; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; Dirk Hartog I.; casual in interior (Mungawolagudi Claypan, Lake Wownaminya).

Status etc. Visitor (September–June). Locally and seasonally common at inland waters, uncommon on coasts; usually in small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 200). Inundated samphire flats, bore overflows and tidal flats.

Calidris ferruginea (Pontoppidan) Curlew Sandpiper

Range. Mainland coast and coastal plains from Lake MacLeod south to Hamelin; north-west coast of Peron Peninsula south to Denham.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor (September–May); in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 27). Tidal mud and sand flats, saltlakes and bore overflows.

Philomachus pugnax (Linnaeus) Ruff

One record: one seen by J. Ford (1966, *West. Aust. Nat.* 10: 72) with Sharp-tailed Sandpipers at bore overflow near Hamelin HS in November 1964.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus Gould Black-winged Stilt

Range. Greater part of mainland south and west to Hamelin, Yalgoo and Mongers Lake; also Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Locally common in wet years, but generally uncommon to moderately common; in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 200). Inundated samphire flats, saltlakes, lignum swamps and claypans, bore overflows, river pools and large dams. Breeding February–March and June–October; C/3(7), 4(11).

Cladorhynchus leucocephala (Vieillot) Banded Stilt

Range. Coastal plains from Lake MacLeod south to Hamelin; Peron Peninsula; Edel Land (Useless Loop); south-eastern interior (Quinns south-west to Mongers Lake).

Status etc. Uncommon to common visitor; usually in small flocks, occasionally hundreds. Mainly flooded saltlakes; also bore overflows and saltwork ponds. Two breeding records from south-east: at Quinns in early winter 1923 (J. Jones 1945, *Emu* 45: 111), and attempted nesting near Wagga Wagga in November 1960 (P.J. Fuller 1963, *West. Aust. Nat.* 9: 11).

Recurvirostra novaehollandiae Vieillot Red-necked Avocet

Range. Greater part of region, south and west to Carrarang, Hamelin, Yalgoo and Warriedar.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor; usually in twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Mainly flooded saltlakes; also bore overflows, saltwork ponds and ephemeral pools. Breeding reports from Lake Austin and Yalgoo district: March–June; C/4(3).

BURHINIDAE

Burhinus grallarius (Latham)

Bush Stone-curlew

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Uncommon; in ones, twos or family parties. Lightly wooded country with thickets or other daytime shelter. Breeding July–September; C/2(1).

Formerly more plentiful, judging from remarks of T. Carter (1887, *Zoologist* (3) 11: 353).

GLAREOLIDAE

Stiltia isabella (Vieillot)

Australian Pratincole

Range. Northern half of region south to the lower Gascoyne (Brick House), Mileura and head of the Murchison (Ruby Well).

Status etc. Numerous about the lower Minilya in winter 1887 (T. Carter 1888, *Zoologist* (3) 12: 29,191); otherwise a rare visitor, in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 12). Sparsely wooded flats. One breeding report (lower Minilya): July.

Glareola maldivarum Forster

Oriental Pratincole

Range etc. Rare visitor (November–February), in ones or twos, to coastal plains south to Hamelin.

LARIDAE

Stercorarius skua lonnbergi (Mathews)

Great Skua

Status. Rare winter visitor. Two records: G.F. Mees saw an occasional bird on 14 July 1959 while sailing from Carnarvon to Dorre I.; and I. Abbot (1979, *Corella* 3: 96) saw two on 4 July 1978 at 8 km N Dorre I.

Larus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae Stephens

Silver Gull

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod; mainland coast south to the Wooramel; *Pelican I.; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula; *Bernier I. (nesting near Wedge Rock); Dorre I.; *Dirk Hartog I. (nesting on Quoin Bluff South and Egg and Meade Is); Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet and Eagle, *Slope, *Friday, *LeFebre, *Charlie, *Freycinet, *White, *Wilds, *Mary Anne, *South Guano, *Salutation and *Three Bays Is and *islet in Depuch Loop).

Status etc. Common on islands and about towns (Carnarvon, Denham), otherwise scarce to moderately common; in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 100). Breeding on islands (asterisked above): April–September; C/1(20), 2(21), 3(1).

Also a rare visitor (presumably from south-eastern Australia) to south-east, where it occasionally breeds, e.g. six birds and two nests with eggs observed by P.J. Fuller (1963, *West. Aust. Nat.* 9: 10) at a saltlake near Wagga Wagga on 20 September 1960.

Larus pacificus georgii Vigors

Pacific Gull

Range. Mainland coast at Point Quobba and Carnarvon; *Pelican I.; northern coasts of Peron Peninsula south to Denham and Monkey Mia; *Bernier I.; *Dorre I.; *Dirk Hartog I. (nesting on Sunday I.); Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet and *Slope, *Charlie, *Wilds, *Mary Anne, *Baudin, *North Guano, *Salutation and *Three Bays Is and *islet in Depuch Loop).

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common on islands and about towns (Carnarvon, Denham) and saltworks, otherwise scarce; in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally loose flocks (up to 25). Breeding on islands (asterisked above): August–September; C/1(7), 2(28).

Larus dominicanus Lichtenstein

Kelp Gull

One record: one observed at Carnarvon with several Pacific Gulls on 13 March 1981 (G. Roberts 1982, *Aust. Seabird Grp Newsl.* No. 17:5).

Sterna nilotica macrotarsa Gould

Gull-billed Tern

Range. From the lower Gascoyne and upper Murchison south to the Wooramel, Yalgoo and Edah, and east to Polelle and Lake Austin; also further west at Useless Inlet saltworks.

Status etc. In wet years, e.g. 1960, 1963, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1984, common in south-east, but generally scarce or uncommon; usually in ones, twos or small flocks (up to 50). Flooded saltlakes and claypans, estuarine and river pools, samphire flats, bore overflows, large dams and saltwork ponds. Breeding in interior from Wooleen Lake and Lake Aneen south to Yalgoo and Wagga Wagga on small islands in lakes filled by heavy summer or autumn rains: February–March and August–October: C/1(20), 2(52), 3(20), 4(1).

Sterna caspia Pallas

Caspian Tern

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod; mainland coast from Miaboolia Beach south to Denham Hummock; *Pelican I.; *Faure I.; far northern Peron Peninsula; *Dirk Hartog I. (nesting on Egg I., Cape Ransonnet and Sunday I.); Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet and *Slope, *Friday, *White, *Mary Anne and *Salutation Is and *islets in Depuch Loop).

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties. Sheltered seas; also estuaries and pools in Lake MacLeod. Breeding on islands (asterisked above): August–September; C/1(3), 2(8).

Sterna bergii Lichtenstein Crested Tern

Range. Mainland coast south to Bush Bay (and ? Gladstone); Pelican I.; northern Peron Peninsula south to Denham and Herald Gut; *Koks I.; Bernier I.; *Dorre I.; *Dirk Hartog I. (nesting on Meade and Sunday Is); west coast of Edel Land (Steep Point and 90 km further south); Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet and Eagle, *Friday, *White, *Mary Anne and *Three Bays Is).

Status etc. Common; usually resting in flocks (up to 300) but fishing singly. Sheltered and open seas. Breeding August (? July)–September; C/1(14).

Sterna bengalensis Lesson Lesser Crested Tern

Range. Mainland coast south to Point Quobba (? to Carnarvon).

Status etc. Scarce; resting in small flocks (up to 10). Blue-water seas protected by reefs.

Sterna dougallii Montagu Roseate Tern

Range. Mainland coast south to Point Quobba; far northern Peron Peninsula; Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Moderately common; resting in flocks (up to 200). Blue-water seas. Several hundreds breeding on Meade I. (off Dirk Hartog I.): November–December; C/1(244), 2(6).

Sterna hirundo longipennis Nordmann Common Tern

Range. Mainland coast south to Carnarvon.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (October–March); usually in flocks (up to 150). Sheltered seas.

Sterna anaethetus anaethetus Scopoli Bridled Tern

Range. East coast of Dirk Hartog I. (including *Egg and *Sunday Is); Freycinet Estuary (including *Slope, *Friday, *Charlie, *Double, *White and *Mary Anne Is).

Status etc. Common visitor (September–late February). Blue-water seas. Breeding on small islands (asterisked above): mid September to mid November; C/1(17).

Sterna hybrida javanica Horsfield Whiskered Tern

Range. Greater part of mainland south to Hamelin, Yalgoo and Wagga Wagga, and east to the upper Ashburton, upper Gascoyne, Polelle and Lake Austin.

Status etc. In wet years, e.g. 1960, 1963, 1975, 1980 and 1984, moderately common to common visitor to south-eastern lake country and to coastal plains from Boolathana south to Hamelin, in ones, twos or flocks (up to 40); otherwise scarce or absent. Inundated saltlakes, claypans and samphire flats; also bore overflows, floodwaters, river pools and large dams. Breeding on small islands in flooded country of south-east from Lake Anneen south-west to Yalgoo: February–April and August–September; C/2-3 (mostly 3).

Sterna leucoptera Temminck White-winged Black Tern

Status. Rare summer visitor. Two records from coastal plains (Carnarvon and Woodleigh).

Sterna sinensis Gmelin Little Tern

Status uncertain. Probably a regular summer visitor, but only one record: mixed flocks of *S. sinensis* and *S. nereis* observed by G. Roberts (1982, *Aust. Seabird Grp Newsl.* No. 17:5) at Carnarvon on 13 March 1980.

Sterna nereis nereis (Gould) Fairy Tern

Range. Mainland coast south to Carnarvon; northern Peron Peninsula south to Denham and Guichenault Point; *Koks I.; Bernier I.; *Dorre I.; *Dirk Hartog I. (nesting on beach east of homestead); Freycinet Estuary (including Useless Inlet and White, Baudin, North Guano and Salutation Is).

Status etc. Common at Point Quobba, scarce to moderately common elsewhere; usually in small flocks. Sheltered blue-water seas. Breeding in hundreds on islet off Point Quobba and in small numbers elsewhere (islands asterisked above and beach 2 km N Denham): September (? late August and early October); C/1(1), 2(2).

COLUMBIDAE

Streptopelia senegalensis senegalensis (Linnaeus) Laughing Dove

In the very wet year 1963 there was an unsuccessful attempt to colonise the lightly wooded country around Overlander Roadhouse (J.R. Ford, pers. comm.); up to five birds were seen, and a nest built on a windmill contained two eggs in November. In the following year two were seen at Billabong Roadhouse, 48 km further south (E.H. Sedgwick 1965, *West. Aust. Nat.* 9: 154). Perhaps some of these birds reached Peron Peninsula; at any rate R.E. Johnstone saw four birds (one in display flight) in wattle scrub 8 km SSE Denham on 31 August 1984.

Geopelia striata placida Gould Peaceful Dove

Range. Confined to large rivers in northern half of region: the upper Minilya (Williambury, Middalya), the upper Ashburton (upstream to Gorge Creek),

the Lyons (upstream to 19 km NE Minnie Creek HS), the Gascoyne (upstream to the Great Northern Hwy) and the upper Murchison (9-26 km E Beringarra).

Status etc. Locally common; usually in pairs or small parties (up to six). Vicinity of large permanent river pools fringed with river gums. One breeding report: February; C/2.

Geopelia cuneata (Latham)

Diamond Dove

Range. Greater part of region, south to Gullewa and Kirkalocka, and west to Coburn, Billabalong and Yuin.

Status etc. Moderately common in north, scarce or uncommon south of the lower Gascoyne, upper Wooramel and upper Murchison; in ones, twos or small parties, larger aggregations (up to 20) at water. Lightly wooded grasslands in vicinity of water. Breeding March (? late February)—April and August; C/2(3).

Phaps chalocoptera (Latham)

Common Bronzewing

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Locally common in southern interior, otherwise common to moderately common; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties. Mainly acacia thickets and scrubs, especially bowgada in south and creekside wattles in north. Breeding June—October; C/1(1), 2(7).

Phaps histrionica (Gould)

Flock Pigeon

Status etc. Formerly an irregular visitor to grassy riverine plains about the lower Lyndon, the Minilya, upper Lyons and upper Ashburton, appearing in large numbers in wet years. In June 1858 F.T. Gregory noted it near Mt Augustus in flocks of up to a thousand (H.M. Whittell 1947, *Emu* 46: 291). T. Carter (1902, *Emu* 1: 126; 1904, *Emu* 3: 173) noted it in small numbers on the Minilya in 1887 and in countless thousands on the lower Lyndon in January 1901, following an extremely wet year. The only subsequent record is that of J.R. Ford, who was informed in 1964 at Mt Vernon and Mininer of a large visitation to the latter station 'several years ago'.

Geophaps plumifera Gould

Spinifex Pigeon

Range. Northern interior, south to the Wooramel and upper Gascoyne, west to Middalya, Rocky Pool and Callytharra Springs, and east to the heads of the Fortescue, Ethel River and Deverell Creek (16 km SE Woodlands).

Status etc. Common in the Ashburton drainage, scarce to moderately common elsewhere; usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally large flocks (up to 150) at water. Rocky hills and stony flats in vicinity of water. Breeding February—March and August—October; C/2(3).

Ocyphaps lophotes (Temminck)

Crested Pigeon

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land but not the densely vegetated, waterless tracts south of Tamala and west of Coburn and Nerren Nerren.

Status etc. Originally local, uncommon and confined to northern interior south to the lower Gascoyne and upper Murchison drainage. Now moderately common to very common in lightly wooded parts of the pastoral belt; in ones, twos or small parties, with larger aggregations (up to 100) at water. Breeding February–April, July–September and November; C/1(1), 2(16).

On his expedition from Northam to the upper Murchison in 1854, explorer R. Austin did not see this pigeon until one was shot near Mt Farmer (H.M. Whittell 1954, *The Literature of Australian Birds*, p. 28). By the turn of the century it was still uncommon in the north-west (T. Carter 1904, *Emu* 3: 137). It first appeared at Wooleen on the middle Murchison in 1915 (D.L. Serventy and H.M. Whittell 1976, *Bds West. Aust.*, p. 264). By 1927 it was very numerous north and west of Yalgoo (E. Ashby 1930, *Emu* 29: 185).

PSITTACIDAE

Polytelis alexandrae Gould

Princess Parrot

Status. Rare visitor to north-east. Two records: two cagebirds observed by T. Carter in 1905 were said to come from near the head of the Murchison (G. M. Matthews 1916-17, *Bds Aust.* 6: 275; and two birds observed in May 1953 by J.H. Calaby (1953, *West. Aust. Nat.* 4: 47) near the north branch of the upper Gascoyne c. 25 km S Kumarina.

Polytelis anthopeplus westralis Mathews

Regent Parrot

Range. South-western and southern, north nearly to Shark Bay (23 km ENE Tamala) and east nearly to Ninghan.

Status etc. Scarce; in pairs or small parties (up to 12). Lightly wooded country south and west of the mulga-eucalypt line. One breeding report from just south of the region (40 km SW Ninghan): September; C/5.

Platycercus zonarius zonarius (Shaw)

Ring-necked Parrot

Range. Greater part of mainland but not Edel Land, Peron Peninsula or the open coastal plains south of the Gascoyne.

Status etc. Common in river gum woodlands and adjacent mulga scrubs of northern half and in York gum and other eucalypt woodlands of far south, scarce to moderately common in intervening country (which is generally less well endowed with trees large enough to produce nest hollows); usually in pairs or small parties (up to eight). Breeding July–September; C/3(1), 4(2), 5(1).

Platycercus varius (Clark)

Mulga Parrot

Range. Greater part of region north to Boolathana, Manberry, Crows Nest Well (11 km NNW Merlinleigh), Range Bore (east foot of Kennedy Range), Carey Downs, Byro, Landor, Mt Vernon and Prairie Downs.

Status etc. Moderately common to common in well-wooded country, scarce or absent on sparsely wooded riverine or coastal plains; usually in pairs or small parties (up to eight). Arid and semi-arid scrubs and woodlands (mulga and other acacias; also mallee and other eucalypts). Breeding August (and ? September); C/5(2), 7(1).

Neophema elegans (Gould)

Elegant Parrot

Range. Southern half of region, north to the Gascoyne, west to Callagiddy, Yaringa and Billabalong and east to Woodlands and Mt Magnet.

Status uncertain. Apparently a scarce autumn visitor to grassy flats, especially on riverine and coastal plains.

Neophema petrophila (Gould)

Rock Parrot

Range. Shark Bay area: north and west coasts of Peron Peninsula (south to Eagle Bluff); Edel Land (south to bore 16 km SSE Carrarang); southern half of *Dirk Hartog I. (nesting at Notch Point); Freycinet Estuary (Eagle, *Slope, Friday, Freycinet, Double, *Wilds, Mary Anne, Baudin and South Guano Is, *islet in Brown inlet and *two islets in Depuch loop).

Status etc. Very common on small, nitraria-covered limestone islands in Freycinet Estuary, scarce elsewhere (no reports from Peron Peninsula or Dirk Hartog I. since 1920); usually in pairs, family parties or small flocks, occasionally large flocks (up to 100). Breeding (reported on islands asterisked above) August--September; C/3(1), 4(1), 5(2).

Neophema splendida (Gould)

Scarlet-breasted Parrot

Status. Rare vagrant. Two seen by explorer R. Austin at a pool on the upper or middle Murchison in late September or early October 1854 (H.M. Whittell 1954, *The Literature of Australian Birds*, p. 28).

Neophema bourkii (Gould)

Bourke's Parrot

Range. Interior, south to Paynes Find and Pindabunna Station (45 km SE of homestead), and west to Prairie Downs, Mt Vernon, Cobra, Mooka, nearly to Callagiddy, Overlander, Toolonga, Bullardoo, Wurarga and the Gnows Nest Range.

Status etc. Moderately common; in ones, twos or small parties, with larger aggregations at water. Mainly mulga, bowgada and other acacia scrubs and thickets. Breeding August--September; C/2(1), 3(4), 4(5), 5(1).

Pezoporus occidentalis (Gould)

Night Parrot

The only authentic record is the collecting of the holotype by the Austin expedition in September 1854; the locality was fixed by H.M. Wilson (1937, *Emu* 37: 80) as 13 km SE Mt Farmer near the west end of Lake Austin. There are a few unconfirmed reports from the north-east of the region: on the upper Ashburton, at Nichol Springs and Chalk Springs (both on the Ethel River), and at Bolgers Soak, the head of Neds Creek and Pinyerinya Pool (all north of Lake Gregory).

Melopsittacus undulatus (Shaw)

Budgerigar

Range. Interior, south to the Warne River (50 km ENE Paynes Find) and west to the lower Minilya, Boolathana, the lower Wooramel, Coburn, Toolonga, Yuin and Thundelarra; accidental on Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Numbers fluctuating violently: very common in wet years, e.g. 1961, 1972, 1975 and 1982, usually in small flocks, occasionally in hundreds; scarce or absent in dry years, e.g. 1962, 1969, 1973, 1978 and 1979. Open or lightly-wooded grassy flats in vicinity of water and nest trees, especially river gums. Breeding April -September (? October); C/4(4). Appearing on Dirk Hartog I. after tropical cyclone of February 1921 (G.P. Whitley 1971, *West. Aust. Nat.* 12: 43).

Nymphicus hollandicus (Kerr)

Cockatiel

Range. Interior, west to the lower Minilya, Callagiddy, lower Wooramel, Hamelin, Meadow, Bullardoo, Yalgoo, Thundelarra and Ninghan.

Status etc. Common in good years, e.g. 1961 and 1975, but generally uncommon to moderately common; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 50). Lightly wooded grasslands in vicinity of water. Breeding July-September; C/2(2), 3(1), 4(1).

Calyptorhynchus magnificus samueli Mathews

Red-tailed Black Cockatoo

Range. South-western interior, west to Coburn and north and east to a little beyond the mulga-eucalypt line, i.e. to 22 km N Wannoo, Wail Well, Bullardoo, 40 km W Mt Magnet, Kirkalocka [and Mouroubra]; thence patchily further north, west to the upper Minilya, Carey Downs, Byro and Meeberrie, and east to Yinnietharra, Landor, Mt Gould and Coodardy; casual in far north-west (lower Minilya) and in north-east (upper Ashburton and Mulgul).

Status etc. Moderately common in south-west in eucalypt woodlands and adjacent acacia scrubs; in pairs, small parties or flocks (up to 300). Further north scarce to moderately common and restricted to vicinity of gum-fringed pools on certain watercourses, viz. the upper Minilya, the lower Lyons, middle Gascoyne, Geeranoo Creek, Cardilya Creek, the upper Wooramel, Bedaburra Creek, the middle Murchison, Whela Creek, the Roderick and the Sanford; usually in small flocks (up to 40).

Taxonomy. J. Ford (1980, *Emu* 80: 103) found these birds to be more like those of Central Australia than those of the lower south-west (*C. m. naso* Gould).

Cacatua roseicapilla Vieillot Galah

Range. Greater part of mainland, including Peron Peninsula but not the waterless, heavily vegetated coastal and near-coastal country south of Natta Outcamp (10 km SSE Tamala); accidental on Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Locally uncommon, e.g. on Peron Peninsula, but generally moderately common to very common; usually in pairs or small flocks, occasionally large flocks (up to 500). Lightly wooded country in vicinity of water. Breeding July–September; C/3(8), 4(9), 5(5), 7(1), 8(1).

Cacatua sanguinea westralensis (Mathews) Little Corella

Range. Northern half of mainland, south to Yaringa, Wooleen and Madoonga; accidental on Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Locally very common on larger rivers (the middle and upper Ashburton, the Minilya, the lower Lyons upstream to Minnie Creek, and the lower and middle Gascoyne upstream to Landor), uncommon to moderately common elsewhere; usually in flocks of 10-50, occasionally many hundreds. Vicinity of permanent river pools fringed with river gums; also a flock attached to many station homesteads, e.g. Prairie Downs, Bulloo Downs, Mt Vernon, Minnie Creek, Williambury, Middalya, Yinnietharra, Mulgul, Beyonde, Three Rivers, Landor, Dalgety Downs, Mt Gould, Wooramel, Byro, Madoonga. Breeding August–September (? early October); C/2(1), 3(7), 4(3). Appearing on Dirk Hartog I. after tropical cyclone of February 1921.

[*Cacatua pastinator* (Gould) Western Long-billed Corella

Status. Probably occurring in far south of region. A corella heard by J.R. Ford in eucalypt woodland 25 km SW Ninghan in October 1964 almost certainly belonged to this species, and less certainly the two 'common white cockatoos' collected by R. Austin at Mt Kenneth (60 km NE Paynes Find) in August 1854.]

Cacatua leadbeateri (Vigors) Major Mitchell's Cockatoo

Range. About the upper and middle Murchison from Beringarra and Mileura south-west to Wail Well and Billabalong. Also for east (Cogla Downs). Formerly on the Wooramel.

Status etc. Scarce and patchily distributed; in pairs or small flocks (up to 25). Vicinity of gum-fringed pools.

CUCULIDAE

Cuculus pallidus (Latham) Pallid Cuckoo

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula and Bernier and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Visitor (mainly May–September, rarely summer). Common in interior in good years, uncommon near coast; in ones or twos. Most wooded habitats. Breeding in southern half, north to the lower Gascoyne and nearly to Meekatharra (Gabanintha): July–October; parasitizing *Lalage tricolor* (1 record), *Petroica goodenovii* (2), *Rhipidura leucophrys* (1), *Meliphaga virescens* (1), *M. penicillata* (1), *Manorina flavigula* (2) and *Epthianura tricolor* (1).

Cacomantis flabelliformis flabelliformis (Latham) Fan-tailed Cuckoo

One record from extreme south-west: an immature collected by P.J. Fuller in dense scrub near Cooloomia on 19 September 1979.

Chrysococcyx osculans (Gould) Black-eared Cuckoo

Range. Greater part of mainland, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land. Status. Visitor and passage migrant (March–September). Uncommon; usually single. Most kinds of thicket and scrub. Breeding June–August; parasitizing *Pyrrholaemus brunneus* (four records).

Chrysococcyx basalis (Horsfield) Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula and Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Islands.

Status etc. Visitor (March–October). Moderately common to common; usually single, occasionally in twos. Most kinds of thicket and scrub. Breeding March and July–September; parasitizing *Petroica goodenovii* (2), *Rhipidura leucophrys* (1), *Aphelocephala nigrincincta* (5), *Acanthiza uropygialis* (1), *A. iredalei* (1), *A. chrysorrhoea* (2), *Amytornis textilis* (1), *Malurus splendens* (1), *M. lamberti* (1), *M. leucopterus leucopterus* (3) and *M. l. leuconotus* (3).

Chrysococcyx lucidus plagosus (Latham) Shining Bronze Cuckoo

Status. Rare passage migrant (reported in May and August).

Centropus phasianinus highami (Mathews) Pheasant Coucal

Status. Formerly occurring in far north-west on the lower Minilya, *vide* T. Carter (1903, *Emu* 3: 96, and in G.M. Mathews *Bds Aust.* 7: 388), but no reports this century.

Taxonomy. For revision of *C. phasianinus* see I.J. Mason *et al.* (1984, *Emu* 84: 1).

STRIGIDAE

Tyto alba delicatula (Gould) Barn Owl

Status etc. Rare visitor to greater part of region, including Bernier and Baudin Is.

[*Tyto novaehollandiae novaehollandiae* (Stephens) Masked Owl
One unconfirmed record from southern interior: observations by I.C. Carnaby
at Golden Grove in August 1964 (J. Ford 1968, *West. Aust. Nat.* 11: 21).]

Ninox connivens connivens (Latham) Barking Owl
Range. Extreme northern interior: the middle Ashburton upstream to Glenidle.
Status etc. Scarce. Riverside forest.

Ninox novaeseelandiae boobook (Latham) Boobook Owl
Range. Greater part of mainland, but not Peron Peninsula or Edel Land; casual
on Dirk Hartog I.
Status uncertain (not recorded December–March). Moderately common in
interior; uncommon near coast. Well-wooded country. Breeding September;
C/2(2), 3(1); calling noted April–November.

PODARGIDAE

Podargus strigoides (Latham) Tawny Frogmouth
Range. Greater part of mainland, but not Peron Peninsula or Edel Land.
Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common. Most wooded habitats. Breeding
July–September; C/1(1), 2(10).

AEGOTHELIDAE

Aegotheles cristatus cristatus (White) Australian Owlet-nightjar
Range. Greater part of mainland, but not Peron Peninsula or Edel Land.
Status etc. Common in interior, uncommon near coast. Well-wooded country.
Breeding July–early October; C/2(1), 3(9), 4(2); calling noted March–November;
in Gnows Nest Range nesting in holes in cliffs as well as trees (P.J. Fuller).

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Eurostopodus argus Hartert Spotted Nightjar
Range. Greater part of mainland.
Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common in interior; scarce and presumably
only an autumn-winter visitor in coastal areas. Lightly wooded, preferably
stony country. Breeding August–October, also February; C/1(4).

APODIDAE

Apus pacificus pacificus (Latham) Fork-tailed Swift
Status. Uncommon summer visitor; in small flocks (up to 20).

ALCEDINIDAE

Dacelo leachii leachii Vigors and Horsfield Blue-winged Kookaburra
Range. Northern half of region, south to the lower Wooramel and Beringarra, and east to *c. long.* 118° E (50 km NW Mt Vernon HS, Mt Clere and Trillbar).
Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common; in ones or twos. River gum woodlands and forests, especially along major watercourses. Breeding July–October; C/4(1).

Halcyon pyrrhopygia Gould Red-backed Kingfisher
Range. Greater part of mainland, but not Peron Peninsula or Edel Land.
Status etc. Moderately common to common; usually single. Open scrubs and woodlands, especially along minor watercourses. Breeding August–October; C/3(1), 4(2), 5(4).

Halcyon sancta sancta Vigors and Horsfield Sacred Kingfisher
Range. Northern and north-western, south to Denham and Woodleigh, and east to Gorge Creek (35 km WNW Mt Vernon HS) and the upper Wooramel (22 km S Coordewandy).
Status uncertain; perhaps mainly a passage migrant (March–May and August–November). Uncommon; usually single. River gum woodlands and mangroves.

MEROPIDAE

Merops ornatus Latham Rainbow Bee-eater
Range. Greater part of mainland, but not Peron Peninsula, Edel Land or the open coastal plains north of the Wooramel.
Status etc. Common in well-watered country, scarce to moderately common elsewhere; usually in ones or twos, small flocks in passage (March and October). Lightly wooded country, especially near water. Breeding October–November.

ALAUDIDAE

Mirafra javanica javanica Horsfield Horsfield's Bushlark
Range. North-western, south to Bush Bay and east to the Edmund River and east end of Callagiddy Station.
Status etc. Common in good years in far north, but generally uncommon; in ones twos or small parties. Open or sparsely wooded grasslands, especially on riverine plains. One breeding report (Minilya River): August.

HIRUNDINIDAE

Cheramoeca leucosterna (Gould)

White-backed Swallow

Range. Greater part of region including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common in western lowlands; local in interior, becoming scarce or absent in hilly or stony areas; in ones, twos or small flocks. Open or lightly wooded, preferably sandy, country. Breeding September; C/3(1), 4(1).

Hirundo rustica gutturalis Scopoli

Barn Swallow

One record: up to 11 birds associated with Welcome Swallows and Tree Martins at Carnarvon in February and early March 1982 (T. Barnes 1982, *West. Aust. Nat.* 15: 73 and pers. comm.).

Hirundo neoxena Gould

Welcome Swallow

Range. All coasts (including Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is and islands in Freycinet Estuary) and coastal plains inland to Minilya Bridge and Callagiddy; also southern interior north to the upper Wooramel (38 km WSW Innouendy), Mt Gould, Trilbar, Karalundi and Yandil.

Status etc. Very common on coasts; uncommon to common elsewhere, where it is largely confined to mills, towns, homesteads, woolsheds, dams, lakes, swamps and abandoned mines. Breeding June–September and occasionally March (after heavy summer rains); C/2(3), 3(8), 4(9).

Hirundo nigricans nigricans Vieillot

Tree Martin

Range. Greater part of mainland; also (in winter or passage) Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Resident, winter visitor and passage migrant. Common in well-watered, well-wooded northern half; moderately common in far south (south of mulga-eucalypt line); mainly, if not entirely, a passage migrant in intervening zone. Usually in small parties, occasionally large flocks (up to 300). Breeding April (late March)–May and August–September; C/3(4), 4(1).

Hirundo ariel (Gould)

Fairy Martin

Range. Interior, west to Minilya, Boolathana, Wooramel, Wannoo, Bullardoo, Wurarga and Warriedar.

Status etc. Formerly local and uncommon. Now moderately common, at least along main roads; usually in small parties or flocks (up to 60). Mainly open country in vicinity of water and nest sites (beneath overhanging cliffs, granites, breakaways and gravel pits, in caves and old mine-shafts, and under bridges, culverts and occasionally eaves of buildings). Nesting colonially (up to 200 nests together): August–October; C/3(5), 4(6), 5(1).

MOTACILLIDAE

Anthus novaeseelandiae australis Vieillot

Richard's Pipit

Range. Throughout the region, including Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is and islands in Freycinet Estuary (Freycinet, Double, Wilds, Baudin, North Guano, South Guano, Salutation and Three Bays).

Status etc. Common; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties. Bare or sparsely vegetated ground: beaches, coastal dunes, samphire and short-grass flats, edge of saltlakes and claypans, stony country, foot of granites and break-aways, roadsides, airfields and around mills, homesteads and woolsheds. Breeding April–September (? October); C/2(1), 3(4), 4(1).

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

Coracina maxima (Rüppell)

Ground Cuckoo-shrike

Range. Eastern, west to Edmund, Merlinleigh, Wooleen, Yalgoo and Fields Find; casual further west (Callagiddy).

Status etc. Resident and autumn-winter visitor (February–June). Uncommon; usually in pairs or small parties (up to five). Sparsely vegetated country. Breeding May and July–September; C/3(6).

Coracina novaehollandiae (Gmelin)

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike

Range. Greater part of region, including Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common resident, usually in ones or twos; common passage migrant or winter visitor (late February–early September). Often in flocks (up to 20, sometimes wholly of immatures). Most well-wooded habitats. Usually breeding August–October, occasionally February–April; C/2(7), 3(6).

Taxonomy. Northern birds are as pale as those of the Pilbara, but from the Gascoyne southwards there is a gradual darkening above and below, which makes it impracticable to recognise *subpallida*.

Lalage sueurii tricolor (Swainson)

White-winged Triller

Range. Interior, west to Minilya Bridge, Boolathana, Callagiddy, Wooramel, Hamelin and Nerren Nerren.

Status etc. Breeding visitor and passage migrant. Common in wet years (especially after heavy winter rains), scarce in dry years; in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 60). Acacia, eucalypt and other woodlands and open scrubs, especially tall mulga and river gums along minor watercourses. Breeding mid June–early November; C/2(14), 3(15).

PACHYCEPHALIDAE

Microeca leucophaea assimilis Gould Jacky Winter

Range. Far south-west, north nearly to Nerren Nerren; and far south-east, north to Paynes Find and nearly to Dromedary Hill.

Status etc. Uncommon; in ones or twos. Open eucalypt woodlands, mainly south of mulga-eucalypt line.

Petroica goodenovii (Vigors and Horsfield) Red-capped Robin

Range. Greater part of mainland; also (in winter or passage) Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Resident and winter visitor. Common in southern interior, moderately common in northern interior, scarce in coastal areas; usually in ones or twos. Most kinds of scrub and woodland. Breeding west to Manberry, Callagiddy and Hamelin: June–September; C/2(25), 3(21); parasitized by *Cuculus pallidus* (1 record) and *Chrysococcyx basalis* (2).

Petroica cucullata (Latham) Hooded Robin

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Rare or absent in open coastal country north of Yaringa; otherwise uncommon to moderately common (more numerous in east than west); in ones or twos. Lightly wooded country, especially open mulga; also edge of thickets. Breeding February–April and July–September; C/1(1), 2(2).

Eopsaltria australis griseogularis Gould Yellow Robin

Range. Far south-west (north to Tamala and Peron Peninsula, and east to Nerren Nerren and Toolonga) and extreme south (25 km WSW Ninghan HS).

Status etc. Moderately common; in ones or twos. Thickets and scrubs of *Acacia*, *Eucalyptus* and *Melaleuca*. Breeding July–September.

Taxonomy. See J. Ford (1971, *Emu* 71: 105).

Pachycephala pectoralis fuliginosa Vigors and Horsfield Golden Whistler

Range. Far south-west, north to Tamala and east nearly to Nerren Nerren; and far south at Gnows Nest Range (at least in good years) and 25-30 km WSW Ninghan HS.

Status etc. Common; usually in pairs. Thickets and scrubs of *Acacia*, *Melaleuca* and *Casuarina*. One breeding report (Golden Grove): c. September.

Pachycephala rufiventris rufiventris (Latham) Rufous Whistler

Range. Interior, west to Middalya, Callagiddy, Wooramel, Nanga, Coburn and Nerren Nerren; casual further west (Bush Bay, Peron) in winter.

Status etc. Common; usually single. Well-wooded country, especially mulga and other acacia scrubs. Breeding July–September; also April in north-east; C/2(2), 3(7).

Pachycephala lanioides Gould

White-breasted Whistler

Range. Regionally confined to the 33 km of coast between Carnarvon and Bush Bay.

Status etc. Locally moderately common (Oyster Creek) but generally scarce; in ones or twos. Estuarine mangroves (*Avicennia*). Evidently breeding c. September–October.

Pachycephala inornata gilbertii Gould

Gilbert's Whistler

Range. Far south, north to Messengers Patch (45 km SE Yalgoo) and the Warne River (48 km ENE Paynes Find).

Status etc. Scarce and patchily distributed. Open mixed scrubs (*Acacia*, *Exocarpus*, *Callistemon*, *Grevillea*) at foot of hills or along watercourses. Breeding August–September.

Taxonomy. See J. Ford (1971, *Emu* 71: 141).

Colluricincla harmonica rufiventris Gould

Grey Shrike-thrush

Range. Greater part of mainland including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land, but absent from much of coastal country north of the Wooramel.

Status etc. Moderately common to common (more numerous in south and east than in north-west); usually single. Most kinds of well-wooded country, including mangroves. Breeding July–October, also February–April in north; C/2(4), 3(8), 4(2).

Oreoica gutturalis (Vigors and Horsfield)

Crested Bellbird

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common; usually in ones or twos. Most kinds of scrub and thicket. Breeding mainly July–October, also March–April; C/2(5), 3(11), 4(2).

Psophodes occidentalis (Mathews)

Western Wedgebill

Range. Widespread, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land but not the densely wooded south-west (south and west of Tamala, Nanga and Cooloomia), or much of the northern interior, north-east and far east.

Status etc. Very common in far west of range and common in south, but becoming uncommon and patchily distributed north-eastwards; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small flocks (up to 20). North and east of a line through Lyndon Bridge, west foot of Kennedy Range, Gascoyne Junction, Milly Milly,

Mileura, Meekatharra and the Warne River it has only been recorded at Ullawarra, on the middle Ashburton (upstream to 46 km WNW Mt Vernon HS), and at Landor, east foot of Collier Range and Three Rivers. Low open bushy scrubs (especially of *Acacia* spp.) and edge of denser vegetation. Breeding late June—early October, also February—April; C/2(26), 3(3).

MONARCHIDAE

Rhipidura phasiana DeVis

Mangrove Grey Fantail

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod (23 km SW Gnaraloo HS). Mainland coast from Miaboolia Beach south to Long Point. Northern Peron Peninsula, south to Denham and Guichenault Point.

Status etc. Common; usually in ones or twos. Mangroves (*Avicennia*). Breeding in spring (and ? summer); C/2(1).

Rhipidura fuliginosa preissi Cabanis

Grey Fantail

Range. Southern and western, north and east to Binthabooka Creek (50 km N Gascoyne Junction), Walganna Rock (45 km W Cue) and Warne River (48 km ENE Paynes Find); also White I. (Freycinet Estuary).

Status etc. Winter visitor (late April—early September) from south-western Western Australia. Common in south-west, becoming uncommon north-eastwards; usually single, occasionally in twos. Most kinds of thicket and scrub, including mangroves.

Rhipidura fuliginosa albicauda North

Range. Eastern, north to Spearhole Creek (24 km ENE Prairie Downs) and west to Mt Vernon, the upper Wooramel (at Mullewa-Gascoyne Junction road), Kalli, Gnows Nest Range and Mt Gibson.

Status etc. Moderately common in south, scarce in north; in ones or twos. Thickets and scrubs, especially of *Acacia*. Breeding reported only in south (north to Golden Grove and Dromedary Hill): September; C/2(1).

Rhipidura leucophrys leucophrys (Latham)

Willie Wagtail

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common (at least in winter or passage); in ones or twos. Lightly wooded country. Breeding late July—early November, also May; C/2(6), 3(15); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

ORTHONYCHIDAE

- Cinclosoma castanotum* Gould Chestnut Quail-thrush
Range. Southern and south-western interior, north to Woodleigh, west to base of Peron Peninsula and Cooloomia, and east nearly to Muggon, Pindar, Gnows Nest Range (38 km SE Yalgoo), Paynes Find and No. 1 Vermin Fence (49 km S Dromedary Hill); an unconfirmed report from Edel Land.
Status etc. Common; usually in pairs or family parties. Scrubs and woodlands with fairly dense understory of low shrubs, preferably on red sands and loams. One breeding report: August; C/2.
Taxonomy. For geographic variation see J. Ford (1981, *Emu* 81: 185).
- Cinclosoma castaneothorax marginatum* Sharpe Chestnut-breasted Quail-thrush
Range. Greater part of interior, south to Fields Find and Mt Kenneth (60 km NE Paynes Find), and west to the Barlee Range, Kennedy Range, Gascoyne Junction, Callytharra Springs, Wooleen and Tallering Peak.
Status etc. Common; usually in pairs or small parties (up to eight). Open acacia scrubs with a sparse understory of low shrubs (especially *Eremophila* and *Ptilotus*). Breeding late April–mid August in north and late July–September in south; C/2(12).
Taxonomy. See J. Ford (1983, *Emu* 83: 152).
- Drymodes brunneopygius* Gould Southern Scrub-robin
Range. Far south-west, north to Herald Bight (Peron Peninsula) and east to Nerren Nerren; and extreme south (25 km WSW Ninghan HS).
Status etc. Common; usually single. Thickets and denser scrubs (*Acacia*, *Mela-leuca*, *Eucalyptus*, *Scholtzia*, *Thryptomene*). Breeding July–August; C/1(4).
- Pomatostomus temporalis* (Vigors and Horsfield) Grey-crowned Babbler
Range. Northern and central interior, west to Minilya, the lower Gascoyne (Rocky Pool), Callytharra Springs and Billabalong, and south to 32 km N Pindar, 26 km N Yalgoo, Edah, 25 km W Mt Magnet, 16 km S Cue and 18 km N Barrambie. Casual further south (13 km S Wurarga and Gnows Nest Range).
Status etc. Moderately common to common; usually in small parties (up to eight). River gum and other eucalypt woodlands and tall open mulga and other acacias, especially along watercourses. Breeding March–September; C/2(4), 3(4).
- Pomatostomus superciliosus* (Vigors and Horsfield) White-browed Babbler
Range. Greater part of mainland, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land but not far north-western interior (north of Manberry and Moogooree and between Warroora and the Barlee Range).

Status etc. Moderately common to common (more numerous in south and west than in north and east); usually in small parties (up to eight). Most kinds of thicket and scrub. Breeding mainly late June–October, also March–April; C/2(20), 3(25).

ACANTHIZIDAE

Aphelocephala leucopsis castaneiventris (Milligan) Southern Whiteface

Range. Greater part of region, north to Moogooree, Cobra and lower Tunnel Creek (Yilbrinna Pool), west to Booloogooro, Callagiddy, Wooramel, Hamelin, Cooloomia and Toolonga, and east to Milgun, Bilyuin and No. 1 Vermin Fence (23 km NNE Yandil).

Status etc. Common in south and south-west, scarce in north and north-east; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 30) in autumn. Low open bushy scrubs. Breeding late June–September, also April–May in north; C/3(13), 4(22), 5(6), 6(1); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Aphelocephala nigrincta (North) Banded Whiteface

Range. North-eastern, west to the middle Ashburton (between Ashburton Downs and Mininer) and Gascoyne Junction, and south to Byro and Nannine; casual further west (Callagiddy) and south (Cue).

Status etc. Nomadic. Locally common in good years, e.g. between New Springs and Meekatharra following torrential rains in March 1965, but generally scarce; usually in pairs or small parties (up to eight). Open, preferably stony country, with scattered low shrubs. Breeding February–August; C/2(13), 3(47), 4(7), 5(2); nesting mainly in *Acacia tetragonophylla* and other prickly shrubs; parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (three records).

Gerygone fusca fusca (Gould) Western Flyeater

Range. Greater part of region, west to Edmund, Binhabooka Creek (50 km N Gascoyne Junction), Callagiddy, Peron Peninsula and Toolonga.

Status etc. Visitor and passage migrant (late April–early September) from south-western Australia. Scarce to moderately common (more numerous in south than north); in ones or twos. Most kinds of scrub and woodland.

Gerygone fusca mungi Mathews

Range. Far north-east, south to Beyonde (30 km E Kumarina) and west to Spear-hole Creek (23 km ENE Prairie Downs) and the Ethel River (28 km ESE Mt Vernon HS).

Status etc. Locally moderately common, but generally scarce. Acacia scrubs and thickets. One breeding report: August; C/2.

Gerygone tenebrosa (Hall) Dusky Flyeater

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod (ESE and SE Gnarlou); and mainland coast from Miaboolia Beach south nearly to Long Point.

Status etc. Common; in ones or twos. Mangroves (*Avicennia*). Breeding October–January; C/2(1).

Smicronis brevirostris (Gould) Weebill

Range. Northern and central interior, west to Middalya and Winnamia, and south to the upper Wooramel, Beringarra, Mileura and 27 km NNE Anketell. South-western and southern north to Tamala, Hamelin and Woodleigh, and east to Billabalong, Wurarga, Gnaws Nest Range, 12 km N Oudabunna and 16 km S Dromedary Hill.

Status etc. Moderately common: in pairs or small parties. Eucalypt woodlands and scrubs (mainly of river gums, especially on minor watercourses) in northern and central interior; mainly mallee in south-west and south. One breeding report: August; C/2(1).

Acanthiza (pusilla) apicalis Gould Broad-tailed Thornbill

Range. Greater part of region, north to Tamala, Peron Peninsula, Bush Bay, Callagiddy, Kennedy Range (23 km N Woodley Spring), 28 km ESE Mt Vernon HS and Ilgarari Creek (at No. 1 Vermin Fence).

Status etc. Locally common, but generally uncommon or scarce: in pairs or small parties. Most kinds of scrub, including mangroves. Breeding July–September; C/2(3), 3(1).

Acanthiza robustirostris Milligan Slaty-backed Thornbill

Range. Interior, west to Ullawarra, Merlinleigh, Carey Downs, Muggon, Bullardoo and Wurarga, and south to Fields Find and 18 km S Dromedary Hill.

Status etc. Locally moderately common (Gnaws Nest Range), but generally scarce or uncommon; usually in pairs or small parties. Mulga and other tall acacia scrubs and thickets. Breeding May and July–August (? early September); C/3(4); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Acanthiza uropygialis Gould Chestnut-rumped Thornbill

Range. Interior, west to Warroora, Boologooro, Boolathana, Callagiddy, Wooramel, base of Peron Peninsula, Coburn and Williams Well (14 km SW Nerren Nerren).

Status etc. Common (much the widest-spread and most numerous acanthidid in region); usually in pairs or small parties. All kinds of scrub and thicket except those in immediate vicinity of coast. Breeding June–September; C/2(1), 3(16), 4(9), 5(1); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Acanthiza iredalei iredalei Mathews

Samphire Thornbill

Range. Southern shores of Lake MacLeod; mainland coast from Carnarvon south to the Wooramel; northern Peron Peninsula; Edel Land (near Carrarang); south-eastern saltlakes from Lake Austin south-west to Yalgoo.

Status etc. Common on mainland coast between Carnarvon and Long Point, scarce (or rarely reported) elsewhere; usually in small parties. Samphire, dwarf mangroves (or edge of tall stands), and low melaleuca and other stunted near-coastal scrubs. One detailed breeding report (Yalgoo): early September; C/2 plus egg of *Chrysococcyx basalis*.

Acanthiza chrysorrhoa (Quoy and Gaimard)

Yellow-rumped Thornbill

Range. Interior, west to the upper Minilya (Thambrong Pools), Kennedy Range (Woodier Spring), Woodleigh, Tamala and Billiecutera Bore (55 km N Kalbarri), and north to the Lyons (2 km W Minnie Creek HS), the Thomas (29 km S Mt Augustus HS), Mt Clere, Milgun and Beyonde; with an apparently isolated population in far north-east (west nearly to Prairie Downs and south to Weelarrana and Savory Creek).

Status etc. Moderately common to common in south-east (north to c. lat. 28°S and west to Yalgoo), patchily distributed and scarce or uncommon elsewhere; usually in pairs or small parties. Woodlands, open scrubs and bare ground at foot of granites and breakaways. Breeding June–September (? early October): C/2(2), 3(13), 4(12); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Pyrrholaemus brunneus Gould

Redthroat

Range. Greater part of region, but not far south-west (south of Freycinet Estuary and west of Cooloomia) or immediate vicinity of coast north of Carnarvon.

Status etc. Moderately common to common in south, uncommon and patchily distributed in north; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties. Bushy scrubs. Breeding June–August, also March–April in north; C/3(8), 4(2); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx osculans* (three records).

Sericornis frontalis balstoni Ogilvie-Grant

White-browed Scrubwren

Range. All coasts north to Carnarvon, including Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is, Peron Peninsula and Edel Land.

Status etc. Common; in ones, twos or small parties. Most kinds of bushy coastal and near-coastal scrub and thicket (up to 10 km inland), including mangroves. Breeding June–July (? early August); C/3(2).

Taxonomy. See J. Ford (1970, *Emu* 70: 168).

Calamanthus fuliginosus campestris (Gould)

Striated Fieldwren

Range. Most coasts and near-coastal sandplains, including Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is, Peron Peninsula and Edel Land. Formerly in eastern interior at Lake Austin.

Status etc. Common on Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is, uncommon to moderately common on mainland coasts, not recorded at Lake Austin since 1903; in ones or twos. Heaths and other low coastal scrubs including samphire and dwarf mangroves. Breeding June (? May)—August; C/2(1), 3(1).

Taxonomy. See S.A. Parker and H.J. Eckert (1983, *S. Aust. Orn.* 29: 65).

MALURIDAE

Amytornis striatus striatus Gould Striated Grasswren

One record from extreme east: two birds collected by R.E. Johnstone and L.A. Smith from a party of three in *Triodia-Thryptomene* steppe on undulating sandplain 15 km SW Paroo Railway Station on 21 September 1983.

Taxonomy. See R. Schodde (1982, *The Fairy-Wrens*, p. 160).

[*Amytornis striatus whitei* Mathews

Possibly occurring in extreme north: it is unknown if any of the observations by A. Robinson (1939, *Emu* 38: 464) of 'small parties in the spinifex' of the Barlee Range were south of the Tropic.]

Amytornis textilis textilis (Dumont) Thick-billed Grasswren

Range. Mainland at Woodleigh and formerly Lake Austin and Yalgoo; northern Peron Peninsula (south to Denham and Monkey Mia); formerly Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Common on Peron Station in open shrubland (mostly low acacias, especially with *Triodia*); moderately common on Woodleigh Station in regenerating burnt country, especially where there is much cottonbush *Ptilotus obovatus* (R.L. Pink); formerly local and uncommon in dense acacia scrub on Dirk Hartog I. but not certainly recorded since 1918; formerly occurring in saltbush at Lake Austin but not recorded since 1903; not recorded at Yalgoo since 1908. Breeding late June—early September; C/1(2), 2(13), 3(4); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Malurus splendens splendens (Quoy and Gaimard) Splendid Fairy-wren

Range. Central and southern interior, west to Callagiddy, Yaringa, base of Peron Peninsula, Cooloomia and Toolonga, and north to c. lat. 25°S, i.e. Mooka, Landor, Three Rivers and Neds Creek Station (14 km NNE Simpson Well).

Status etc. Common in south and south-west, especially where bowgada plentiful; uncommon to moderately common in north and north-east; in pairs or small parties. Mainly acacia thickets. Breeding August—September, also April in north; C/2(1), 3(2), 4(1); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Malurus lamberti assimilis North Variegated Fairy-wren
Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I., but not far south-east (south and east of Yalgoo and Cue).
Status etc. Moderately common to common (more numerous in west and north than in south and east); usually in small parties. Most kinds of scrub, including mangroves. Breeding late July—early September, also March—June in north; C/2(2), 3(3), 4(3); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (one record).

Malurus lamberti bernieri Ogilvie-Grant
Range. Endemic to Bernier and Dorre Is.
Status etc. Common. Dune scrubs and low thickets of *Eucalyptus dongarraensis*.
Taxonomy. The unnamed population on Dorre I. is tentatively placed here; actually it is intermediate between *assimilis* and typical *bernieri* (G.F. Mees 1962, *Fauna Bull.* No. 2: 109, W.A. Fisheries Dept).

Malurus pulcherrimus Gould Blue-breasted Fairy-wren
Range. Far south-west, north to head of Freycinet Estuary and east to base of Peron Peninsula (and 45 km S Nerren Nerren).
Status etc. Common; in small parties. Scrubs of *Acacia*, *Eucalyptus*, *Hakea* etc., south of mulga-eucalypt line.

Malurus leucopterus leuconotus Gould White-winged Fairy-wren
Range. Throughout the mainland, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land.
Status etc. Moderately common to common (most numerous in near-coastal areas and saltlake country of eastern interior); usually in pairs or small parties. Low vegetation, e.g. samphire, saltbush, *Nitraria* and *Triodia*. Breeding mainly July—September, also March—April; C/2(2), 3(11), 4(2); parasitized by *Chrysococcyx basalis* (four records).
Taxonomy. Males from far west of range tend to be darker than typical *leuconotus* (E. Ashby 1930, *Emu* 29: 188; C.J.O. Harrison 1974, *Bds Harold Hall Expeditions*, p. 201).

Malurus leucopterus leucopterus Dumont
Range. Endemic to Dirk Hartog I.
Status etc. Common; usually in small parties. Low vegetation, e.g. saltbush and *Melaleuca* heath. Breeding July—August; C/2-4, mostly 3 (F.L. Whitlock).

Stipiturus malachurus hartogi Carter Southern Emu-wren
Range. Endemic to Dirk Hartog I.
Status etc. Moderately common but local; in pairs or small parties. Mainly low

Thryptomene-Plectrachne heath; also *Acacia-Diplolaena-Triodia* thicket.
Breeding July–August; C/2(1), 3 ('several').

Taxonomy. See J. Ford (1970, *West. Aust. Nat.* 11: 116).

Stipiturus ruficeps ruficeps Campbell Rufous-crowned Emu-wren

Range. Regionally confined to plateau of Kennedy Range.

Status etc. Uncommon; in pairs or small parties. *Triodia* (with or without low shrubs) on sandplains and sides of dunes. See J. Ford (1978, *West. Aust. Nat.* 14: 78).

SYLVIIDAE

Acrocephalus stentoreus australis (Gould) Clamorous Reed Warbler

Range. Coastal plains from Bibbawarra Bore (16 km N Carnarvon) south to Hamelin. Also further inland (*Typha*-lined creek at Old Mooka).

Status etc. Common in the little habitat available to it (mainly *Typha* and sedges at drains and overflows from artesian bores); also (? in passage) bamboo shelter strip at Carnarvon plantation.

Eremiornis carteri North Spinifex-bird

Range etc. Certainly known only from extreme north-east, where R.E. and C. Johnstone observed and collected it in dense *Triodia* along Spearhole Creek, 24 km ENE Prairie Downs. Possibly further west in the Barlee Range (it is unknown whether any of A. Robinson's observations in the 'dense spinifex gullies in the range' were south of the Tropic).

Megalurus gramineus (Gould) Little Grassbird

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod (ESE and SE Gnaraloo); coasts and coastal plains from Miaboolia Beach south to Hamelin; far southern interior (Thundelarra swamps).

Status etc. Moderately common; in ones or twos. Mangroves (*Avicennia*), especially their pneumatophores; also *Typha* at drains and overflows from artesian bores and lignum swamps. One dated breeding record: August; C/4(1).

Cincloramphus mathewsi Iredale Rufous Songlark

Range. Greater part of region, but not far south-west (west of Wooramel, Overlander and Nerren Nerren).

Status etc. Locally common after good rains, but generally uncommon to moderately common (more numerous in winter than summer, in south than north, and in interior than near coast); in ones, twos or small parties (up to eight). Wooded country with good grass and herbage, especially about watercourses. Breeding July–September, also March–April in north; C/3(2), 4(2).

Cincloramphus cruralis (Vigors and Horsfield) Brown Songlark
Range. Greater part of region including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog and Salutation Is, but not far south-west.

Status etc. Common in wet years, but generally uncommon to moderately common; usually in ones or twos. Open or sparsely wooded flats with good grass and herbage, especially on coastal and riverine plains and around saltlakes and claypans. Breeding July–August (? September and October), also February–April in north; C/2(1).

DAPHOENOSITTIDAE

Daphoenositta chrysoptera pileata (Gould) Australian Sittella

Range. Northern and central interior, south to the Gnows Nest Range (Golden Grove), 10 km S Mt Magnet and 17 km SSW Anketell, and west to Boologooro, Callagiddy, Woodleigh and Muggon.

Status etc. Uncommon and patchily distributed; usually in small parties (up to eight). Mainly river gum and mulga woodlands, especially along watercourses. Breeding April and late July–September; C/3(2).

CLIMACTERIDAE

Climacteris affinis superciliosa North White-browed Tree-creeper

Range. Central and southern interior, north to the lower Gascoyne, Landor, the head of the Murchison (Ruby Well) and Neds Creek Station (9 km S Simpson Well), south to 25 km SW Ninghan, and west to Callagiddy, Curbur, Wooleen and 15 km W Wurarga.

Status etc. Locally common, e.g. in extreme east around Youno Downs and Anketell, but generally uncommon and patchily distributed; usually in pairs. Open woodlands of rough-barked trees (especially mulga, also gidgie, beefwood and York gum). Breeding July–September, also April; C/1(3), 2(4), 3(2).

Climacteris melanura wellsi Ogilvie-Grant Black-tailed Tree-creeper

Range. Disjunct in northern interior: the middle Ashburton, upstream to Glenidle; an undefined locality between Minilya and Carnarvon (T. Carter 1921, *Ibis* (11) 3: 66); and the lower Gascoyne, from Rocky Pool upstream to Bidgemia.

Status etc. Locally common, but generally scarce and patchily distributed; usually in pairs or family parties. Mainly river gums, also tall acacias. Breeding August–September; C/2(2).

Climacteris rufa Gould Rufous Tree-creeper

Range. Far south, north to 15 km W Wurarga and east to 25 km SW Ninghan.

Status etc. Moderately common. Eucalypt woodlands, mainly south of mulga-eucalypt line.

DICAEIDAE

Dicaeum hirundinaceum hirundinaceum (Shaw) Mistletoebird

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I., but not northern and central coastal areas (west of Wandagee, Booloogoro, Callagiddy and Woodleigh).

Status etc. ? Nomadic. Uncommon to moderately common (most numerous about watercourses in northern interior); usually single, occasionally in pairs. Most well-wooded habitats. Breeding in August; C/2(2).

PARDALOTIDAE

Pardalotus rubricatus Gould Red-browed Pardalote

Range. Northern interior, south to the Wooramel, upper Murchison (Kalamunda Pool), the Robinson Range (24 km N Bilyuin) and Ilgarari Creek, and west to Minilya, nearly to Carnarvon, and Wooramel.

Status etc. Uncommon; usually single. Open eucalypt woodlands, especially river gums along minor watercourses. Breeding April and August–September.

Pardalotus striatus murchisoni Mathews Striated Pardalote

Range. Northern interior, south to the upper Wooramel, upper Murchison (Kalamunda Pool) and Neds Creek Station (14 km NNE Simpson Well), and west to the Barlee Range, the lower Lyons (2 km W Minnie Creek HS), Bidgemia and Coordewandy.

Status etc. Moderately common in far north and north-east, uncommon on the Wooramel and Murchison; in pairs or small parties (up to six). Mainly river gum forests and woodlands. Breeding May.

Pardalotus striatus westraliensis Mathews

Range. Southern interior, north to Coburn and the middle Murchison (specimens from 7 km SE Meeberrie and 13 km SSW Billabalong are intermediate between *westraliensis* and *murchisoni*) and east nearly to Wurarga, Ninghan and the No. 1 Vermin Fence (49 km S Dromedary Hill).

Status etc. As a resident, moderately common in eucalypt woodlands south of mulga-eucalypt line and in river gums along the middle Murchison. As a winter visitor or passage migrant, range and abundance uncertain but apparently scarce.

ZOSTEROPIDAE

Zosterops lutea Gould Yellow White-eye

Range. Northern Lake MacLeod (from 23 km ENE to 18 km SE Gnaraloo); mainland coast from Miaboolia Beach south to Long Point; northern Peron Peninsula, south to Little Lagoon and Guichenault Point.

Status etc. Common; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 30). Mangroves and occasionally adjacent scrubs. Breeding February (and ? early March) and July–September; C/3(2).

Zosterops lateralis gouldi Bonaparte Grey-breasted White-eye

Range. All coasts (inland to Boolathana, Callagiddy and Woodleigh), including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land, Bernier I. (occasionally), Dirk Hartog I. and islands in Freycinet Estuary (Double, Mary Anne, Baudin, Salutation, Three Bays).

Status etc. Common; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally wandering flocks (up to 40). Thickets of *Acacia*, *Nitraria* and (in north) *Ficus platypoda*; also samphire. Breeding July–September; C/2(1), 3(1).

MELIPHAGIDAE

Lichmera indistincta indistincta (Vigors and Horsfield) Brown Honeyeater

Range. Northern and central interior, south to Muggon and Mt Magnet, and west to Ullawarra and the Kennedy Range. Also far south-west and south (north to Dirk Hartog I. and Peron Peninsula, and east to Hamelin and Ninghan).

Status etc. Locally common in northern interior and south-west of Ninghan, but generally scarce to uncommon and patchily distributed; in ones, twos or small parties (up to seven). Thickets and scrubs, especially in gorges, along watercourses and at springs.

Certhionyx niger (Gould) Black Honeyeater

Range. Interior, south to Fields Find and west to Manberry and Overlander.

Status etc. Irregular visitor (March–October). Locally common after good winter rains, but generally scarce; usually in pairs. Mainly open acacia scrubs. Breeding July–September; C/1(1), 2(9).

Certhionyx variegatus Lesson Pied Honeyeater

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula and Edel Land.

Status etc. Irregular visitor (mostly April–October). Common in wet years, but generally uncommon; usually in pairs or small flocks. Most kinds of scrub. Breeding late June–early September; C/2(10), 3(30).

Meliphaga virescens (Vieillot)

Singing Honeyeater

Range. Throughout the region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Bernier, Dorre, Dirk Hartog and Salutation Is.

Status etc. Moderately common to very common (much the widest-spread and, next to *M. penicillata*, the most numerous honeyeater); in ones, twos or small parties. All kinds of thicket and scrub, including mangroves. Breeding mostly mid June–September, occasionally April–May; C/2(20), 3(18); parasitized by *Cuculus pallidus* (one record).

Meliphaga plumula (Gould)

Yellow-fronted Honeyeater

Range. Far south-west and south (mainly south of mulga-eucalypt line), north to base of Peron Peninsula and east to Toolonga, Wurarga and 25 km SW Ninghan. Also extreme east, about the No. 1 Vermin Fence between Barrambie and Anketell.

Status etc. Moderately common in east (at western limit of eastern desert populations); locally common in south-west and south, e.g. between Tamala and Nilemah, but generally scarce to moderately common; in ones, twos or small parties. Mainly open mallee on sandplains.

Meliphaga penicillata Gould

White-plumed Honeyeater

Range. Northern and central, south to Yaringa, Muggon, Billabalong, Boolardy, Nallan and Paroo.

Status etc. Moderately common to very common (the most numerous honeyeater in region); in pairs or small flocks. River gums, including those planted in towns and at homesteads and railway sidings; occasionally other eucalypt woodlands (coolibahs, snappy gums, bloodwoods); attracted to flowering *Erythrina vespertilio*. Breeding February (? late January)–April (? early May) and July–September; C/1(2), 2(29), 3(3); parasitized by *Cuculus pallidus* (one record).

Melithreptus brevirostris leucogenys Milligan

Brown-headed Honeyeater

Range. Far south-west, north to Tamala and base of Peron Peninsula and east to Coburn and 25 km N Coolcalalaya. Extreme south-east, north to 49 km S Dromedary Hill.

Status etc. Moderately common; in pairs or small flocks (up to 20). Mallee and other eucalypts, mainly south of mulga-eucalypt line; attracted to flowering *Eucalyptus*, *Calothamnus* and *Banksia spectrum*.

Taxonomy. J. Ford (1971, *Emu* 71: 116) tentatively recognises this subspecies.

Melithreptus gularis laetior Gould

Black-chinned Honeyeater

One record from extreme north-east: R.E. and C. Johnstone collected one of two birds in *Acacia citrinoviridis* on Spearhole Creek, 24 km ENE Prairie Downs, on 24 May 1982.

Phylidonyris albifrons (Gould)

White-fronted Honeyeater

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula but not northern and central coastal areas west of Manberry, Booloogooro, Callagiddy and Woodleigh.

Status etc. Irregular visitor, appearing in far south-west and south (north to Peron Peninsula and east to the Gnows Nest Range and Warne River) at any time of year, but further north only a winter visitor (April–September). Locally common in wet years but generally scarce or uncommon (more numerous in south than north). Most kinds of scrub; attracted to flowering eremophilas, mistletoes and *Banksia ashbyi*. Breeding late June–early October; C/2(15), 3(1).

Lacustroica whitei North

Grey Honeyeater

Range. Northern interior, south to 20 km SW Edmund, 29 km ESE Mt Vernon, and the upper Gascoyne (south branch at Great Northern Hwy). South-eastern interior, from Lake Austin south-west to Yalgoo and Thundelarra.

Status etc. Scarce and patchily distributed; usually in pairs. Acacia scrubs (mainly mulga, also *A. citrinoviridis*). Breeding August (? late July)–November; C/1(4), 2(1).

Manorina flavigula (Gould)

Yellow-throated Miner

Range. Interior, west to Warroora, Manberry, Boolathana, Callagiddy, Wooramel, Coburn and Nerren Nerren.

Status etc. Common (among honeyeaters exceeded in abundance only by *Meliphaga penicillata* and *M. virescens*); usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 30). Well-wooded country; attracted to flowering *Hakea suberea*. Breeding late February–April and July–mid October; C/2(3), 3(19), 4(4); parasitized by *Cuculus pallidus* (one record).

Acanthagenys rufogularis Gould

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula.

Status etc. Moderately common to common in interior, scarce or absent near coast; in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 30) in winter (late May–early September) and ? tending to move northwards. Most kinds of scrub and woodland; attracted to flowering corkwood and other hakeas, *Grevillea juncifolia* and *Banksia ashbyi*. Breeding late June–early September, also late October (on one occasion immediately after rain) and March; C/2(2), 3(11).

Anthochaera carunculata (Shaw)

Red Wattlebird

Range. Extreme south-west (north nearly to Nerren Nerren). Extreme south (north and east nearly to Paynes Find).

Status etc. Moderately common (at least in winter); in ones, twos or small parties (up to five). Eucalypt woodlands, mainly south of mulga-eucalypt line. One breeding report (Ninghan): late September.

Epthianura albifrons (Jardine and Selby)

White-fronted Chat

Range. Northern and central coastal areas (including Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog I.) from the Lyndon River floodout south to Hamelin and inland to Boolathana and Woodleigh. Far south, north to Yalgoo and east to Thundarra and Ninghan.

Status etc. Locally common in west (Yaringa-Carbla) but generally scarce, moderately common in south (at least in winter and early spring); usually in pairs or loose flocks (up to 40). Mainly samphire and other halophytic shrubs around saltlakes and artesian bores; also saltbush and short-grass flats. Breeding reported on Dirk Hartog I. and at Yaringa and Lake Wownaminya: January–September: C/3(3).

Epthianura aurifrons Gould

Orange Chat

Range. Northern and central coastal areas (including Peron Peninsula) south to Hamelin and east to the Lyndon River floodout and Woodleigh. Eastern interior, north to Ilgarari Creek and west to Mt Vernon, Wooleen Lake and Gullewa.

Status etc. Nomadic. Uncommon to moderately common (most numerous after good rains); usually in pairs or small parties (up to six). Samphire and short-grass flats, especially when green herbage present; also open saltbush and bluebush. Breeding February–March and August–October; C/2(2), 3(10).

Epthianura tricolor Gould

Crimson Chat

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I., but not heavily wooded, far south-west (south of Hamelin and west of Wannoo and Toolonga).

Status etc. Nomadic. Common in wet years, but generally uncommon to moderately common; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 60). Lightly wooded country, especially short-grass and samphire flats with green herbage; attracted to flowering *E. fraseri* and other eremophilas. Breeding late June–September, also March–April; C/2(8), 3(34), 4(7); parasitized by *Cuculus pallidus* (one record).

PLOCEIDAE

Emblema pictum Gould

Painted Finch

Range. Far northern highlands, south to the Kennedy Range and the heads of the Fortescue; casual further west (Boologooro and Boolathana) and south (Tallerling Peak, Mt Hale and 47 km SE Yalgoo).

Status etc. Uncommon; in pairs or small flocks (up to 12). *Spinifex* (*Triodia* and *Plectrachne*) in hilly country, descending to water in flatlands during dry periods. Breeding March–April and July–September; C/4(1), 5(1).

Neochmia ruficauda clarescens (Hartert) Star Finch

Status uncertain. A few autumn-winter records (including a party of eight) from the lower Gascoyne (Carnarvon and Rocky Pool). Also reported without details from Mt Augustus and the Wooramel.

Poephila guttata castanotis (Gould) Zebra Finch

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land, Dirk Hartog I. and Salutation I., but not the heavily wooded, waterless, far south-west (south of Hamelin and west of Coburn and Toolonga).

Status etc. Very common in pastoral country; usually in pairs or small flocks, occasionally hundreds at water. Open or lightly wooded, grassy country in vicinity of water. Breeding late February–early November; C/2(2), 3(10), 4(18), 5(15), 6(18), 7(2), 8(2).

GRALLINIDAE

Grallina cyanoleuca (Latham) Australian Magpie-lark

Range. Greater part of region, but not far south-west (south and west of Hamelin, claypan 20 km W Muggon, and Wail Well) or extreme south-east; in passage at Denham, Coburn and Wannoo; accidental on Dirk Hartog I.

Status etc. Mainly resident, with numbers augmented by winter visitors and passage migrants. Moderately common to common about major watercourses, scarce or uncommon elsewhere; usually in ones or twos, occasionally small flocks (up to eight) on northward passage in April–May. Sparsely vegetated, loamy or clayey flats in vicinity of water. Breeding February–early May and mid June–early October; C/2(3), 3(6), 4(6).

ARTAMIDAE

Artamus leucorhynchus (Linnaeus) White-breasted Woodswallow

Range. Regionally confined to two small areas: northern Lake MacLeod (18 km SE Gnaraloo) and vicinity of Carnarvon (north to Miaboolia Beach and inland to the plantations and airport).

Status etc. Common, usually in small parties (up to 12). Mainly about mangroves.

Artamus personatus (Gould) Masked Woodswallow

Range. Greater part of region, but not the heavily wooded, far south-west (south of Hamelin and west of Wannoo and Nerren Nerren).

Status etc. Nomadic. Very common in wet years, e.g. in north and east following tropical cyclone of March 1965, but generally scarce to moderately common; in pairs, small parties or flocks (up to 2,000). Lightly wooded country, especially flats with green herbage. Breeding July–September; C/1(1), 2(10), 3(2).

Artamus superciliosus (Gould)

White-browed Woodswallow

Status etc. Occasional visitor, in company of *A. personatus*, to central and southern interior, e.g. Callagiddy (August 1972), Woodleigh (July 1980), 18 km S Cue (September 1964), Thundelarra (September–October 1974, including six nesting pairs).

Artamus cinereus melanops Gould

Black-faced Woodswallow

Range. Greater part of region, including Dirk Hartog I. but not Peron Peninsula (apart from small population near Nanga) or heavily wooded, far south-west (south of Hamelin and west of Cooloomia) or extreme south-east.

Status etc. Locally uncommon, e.g. near coast, but generally moderately common to very common; usually in ones, twos or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 20) in winter. Lightly wooded country. Breeding early August–October and occasionally February–March; C/2(8), 3(14), 4(4).

Artamus cyanopterus (Latham)

Dusky Woodswallow

Status etc. Occasional winter visitor (June–July) to far south-west and south, north to Yaringa and east to Woodleigh and nearly to Mt Gibson; in flocks (up to 200).

Artamus minor Vieillot

Little Woodswallow

Range. Interior, west to the Barlee Range, Kennedy Range, Coordewandy and Tallering Peak, and south to Fields Find and Mt Kenneth; also Dirk Hartog I. and Edel Land (near cliffs 8 km NE Carrarang), perhaps in passage to and from the Murchison River Gorge.

Status uncertain (no records from south between 19 April and 25 August). Locally moderately common, but generally uncommon; usually in pairs or small parties, occasionally flocks (up to 25). Breakaway cliffs and granite outcrops; also abandoned open-cut mines. Breeding September–October; C/1(4), 2(2), 3(3), '2 or 3'(14).

CRACTICIDAE

Cracticus torquatus torquatus (Latham)

Grey Butcherbird

Range. Greater part of region, including Edel Land and Dirk Hartog I., but not northern or central Peron Peninsula or north-western lowlands north of North Coast Bore (24 km NW Wooramel) and west of Manberry, Boolathana and Callagiddy.

Status etc. Common in far south-west and south, uncommon to moderately common further north; usually single, occasionally in twos or threes. Most kinds of scrub and thicket. Breeding July–August; C/2(1), 3(1), 4(2).

Cracticus nigrogularis (Gould) Pied Butcherbird

Range. Interior, west to Cardabia Creek, Gnoraloo, Boolathana, Callagiddy, Woodleigh and Toolonga.

Status etc. Scarce and patchily distributed towards western limits of range and possibly absent from extreme south-east; otherwise moderately common to common; usually single, occasionally in twos or small parties or accompanied by an Australian Hobby. Open woodlands and scrubs. Breeding late July–early October; C/1(3), 2(3), 3(8), 4(4).

Cracticus tibicen (Latham) Australian Magpie

Range. Interior, west to Lyndon Bridge, Minilya, Brick House, Wooramel, Woodleigh, Curbur, Meeberrie and Pinegrove.

Status etc. Moderately common in southern third, becoming uncommon further north and especially scarce towards western limits of range and in far east of region; usually in pairs or small parties. Lightly wooded country with patches of bare or sparsely vegetated, preferably loamy or clayey ground, e.g. at foot of breakaways and granites, on waterside flats, and around mills, homesteads and towns. Breeding July–early October; C/1(2), 2(10), 3(24), 4(13), 5(1), 6(1).

Taxonomy. The far north and north-east (south to the Minilya and upper Gascoyne) is inhabited by the subspecies *C. t. tibicen*; the south (north to about the middle Murchison and Mt Magnet) by *C. t. dorsalis* (Campbell); and the broad intervening zone by hybrids (J.R. Ford, pers. comm.).

Strepera versicolor plumbea Gould Grey Currawong

Range. South-western coastal areas, north to Tamala. Southern interior, north nearly to the Greenough (31 km NNE Mullewa), Gnows Nest Range (40 km SSE Yalgoo), Edah and Windsor.

Status etc. Moderately common in extreme south (around Ninghan and Paynes Find), becoming scarce and patchily distributed further north; in ones, twos or small parties (up to six). Well-wooded country, especially tall mulga, tall mallee and York gums. Breeding late July–early September; C/1(1), 2(1), 3(1), 4(3).

PTILONORHYNCHIDAE

Ptilonorhynchus maculatus guttatus (Gould) Spotted Bowerbird

Range. Northern and central interior, south to Mt Magnet and nearly to Anketell, and west to the Barlee Range, Kennedy Range and Woodleigh (rarely).

Status etc. Scarce and patchily distributed; usually in ones or twos. Thickets of *Ficus platypoda* and of mulga, curara and other acacias, usually in rocky gullies, at cliffs, around granites, along minor watercourses and at springs and mills.

CORVIDAE

Corvus orru ceciliae Mathews

Australian Crow

Range. Interior, west to Lyndon Bridge, Boologooro, Callagiddy, Wooramel, Woodleigh, Billabalong and Wurarga, and south to the Gnows Nest Range (53 km SSE Yalgoo), 40 km S Mt Magnet and 23 km SSW Anketell.

Status etc. Uncommon to common (most numerous along watercourses); usually in ones or twos, occasionally small parties. Lightly wooded country in vicinity of water and moderately tall trees; attracted to road-kills. Breeding mid July—early October; C/2(3), 3(3), 4(4), 5(6), 6(3).

Taxonomy. This subspecies is tentatively recognized for the western populations; they differ in nest, eggs and voice from those of eastern Australia.

Corvus bennetti North

Little Crow

Range. Greater part of region, including Peron Peninsula, Edel Land and Bernier, Dorre and Dirk Hartog Is.

Status etc. Moderately common to very common in pastoral country (more numerous in south than north), absent or uncommon in heavily wooded, waterless parts of far south-west (south of Tamala Station and west of Coolcalalaya Station); in ones, twos, small parties or flocks (up to 50). Open or lightly wooded country in vicinity of water (especially stock-watering troughs); attracted to road-kills, garbage and fresh bulldozer scrapes. Breeding late June—early October, also February—May in north; C/1(1), 2(15), 3(16), 4(30), 5(36), 6(17), 7(1), 8(1); in treeless coastal areas nesting on telephone poles and windmills and in mangroves.

Corvus coronoides perplexus Mathews

Australian Raven

Range. Extreme south-west and far south, north nearly to Nerren Nerren and nearly to the upper Greenough (28 km NNE Mullewa) and east to 10 km SE Yalgoo, Thundelarra and 20 km WSW Paynes Find.

Status etc. Moderately common in extreme south (south-west of Ninghan), scarce further north; usually in ones or twos. Woodlands, especially along main roads. Breeding August—September; C/4(1), 5(1).

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