

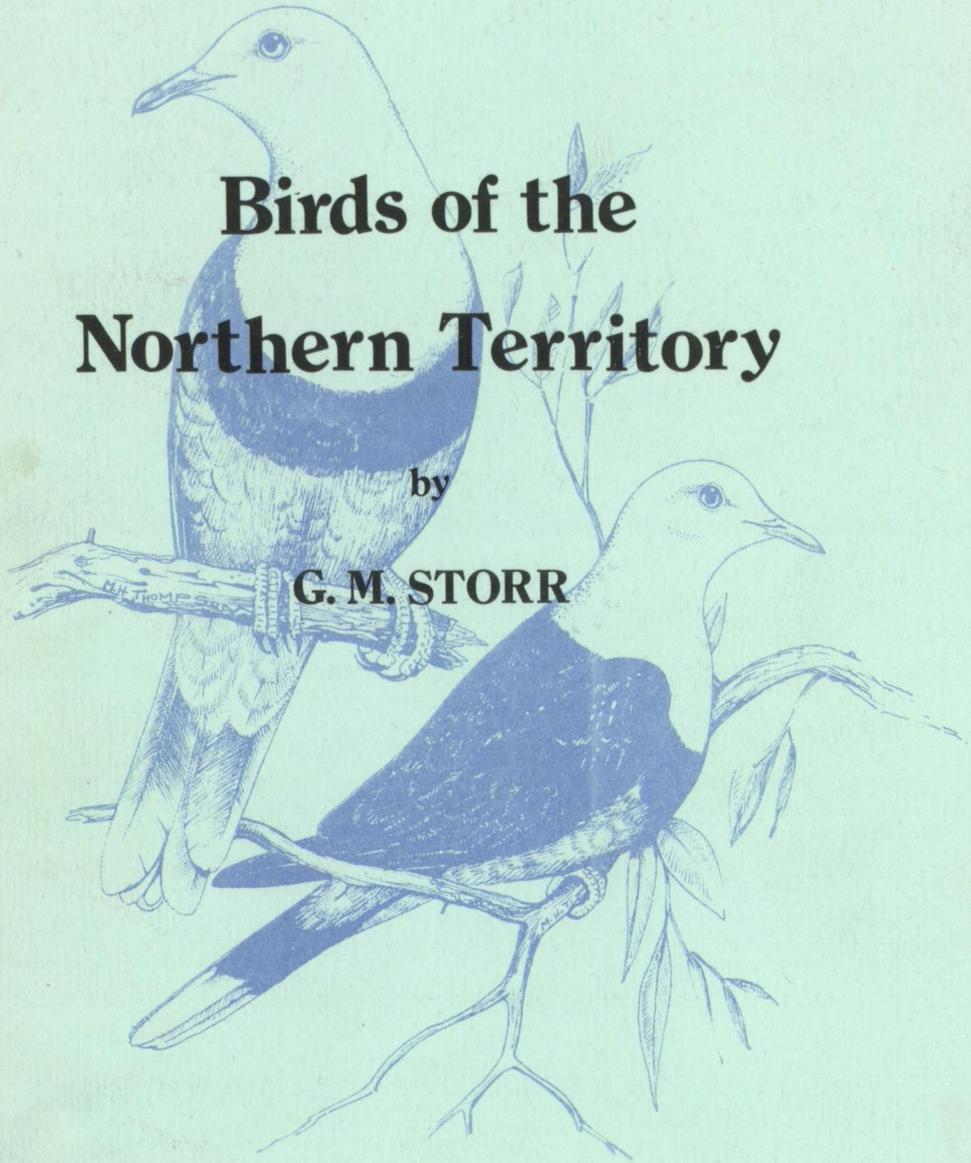
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**Birds of the
Northern Territory**

by

G. M. STORR



Western Australian Museum

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INTRODUCTION

Ornithology in the Northern Territory has proceeded by fits and starts. The pioneering work of Gilbert, Stokes and Bynoe in 1839-41 was followed by many decades in which little or nothing was added to our knowledge of northern birds. Then came the great period 1894-1916, when Keartland, Dahl, Le Souef, Tunney, Hill, Barnard, Rogers and McLennan laid the foundations of Northern Territory ornithology. The next half century was one of quiet consolidation.

In 1967 I brought out a List of Northern Territory Birds (*Spec. Publs West. Aust. Mus.* No. 4) which summarised our knowledge of distribution, relative abundance, habitat preferences, movements and breeding season. That paper was quickly rendered obsolete by a decade of intensive field work, notably by the Harold Hall Expedition to Arnhem Land etc., S.A. Parker and associates in Central Australia, D.N. Crawford and other CSIRO personnel in the far north, Julian Ford and colleagues in the far southwest, and W.H. Butler (on behalf of the American Museum of Natural History) on Ellery Creek, the Roper and the Daly, and in the Pinkerton Range.

The present paper is based on published research and unpublished data kindly provided by several people, among whom I especially mention Mesdames H.B. Gill and J.C. Serventy and Messrs S.A. Parker, W.H. Butler, J.R. Ford, R.E. Johnstone, L.A. Smith, J. Dell, D. Howe and C. Boekel.

The scope of this paper is generally the same as in my previous List. However, the bibliography has been omitted, the gazetteer is limited to place names mentioned in the present text, and taxonomic references cited in my first List and in my List of Queensland Birds (*Spec. Publs West. Aust. Mus.* No. 5) are not repeated here. Distribution is sometimes given in climatic as well as geographic terms, by reference to the subhumid zone (annual rainfall *ca* 100-150 cm), semiarid zone (50-100 cm) or arid zone (10-50 cm). As in previous Lists, breeding season is defined by the months in which eggs are laid.

The manuscript closed on 30 June 1976.

CASUARIIDAE

Dromaius novaehollandiae (Latham). Emu.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Nomadic. Formerly uncommon to moderately common in semiarid and arid zones (except sandy deserts), but now scarce or extinct in much of Central Australian cattle belt. Rare or absent in subhumid northwestern and northern coastal country and in sandy deserts. Breeding from May to July.

PODICIPEDIDAE

Podiceps novaehollandiae. Black-throated Grebe.

Podiceps novaehollandiae novaehollandiae Stephens.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Moderately common resident and dry-season visitor in northern subhumid and semiarid zones; scarce visitor to better-watered sectors of arid zone (e.g. Barkly Tableland, southern ranges and the Finke); rare or absent elsewhere. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools, dams and sewage ponds. Breeding south to Victoria River Downs and the McArthur; December to early April.

Podiceps poliocephalus Jardine & Selby. Hoary-headed Grebe.

Range. Arid interior, from [Gordon Downs, W.A.], Banka Banka and Brunette Downs, south to the Alice Springs district. Accidental in far north.

Status etc. Irregular visitor, presumably from southeastern Australia. Ordinarily rare, but common in wet years, e.g. 1967. Mainly shallow ephemeral waters: swamps, claypans, dams, sewage ponds and flooded borrow pits.

Podiceps cristatus (Linnaeus). Great Crested Grebe.

Podiceps cristatus australis Gould.

Status. Rare vagrant. One observed at Newcastle Waters on 2 November 1941 (Jarman, *S. Aust. Orn.* 17: 74, 1945).

PROCELLARIIDAE

Puffinus pacificus (Gmelin). Wedge-tailed Shearwater.

Status. Accidental. Blown ashore in Darwin district during northwesterly

gales in February 1973 (McKean & Gray, *Emu* 73: 184, 1973) and January 1974 (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 45, 1975).

OCEANITIDAE

Oceanites oceanicus (Kuhl). Wilson's Storm-petrel.

Status etc. Regular visitor (July to September) to Arafura and Timor Seas. Common.

[*Oceanites tropicus* (Gould). Black-bellied Storm-petrel.

Status unknown. There is a skin in the British Museum (Natural History) labelled 'Port Essington' (Salvin, *Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.* 25: 366, 1896).]

PHAETHONTIDAE

Phaethon sp.

Status unknown. S.A. White (*Emu* 22: 230, 1923) observed a tropic-bird off Darwin in June 1922. (Both *P. rubricaudus* and *P. lepturus* occur in the Western Australian sector of the Sahul Shelf and the Queensland sector of the Gulf of Carpentaria.)

PELECANIDAE

Pelecanus conspicillatus Temminck. Australian Pelican.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Nomadic. Moderately common in northern half, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Lake Woods and Barkly Tableland; scarce and irregular visitor to south, mainly after heavy rains. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools; much less numerous on saltwaters. Unconfirmed reports of breeding on islet off Cape Cockburn and on lake near Brunette Downs.

SULIDAE

Sula sula (Linnaeus). Red-footed Booby.

Sula sula rubripes Gould.

Status. Accidental. A dying bird collected near Darwin River Dam on 23 January 1974 after northwesterly gales (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 45, 1975).

Sula leucogaster (Boddaert). Brown Booby.

Sula leucogaster plotus (Forster).

Status uncertain. A few records, including one of a large flock, from northwest and north coasts and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Taxonomy. See Vaurie (*The Birds of the Palearctic Fauna, Non-passeriformes*, p.46, 1965).

PHALACROCORACIDAE

Phalacrocorax sulcirostris (Brandt). Little Black Cormorant.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Lake Woods, Brunette Downs and Alexandria. Casual in south (Palm Valley, the upper Finke, and 'large waterhole 40 miles east of the Hale').

Status etc. Locally common in far north but generally uncommon. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools; also estuarine waters. Breeding south to the lower Roper; February to June.

[*Phalacrocorax carbo* (Linnaeus). Black Cormorant.

Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae Stephens.

Status uncertain. A few widespread observations, mostly by people who fail to record *P. sulcirostris*. Specimens, photographs or field descriptions are required for establishing its status in the Territory.]

Phalacrocorax varius (Gmelin). Pied Cormorant.

Status uncertain. One authentic record, a specimen collected near Darwin on 8 December 1971 (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 135, 1972), and a few widespread observations, often by people who fail to record *P. melanoleucos*.

Phalacrocorax melanoleucos. Little Pied Cormorant.

Phalacrocorax melanoleucos melanoleucos (Vieillot).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to Victoria River Downs, Warlock Ponds, the lower McArthur and Surprise Creek; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. Casual further south (Brunette Downs and McDonald Downs).

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. Fogg Dam and Oenpelli Lagoon) but generally uncommon. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools. Breeding south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.] and the lower Roper; February to May.

Anhinga melanogaster Pennant. Darter.

Anhinga melanogaster novaehollandiae (Gould).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Brunette Downs and Alexandria. (Southern records require confirmation.)

Status etc. Moderately common. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools. Breeding south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.] and the Nicholson; February to July.

FREGATIDAE

Fregata minor (Gmelin). Greater Frigate-bird.

Status uncertain. Appearing on north coast in January and February during northwesterly gales, e.g. at Darwin in 1968 (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 135, 1972), Elcho Island in 1973 (McKean & Gray, *Emu* 73: 184, 1973) and Darwin in 1974 (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 45, 1975); also recorded off Croker Island in April 1948 (Deignan, *Records of the American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land* 4: 349, 1964).

Fregata ariel (Gray). Lesser Frigate-bird.

Range etc. Moderately common in Arafura and Timor Seas, appearing over coasts in stormy weather.

Fregata andrewsi Mathews. Christmas Island Frigate-bird.

Status. Accidental. One or two birds seen at Darwin on three occasions in January 1974 during a period of northwesterly gales (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 45, 1975).

ARDEIDAE

Ardea sumatrana Raffles. Great-billed Heron.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur, including Melville Island and North Island (Sir Edward Pellew Group); also freshwater sectors of some rivers – the South Alligator (including Jim Jim Creek), the Katherine (a few miles above Katherine) and the Waterhouse (at Mataranka).

Status etc. Uncommon. In and near mangroves of coastal creeks and tidal sectors of rivers, and on freshwaters densely screened with tall trees. Breeding in December and January.

Ardea pacifica Latham. White-necked Heron.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Nomadic. Scarce to moderately common in northern half, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Lake Woods and the Barkly Tableland, but largely vacating far north in wet season; rare in southern half, except in a few favourable localities like the upper Finke. Freshwater lagoons, swamps and river-pools. Apparently very little breeding (south to Brunette Downs; January and (?) February), most birds presumably originating in southeastern Australia.

Ardea novaehollandiae Latham. White-faced Heron.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Groote Eylandt and Maria Island.

Status etc. Nomadic. Uncommon to moderately common, but largely vacating far north in wet season. Freshwater lagoons, swamps and river-pools, and sewage ponds; also coastal mudflats and beaches (especially on islands). A few breeding reports (December and (?) February) from the north and one from the Finke, most birds presumably originating in southeastern Australia.

Ardea picata Gould. Pied Heron.

Range. Northern and eastern coastal plains from Darwin to the Roper. Casual in the Victoria (Camfield) and McArthur drainages and on Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common about the lower courses of the Adelaide, the South Alligator and the East Alligator, but generally scarce. Freshwater lagoons and swamps, and estuarine pools. Breeding in mangroves of the lower Adelaide and mouth of the Roper; March.

Egretta alba (Linnaeus). Great Egret.

Egretta alba modesta (Gray).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Lake Woods and Barkly Tableland; also Melville Island. Casual in south (specimen from Areyonga).

Status etc. Common on northern coastal plains, especially between Darwin and the East Alligator; moderately common in northern interior, which is partly vacated in dry season. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools; occasionally estuaries and other sheltered saltwaters. Breeding in great numbers in mangroves of the lower Adelaide and mouth of the Roper; February to April.

Egretta intermedia. Plumed Egret.

Egretta intermedia intermedia (Wagler).

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.] and the Roper. (Records from further south require confirmation.)

Status etc. Common on northern coastal plains between Darwin and the East Alligator; uncommon further south. Mainly sedge swamps; also freshwater lagoons. Breeding in mangroves of the lower Adelaide and mouth of the Roper; February to May.

Taxonomy. For comments on *plumifera* (Gould), see Mees (*Zool. Meded. Leiden* 49: 118, 1975).

Egretta garzetta (Linnaeus). Little Egret.

Egretta garzetta nigripes (Temminck).

Range. Northern third of the Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], the lower Victoria, the lower Roper and the lower McArthur; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common. Saltwaters (muddy, sandy and rocky beaches, estuarine pools, mangrove creeks and saltpans) and open freshwater swamps and lagoons. Breeding in large numbers in mangroves of the lower Adelaide and mouth of the Roper; February to May.

Egretta sacra. Reef Heron.

Egretta sacra sacra (Gmelin).

Range. North coast from Darwin to Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Croker Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common (grey and white phases about equally numerous). Islets, reefs, rock platforms, and gravelly and muddy beaches. Breeding in August and (?) February.

Egretta ibis (Linnaeus). Cattle Egret.

Egretta ibis coromanda (Boddaert).

Range. Northwest coastal plains from the Adelaide to the East Alligator, inland to Marrakai, Jim Jim and Oenpelli.

Status etc. Recent immigrant, well established by 1948. Grassy plains and swamps, often associated with grazing Water Buffaloes and sometimes with grazing Pied Geese. Breeding in large numbers on the lower Adelaide; November.

Butorides striatus (Linnaeus). Mangrove Heron.

Butorides striatus stagnatilis (Gould).

Range. North and east coasts and estuaries from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. Casual inland (Marrakai Creek and Deaf Adder Creek).

Status etc. Common. In or near mangroves in tidal creeks or estuaries, and among rocks on coasts and in freshwater streams. Breeding from November to January.

Taxonomy. See Goodwin (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions, 1962-70*, p.43, 1974).

Nycticorax caledonicus (Gmelin). Nankeen Night-heron.

Nycticorax caledonicus hilli Mathews.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.] and Barkly Tableland, thence patchily southwards to the Finke; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Very common in far north, especially on coastal plains between Darwin and the East Alligator; moderately common in northern interior; no recent records from south of Tennant Creek. Freshwater swamps, lagoons and river-pools, roosting by day in densely foliated waterside trees (mangroves, paperbarks etc.). No dated breeding records.

Ixobrychus minutus (Linnaeus). Little Bittern.

Ixobrychus minutus dubius Mathews.

Status unknown. Two northern records: a specimen from Point Charles Lighthouse, and an observation in mangroves at mouth of the McArthur in November 1964 (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 115, 1970).

Ixobrychus flavicollis (Latham). Black Bittern.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], the Strangways (east of Larrimah), the McArthur and the Nicholson; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Moderately common. Streams and swamps well-screened with paperbarks, monsoon forest or mangroves. Breeding from December to February.

CICONIIDAE

Xenorhynchus asiaticus (Latham). Black-necked Stork.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Warlock Ponds, the McArthur and the Nicholson; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island. Casual further south (Morphett Creek).

Status etc. Nomadic. Moderately common on northern coastal plains; uncommon in interior. Mainly shallow water, fresh or salt; occasionally searching dry plains. Breeding south to Victoria River Downs and Borrooloola; February to June.

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Threskiornis moluccus. White Ibis.

Threskiornis moluccus moluccus (Cuvier).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Elliott and Brunette Downs, also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. Casual further south (Banka Banka and Barrow Creek).

Status etc. Nomadic. Locally common on far northern coastal plains (e.g. about the lower Adelaide), but generally moderately common; elsewhere scarce or uncommon. Freshwater swamps and lagoons; occasionally coastal mangroves and mudflats. Breeding in small numbers (February to June) on the lower Adelaide and at Brunette Downs, presumably most birds originating in southeastern Australia.

Taxonomy. See Frith & Hitchcock (*CSIRO . . . Wildl. . . Pap.* No. 28: 119, 1974) for comments on '*strictipennis*'.

Threskiornis spinicollis (Jameson). Straw-necked Ibis.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Morphett Creek and Buchanan Creek. Casual further south (Wycliffe Swamp, Alice Springs and Hermannsburg).

Status etc. Highly nomadic, occurrence and numbers depending to some extent on abundance of grasshoppers and locusts. Generally common on northern coastal plains; moderately common elsewhere. In dry season mainly about freshwater swamps and lagoons; in wet season spreading out over damp grasslands; also scavenging at Darwin piggeries. Large numbers attempting to breed (March) on the lower Adelaide and at Brunette Downs but with little success in two out of three years owing to drying of swamps. Presumably most birds originate in southeastern

Australia (young birds banded near Kerang, Victoria, were recovered near Willeroo and on the Roper).

Plegadis falcinellus (Linnaeus). Glossy Ibis.

Range. Ordinarily in northern half of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Elliott, Brunette Downs and Alexandria. Casual further south, except in one year (1967) when widespread.

Status etc. Nomadic. Common on northern coastal plains, especially between Darwin and the East Alligator; locally common in northern interior during wet season but generally uncommon. Freshwater swamps, inundated grasslands, and lagoons; also claypans, floodwaters and sewage ponds in south.

Platalea regia Gould. Royal Spoonbill.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Gordon Downs, W.A.], Tennant Creek and Avon Downs. Casual further south (Barrow Creek, Alice Springs and the upper Finke).

Status etc. Nomadic. Common on northern coastal plains; uncommon to moderately common in northern interior. Freshwater swamps, lagoons and river-pools. Breeding in March.

Platalea flavipes Gould. Yellow-billed Spoonbill.

Range. Throughout the Territory. (Record from Groote Eylandt requires confirmation.)

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Moderately common on Barkly Tableland after heavy rains but generally uncommon; scarce elsewhere. Freshwater swamps, lagoons, river-pools, claypans and sewage ponds.

ANATIDAE

Anseranas semipalmata (Latham). Pied Goose.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Lake Woods and Brunette Downs; also Melville Island, Croker Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Nomadic. Common on northwestern coastal plains from the Daly to the East Alligator, though possibly declining recently in Darwin area (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 136, 1972); elsewhere locally common in wet season (e.g. about the Roper and lower McArthur) but generally uncommon. Freshwater swamps and lagoons, damp or inundated

grasslands and occasionally mangrove creeks. Breeding south to Lake Woods and on Melville Island, but mainly on floodplains of northwestern rivers; February to May. See Frith & Davies (*CSIRO Wildl. Res.* 6: 91, 1961).

Dendrocygna arcuata (Horsfield). Whistling Tree-duck.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Warlock Ponds and Borroloola; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Nomadic. Common on northwestern coastal plains between the Daly and the East Alligator; elsewhere scarce or uncommon. Freshwater swamps and lagoons. Breeding from January to July.

Dendrocygna eytoni (Eyton). Plumed Tree-duck.

Range. Northern three-quarters of Territory, south to Coniston, MacDonald Downs and Marqua. (Records from Melville Island and Groote Eylandt require confirmation.)

Status etc. Nomadic. Common. In wet season dispersing widely over damp or inundated grasslands, including those of the Barkly Tableland and Georgina drainage. Largely retreating in dry season to permanent lagoons of coastal plains. Breeding south to MacDonald Downs; February to June.

Cygnus atratus (Latham). Black Swan.

Range. Southern half of Territory, north to Avon Downs.

Status etc. Ordinarily a rare vagrant, but in wet years 1966-67 visiting Central Australia in some numbers and breeding (March to August) in at least four localities (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 60, 1969).

Stictonetta naevosa (Gould). Freckled Duck.

Range. Northeastern interior: Barkly Tableland and Georgina drainage from Newcastle Waters southeast to Tobermorey. Casual elsewhere (the South Alligator and Alice Springs).

Status etc. Ordinarily a rare winter visitor (March to October), but good numbers at Brunette Downs in October 1966. River-pools.

Tadorna tadornoides (Jardine & Selby). Mountain Duck.

Status. Rare winter visitor. Recorded in small numbers at Avon Downs and on the upper Finke and the Palmer.

Tadorna radjah (Garnot). Burdekin Duck.

Tadorna radjah rufitergum Hartert.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Ord River Station, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, the upper Roper and lower McArthur; also Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common. Freshwater lagoons, estuarine pools, coastal salt pans and sheltered bays. Breeding from February to June.

Anas superciliosa Gmelin. Black Duck.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Nomadic. In northern half mainly an uncommon or moderately common dry-season visitor (July to October); scarce in southern half. Freshwater lagoons and river-pools; rarely saltwaters. Breeding in small numbers from March to June; also July to September in southern half.

Anas gibberifrons Müller. Grey Teal.

Anas gibberifrons gracilis Buller.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Highly nomadic (e.g. a bird bred in New South Wales was recovered at Humpty Doo, N.T.; and adults banded at Humpty Doo have been recovered in Central Australia, south Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and south-western Australia). In northern third ordinarily an uncommon dry-season visitor, but during 1957 drought large numbers taking refuge on northern coastal plains between Darwin and the East Alligator, many remaining to breed. In centre and south moderately common in wet years but generally scarce. Freshwater lagoons, swamps and river-pools, and sewage ponds; rarely saltwaters. Breeding in March and April.

Anas castanea (Eyton). Chestnut Teal.

Status. Vagrant. Two specimens collected near Darwin in 1958 (Frith, *Waterfowl in Australia*, p.206, 1967).

Anas rhynchotis. Blue-winged Shoveller.

Anas rhynchotis rhynchotis Latham.

Status. Rare visitor. Recorded from south of the McArthur, at Newcastle Waters and on the Finke.

Anas querquedula Linnaeus. Garganey.

Range etc. Rare summer visitor (October to January) to Darwin area (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 136, 1972). Freshwater lagoons and swamps.

Malacorhynchus membranaceus (Latham). Pink-eared Duck.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor to southern half in wet years, e.g. 1966-67, but generally scarce; visitations to far north highly irregular. Freshwater lagoons, swamps and river-pools, and sewage ponds.

Aythya australis (Eyton). White-eyed Duck.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Uncommon visitor, vacating far north at height of wet season (January to April). Freshwater lagoons and river-pools.

Chenonetta jubata (Latham). Wood Duck.

Range. Southern half of Territory, north to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Elliott, Brunette Downs and Avon Downs.

Status etc. Formerly an uncommon visitor to the Finke drainage, with sporadic breeding; now becoming moderately common in the Georgina drainage and Central Australian cattle belt and on the Barkly Tableland. River-pools, lagoons and sewage ponds. Breeding from March to July.

Nettapus pulchellus Gould. Green Pygmy-goose.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to Victoria River Downs, Elsey, the upper Cox and Borroloola; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common (especially on northern coastal plains between Darwin and the East Alligator). Mainly freshwater lagoons with floating vegetation. Breeding from January to March.

ACCIPITRIDAE

Elanus caeruleus (Desfontaines). Black-shouldered Kite.

Elanus caeruleus notatus Gould.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Nomadic. Ordinarily scarce, but in favourable periods (e.g. 1967-69) moderately common dry-season visitor to north and common breeding visitor to south. Lightly wooded country, especially where

rodents plentiful. Breeding north to the McArthur and (?) Humpty Doo; April and (?) May in north; June and July in south. See Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 115, 1970).

Elanus scriptus Gould. Letter-winged Kite.

Range. Northeastern interior: Barkly Tableland and upper Georgina drainage from Elliott southeast to Georgina Downs. Casual elsewhere (mouth of the McArthur, southern fringe of Tanami Desert, southern ranges and Ayers Rock).

Status etc. Ordinarily rare or absent, but in periods of rodent abundance (e.g. 1966-69) common in northeastern interior and casual elsewhere. Lightly wooded grasslands, especially those temporarily infested with *Rattus villosissimus*. Breeding in northeastern interior; February to August. See Parker (*Emu* 71: 99, 1971).

Aviceda subcristata (Gould). Crested Hawk.

Aviceda subcristata njikena Condon & Amadon.

Range. Wet northwest corner, south to the Reynolds (16 km N of Litchfield) and Adelaide River, and east to Deaf Adder Creek (Nourlangie); also Cobourg Peninsula (Port Bremer) and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Scarce. Monsoon forest, riverside forest and open forest.

Taxonomy. The Kimberley and Northern Territory specimens in Australian collections (A.R. McEvey, *in litt.* to S.A. Parker, 19/2/70) and the Groote Eylandt specimen in the British Museum (P. Burton, *in litt.* to S.A. Parker, 11/12/69) have the ventral barring blackish brown (not rufous brown, as in nominate race).

Lophoictinia isura (Gould). Square-tailed Kite.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to the lower Victoria and the McArthur; also Sir Edward Pellew Group (specimen from South-west Island).

Status etc. Scarce (most records apparently based on *Milvus migrans*). Open forest.

Hamirostra melanosternon (Gould). Black-breasted Kite.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Uncommon in semiarid and arid zones (but absent from sandy deserts), north to the lower Victoria and lower McArthur; scarce further

north (most records from far northern coastal plains apparently based on *Lophoictinia isura*). Lightly wooded country. Breeding north to the McArthur; September and October.

Haliastur indus (Boddaert). Brahminy Kite.

Haliastur indus girrenera (Vieillot).

Range etc. Moderately common on coasts, islets and tidal sectors of rivers south to the Victoria and the McArthur; also Melville Island, Truant Island and Groote Eylandt. Breeding from December to July.

Haliastur sphenurus (Vieillot). Whistling Kite.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Very common in northern subhumid and semiarid zones; common in better-watered parts of arid zone but absent from sandy deserts. Lightly wooded country, especially along main roads and about towns, buffalo shooters' camps and other sources of carrion; seldom occurring away from water in arid and semiarid zones. Some withdrawal from interior at height of dry season, and some withdrawal from far north in wet. Breeding south to the upper Finke and on Melville Island; March to September.

Milvus migrans (Boddaert). Black Kite.

Milvus migrans affinis Gould.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Moderately common to very common in cattle country and vicinity of human habitation; scarce on north coast away from towns, and absent from sandy deserts. Aggregating about slaughter yards, towns, Aborigines' camps, station homesteads, main roads, garbage dumps, piggeries, sewage ponds, airports, grass fires and locust plagues. Largely vacating far north in wet season. Breeding north to Oenpelli and south to the lower Finke (Old Crown); spring in far north and south; late summer and autumn on Barkly Tableland.

Accipiter fasciatus. Brown Goshawk.

Accipiter fasciatus didimus (Mathews).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south presumably to Victoria River Downs and the McArthur; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. All wooded habitats. Breeding in September and (?) October.

Accipiter fasciatus fasciatus (Vigors & Horsfield).

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Resident and non-breeding visitor (collected as far north as Cobourg Peninsula). Generally moderately common, but absent from sandy deserts. Mainly waterside trees. Breeding north to the upper Finke; September and October.

Accipiter cirrocephalus. Collared Sparrowhawk.

Accipiter cirrocephalus cirrocephalus (Vieillot).

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Bathurst Island, Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Uncommon in north, scarce in south, and absent from sandy deserts. All wooded habitats in north; mainly waterside vegetation in south. Breeding in September.

Accipiter novaehollandiae. Grey (White) Goshawk.

Accipiter novaehollandiae novaehollandiae (Gmelin).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Delamere and Larrimah; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Scarce (white and grey phases in about equal numbers). All wooded habitats, especially beside water. Breeding in May.

Accipiter radiatus (Latham). Red Goshawk.

Accipiter radiatus rufotibia (Campbell).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to Larrimah and the McArthur; also Bathurst Island and Maria Island.

Status etc. Scarce. Mainly waterside vegetation. Breeding in September and (?) autumn.

Aquila morphnoides. Little Eagle.

Aquila morphnoides morphnoides Gould.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Uncommon about southern mountain ranges (especially where rabbits plentiful); generally scarce elsewhere. Lightly wooded country. Breeding from May to September.

Aquila audax (Latham). Wedge-tailed Eagle.

Range. Throughout the Territory. (Records from Melville Island and Groote Eylandt require confirmation.)

Status etc. Common in southern mountain ranges; scarce visitor to north-western coastal plains, including Cobourg Peninsula; moderately common elsewhere, including sandy deserts. Lightly wooded country. Breeding north to Oenpelli; June and July.

Haliaeetus leucogaster (Gmelin). White-breasted Sea-eagle.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Eley and McArthur River Station; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common about coasts, islets and estuaries; moderately common on freshwaters (lagoons, river-pools and reservoirs). Breeding from April to August.

Circus assimilis Jardine & Selby. Spotted Harrier.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common on Barkly Tableland; uncommon to moderately common elsewhere in arid zone (including sandy deserts in good years); scarce in northern semiarid zone (the Victoria, Roper and McArthur drainages); rare dry-season visitor to far north. Open and lightly wooded grasslands. Breeding north to the McArthur; April and (?) spring.

Circus aeruginosus (Linnaeus). Swamp Harrier.

Circus aeruginosus approximans Peale.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Victoria River Downs, Newcastle Creek and Brunette Downs. Casual or in passage further south.

Status etc. Non-breeding visitor, presumably from Tasmania and south-eastern Australia. Moderately common on northwestern coastal plains from Darwin to the East Alligator, with some withdrawal in wet season; uncommon elsewhere in north, and appearing on Barkly Tableland only during and immediately after wet season. Four records from Alice Springs district in wet years 1966-67. Open swamps, sedge plains, ricefields and floodwaters.

Pandion haliaetus (Linnaeus). Osprey.

Pandion haliaetus cristatus (Vieillot).

Range etc. Uncommon to common on saltwaters, preferring blue-water seas around rocky islets to muddy shores and estuaries of low mainland

coasts. Rare on freshwaters (including Fogg Dam, the upper South Alligator and the Katherine). Breeding from April to July.

FALCONIDAE

Falco subniger Gray. Black Falcon.

Range. Arid interior, from Dunmarra and the McArthur south to the upper Finke.

Status etc. Ordinarily rare, but moderately common in one wet year (1967). Lightly wooded country. One undated breeding record from the Macdonnell Ranges.

Falco peregrinus Tunstall. Peregrine Falcon.

Falco peregrinus macropus Swainson.

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Uncommon in southern mountains (Macdonnell, James and Petermann Ranges, Ayers Rock and Mt Olga); scarce elsewhere. Mainly about cliffs and water. Breeding north to Tobermorey; August.

Falco longipennis. Little Falcon.

Falco longipennis longipennis Swainson.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Scarce to moderately common (most plentiful in southern mountains and northern open forests; least plentiful in sparsely wooded plains). Attracted to rock-holes and small river-pools, where it preys on drinking finches and feeding swallows and bats. Breeding in September and October.

Falco hypoleucos Gould. Grey Falcon.

Range. Southern two-thirds of Territory, north to [Kununurra, W.A.], the McArthur and nearly to Springvale (Basin Springs).

Status etc. Scarce. Attracted to bores and river-pools, where it preys on drinking Zebra Finches and Budgerygahs; tolerating drier, flatter and more sparsely wooded country than *Falco longipennis*. Breeding in August.

Falco berigora. Brown Falcon.

Falco berigora berigora Vigors & Horsfield.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Partial migrant. Common, except in far north, where locally common but generally only moderately common in dry season and scarce in wet. Most habitats, including sandy deserts but not dense northern forests; attracted to grass fires. Breeding from April to October.

Falco cenchroides. Nankeen Kestrel.

Falco cenchroides cenchroides Vigors & Horsfield.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Partial migrant. Generally moderately common (common in good years) in arid zone north to southern sectors of the Ord and Victoria drainages and the Barkly Tableland (but apparently not in Simpson Desert); further north locally common in dry season but generally scarce. Treeless and lightly wooded country. Breeding from July to September.

MEGAPODIIDAE

Megapodius freycinet Gaimard. Scrub Fowl.

Megapodius freycinet tumulus Gould.

Range. West and north coasts from Pearce Point to Port Bradshaw, inland in wet northwest corner to beyond Daly River Police Station, and to Adelaide River, Nourlangie and Oenpelli; also Melville Island, Croker Island, Isle Woodah, Bickerton Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common on and near coasts, including adjacent islets, not extending much more than 20 km inland except along major northwestern rivers. Mainly monsoon forests and vine thickets; also waterside forests (mangroves, paperbarks etc.), wattle thickets and denser parts of eucalypt forests. Breeding from August to January.

Leipoa ocellata Gould. Mallee Fowl.

Range. Southwestern, north to Central Mt Wedge and east to Hermannsburg.

Status etc. Nine records, none later than 1931. Formerly uncommon and very patchily distributed; now presumably extinct. Thickets of teatree, mallee and wattle, usually at foot of hills. Eggs have been taken in June, October and December.

PHASIANIDAE

Coturnix novaezelandiae Quoy & Gaimard. Stubble Quail.

Coturnix novaezelandiae pectoralis Gould.

Range etc. Apparently an uncommon autumn-winter visitor to southern half of Territory; three specimens taken in March and April at Brunchilly and near Alice Springs (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 63, 1969) and a few sight records. Casual in far north (observation at Humpty Doo by Crawford, *Emu* 72: 137, 1972). If Keartland's Central Australian observations of Brown Quail belong here, the Stubble Quail can be classified as a breeding visitor.

Coturnix ypsilophora Bosc. Brown Quail.

Coturnix ypsilophora australis (Latham).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Tanami and Brunchilly; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island.

Status etc. Common in subhumid and semiarid zones south to the lower Victoria, upper Roper, lower McArthur and the Nicholson; scarce further south and probably appearing only after heavy summer rains. Dispersed in wet season in long grass of open grasslands and of lightly wooded country. Withdrawing in dry season to dried-out swamps and to grass and sedge margins of lagoons and watercourses. Breeding from January to May.

Coturnix chinensis (Linnaeus). King Quail.

Coturnix chinensis lineata (Scopoli).

Range. Wet northwest corner, south to Burrundie and east to Oenpelli.

Status etc. Locally common, e.g. at Oenpelli, but generally uncommon. Damp grasslands and dried-out sedge swamps. Breeding from January to May.

TURNICIDAE

Turnix maculosa. Red-backed Quail.

Turnix maculosa maculosa Temminck.

Range. Wet northwest corner from Darwin east to the lower King, inland to Tortilla Flat and Oenpelli; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common. Long grass on river flats and around swamps and springs (habitats shared with *Coturnix chinensis*). Breeding in February.

Taxonomy. See Goodwin (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions, 1962-70*, p.63, 1974).

Turnix castanota (Gould). Chestnut-backed Quail.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to Larrimah and the McArthur, but absent from wet northwestern lowlands north of Batchelor and west of Oenpelli; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common to common in dry situations, e.g. relatively short and open grasses of stringybark (*Eucalyptus tetradonta*) forests on sandy rises, sparse grasses of stony hills, and spinifex of sandstone ridges. Breeding from December to March.

Turnix pyrrhоторax (Gould). Red-breasted Quail.

Range and status uncertain. A few specimens from northern and north-eastern open grasslands (Marrakai, Borrooloola and Cleanskin Creek). Breeding reports from Borrooloola and Brunette Downs; January and February.

Turnix velox (Gould). Little Quail.

Range. Mainly southern arid zone; northern limits uncertain, but collected north to Tanami Desert (20°36'S, 131°07'E), Barkly Tableland (Brunchilly) and far south of the Nicholson drainage (Cleanskin Creek).

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Very common in good years but generally scarce. Open short grasses, spinifex, and chenopods and other herbage of treeless and lightly wooded country. Breeding from April to August.

GRUIDAE

Grus rubicundus (Perry). Brolga.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Wycliffe Swamp, MacDonald Downs and Aroota Bore; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Nomadic. Common. In wet season largely vacating far north and spreading south over damp grasslands and seasonal swamps. At height of dry season largely withdrawing to drying swamps, freshwater lagoons, river-pools, saltpans and tidal pools of coasts and far northern interior. Breeding south to Brunette Downs; January to June; also September and October in far north.

RALLIDAE

Gallirallus philippensis (Linnaeus). Banded Land-rail.

Gallirallus philippensis melli (Mathews).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Argyle Lagoon, W.A.] and the lower McArthur. Casual further south (Alice Springs).

Status etc. Probably resident and locally common in north, despite paucity of wet-season records. Swamps and damp grasslands. Breeding at Borroloola in January (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 116, 1970).

Taxonomy. See Olson (*Wilson Bull.* 85: 381-416, 1973) for classification of Rallidae, and Parker (*supra*) for Australian subspecies of *philippensis*.

Porzana pusilla (Pallas). Baillon's (Marsh) Crake.

Porzana pusilla palustris Gould.

Range and status unknown. Specimens and sight records from far northwest in July and early September 1974 on a lagoon at Kapalga and in a *Typha* swamp at Holmes Jungle (Mason & Wolfe, *Emu* 75: 235, 1975).

Porzana fluminea Gould. Spotted Crake.

Range and status unknown. A specimen collected and up to six birds observed in winter 1967 in dense vegetation at Alice Springs sewage ponds (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 63, 1969). Observed at Pine Creek in January 1967 (Gee, *Qd Bird Notes* 3(2): 9, 1967).

[*Porzana tabuensis* (Gmelin). Spotless Crake.

Status. One unconfirmed record: Whitlock (*Emu* 23: 255, 1924) heard one on the upper Finke in 1922. (Keartland's eggs from the Daly (North, *Nests and Eggs* . . . 4: 216, 1914) are now in the South Australian Museum (B2838) and are in fact of *Poliolimnas cinereus*, *fide* S.A. Parker, pers. comm.)]

Poliolimnas cinereus (Vieillot). White-browed Crake.

Poliolimnas cinereus leucophrys (Gould).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Argyle Lagoon, W.A.], the upper Roper (Little Red Lily Lagoon), the McArthur and [the lower Nicholson, Qld]; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common from October to May; apparently scarce or absent in winter. Swamps and lagoons with *Typha* and other dense aquatic vegetation; also ricefields. Breeding from January (? December) to April

(? May). See Crawford (*Emu* 72: 138, 1972) for seasonal changes in Darwin area.

Taxonomy. For relationships, see Olson (*Auk* 87: 805, 1970).

Eulabeornis castaneiventris. Chestnut Rail.

Eulabeornis castaneiventris castaneiventris Gould.

Range. North and east coasts and tidal sections of rivers from Darwin to the Roper; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mangroves; rarely adjacent grassy flats and reedy swamps. Breeding from October to January.

[*Amaurornis olivaceus* (Meyen). Bush Hen.

Status uncertain. Possibly a rare wet-season visitor. Unconfirmed reports of birds and eggs from north coast.]

Porphyrio porphyrio (Linnaeus). Swamphen.

Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus Temminck.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Argyle Lagoon, W.A.], Victoria River Downs and the McArthur. Casual further south (lignum swamp on Brunette Downs and pool on the upper Finke).

Status etc. Nomadic. Uncommon. Freshwater swamps (including reed-beds and sedge-plains), long grass around lagoons and river-pools, and ricefields. Breeding from February to July.

Gallinula ventralis Gould. Black-tailed Native Hen.

Range. Southern two-thirds of Territory; north to [Argyle Lagoon, W.A.], Dunmarra and the McArthur.

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Commonly appearing in arid zone, especially after heavy rains, but seldom reported from north of [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Newcastle Waters and the Georgina drainage. Mainly lignum swamps and river-pools.

Fulica atra Linnaeus. Coot.

Fulica atra australis Gould.

Range. Greater part of Territory, from Oenpelli south to the upper Finke.

Status etc. Irregular, non-breeding visitor. Generally scarce (occasionally in big numbers, e.g. at Brunette Downs in late summer 1913 and at Warlock

Ponds in June 1922, but mostly in ones and twos). Freshwater lagoons and river-pools and lignum swamps.

OTIDAE

Otis australis Gray. Australian Bustard.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island, Bustard Islands and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Nomadic, its occurrence and numbers in arid zone largely depending on local rainfall and abundance of grasshoppers. Generally common on Barkly Tableland, moderately common in the Victoria, Roper and McArthur drainages, scarce or uncommon in southern arid zone and in far northern interior, and rare or absent in northwestern and northern coastal lowlands (except as a drought refugee). Breeding north to the Victoria, the Roper and Vanderlin Island (November to April); further north apparently only a dry-season visitor.

JACANIDAE

Jacana gallinacea (Temminck). Lotus-bird.

Jacana gallinacea novaehollandiae (Salvadori).

Range. Northern quarter of Territory: Cobourg Peninsula and wet northwest corner, inland to Daly River Police Station, Yam Creek, the upper Mary and Oenpelli; isolated populations on Melville Island, the lower Liverpool, the lower Goyder, a lagoon at Melville Bay, the upper Roper and lower McArthur.

Status etc. Common. Freshwater swamps and lagoons with water-lilies or other floating vegetation. Some withdrawal at height of dry season to permanent waters (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 138, 1972). Breeding in September and from December to May.

ROSTRATULIDAE

Rostratula benghalensis (Linnaeus). Painted Snipe.

Rostratula benghalensis australis (Gould).

Status uncertain. Three records from northern interior: a bird collected on Brunette Creek in April 1906 (Mathews), a few seen at Elliott in November 1941 (Jarman), and one seen at Victoria River Downs in May 1976 (C. Boekel, pers. comm.).

HAEMATOPODIDAE

Haematopus ostralegus Linnaeus. Pied Oystercatcher.

Haematopus ostralegus longirostris Vieillot.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island, Croker Island, Wessel Islands, Truant Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Locally common but generally only moderately common, usually in ones and twos, occasionally in flocks of 15-20. Sea beaches, sandy and rocky islets, and estuaries (including salt pans in the McArthur delta up to 15 km from sea). Breeding in January, June and July.

Haematopus fuliginosus Gould. Sooty Oystercatcher.

Haematopus fuliginosus ophthalmicus Castelnau & Ramsay.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur; also Truant Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Uncommon, in ones and twos. Rocky and sandy islets, reefs, rock platforms, rocky headlands and sandy beaches. Breeding in September.

CHARADRIIDAE

Vanellus miles. Spurwinged (Masked) Plover.

Vanellus miles miles (Boddaert).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Phillip Creek, Avon Downs and [the Camooweal lakes, Qld]; also Melville Island, Croker Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group (including Vanderlin Island). Casual further south (Wycliffe Swamp and Alice Springs sewage ponds).

Status etc. Nomadic. Locally common but generally uncommon to moderately common. Bare ground and low open grassland around swamps, lagoons and river-pools; occasionally sedge-plains, coastal salt pans, sea beaches and playing fields. In dry season largely withdrawing from interior to coastal plains (even from as far north as Pine Creek and Katherine). Breeding south to Brunette Downs; December to March.

Vanellus miles novaehollandiae Stephens.

Status. Small parties occasionally visiting Alice Springs (especially the sewage ponds) in autumn and winter. See Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 63,

1969), Rix (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 154, 1970) and Bristowe *et al.* (*Aust. Bird Watcher* 4: 87, 1971).

Vanellus tricolor (Vieillot). Banded Plover.

Range. Better-watered sector of southern arid zone: north to the lower Lander, Taylor Creek, the upper Elkedra and the lower Sandover; west to the upper Palmer and Curtin Springs; and east to Jervois and New Andado.

Status etc. Irregular visitor (April to November, mostly winter). Common in wet years, e.g. 1967, but generally scarce or uncommon. Sparsely vegetated flats, especially beside water. Breeding north to 50 km NW of Willowra and Argadargada; April to August.

Pluvialis squatarola (Linnaeus). Grey Plover.

Range. Far northwest: Melville Island, Cobourg Peninsula and around Darwin.

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Mainly sea beaches; also near-coastal salt pans and brackish swamps.

Pluvialis dominica (Müller). Eastern Golden Plover.

Pluvialis dominica fulva (Gmelin).

Range. North and east coasts and coastal plains from Darwin to Borroloola; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. Recorded in northern interior by Whitburn (*Aust. Bird Watcher* 2: 47, 1963) at Larrimah and Tennant Creek in October 1958.

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Mainly sea beaches; also tidal creeks, near-coastal brackish swamps, dams and short-grass flats.

Charadrius dubius Scopoli. Little Ringed Plover.

Status. Rare summer visitor to far northwest: two birds observed on a Darwin sewage pond in September 1974, and one on the East Alligator in February 1973 (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 143, 1976).

Charadrius ruficapillus Temminck. Red-capped Dotterel.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. Casual in northern interior (specimen from claypan in Tanami Desert Sanctuary, and observations at Lake Woods and Phillip Creek).

Status etc. Common. Sea beaches and edge of near-coastal saltpans and brackish swamps. One breeding record: Darwin; February. See Crawford (*Emu* 72: 138, 1972) for seasonal changes in preferred habitat at Darwin.

Charadrius mongolus. Mongolian Sand-dotterel.

Charadrius mongolus mongolus Pallas.

Range. Northwest coast (Darwin district and Cobourg Peninsula); also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group (Vanderlin Island).

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Sandy, gravelly, muddy and rocky coasts; occasionally edge of near-coastal saltpans and brackish swamps.

Charadrius leschenaultii Lesson. Large Sand-dotterel.

Range. North coast from Darwin to Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Croker Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Very common visitor (all months). Sandy, gravelly, muddy and rocky coasts; occasionally tidal creeks and near-coastal saltpans and brackish swamps; rarely drying freshwater lagoons.

Charadrius melanops Vieillot. Black-fronted Dotterel.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from Cobourg Peninsula and much of southern arid zone.

Status etc. Nomadic. Locally common. Bare margins of freshwater lagoons, swamps, river-pools, floodwaters, dams and sewage ponds; rarely coastal saltpans. Breeding north to Victoria River Downs; August and September (Palm Valley). Mainly a dry-season visitor to far northern coastal plains, when partly withdrawing from northern interior.

Charadrius asiaticus Pallas. Caspian Dotterel.

Range etc. Rare visitor (September and October) to far northwest. Specimen from Pine Creek (Condon, *Emu* 61: 191, 1961) and observations near Darwin (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 144, 1976).

Charadrius veredus Gould. Oriental Dotterel.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Tanami, Brunchilly and [Camooweal, Qld].

Status etc. Common visitor (late August to mid-June). Occurring on northwest coast and estuaries only in passage (August-November and March-April). At height of dry season (September-November) mainly on

burnt or dried-out grasslands from Marrakai east to Oenpelli. At onset of heavy summer rains vacating northwest and spreading south and southeast to open or lightly wooded grasslands of the Victoria and McArthur drainages and Barkly Tableland.

Charadrius cinctus (Gould). Red-kneed Dotterel.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Phillip Creek and [Camooweal, Qld]. Casual further south (Mt Wedge, Aileron, Alice Springs district and the upper Finke).

Status etc. Nomadic. Uncommon. Muddy edges of freshwater lagoons, swamps, buffalo wallows and river-pools; also brackish swamps and sewage ponds; rarely saltpans. Some withdrawal from Barkly Tableland in dry season and from far north in wet. Recorded in Central Australia only in winter and spring.

Peltohyas australis (Gould). Australian Dotterel.

Range. Southern third of Territory: north to Mt Wedge; west to the western Macdonnell Ranges and Erldunda; and east nearly to Alice Springs and New Andado. (Northern records probably based on *Stiltia isabella*.)

Status etc. Nomadic. Scarce. Stony, sparsely vegetated plains. Breeding from March to June.

SCOLOPACIDAE

Numenius minutus Gould. Little Whimbrel.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to the Tanami Desert (claypan in 20°09'S, 130°15'E) and Barkly Tableland. Casual further south (Alice Springs sewage ponds).

Status etc. Very common visitor (mainly arriving in September and departing in April; a few still present in July-August). At height of dry season (October-November) numerous flocks on northwestern coastal plains from Darwin to Oenpelli, mainly on dry sedge-plains, long-grass stubbles, short-grass flats (including lawns, playing fields and roadsides in Darwin) and burnt open forests, but rarely coastal mudflats and saltpans; commonly aggregating in huge numbers at freshwaters. Also common in October-November on riverine flats further south, e.g. about the upper Roper and lower McArthur. At onset of heavy summer rains largely vacating northern coasts and presumably retreating to semiarid zone (there are December-February records from Pine Creek, Katherine and

Groote Eylandt). Only recorded on grasslands of arid northern interior in April, by which time they have assembled into large premigratory flocks and have reappeared in great numbers on the northwestern coastal plains.

Numenius phaeopus (Linnaeus). Whimbrel.

Numenius phaeopus variegatus (Scopoli).

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island, Croker Island, Groote Eylandt and (?) Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (all months). Muddy and sandy shores, mangrove creeks and rock platforms; occasionally near-coastal brackish swamps.

Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus Latham.

Status. Vagrant. Solitary dark-rumped birds near Darwin in September 1974 and February 1975 believed by McKean *et al.* (*Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 144, 1976) to be Hudsonian Whimbrels.

Numenius arquata (Linnaeus). Western Curlew.

Status. Vagrant. A bird (presumably of eastern subspecies, *N. a. orientalis* Brehm) seen by Deignan on several occasions near Darwin in late March and early April 1948.

Numenius madagascariensis (Linnaeus). Eastern Curlew.

Range. North and east coasts and tidal sectors of rivers from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and (?) Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (all months). Muddy and sandy shores; rarely mangroves and rock platforms.

Limosa limosa (Linnaeus). Black-tailed Godwit.

Limosa limosa melanuroides Gould.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the King (near Maranboy) and the lower Roper. Casual further south (Alice Springs sewage ponds and [Lake Conellan, Camooweal, Qld]).

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor (all months). Coasts, near-coastal brackish swamps and freshwater lagoons.

Limosa lapponica (Linnaeus). Bar-tailed Godwit.

Limosa lapponica baueri Naumann.

Range. Northwest coast (Darwin district and Cobourg Peninsula); also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Visitor (all months). Locally common, e.g. on Darwin beaches and Melville Island. Mudflats and sandy beaches; occasionally rock platforms; rarely near-coastal brackish swamps.

Tringa totanus (Linnaeus). Common Redshank.

Range etc. Rare visitor to northwest coast and coastal plains. Solitary birds and a party of 17 observed in July 1970 and January 1975 on coasts near Darwin (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 112, 1972; McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 146, 1976), and one at a freshwater lagoon on the lower Daly in November 1973 (McKean *et al.*, *Emu* 75: 63, 1975).

Tringa stagnatilis (Bechstein). Marsh Sandpiper.

Range etc. Uncommon visitor (all months) to northwest coast and coastal plains from Darwin east to the King, and inland to Nourlangie and Oenpelli; mainly freshwater lagoons and near-coastal brackish swamps; also coastal mudflats and saltpans. Casual (or in passage) further south: Alice Springs sewage ponds and [Camooweal lakes, Qld].

Tringa nebularia (Gunnerus). Greenshank.

Range. Northern and eastern coasts, estuaries and coastal plains from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group. Casual further south (Soudan, Coniston and the upper Finke).

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Mainly brackish swamps, freshwater lagoons and coastal saltpans; also muddy and sandy coasts, river-pools and sewage ponds.

Tringa glareola Linnaeus. Wood Sandpiper.

Range. Greater part of Territory.

Status etc. Visitor (July to April). Uncommon on northwestern coastal plains; scarce elsewhere. Mainly brackish and freshwater swamps; also freshwater lagoons and river-pools.

Tringa guttifer (Nordmann). Spotted Greenshank.

Status. Vagrant. Solitary bird seen twice at a Darwin sewage pond in March 1974 (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 145, 1976).

Tringa terek (Latham). Terek Sandpiper.

Range. Northwest coast (Darwin district and Port Essington); also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Mainly coastal mudflats; also sandy beaches and rock platforms.

Tringa hypoleucos Linnaeus. Common Sandpiper.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Tennant Creek and Avon Downs; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. Casual further south (the upper Finke).

Status etc. Visitor (mid-July to early April). Common in northern third, south to Victoria River Downs, the upper Roper and lower McArthur; scarce in arid northern interior. Muddy and rocky shores, mangrove creeks, tidal sectors of rivers; less frequently freshwaters (lagoons, river-pools and floodwaters).

Tringa brevipes (Vieillot). Grey-tailed Tattler.

Range. North coast, from Darwin to the King; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Mainly rock platforms and rocky and gravelly shores; also mangrove creeks and estuaries.

Tringa incana (Gmelin). Wandering Tattler.

Status. Vagrant. One bird associated with *T. brevipes* at Fanny Bay, Darwin, on 21 October 1966, identified on calls (H.B. Gill, pers. comm.).

Arenaria interpres. Turnstone.

Arenaria interpres interpres (Linnaeus).

Range. North coast from Darwin to Melville Bay; also Melville Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Gravelly and sandy shores, islets and rock platforms.

Limnodromus semipalmatus (Blyth). Asian Dowitcher.

Status. Vagrant. Specimen collected at Darwin in October 1971 (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 112, 1972).

Gallinago hardwickii (Gray). Japanese Snipe.

Status uncertain. A specimen collected by Deignan near Darwin on 24 March 1948, presumably on northward passage.

Gallinago megala Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Snipe.

Range. Northern third of Territory [south to Lake Argyle, W.A. and Camooweal, Qld].

Status uncertain (because most snipe are virtually identifiable only in hand). Possibly a moderately common wet-season visitor. *Gallinago* are frequently seen in the Darwin and Marrakai districts from early November to early February, in freshwater and brackish swamps and sodden grasslands, but as Crawford (*Emu* 72: 140, 1972) points out, they could belong to *G. stenura* and other species, as well as *G. megala*.

Calidris canutus. Knot.

Calidris canutus canutus (Linnaeus).

Range. Northwest coast, in Darwin district; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (all months). Mainly coastal mudflats and sandy beaches; also rock platforms, but rarely inland swamps.

Calidris tenuirostris (Horsfield). Great Knot.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur; also Melville Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group (North and Vanderlin Islands).

Status etc. Visitor (all months). Very common about Darwin; moderately common elsewhere. Mainly coasts and estuaries; rarely near-coastal swamps.

Calidris alba (Pallas). Sanderling.

Range. Northwest coast, in Darwin district; Melville Island.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (all months). Sandy beaches.

Calidris ruficollis (Pallas). Red-necked Stint.

Range. Northern and eastern coasts, estuaries and coastal plains from Darwin to the McArthur, inland to Nourlangie and Oenpelli; also Melville

Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group (Vanderlin and Urquhart Islands).

Status etc. Common visitor (all months). Sandy, muddy and rocky shores, and near-coastal brackish swamps and salt pans; occasionally freshwater lagoons in dry season.

Calidris subminuta (Middendorff). Long-toed Stint.

Status uncertain. Apparently rare passage migrant. Three records (including a specimen) of one or two birds in early October (1971 and 1974) at brackish swamps and freshwater lagoons in Darwin district (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 146, 1976).

Calidris melanotos (Vieillot). Pectoral Sandpiper.

Range etc. Rare visitor (September to January) to coasts and freshwater lagoons around Darwin (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 139, 1972).

Calidris acuminata (Horsfield). Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.

Range. Northern and eastern coasts and coastal plains from Darwin to the McArthur; also Groote Eylandt. Casual or in passage further south.

Status etc. Visitor (July-May). Common from August to December on northwestern coastal plains between the Daly and Oenpelli, mainly in swamps, around lagoons and salt pans, and on damp short-grass flats. In wet season generally scarce (observed in Darwin district and on grassy flats and swamps about the lower Roper and Elliott and Banka Banka). Recorded during southward passage (late September-early October) at Avon Downs, Alice Springs sewage ponds and Ayers Rock, and in northward passage (March-April) on reefs and beaches in Darwin area.

Calidris ferruginea (Pontoppidan). Curlew Sandpiper.

Range. North and east coasts and coastal plains from Darwin to the Roper; also Melville Island. Casual or in passage further south (Avon Downs and Alice Springs sewage ponds).

Status etc. Visitor (all months). Uncommon to moderately common from September to November; mainly on muddy and sandy coasts and near-coastal brackish swamps; rarely freshwater lagoons. Scarce in wet season. Locally common (e.g. on Melville Island) during northward passage in April, but generally scarce.

Limicola falcinellus (Pontoppidan). Broad-billed Sandpiper.

Limicola falcinellus sibiricus Dresser.

Range etc. Uncommon visitor (mid-August to early May) to Darwin district and Melville Island. Preferring 'areas of soft mud, especially on seaward side of mangroves' (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 139, 1972).

Philomachus pugnax (Linnaeus). Ruff (Reeve).

Status. Vagrant. Solitary birds observed at freshwater swamp and on coast in Darwin district in September and November 1974 (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 146, 1976).

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Himantopus himantopus (Linnaeus). Black-winged Stilt.

Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus Gould.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Brunchilly and Tobermorey; also in south at Alice Springs. Casual further south (Petermann Ranges and the Finke).

Status etc. Common on northwestern coastal plains (between Darwin and Oenpelli) and on riverine plains of the lower Daly and the Roper; scarce or uncommon elsewhere. Mainly freshwater lagoons and swamps; also river-pools and near-coastal saltpans and brackish swamps. Becoming established on Alice Springs sewage ponds *ca* 1965. Some withdrawal from coastal plains in wet season and from semiarid northern interior in dry. Breeding in March (far north) and spring (Alice Springs).

Recurvirostra novaehollandiae Vieillot. Red-necked Avocet.

Range. Arid eastern interior: Barkly Tableland and Lake Eyre drainages, north nearly to Elliott (Tundi-eji Waterhole), Brunette Downs, Alexandria and [Camooweal, Qld]. Casual on northern coastal plains (about the lower Adelaide and lower Roper].

Status etc. Nomadic. Common in south in wet years, e.g. 1967-68, but generally scarce; visiting far north only in dry season (July-October). Freshwater lagoons, swamps and river-pools. Breeding in winter 1967 at Alice Springs sewage ponds and (?) at Old Andado (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 64, 1969).

PHALAROPODIDAE

Phalaropus lobatus (Linnaeus). Red-necked Phalarope.

Status. Accidental. Several birds seen on Darwin shores and creeks and one dying bird collected in January 1974 (during period of northwesterly gales), and one observed at Darwin sewage works in March 1974 (McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 45, 1975).

BURHINIDAE

Burhinus grallarius (Latham). Bush Stone-curlew.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common in northern subhumid and semiarid zones south to Larrimah and Borroloola; uncommon to moderately common in southern highlands north to Wauchope; elsewhere (including Barkly Tableland and deserts) scarce or absent. Well-drained, often stony, lightly wooded grasslands in vicinity of denser vegetation (including mangroves) suitable for day-time shelter. Breeding from August to November.

Esacus magnirostris (Vieillot). Beach Stone-curlew.

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Isle Woodah, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Uncommon. Rock platforms, islets, sandy and rocky shores; occasionally coastal dunes and mudflats. Undated reports of eggs from Port Essington and Port Keats.

GLAREOLIDAE

Stiltia isabella (Vieillot). Australian Pratincole.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Gordon Downs, W.A.], Tennant Creek and Avon Downs. Casual in southern highlands (Aileron, Alcoota, Alice Springs and the upper Finke).

Status etc. Irregular migrant; occurrence and numbers generally depending on local rainfall (the lack of it in north, and its heaviness and duration in centre and south). In dry season (June-October) normally common on northwestern coastal plains from Darwin to Oenpelli, about bare margins of drying swamps and lagoons, and on dry sedge-plains and short-grass

flats (including airfields and golf courses); scarce or uncommon elsewhere in far north (e.g. Melville Island and Cobourg and Gove Peninsulas) and about water in northern interior (south to Newcastle Waters, Brunette Downs and Alexandria). At height of wet season and immediately afterwards (mid-December to late April) absent from northern subhumid zone, uncommon in northern semiarid zone (e.g. at Victoria River Downs), and locally very common on Barkly Tableland. Usually returning to dry-season quarters in March-May, but in some years, e.g. 1971, failing to reappear in Darwin area (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 140, 1972). Breeding in April and May.

Glareola maldivarum Forster. Oriental Pratincole.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Daly Waters and Alexandria. Vagrant in south (Alice Springs).

Status etc. Visitor (early November to early April). Very common in some years; scarce or absent in others. Apparently arriving just ahead of cyclonic fronts that bring in wet season; most numerous in November and December, in flocks of up to 10 000 birds. Apparently leaving at onset of heavy continuous rain in late December or early January (at any rate, seldom reported after mid-January). Open sparsely vegetated plains (including airfields), especially in vicinity of water.

LARIDAE

Larus novaehollandiae. Silver Gull.

Larus novaehollandiae forsteri (Mathews).

Range. Northern coasts and islets; also Melville Island, Goulburn Islands and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Locally common, e.g. on Groote Eylandt, but generally uncommon. Mainly blue-water seas off rocky and sandy coasts and islands; seldom in estuaries. Breeding on Haul Round Island and in Melville Bay; presumably June.

Taxonomy. After comparing it with topotypes, Deignan identified his Groote Eylandt specimen as *L. n. forsteri*, a subspecies whose separability is questioned by Frith & Hitchcock (*CSIRO Aust. Div. Wildl. Res. Tech. Pap.* No. 28: 139, 1974).

Larus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae Stephens.

Range. Eastern interior: Lake Eyre drainage, north to MacDonald Downs and west to Mt Ebenezer.

Status etc. Visitor from southeastern Australia (including a bird banded as a runner on Five Islands, N.S.W.), mainly during and immediately following wet season. Locally common in wet year 1967, but generally rare. Shallow muddy swamps inhabited by the freshwater crustacean *Triops*; casual on sewage ponds and river-pools.

[*Larus dominicanus* Lichtenstein. Dominican Gull.

Status uncertain. Two large black-backed gulls at Melville Bay on 27 October 1974 were identified by Boekel (*Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 162, 1976) as *L. dominicanus*, but nothing in his description and photographs precludes certain Palearctic species.]

Anous stolidus (Linnaeus). Common Noddy.

Anous stolidus pileatus (Scopoli).

Status uncertain. Resident or dry-season visitor in far northeast, where recorded off the Wessel Islands by Howe & Dodd (*Emu* 73: 140, 1973) and D.L. Serventy (pers. comm.). Blown ashore at Darwin by north-westerly gales in January 1973 and 1974 (McKean & Gray, *Emu* 73: 184, 1973; McKean *et al.*, *Aust. Bird Watcher* 6: 45, 1975).

Sterna nilotica Gmelin. Gull-billed Tern.

Sterna nilotica macrotarsa Gould.

Range etc. Scarce to moderately common dry-season visitor (June-November) to northern coasts and coastal plains from the lower Victoria to Groote Eylandt, inland to Adelaide River, Nourlangie and Oenpelli, mainly in sheltered bays and estuaries and on near-coastal saltpans and brackish swamps; also freshwater lagoons. Rare wet-season visitor (January-July) to eastern interior, north to Newcastle Waters and west to Alice Springs, on floodwaters, shallow swamps and sewage ponds.

Sterna caspia Pallas. Caspian Tern.

Range. Northern coasts and coastal plains from Darwin to Melville Bay, inland to Humpty Doo and Oenpelli; also Maria Island. Casual on Barkly Tableland (Lake Woods and Brunette Downs).

Status etc. Dry-season visitor (April-December). Locally common near Darwin (Lee Point) but generally scarce. Mainly sheltered coasts and estuaries and near-coastal brackish swamps; rarely freshwater lagoons.

Sterna bergii Lichtenstein. Crested Tern.

Range. All coasts, including Melville Island, Wessel Islands, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Very common in blue-water seas off sandy and rocky coasts and islands; moderately common in muddy bays but not estuaries. Breeding in great numbers on small islands off north and east coasts: Sandy No. 2 (Port Essington), Haul Round, Sandy (Boucaut Bay), Low Rock (between Groote Eylandt and mouth of the Roper), and Sir Edward Pellew Group (North Island and Urquhart Islet); April and May and (?) November.

Sterna bengalensis Lesson. Lesser Crested Tern.

Status uncertain. Apparently uncommon visitor or resident along northwest coast between Quail Island and Port Essington, and uncommon winter visitor (April-June) to northeastern seas from Boucaut Bay to Groote Eylandt.

Sterna dougallii Montagu. Roseate Tern.

Sterna dougallii gracilis Gould.

Range. North coast and islands from Braithwaite Point east to Cumberland Strait.

Status etc. Uncommon winter visitor (April-October), usually associated with *S. sumatrana* in blue-water seas.

Sterna hirundo Linnaeus. Common Tern.

Sterna hirundo longipennis Nordmann.

Range. Northwest coast from Darwin to the East Alligator.

Status etc. Uncommon summer visitor (early November to late April). Muddy estuaries and coasts; also near-coastal brackish swamps. See Crawford (*Emu* 72: 140, 1972) and Schodde & Mason (*Emu* 74: 104, 1974).

Sterna sumatrana Raffles. Black-naped Tern.

Range. Northeast coast from Boucaut Bay to Cape Shield; also Wessel Islands, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common visitor (mainly August-October). Blue-water seas off rocky and sandy coasts and islands.

Sterna anaethetus. Bridled Tern.

Sterna anaethetus anaethetus Scopoli.

Range. North coast from Port Essington to Truant Island; also Sir Edward Pellew Group. Accidental at Darwin.

Status etc. Moderately common. Blue-water seas. Breeding on Haul Round Island (June and July) and in Sir Edward Pellew Group (October). Blown ashore at Darwin during northwesterly gales in 1973 and 1974.

Sterna fuscata Linnaeus. Sooty Tern.

Sterna fuscata nubilosa Sparrman.

Status. Accidental in northwest. During northwesterly gales in February 1973 and January 1974 several birds were blown ashore at Darwin, and a bird that had been banded in the Seychelles (*Aust. Bird Bander* 13: 17, 1975) was found at Edith River.

Sterna hybrida Pallas. Whiskered Tern.

Sterna hybrida fluviatilis (Gould).

Range etc. Moderately common visitor (mainly in dry season, rarely January-April) to northwestern seas, coasts and coastal plains from the East Alligator west to Peron Islands and the Daly, inland to Oenpelli, Nourlangie, Humpty Doo and Red Lily Lagoon, on freshwater lagoons and sheltered seas (especially Darwin Harbour). Rare visitor (October) to the valley of the Roper upstream nearly to Elsey (Little Red Lily Lagoon). Uncommon visitor (mainly in wet season) to swamps, river-pools and bore-drains on the Barkly Tableland from Banka Banka east to Alexandria; unconfirmed report of breeding on Brunette Creek.

Sterna leucoptera Temminck. White-winged Black Tern.

Range. Northwestern coastal plains from the South Alligator southwest to the Victoria, inland to Nourlangie, Humpty Doo and Victoria River Depot.

Status etc. Summer visitor (October-April). Flocks of more than 300 birds at Humpty Doo in late December 1970 'at time of floods in Malayan region' (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 140, 1972), but generally scarce. Freshwater lagoons. (Winter records presumably based on *S. hybrida*.)

Sterna sinensis Gmelin. Little Tern.

Range. North coast from Darwin to Melville Bay; also Melville Island, Wessel Islands, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Summer visitor (September-June), presumably from Palaearctic. Common in passage (October-November and March-April); uncommon at height of wet season (December-March). Mainly along coasts, especially islands; rarely on near-coastal brackish swamps.

COLUMBIDAE

Ptilinopus cinctus (Temminck). Black-banded Pigeon.

Ptilinopus cinctus alligator (Collett).

Range. Far northern interior: western escarpment and outliers of Arnhem Land plateau from Oenpelli south to the head of the South Alligator, west to Mt Brockman and El Sherana.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly monsoon forest in gorges; occasionally visiting *Ficus* spp. and other fruiting trees on adjacent plateau and in open forest on plains up to 10 km west of escarpment. Breeding from May to July (Frith, *Emu* 72: 14, 1972).

Ptilinopus regina Swainson. Red-crowned Pigeon.

Ptilinopus regina ewingii Gould.

Range. West and north coasts and islets from Port Keats to Port Bradshaw, inland in wet northwest corner to Coomalie Creek and Nourlangie; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. (Record from Sir Edward Pellew Group requires confirmation.)

Status etc. Common. Monsoon forest, vine thickets, closed waterside forests, mangroves, and fruiting trees in open forest. Breeding (mainly in mangroves, paperbarks and eucalypts) from November to March.

Ducula spilorrhoa. Torres Strait Pigeon.

Ducula spilorrhoa spilorrhoa (Gray).

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to Pearce Point, Katherine, Mataranka, the lower Limnen Bight River, Borroloola and (?) the lower Calvert; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly migratory, arriving (presumably from southern New Guinea) in late August or early September, and leaving in February or early March; a few birds wintering in far north. Monsoon forest, closed waterside forest, mangroves, and fruiting trees in open forest. Breeding south to the McArthur; September to January.

Geopelia humeralis (Temminck). Bar-shouldered Dove.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Camfield, Larrimah, McArthur River Station and the Nicholson; also Melville Island, Croker Island, Crocodile Islands, Truant Island, Groote Eylandt, Maria Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Very common on coasts and islets in all kinds of forest, woodland and thicket, including mangroves. Common inland but largely restricted to waterside forests and thickets. Breeding from August to June.

Geopelia striata (Linnaeus). Peaceful Dove.

Geopelia striata placida Gould.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Phillip Creek and Alexandria; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Very common in well-watered grassy woodlands of 75-100 cm rainfall zone. Less numerous, especially in wet season, towards north coast (i.e. stronghold of *G. humeralis*). Locally common (e.g. around Newcastle Waters) but generally scarce in drier parts of range (i.e. south of the Negri, Larrimah and the upper McArthur) and partly withdrawing in dry season. Breeding from September to June.

Geopelia cuneata (Latham). Diamond Dove.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but not far north coast or Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Nomadic. Moderately common to common in arid and semiarid zones north to the lower Victoria, upper Roper and middle McArthur, but withdrawing from more arid parts of range during dry season and droughts. Uncommon to moderately common dry-season visitor to far northern interior, north to Marrakai and Oenpelli; casual further north. Lightly wooded grasslands. Breeding north to the McArthur; January to March in north, April to August in south.

Chalcophaps indica (Linnaeus). Green-winged Pigeon.

Chalcophaps indica longirostris Gould.

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Port Bradshaw, extending inland along western escarpment of Arnhem Land plateau to Oenpelli and Nourlangie.

Status etc. Moderately common. Monsoon forest and vine thickets on coasts and islets and in sandstone gorges. Breeding in January, February and June.

Petrophassa albipennis. White-quilled Rock-pigeon.

Petrophassa albipennis albipennis Gould.

Range. Northwestern: about the lower Victoria, north to Blunder Bay, west to the Pinkerton Range, south to Jasper Gorge, and east to the Victoria River bridge.

Status etc. Common. Mainly sandstone cliffs. Breeding in May and October (Frith, *Emu* 72: 15, 1972).

Petrophassa rufipennis Collett. Chestnut-quilled Rock-pigeon.

Range. Far northern interior: Arnhem Land plateau and escarpment from Oenpelli south to Katherine Gorge.

Status etc. Very common. Mainly sandstone cliffs. Breeding in June and July.

Phaps chalcoptera (Latham). Common Bronzewing.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but not wet northwest corner (north of Batchelor and Patonga) or sandy deserts: also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt, Maria Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common in northern semiarid zone, and about southern ranges in good years, e.g. 1967; scarce on far north coast (including Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula) and on Barkly Tableland. Mainly wattle and teatree thickets in north, mainly mulga in south. Breeding from July to September.

Phaps histrionica (Gould). Flock Pigeon.

Range etc. Highly nomadic. Normally common on open black-soil grasslands of Barkly Tableland northwest to the Sturt Plain and on similar grasslands about Sturt Creek [including the Denison Plains of Western Australia], spreading in good years to temporarily favourable parts of adjacent semi-deserts and to plains about the Sandover and the Georgina. Less frequently and in smaller numbers in much of remainder of Territory but not on far north coast or in heavily wooded country or sandy deserts. Breeding in June and October. See Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 65, 1969).

Geophaps smithii. Partridge Pigeon.

Geophaps smithii smithii (Jardine & Selby).

Range. Formerly northern third of Territory, south to [Cockatoo Springs, W.A.], Victoria River Depot, Mataranka and the upper McArthur.

Status etc. Formerly common in well-watered, but well-drained, grassy woodlands and open forests, but now either greatly reduced in numbers or extinct in much of former range. Still locally common in rough country about the East and South Alligator and east of Pine Creek; scarce on Cobourg Peninsula; rare in Darwin district. No recent records from the Keep, Victoria, lower Daly, Katherine, King, Roper and McArthur drainages. Breeding in May, June, September and December.

Geophaps plumifera. Plumed Pigeon.

Geophaps plumifera plumifera Gould.

Range. Northwestern semiarid zone (mainly Ord and Victoria drainages), north to Joseph Bonaparte Gulf, east to the lower King and Top Springs, and south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.] and Wave Hill. Northeastern semiarid zone (Carpentaria drainage), north to the middle Roper (Red Hill, near Leichhardt Bar), Borroloola and the Nicholson (China Wall), and south and west to the head of the McArthur and to 'Alexandria' (presumably the Mittlebah Range). Hills and ranges of central and southern arid zone: north to Renner Springs; east to Brunchilly, Mt Rugged, the Jervois Range, Arltunga and Maryvale; west to Mt Doreen, Central Mt Wedge, Thomas Reservoir and Lauries Creek; and south to the George Gill and Levi Ranges and the lower Finke (Crown Point); also in far east (Tobermorey) and far southwest (Ayers Rock, Petermann Ranges and [Rawlinson Range, W.A., and Mann and Musgrave Ranges, S.A.]).

Status etc. Locally common. Mainly in spinifex about water and rocks. Breeding from August to December and March to May.

Ocyphaps lophotes (Temminck). Crested Pigeon.

Range. Greater part of Territory north to the lower Victoria, Katherine, the lower Roper, Borroloola and Wollogorang, but not in sandy deserts.

Status etc. Common. Lightly wooded country. Breeding from July to September.

Originally restricted to the arid zone, this pigeon, as in eastern, southern and southwestern Australia, has steadily expanded into better-watered country since the European occupation. In 1886 the Gregory brothers did not meet with it until they had travelled south to lat. 17°41'S [37 km SW of Wave Hill] in the arid headwaters of the Victoria; at present it is

common throughout the Victoria drainage. On his trip to the Gulf of Carpentaria in 1911, Hill did not record it beyond the Lander [at 33 km SW of Willowra]. In 1922, on what is now the Stuart Highway, S.A. White last noted the Crested Pigeon at Newcastle Creek. By the late 1940s it was common at Daly Waters but rare further north (Birdum and Katherine). By the 1960s it was well established in the valley of the Roper from Mataranka downstream to Mt Roper (and also in the McArthur and Nicholson drainages and on the Barkly Tableland). See Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 116, 1970).

PSITTACIDAE

Trichoglossus haematodus (Linnaeus). Rainbow Lorikeet.

Trichoglossus haematodus rubritorquis Vigors & Horsfield.

Range. Northern third of Territory south to the Negri, Victoria River Downs, the upper McArthur and the Nicholson; also Melville Island, Croker Island, Elcho Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Nomadic. Very common in wetter northern half of range (where it decidedly outnumbers *T. versicolor*); common in southern half. Visiting all wooded habitats in search of flowering trees, especially paperparks and other melaleucas, and *E. miniata*, *E. tetradonta* and other eucalypts; also *Erythrina*, *Bauhinia*, Loranthaceae and a red-flowering mangrove. Breeding from April to January.

Trichoglossus versicolor Lear. Varied Lorikeet.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Behn, Camfield, Dunmarra, the lower McArthur and the Nicholson; also Melville Island, Elcho Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Nomadic. Generally common, but locally scarce or absent for long periods (more variable in numbers and less regular in occurrence than *T. h. rubritorquis*). Visiting most wooded habitats (but not mangroves or monsoon forest) in search of flowering trees, especially eucalypts and paperbarks. Breeding in January and June.

Aprosmictus erythropterus (Gmelin). Red-winged Parrot.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Camfield, Dunmarra, the head of the McArthur, and Springvale; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group. Casual further south (Elliott).

Status etc. Nomadic. Moderately common. Visiting coastal and waterside thickets, edge of monsoon forest and other wooded habitats in search of shrubs and low trees with leguminous seeds (mainly *Acacia* spp.; but also Fabaceae, including cultivated soya beans), euphorbiaceous seeds, various berries and flowers (especially *Grevillea pteridifolia*). Breeding from August to February.

Polytelis alexandrae Gould. Princess Parrot.

Range. Southern half of Territory, north to Howells Ponds (16°55'S).

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Formerly scarce, now rare. Ordinarily dispersed in mulga, desert oaks (*Casuarina decaisneana*) and open shrubland. Nesting colonially in river gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) lining the larger watercourses (the Hale, the Hugh, and the Finke at Henbury and Crown Point); November. For the few records since 1946, see Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 65, 1969; *Emu* 71: 100, 1971).

Platycercus zonarius. Ringneck Parrot.

Platycercus zonarius macgillivrayi North.

Range etc. In August 1967 several birds seen and one collected near Springvale in northeastern interior (Dimpel, 1969).

Taxonomy. See Ford & Parker (*Emu* 74: 178, 1974).

Platycercus zonarius zonarius (Shaw).

Range. Southern two-thirds of Territory (mainly about hills and ranges): north normally to Banka Banka (exceptionally to Newcastle Waters); west to Tennant Creek, the Lander (Arragoona WH), southern edge of Tanami Desert (11 km NW of Chilla Well), Vaughan Springs, Mt Liebig, Kings Canyon, Basedow Range, Ayers Rock, Mt Olga, and Petermann Ranges; and east to Brunchilly, Hatches Creek, Ooratippra, Marqua, the Field (? subspecies), the upper Hale (Aralka Bore), East Creek and [Mt Dare, S.A.]. Also a possibly isolated population in northwestern interior: Buchanan Highway (at Western Australian border and 40 km west of Inverway) and [Gardiner Range, W.A.].

Status etc. Very common about larger southern ranges, e.g. the Petermanns and Macdonnells; moderately common elsewhere. Mainly river gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) along watercourses; also *E. intertexta*, *E. papuana*, *E. microtheca* and flowering corkwoods (*Hakea lorea* and *H. intermedia*) on adjacent alluvial flats, and mulga and desert oaks (*Casuarina decaisneana*). Breeding in river gums; July to September.

Platycercus venustus (Kuhl). Northern Rosella.

Range. Far north: south to Pearce Point, the King (southwest of Katherine), Whamelk Bluff and Cape Barrow; also Bathurst Island, Melville Island and Milingimbi Island. Far northeast: from the McArthur southeast to the Queensland border, inland to the Clyde and Springvale.

Status etc. Moderately common about small watercourses in hilly country; scarce or absent on the alluvial plains of the larger rivers. Open forests and woodlands of *Eucalyptus* and *Melaleuca*. Breeding from June to September.

Platycercus varius (Clark). Mulga Parrot.

Range. Southwestern: north to the Bonython Range, western Macdonnell Ranges and MacDonalld Downs; and east to the upper Hale (south of Numery) and [Ilbunga, S.A.].

Status etc. Moderately common, except in the arid country around the lower Finke. Lightly wooded country (mainly mulga; also *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *E. gamophylla* and *Casuarina decaisneana*). Breeding in autumn.

Platycercus chrysopterygius (Gould). Golden-shouldered Parrot.

Platycercus chrysopterygius dissimilis (Collett).

Range. Far northern interior: Pine Creek district (from Union Reef and Nellie Creek south to Edith River) and Mataranka district (from Maranboy south to Gorrie). Also recorded from the Daly (Forshaw) and lower McArthur (Barnard, *Emu* 14: 46, 1914).

Status etc. Moderately common in Pine Creek and Mataranka districts, and formerly 'fairly plentiful on the dry spinifex and stringybark ridges of the lower McArthur' (Barnard). Lightly wooded grasslands. Breeding in August and December.

Neophema splendida (Gould). Scarlet-breasted Parrot.

Range. Southwestern highlands: north to the Petermann Ranges, Ayers Rock and the northern foot of the Macdonnell Ranges (Hamilton Downs), and east to Undoolya, Angas Downs and Mulga Park;

Status uncertain, but clearly scarce. Possibly only visiting Territory in certain years (recorded in 1932, 1961, 1962, 1967, 1969 and 1974). Mulga. Breeding *ca* February.

Neophema bourkii (Gould). Bourke Parrot.

Range. Arid southern half of Territory, north to The Granites, Wauchope and Wonarah, and east to the western edge of the Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Common about southern ranges; scarce north of lat. 23°S; absent from sandy deserts. Mainly mulga. Breeding in November. As in Western Australia, it has greatly increased its range and numbers in the Territory over the last few decades (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 66, 1969).

Pezoporus occidentalis (Gould). Night Parrot.

Range. Southern highlands: north nearly to Barrow Creek (Stirling), east to Harts Range and Horseshoe Bend, and west to Mt Waber and Mt Conner.

Status etc. Formerly in spinifex about the Finke and Palmer, and near Alice Springs and Mt Conner, but no records from these areas since 1930 and now presumably extinct south of the Macdonnell Ranges. The only records since 1930 are from north of the Macdonnell Ranges: observations by Mr R. Darken (S.A. Parker, pers. comm.) at Harts Range twice in 1949, and report from Stirling (Beruldsen).

Taxonomy. For merging *Geopsittacus* in *Pezoporus*, see Ford (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 103, 1969).

Melopsittacus undulatus (Shaw). Budgerygah.

Range. Arid and semiarid zones, ordinarily north to the lower Victoria, Pine Creek, the lower Roper, Rosie Creek, McArthur River Station and the Nicholson. Further north during severe droughts.

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Highly variable in numbers. In arid zone very common in good years; during droughts generally scarce and locally absent (e.g. the Finke, 1952). In dry season (May-December) very common in semiarid zone north to Katherine. In extreme droughts (1905, 1952) reaching Darwin. Lightly wooded grasslands, especially of spinifex. Breeding north to Newcastle Waters and the head of the McArthur; November to January in north, April to August in south.

Nymphicus hollandicus (Kerr). Cockatiel.

Range. Greater part of Territory, north to Port Keats, Daly River Police Station, Batchelor, Mt Bundy Ranges, 7 km NE of Pine Creek, and the lower Roper (Leichhardt Bar).

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Uncommon to common in better-watered parts of arid zone, but scarce or absent in sandy deserts; partly or largely

vacating this zone in dry season and droughts. In dry season (April-November) common in semiarid northern interior, north to the lower Victoria, Pine Creek and the upper Roper; in recent decades appearing in increasing numbers north of Pine Creek, and in many years reaching Darwin (penetration of subhumid zone apparently facilitated by partial clearing and other habitat alterations along the Stuart Highway). Lightly wooded grasslands. Breeding in autumn.

Calyptrorhynchus magnificus (Shaw). Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.

Range. Northern half of Territory: south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Banka Banka, Alexandria, and [the upper Gregory, Qld]; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group. Southern highlands and rivers: north to the western Macdonnell Ranges, Barrow Creek, MacDonald Downs, Lucy Creek and Marqua; east to the western edge of the Simpson Desert (e.g. the Hale, 22 km S of Aralka Bore); west to Haasts Bluff and the George Gill Range; and south to Petermann Creek, Middleton Ponds and the lower Finke (Goyder Well).

Status in north. Nomadic. Generally common, but largely vacating subhumid zone in wet season (November-April), partly vacating semiarid zone at height of rains (January-February), and appearing in far south of range (Banka Banka and Alexandria) only during and following summer rains. In dry season occurring south to Inverway, Newcastle Waters (but otherwise infrequently south of Mataranka), the upper McArthur and the upper Calvert. Open forests and woodlands. Breeding in June and July.

Status in south. Common, especially about major watercourses (the Frazer, Hale, Todd, Hugh, Finke and Palmer). Mainly lightly wooded alluvial flats. Breeding from March to July.

Cacatua roseicapilla Vieillot. Galah.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from sandy deserts and much of far north coast (including Cobourg and Gove Peninsulas).

Status etc. Nomadic. Generally common in lightly wooded, well-watered country, but scarce or absent in southern half outside of cattle stations (e.g. Petermann Ranges). Largely vacating far northern subhumid zone in wet season (November-April), and partly vacating northern semiarid zone (e.g. Katherine and Victoria River Downs) at height of rains (January-February). Breeding north to the Roper; February to June and (?) August, September and November.

Before European settlement the Galah was absent from the southern third of the Territory (south of the Reynolds Range). This region was colonised in the third and fourth decades of this century, apparently via the Sandover and the Finke.

Cacatua tenuirostris (Kuhl). Corella.

Cacatua tenuirostris sanguinea Gould.

Range. Northern coasts and estuaries from the Victoria to the McArthur, extending inland via the alluvial plains of northwestern rivers to [Ord River Station, W.A.], Wave Hill, Top Springs, Eureka, Nourlangie and Oenpelli; also Melville Island, Goulburn Islands, Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island. Arid northwestern interior from the Buchanan Highway (between Inverway and Western Australian border) south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.] and Wilson Creek. Arid eastern interior, mainly the Barkly Tableland and Georgina drainage: north to Newcastle Waters, Anthony Lagoon and Carrara Creek; west to Banka Banka, Phillip Creek, Bonney Creek, Hatches Creek, Ammaroo and MacDonald Downs; and south to the upper Plenty (Huckitta Out-station) and upper Field (Aroota Bore). Casual further south (Alice Springs, Wallera and Cogan Creek).

Status etc. Uncommon to very common, locally in immense flocks. Mainly in open or lightly wooded grasslands (including ricefields) in vicinity of tree-lined watercourses and lagoons; also mangroves and sedge-plains. Breeding from June to October in north, and February to May in eastern interior.

Cacatua leadbeateri (Vigors). Pink Cockatoo.

Range. Arid western interior: north to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Hooker Creek and 35 km S of Elliott; east to the Davenport Range (16 km W of Hatches Creek), the upper Sandover (38 km WSW of Ammaroo), MacDonald Downs, beyond Harts Range (Entire Creek), Ooraminna and the lower Finke (New Crown). Casual further north (Timber Creek).

Status etc. Locally common, e.g. about Cockatoo Creek and the Palmer, but generally uncommon. Sparsely vegetated flats with large trees, e.g. *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *E. papuana*, *E. dichromophloia* and *Acacia estrophiolata*, usually not far from watercourses or bores; occasionally in sandplain and sandhill country. Breeding in May.

This species and *C. sanguinea* are largely allopatric in the Territory; for details and map, see Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 117, 1970).

Cacatua galerita (Latham). Sulphur-crested Cockatoo.

Cacatua galerita fitzroyi (Mathews).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [the Behn, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, the upper Roper, the upper McArthur and the Nicholson; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Relatively sedentary, but some withdrawal in wet season from wet northwest corner (Darwin, Adelaide River etc.). Uncommon to moderately common. Mainly riverside forests. Breeding from April to June and September to November.

Taxonomy. See Forshaw (*Emu* 67: 267, 1968).

CUCULIDAE

Cuculus saturatus Blyth. Oriental Cuckoo.

Range. Northern quarter of the Territory, south to Victoria River Downs and the lower Roper; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Scarce visitor (December-April). Open forest and monsoon forest.

Cuculus pallidus (Latham). Pallid Cuckoo.

Range. Northern half of Territory: north nearly to north coast (Koolpinyah and Oenpelli); south to Tanami, Phillip Creek and Alexandria; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt; but absent from far north coast (Cobourg Peninsula to Gove Peninsula) and from east coast north of the McArthur. Southwestern: north to the Kintore Range and Aileron; east to the Hale (22 km S of Aralka Bore) and Andado.

Status etc. Irregular migrant. Generally uncommon. Lightly wooded country, but not sandy deserts. In north recorded in all months, but in drier parts (e.g. Larrimah, Borroloola and Brunette Downs) mainly a wet-season visitor, with one breeding report (Brunette Downs, March). In southwest mainly recorded in May-September, but also January-February, with one breeding report (from the Finke).

Cuculus flabelliformis. Fantailed Cuckoo.

Cuculus flabelliformis flabelliformis Latham.

Status. Rare passage migrant (autumn and spring). One specimen from Groote Eylandt, and sight records from the Elliott district, Banka Banka, Barrow Creek and Macdonnell Ranges.

Cuculus variolosus. Brush Cuckoo.

Cuculus variolosus variolosus Vigors & Horsfield.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [the Negri, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Pine Creek, the lower Roper and middle McArthur; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. In dry season largely confined to coastal monsoon forests and mangroves. In wet season spreading to inland open forests and waterside forests. Breeding in wet season.

Chrysococcyx osculans (Gould). Black-eared Cuckoo.

Range. Far northern interior: north to Brocks Creek and the lower South Alligator; and south to [the Negri, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, the upper Roper and the McArthur. Southwestern highlands: north to the Petermann and western Macdonnell Ranges; east to Ellery Creek and Ayers Rock.

Status uncertain. Dated records from north fall in February, May, June, August, September, October and December; and from southwest in March, May, June and September. Scarce. Mainly waterside vegetation. Breeding on McMinns Creek; March.

Chrysococcyx basalis (Horsfield). Horsfield Bronze-cuckoo.

Range. Northern half of Territory: north to Darwin and Oenpelli; south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Tennant Creek, Wonarah and [the Toko Range, Qld]. Southwestern: north to beyond Lake Macdonald (23°10'S, 129°01'E) and to the western Macdonnell Ranges; east to Alice Springs and [the lower Finke, east of Abminga, S.A.].

Status etc. Mainly a scarce spring-summer visitor to north and an uncommon autumn-winter visitor to southwest. Most wooded habitats. Breeding north to the McArthur; summer in north, winter in south.

Chrysococcyx malayanus (Raffles). Little Bronze-cuckoo.

Chrysococcyx malayanus minutillus Gould.

Range. Northern and eastern coasts and coastal plains from Darwin to the McArthur, inland to Nourlangie; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly monsoon forest and mangroves; also wattle (*Acacia*) thickets and stringybark (*Eucalyptus tetrodonta*) forest. Breeding from November to March.

Eudynamys scolopacea (Linnaeus). Koel.

Eudynamys scolopacea subcyanocephala Mathews.

Range. Northern third of Territory: south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Larrimah and the McArthur; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Visitor, mainly arriving in late September or October and leaving in March, rarely straggling till May. Common. Monsoon forest, riverside forests, and fruiting trees in open forest. Breeding from December to February.

Scythrops novaehollandiae Latham. Channel-billed Cuckoo.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to Victoria River Downs, Mataranka, Brunette Downs and Alexandria; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status. Scarce visitor or passage migrant, arriving in October-December (exceptionally in August or September) and leaving in March-April.

Centropus phasianinus. Pheasant Coucal.

Centropus phasianinus phasianinus (Latham).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Spring Creek, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Warlock Ponds, McArthur River Station and the Nicholson; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt and the Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Relatively sedentary, but some withdrawal from seasonally dry places. Common. Long grass and thickets (especially of *Pandanus*) in open forest and woodlands; except in wet northwest corner, largely confined to vicinity of watercourses and swamps. Breeding from December to April.

Taxonomy. The small series in the Western Australian Museum supports Goodwin's suspicion (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions, 1962-70*, p.125) that *macrourus* Gould is not separable from the nominate race.

STRIGIDAE

Tyto alba (Scopoli). Barn Owl.

Tyto alba delicatula (Gould).

Range. Throughout the Territory.

Status etc. Nomadic. Moderately common. Lightly wooded country.
Breeding from April to June.

Tyto novaehollandiae. Masked Owl.

Tyto novaehollandiae novaehollandiae (Stephens).

Range. Far northwest: south to the Daly and Brocks Creek, and east to the South Alligator; also Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula. Also on the McArthur (identification of immature specimen from McArthur River Station kindly confirmed by A.R. McEvey).

Status etc. Scarce. Riverside forests and *Melaleuca* swamps. Breeding in June.

Tyto capensis (Smith). Grass Owl.

Tyto capensis longimembris (Jerdon).

Status uncertain (? resident or non-breeding visitor from Asia). Two northern records: specimen from the Victoria (6 April 1895) and observation in long grass at Humpty Doo on 12 February 1968 (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 142, 1972).

Ninox rufa. Rufous Owl.

Ninox rufa rufa (Gould).

Range. Far northern subhumid zone: from the Cobourg Peninsula and Tipperary district (Blackfellow Creek) east to Melville Bay; inland to Brocks Creek, the upper Mary and upper South Alligator. (Observations from the semiarid zone, i.e. the Roper and the McArthur, require confirmation.)

Status etc. Monsoon forest, riverside forests and mangroves.

Ninox connivens. Barking Owl.

Ninox connivens connivens (Latham).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, the Strangways (east of Larrimah), the upper McArthur and [upper Gregory, Qld].

Status etc. Common. Mainly waterside forests, especially of *Melaleuca* spp.
Breeding in August and September.

Ninox novaeseelandiae (Gmelin). Boobook Owl.

Ninox novaeseelandiae boobook (Latham).

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from sandy deserts; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. All wooded habitats. Breeding in September and January.

PODARGIDAE

Podargus strigoides. Tawny Frogmouth.

Podargus strigoides phalaenoides Gould.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Banka Banka and Alexandria; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Most wooded habitats. Breeding from August to February.

Podargus strigoides strigoides (Latham).

Range. Southern highlands, north to the Kintore Range, Haasts Bluff and MacDonald Downs.

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. in the Hermannsburg district), but generally uncommon. Breeding in winter and spring.

AEGOTHELIDAE

Aegotheles cristatus (White). Crested Owlet-nightjar.

Aegotheles cristatus subspp.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Uncommon. Lightly wooded country, but not sandy deserts. Breeding from September to January.

Taxonomy. The records, perhaps fortuitously, comprise a northern group, south to Tanami, Tennant Creek and Soudan, and a southwestern group, north to the Kintore Range, Central Mt Wedge and Coniston, and east to Alice Springs and [Abminga, S.A.]. It is uncertain whether these groups correspond respectively to the subspecies *A. c. leucogaster* Gould and *A. c. cristatus*.

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Eurostopodus guttatus (Vigors & Horsfield). Spotted Nightjar.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Generally common. but absent from sandy deserts, and only a scarce winter visitor to far northern coastal plains. Open or lightly

wooded, well-drained country, especially stony rises. Breeding north to Adelaide River; April, October and December.

Caprimulgus macrurus. Large-tailed Nightjar.

Caprimulgus macrurus macrurus Horsfield.

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Yirrkala; also Quail Island, Melville Island and Milingimbi Island.

Status etc. Common. Open or lightly wooded country in vicinity of dense daytime shelter (monsoon forest, vine scrub, bamboo thicket, mangroves and eucalypt forest). Breeding in October.

APODIDAE

Hirundapus caudacutus. Spine-tailed Swift.

Hirundapus caudacutus caudacutus (Latham).

Status. Rare visitor or passage migrant (November-January). A specimen from Alice Springs and an acceptable sight record from Darwin. (Other observations seem referable to *Apus* and *Glareola*.)

Apus pacificus. Forktailed Swift.

Apus pacificus pacificus (Latham).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Banka Banka; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Visitor and passage migrant (mid-October to late April). Moderately common. Attracted to thunder storms. Largely vacating far northern subhumid zone at height of rains (January-February).

ALCEDINIDAE

Alcedo azurea Latham. Azure Kingfisher.

Alcedo azurea ruficollaris (Bankier).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Ord River Station, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, the upper Roper, the McArthur, and [the upper Gregory, Qld]; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mangrove creeks and tree-lined river-pools; occasionally paperbark swamps, lagoons and dams. Breeding from November to April.

Alcedo pusilla Temminck. Little Kingfisher.

Alcedo pusilla ramsayi (North).

Range. West and north coasts from Anson Bay to Howard Island; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Locally common but generally scarce. Small tidal creeks and occasionally small near-coastal freshwater streams, heavily screened with mangroves or monsoon forest.

Dacelo leachii. Blue-winged Kookaburra.

Dacelo leachii leachii Vigors & Horsfield.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Camfield, Daly Waters, the head of the McArthur, and the Carrara Range; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common in subhumid zone, mainly in open eucalypt forest, occasionally in monsoon forest and mangroves. Less numerous south of Pine Creek and largely confined to riverside forests. Breeding from September to December.

Halcyon macleayii. Forest Kingfisher.

Halcyon macleayii macleayii Jardine & Selby.

Range. Northern subhumid zone, south to Port Keats, Fountain Head, El Sherana and Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Mainly open eucalypt forest, especially near water; also monsoon forest, mangroves and paperbark swamps. Breeding from September to November.

Halcyon pyrrhopygia Gould. Red-rumped Kingfisher.

Range. Greater part of the Territory; also Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Generally moderately common, but scarce or absent on far north coast and in sandy deserts. Some withdrawal from far northern subhumid zone in wet season. Lightly wooded country. Breeding north to Marrakai; September to January.

Halcyon sancta. Sacred Kingfisher.

Halcyon sancta sancta Vigors & Horsfield.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Attack Creek, Alexandria and [the upper Gregory, Qld]; also Melville Island and

Groote Eylandt. Casual further south (Tennant Creek, MacDonalD Downs, Alice Springs and Chirnside Creek).

Status etc. Migratory. Common. Confined in winter to northern coasts and coastal plains; mainly in mangroves, but also in paperbark swamps, about river-pools and in open forest. Moving south and inland in September-November to tree-lined river-pools in semiarid and arid zones, returning to winter quarters in March-May. Breeding north to Katherine and south to Banka Banka; December and January.

Halcyon chloris (Boddaert). Mangrove Kingfisher.

Halcyon chloris sordida Gould.

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Yirrkala; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly mangroves, occasionally adjacent monsoon forest. Undated breeding report from Melville Island.

MEROPIDAE

Merops ornatus Latham. Black-tailed Bee-eater.

Range. Greater part of Territory (but not sandy deserts); also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Truant Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island.

Status etc. Migratory. In winter (April to August) very common in far northern subhumid zone and moderately common in northern semiarid zone (south to the Negri, Larrimah and the McArthur), mainly about coastal and estuarine mangroves and tree-lined river-pools; casual in northern sector of arid zone, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Phillip Creek and Soudan. From late August to October spreading into northern open forests and to tree-lined watercourses throughout arid zone; largely vacating subhumid zone (south to Pine Creek) at height of rains; returning to winter quarters in February-March. Breeding north to Darwin; September to December.

CORACIIDAE

Eurystomus orientalis (Linnaeus). Dollar-bird.

Eurystomus orientalis pacificus (Latham).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, 33 km S of Larrimah, and the McArthur; also Melville

Island, Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt and the Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common visitor, arriving in September-November and leaving in March-May. Mainly in tall trees lining river-pools and lagoons. Breeding from October to December.

PITTIDAE

Pitta iris Gould. Rainbow Pitta.

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Port Bradshaw, inland in wet northwest corner to Adelaide River, Deaf Adder Creek and Oenpelli; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly coastal and near-coastal monsoon forests; also closed forests and bamboo thickets along watercourses, *Melaleuca* and other scrubs in sandstone gorges, and mangroves. Breeding from November to March.

ALAUDIDAE

Mirafra javanica Horsfield. Singing Bushlark.

Range. Subhumid northwest, from Darwin east to Oenpelli and inland to Eureka; also Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula. Semiarid and arid northwestern interior: Ord, Victoria and Sturt Creek drainages, from the Pinkerton Range and Victoria River bridge, south to Inverway and Wave Hill. Semiarid and arid northeastern interior: Roper and McArthur drainages from Warlock Ponds and Mt Roper southeast to Balbirini and Borroloola; and the Barkly Tableland from Newcastle Waters, Anthony Lagoon and Gallipoli, south to Brunchilly, Frewena, Soudan and Avon Downs. (Record from Tanami requires confirmation.)

Status etc. Very common in open grasslands of northern arid zone (Barkly Tableland and about the Negri and Sturt Creek). Uncommon to moderately common in lightly wooded grasslands of semiarid and subhumid zones. Breeding from November to March.

HIRUNDINIDAE

Cheramoeca leucosterna (Gould). White-backed Swallow.

Range. Southern third of Territory, north to beyond Lake Macdonald (23° 10'S, 129° 10'E), Willowra, Morphett Creek, MacDonalld Downs, the Jervois Range and Marqua.

Status etc. Locally common but generally scarce. Mainly about the larger watercourses. Breeding north to Alice Springs; August and September.

Hirundo rustica Linnaeus. Barn Swallow.

Hirundo rustica gutturalis Scopoli.

Status. Rare summer visitor to far north. Three sight records of single birds in Darwin area, 29 October to 14 December 1971 (Crawford, *Emu* 72: 143, 1972).

Hirundo neoxena Gould. Welcome Swallow.

Range. Far south, mainly about the Finke: north to the Macdonnell Ranges; east to Alice Springs, Andado and [Mt Dare, S.A.]; and west to Glen Helen, Hermannsburg, Henbury and Charlotte Waters.

Status. Rare winter visitor (April-August).

Hirundo nigricans. Tree Martin.

Hirundo nigricans nigricans Vieillot.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Victoria River Downs, Eley and the middle McArthur; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Non-breeding visitor, mainly arriving in late March-April and leaving in September-November. Generally common in far northern subhumid zone; uncommon in northern semiarid zone. Along beaches, over lagoons and grasslands, and in open forest.

Taxonomy. Frith and Hitchcock's measurements of specimens from Cobourg Peninsula and Sir Edward Pellew Group (*CSIRO Aust. Div. Wildl. Res. Tech. Pap.* No. 28: 156, 1974) indicate that these birds come from southwestern Australia.

Hirundo ariel (Gould). Fairy Martin.

Range. Mainly western: north to Darwin; and east to the Katherine Gorge, the lower Roper, the McArthur, Morphet Creek and Andado.

Status etc. Nomadic or irregularly migratory, appearing in far north mainly in winter when it is scarce or absent in southern half. Uncommon. Mainly in open country about water. Breeding from September to December.

MOTACILLIDAE

Anthus novaeseelandiae (Gmelin). Richard's Pipit.

Anthus novaeseelandiae australis Vieillot.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to Pine Creek and the lower Roper; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group. Southern half of Territory: north to Newcastle Waters and the head of the McArthur; and east to Anthony Lagoon, Tarlton Downs and the Hale.

Status etc. Scarce to moderately common. In north largely confined in wet season to bare or short-grass flats around coastal salt pans and brackish swamps; in dry season in most lightly wooded, sparsely grassed habitats. In south on sparsely vegetated plains, especially about hills and ranges. Breeding in April in north, presumably later in south.

Motacilla flava Linnaeus. Yellow Wagtail.

Motacilla flava tschutschensis Gmelin.

Range etc. Uncommon wet-season visitor (December-February) to far northwest. Short-grass flats about water (Harrisons Dam and Fogg Dam). See Crawford (*Emu* 72: 143, 1972).

Taxonomy. See Crawford & Parker (*Emu* 71: 142, 1971).

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

Coracina maxima (Rüppell). Ground Cuckoo-shrike.

Range. Arid and semiarid zones north to Newry, Victoria River Downs, Daly Waters, Anthony Lagoon, Alexandria and Avon Downs. Casual further north (Mataranka and Humpty Doo).

Status etc. Nomadic. Locally common (e.g. at Alice Springs and about the Lander and lower Finke) but generally scarce or uncommon. Sparsely vegetated plains. Breeding north to Elliott and Brunette Downs; November to March, also May and June in south.

Coracina novaehollandiae. Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike.

Coracina novaehollandiae novaehollandiae (Gmelin).

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt, Maria Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Common. All kinds of wooded country, but rarely in closed forests and absent from sandy deserts. Breeding from October to January.

Coracina papuensis (Gmelin). Little Cuckoo-shrike.

Coracina papuensis hypoleuca (Gould).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [the Behn, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Larrimah, the upper McArthur, and Springvale; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common in far north in all kinds of forest and woodland, including monsoon forest and mangroves; uncommon in drier half of range and largely confined to waterside forests. Breeding in December and January.

Coracina tenuirostris. Cicadabird.

Coracina tenuirostris tenuirostris (Jardine).

Range. Far northern coasts and coastal plains from Darwin and Cape Don east to Yirrkala and inland to Manton River; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Scarce. Mainly paperbark and other waterside forests; also mangroves and adjacent monsoon forest.

Taxonomy. See Storr *et al.* (*Wildl. Res. Bull. West. Aust.* 3: 78, 1975).

Lalage sueurii (Vieillot). White-winged Triller.

Lalage sueurii tricolor (Swainson).

Range. Greater part of Territory, but not the Simpson Desert; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands, Truant Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island.

Status etc. Irregular migrant in northern half, largely vacating subhumid zone in wet season and arid zone (e.g. Banka Banka) in winter; apparently nomadic in south. Common. Lightly wooded country. Breeding north to Victoria River Downs, Larrimah and the McArthur; October to February in north, winter in south.

Lalage leucomela (Vigors & Horsfield). Varied Triller.

Lalage leucomela rufiventris (Gray).

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Yirrkala, inland in wet northwest corner to Adelaide River and Nourlangie; also Melville Island, Truant Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Monsoon forest, mangroves, riverside forests and other dense vegetation. Breeding in December and January.

PACHYCEPHALIDAE

Microeca flavigaster Gould. Lemon-breasted Flycatcher.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to Victoria River Downs, Warlock Ponds and the McArthur; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common in far north in all kinds of wooded country, including mangroves; scarce or uncommon south of Adelaide River and confined to waterside vegetation. Breeding from September to November and (?) January.

Microeca leucophaea. Brown Flycatcher.

Microeca leucophaea leucophaea (Latham).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Tanami, Coniston, Bonney Creek and [Camooweal, Qld], but not in wet northwest corner (north of Marrakai and Patonga, and west of the King).

Status etc. Common in semiarid zone; scarce or absent in subhumid and arid zones (i.e. north of Pine Creek and south of Dunmarra). Lightly wooded country. Breeding from August to December.

Petroica goodenovii (Vigors & Horsfield). Red-capped Robin.

Range etc. Moderately common in mulga and other shrubs and low trees in southwest, north to the Kintore Range, Coniston and Barrow Creek, and east to Alice Springs and Horseshoe Bend. Scarce winter visitor further north (north to Phillip Creek and Alexandria). Breeding from July to September.

Petroica cucullata (Latham). Hooded Robin.

Range. Greater part of Territory, north to Batchelor, Nourlangie, the lower Goyder and lower Roper; also Melville Island and Cobourg Peninsula (Port Essington); absent from Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Moderately common in arid zone, north to Dunmarra, mainly in *Acacia* scrubs (mulga, gidgea, lancewood and ironwood); scarce and patchily distributed in northern semiarid and subhumid zones. Breeding in July and August in south, and December in north.

Eopsaltria pulverulenta (Bonaparte). Mangrove Robin.

Eopsaltria pulverulenta leucura Gould.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the McArthur; including Melville Island and Bickerton Island.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mangroves. Breeding in October.

Poecilodryas cerviniventris (Gould). Buff-sided Robin.

Range. Northern interior: north to the Daly, Batchelor, Marrakai, Jim Jim, El Sherana, Mt Roper, St Vidgen and Borrooloola; and south to Auvergne, Victoria River Depot, the Strangways (east of Larrimah), the middle McArthur, and Springvale.

Status etc. Moderately common. Waterside thickets, especially of pandanus and bamboo. Breeding from October to March.

Pachycephala caledonica (Gmelin). Golden Whistler.

Pachycephala caledonica melanura Gould.

Range. Northern coasts south to the Daly and the McArthur; also Melville Island, Truant Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Locally moderately common but generally scarce. Mangroves; also dry-land thickets on small islands. Breeding in January.

Pachycephala rufiventris. Rufous Whistler.

Pachycephala rufiventris rufiventris (Latham).

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island, Bickerton Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Mainly open eucalypt forests and woodlands in northern subhumid and semiarid zones; mainly *Acacia* scrubs (mulga, gidgea and lancewood) in arid zone, but absent from sandy deserts. Breeding from September to February.

Pachycephala lanioides. White-breasted Whistler.

Pachycephala lanioides lanioides Gould.

Range. Northwest coast, about Darwin and on Melville Island. East coast, at mouth of the Roper and of Bing Bong Creek.

Status etc. Common within its small broken range. Mangroves.

Pachycephala simplex. Grey (Brown) Whistler.

Pachycephala simplex simplex Gould.

Range. West and north coasts from Port Keats to Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Mangroves, monsoon forest and paperbark swamps. Breeding from December to February.

Colluricincla megarhyncha (Quoy & Gaimard). Little Shrike-thrush.

Colluricincla megarhyncha parvula Gould.

Range. North and east coasts from Darwin to the Roper, inland in wet northwest corner to Coomalie Creek, Deaf Adder Creek and Oenpelli; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Monsoon forest, closed riverside forests, mangroves, and vine thickets in sandstone gorges. Breeding in January and February.

Colluricincla woodwardi Hartert. Sandstone (Brown-breasted) Shrike-thrush.

Range. Northwestern interior: Pinkerton and Stokes Ranges. Far northern interior: from the lower King south to the lower Roper (Mt Roper); west to Oenpelli, Deaf Adder Creek and El Sherana; eastern limits unknown. Northeastern interior: McArthur drainage (from Mallapunyah and the Clyde downstream to Borroloola) and the Nicholson drainage (Border Waterhole).

Status etc. Moderately common. Cliffs, screes and boulders of rugged sandstone ranges. Breeding from October to January.

Colluricincla harmonica. Grey (Brown) Shrike-thrush.

Colluricincla harmonica harmonica (Latham).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Dunmarra, the middle McArthur, and nearly to Springvale (George Creek); also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Paperbark and other waterside forests, wattle and *Bauhinia* thickets, and the denser eucalypt forests. Breeding from October to February.

Taxonomy. See Ford & Parker (*Emu* 74: 186, 1974).

Colluricincla harmonica rufiventris Gould.

Range. Southwestern: north to Tanami (? subsp.) and Banka Banka; and east to Brunchilly, Dalmore Downs (40 km southeast of Frewena), Taylor Creek, Claraville, Henbury and Ayers Rock.

Status etc. Common in hilly country; scarce in flat waterless country. Mainly waterside vegetation (teatree and wattle thickets and river gums); also mallee and mulga. Breeding in March and April and from September to November.

Taxonomy. See Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 121, 1970).

FALCUNCULIDAE

Falcunculus frontatus (Latham). Crested Shrike-tit.

Falcunculus frontatus whitei Campbell.

Range. Semiarid northern and northeastern interior at Maranboy and Larrimah and on ridges about the McArthur.

Status etc. Rare. Stringybark forest. Undated breeding report from the McArthur.

Oreoica gutturalis (Vigors & Horsfield). Crested Bellbird.

Range. Northern interior, from [Golden Gate, W.A.], Eley and Borroloola, south to the Buchanan Highway (30-50 km west of Inverway), 40 km south of Dunmarra, and the upper McArthur. Southern half of Territory, north to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Brunchilly, Alexandria and [Yelvertoft, Qld].

Status etc. In north, locally common (e.g. at Larrimah) but generally scarce and patchily distributed, mainly in stringybark forest and lancewood scrub. Moderately common in south, mainly in mulga, but also in gidgea, mallee, teatree and other scrubs and thickets. Breeding in summer in north, in winter and spring in south.

Psophodes occidentalis (Mathews). Western Wedgebill.

Range. Southern half of Territory, north to Tanami, lat. 19°S (northwest of Tennant Creek), and 35 km north of Tobermorey, but absent from Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Locally common in southern highlands (e.g. about Ellery Creek); scarce and patchily distributed north of lat. 23°S. Mainly mulga, wattle, gidgea and other *Acacia* scrubs; also corkwood (*Hakea*) flats. Breeding from January to March and in September.

Taxonomy. See Ford & Parker (*Emu* 73: 113, 1973).

MONARCHIDAE

Rhipidura rufifrons (Latham). Rufous Fantail.

Rhipidura rufifrons dryas Gould.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to Anson Bay, Brocks Creek, the lower Roper and lower McArthur; also Melville Island, Truant Island and Groote Eylandt. Casual further inland (Pine Creek and Warlock Ponds).

Status etc. Uncommon. Monsoon forest, dense riverside forests and thickets, and mangroves. Breeding from November to February. Apparently some tendency to move inland during dry season.

Taxonomy. For characters shared by the fantails and monarch flycatchers, see Harrison (*Ostrich* 40: 26, 1969).

Rhipidura fuliginosa (Sparrman). Grey Fantail.

Rhipidura fuliginosa phasiana DeVis.

Range. Northwest coast, at Darwin and Port Keats; also Melville Island. Northeast coast, in the estuaries of the Roper and the McArthur.

Status etc. Scarce. Mangroves. Breeding in January.

Rhipidura fuliginosa alisteri Mathews.

Range. Northern interior: north to beyond Adelaide River; and south to [the Ord, W.A.], Tennant Creek and Alexandria. Southern highlands, mainly in Alice Springs district and about the upper Finke.

Status etc. Winter visitor (June-September), northern birds possibly coming from southeastern Australia via northwestern Queensland, and southern birds possibly coming from South Australia. Generally scarce or uncommon, perhaps more numerous in northeastern interior (Nicholson drainage). Mainly *Melaleuca* and *Acacia* thickets.

Taxonomy. See Ford (*Emu* 71: 111, 1971).

[*Rhipidura fuliginosa preissi* Cabanis.

Status. Possibly a rare winter visitor from southwestern Australia. J.R. Ford (*supra*) believes that two specimens collected by W.H. Butler near the Victoria River bridge in June 1970 could belong to *preissi* rather than *alisteri*.]

Rhipidura fuliginosa albicauda North.

Status uncertain. Only certainly known in the Territory from North's types (two specimens from Stokes Pass). Presumably Cowle's nest and egg collected at Illamurta in December 1894 also belong here; if not, one might suspect that *albicauda* was only a rare winter visitor from the southern interior of Western Australia.

Rhipidura leucophrys. Willie Wagtail.

Rhipidura leucophrys leucophrys (Latham).

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island and Maria Island.

Status etc. Common winter visitor (April-July), and scarce or uncommon resident. Lightly wooded country. Breeding in northern interior from Oenpelli south to the Barkly Tableland (south certainly to Brunchilly and Brunette Downs, and presumably to the Barkly Highway), from September to February (later in arid zone than further north); and in southwestern highlands (north certainly to Mt Leisler and Alice Springs, and presumably to Coniston), from July to September.

Rhipidura rufiventris (Vieillot). Northern Fantail.

Rhipidura rufiventris isura Gould.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Larrimah, the McArthur, Springvale and [Riversleigh, Qld]; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common in subhumid zone in all well-wooded habitats including mangroves; uncommon south of Pine Creek and restricted to waterside forests and thickets. Breeding from June to February.

Myiagra ruficollis (Vieillot). Broad-billed Flycatcher.

Myiagra ruficollis mimikae Ogilvie-Grant.

Range. Northwest coast: at Port Essington, in estuary of the Adelaide and around Darwin; also Melville Island and North-west Vernon Island. East coast: in estuaries of the Roper and the McArthur; also Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Uncommon. Mangroves. Breeding near Darwin in June (Rix, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 170, 1970).

Myiagra rubecula (Latham). Leaden Flycatcher.

Myiagra rubecula concinna Gould.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Jasper Gorge, Larrimah, the Clyde and [Archie Creek, Qld]; also Melville Island, Entrance Island, Groote Eylandt and North Island (Sir Edward Pellew Group).

Status etc. Common in subhumid zone in paperbarks and other waterside forests and thickets, mangroves and monsoon forests; uncommon south of Pine Creek and largely restricted to watercourses. Breeding in October.

Myiagra inquieta. Restless Flycatcher.

Myiagra inquieta nana (Gould).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Brunchilly, Alexandria and [Thorntonia, Qld]; also Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common. In dry season largely confined to paperbarks and other waterside vegetation; in wet season spreading into open forests. Breeding from October to February.

[*Myiagra inquieta inquieta* (Latham).

Status. Possibly a rare winter visitor. The male from Alexandria measured by Keast (*Rec. Aust. Mus.* 24: 86, 1958) is similar in all dimensions to males from south Queensland. In winter 1935 Simpson (*S. Aust. Orn.* 13: 126, 1935) observed a Restless Flycatcher at Ilbunga Waterhole, 45 km south of the NT/SA border.]

Myiagra alecto (Temminck). Shining Flycatcher.

Myiagra alecto rufolateralis (Gray).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [the Elvire, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Mataranka and Borroloola; also Melville Island, Bickerton Island, Groote Eylandt and North Island (Sir Edward Pellew Group).

Status etc. Common. Mainly mangroves, dense riverside forests and thickets (*Barringtonia*, *Pandanus*, *Bambusa* etc.) and paperbark swamps; also monsoon forest and open forest. Breeding from November to March.

Taxonomy. See Galbraith (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions, 1962-70*, p.237, 1974).

ORTHONYCHIDAE

Cinclosoma castanotum Gould. Chestnut Quail-thrush.

Range. Southwestern: north to Ligertwood Cliffs, the western Macdonnell Ranges and Bushy Park; and east to Erldunda and Victory Downs (? sp.).

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. at northern foot of Petermann Ranges) but generally uncommon and patchily distributed. Mainly sandy country with thickets of wattle (*Acacia* spp.), mallee (*Eucalyptus gamophylla*), *Thryptomene* and *Grevillea*; also mulga. Undated breeding report from Deering Creek.

Taxonomy. See Ford (*Emu* 70: 135, 1970; 74: 87, 1974).

Cinlosoma cinnamomeum. Cinnamon Quail-thrush.

Cinlosoma cinnamomeum marginatum Sharpe.

Range. Far southwest, from the Kintore Range (Mt Leisler) south to the Petermann Ranges (upper Shaw Creek), and east nearly to Mt Olga.

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. at Mt Leisler) but generally scarce. Stony ridges and gravelly flats with open or dense mulga and other shrubs and low trees. Breeding in July.

Cinlosoma cinnamomeum cinnamomeum Gould.

Range. Southeastern: north to Lucy Creek and Tobermorey; and west nearly to Alice Springs, to Illamurta and Erldunda.

Status etc. Common about the lower Hugh and lower Finke; moderately common elsewhere. Sparsely vegetated stony plains. Breeding in March and April.

Drymodes superciliaris Gould. Northern Scrub-robin.

Drymodes superciliaris colcloughi Mathews.

Range etc. Only known from three specimens collected by M.J. Colclough on the Roper (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 120, 1970).

Pomatostomus temporalis (Vigors & Horsfield). Grey-crowned Babbler.

Range. Northern half of Territory south to Inverway, Elliott, Tundi-eji Waterhole, Corella Creek and the upper Playford (Alexandria); also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt. Southern highlands and central semideserts: north to Banka Banka; east to Brunchilly, Wonarah, Indiana and Deep Well; west to Cockatoo Creek (Mt Denison), Derwent Creek (Haasts Bluff) and Palm Valley; and south to the lower Palmer and thence down the Finke to Crown Point.

Status etc. Common in northern open forests, woodlands and arid scrubs (lancewood) and on lightly wooded flats about the major southern watercourses (the Todd, the Hugh, Ellery Creek and the Finke); scarce and patchily distributed in central semideserts. Breeding from September to February in north, and in April, May and August in south.

Taxonomy. So much of the geographic variation in this species is clinal that it is doubtful whether any of the numerous nominal subspecies are really separable. It is also doubtful whether *Pomatostomus* is allied to *Pomatorhinus* or any other timaliid.

Pomatostomus superciliosus (Vigors & Horsfield). White-browed Babbler.

Range. Southwestern: north to the Kintore Range, Central Mt Wedge, Connor Well and Delmore Downs; and east to the Santa Teresa road, Rodinga and Charlotte Waters. Apparently isolated populations further north at Tanami, and further east at Arthur Creek and [in the Toko Range, Qld].

Status etc. Locally common in far southwest (e.g. about the Petermann Ranges), but becoming scarce and patchily distributed towards northeast (i.e. within range of *P. temporalis*). Mainly mulga; also gidgea, mallee and other arid scrubs. Breeding in July.

ACANTHIZIDAE

Aphelocephala leucopsis (Gould). Southern Whiteface.

Range. Southwestern: north and west to the Petermann Ranges, Mt Olga, Ayers Rock, Curtin Springs, Areyonga, Haasts Bluff, Hamilton Downs and the 16-mile Bore (north of Alice Springs); and east to Alice Springs, Henbury, Eraldunda and Charlotte Waters.

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. on flats at foot of the Macdonnell, James and Petermann Ranges), but generally uncommon to moderately common. Mainly mulga; also other arid scrubs and thickets. Breeding from December to June.

Aphelocephala nigricincta (North). Banded Whiteface.

Range. Southern third of Territory, north to Tanami, the De Bavay Hills, Barrow Creek, Tarlton Downs and Marqua.

Status etc. Common in more arid country beyond the range of *A. leucopsis*; elsewhere scarce to moderately common. Spinifex, chenopods and low open shrubbery of gibber plains and sand dunes. Breeding from December to September, following rains.

Gerygone olivacea (Gould). White-throated Flyeater.

Gerygone olivacea rogersi Mathews.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Hidden Valley, the middle McArthur, and Caulfield Clay Flats. (Record from Groote Eylandt probably based on *G. chloronota*.)

Status etc. Uncommon and patchily distributed in semiarid zone; apparently only a rare winter visitor to subhumid zone (i.e. north of Pine Creek).

Acacia and other thickets in lightly wooded country. Undated breeding report from the McArthur.

Taxonomy. See Hall (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions 1962-70*, p.168, 1974).

Gerygone levigaster. Mangrove (Buff-breasted) Flyeater.

Gerygone levigaster levigaster Gould.

Range. Northwest coast and islands from Port Essington to Darwin; also Melville Island (Buchanan Islet).

Status etc. Common. Mangroves; occasionally adjacent monsoon forest. Breeding from January to March.

Gerygone levigaster mastersi (Sharpe).

Range. East coast: estuaries of the Roper and McArthur.

Status etc. Common. Mangroves.

Gerygone mungi Mathews. Desert Flyeater.

Range. Western arid zone: north to [the Denison Range, W.A.] and Newcastle Creek; and east to the Stuart Highway (Barrow Creek, Teatree and 75 km north of Alice Springs), Alice Springs, Ewaninga, the upper Palmer (Mt Quinn), the Basedow Range and [the Musgrave Ranges, S.A.].

Status etc. Uncommon. Mainly mulga and other *Acacia* scrubs (ironwood, lancewood etc.), especially along watercourses. Breeding in October.

Gerygone magnirostris. Large-billed Flyeater.

Gerygone magnirostris magnirostris Gould.

Range. Northern coasts, islets and estuaries, south to the Daly and the McArthur; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Mangroves; occasionally adjacent monsoon forest, closed riverside forest and dense eucalypt forest. Breeding from October to June.

Taxonomy. See Hall (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions 1962-70*, p.171, 1974).

Gerygone chloronota. Green-backed Flyeater.

Gerygone chloronota chloronota Gould.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to the Pinkerton Range (Revolver Spring), Edith Falls, the upper South Alligator and the lower Roper (Mt Roper); also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common in subhumid zone (Darwin district and Cobourg Peninsula); scarce and patchily distributed elsewhere. Monsoon forest, dense waterside forests and thickets, mangroves, paperbark swamps, and *Ficus* and other thickets at foot of sandstone cliffs. Breeding in December, (?) January and (?) February.

Smicrornis brevirostris (Gould). Weebill.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from Simpson Desert and from western deserts between Tanami and the Petermann Ranges; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common in semiarid northern interior (e.g. the Victoria, Roper, McArthur and Nicholson drainages); uncommon to moderately common in hillier parts of northern subhumid zone (e.g. Oenpelli) and in better-watered parts of southern highlands (e.g. about Alice Springs); scarce or absent in north-coastal lowlands and in much of arid zone. Eucalypt forests, woodlands and scrubs. Breeding in autumn and winter.

Acanthiza pusilla (Shaw). Brown Thornbill.

Acanthiza pusilla apicalis Gould.

Range. Western arid zone: north to Tanami and Powell Creek; and east to 45 km south of Alroy Downs, Barrow Creek, Alice Springs, Hermannsburg and 35 km east of Ayers Rock.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly mulga, gidgea and other *Acacia* scrubs; also mallee (*Eucalyptus gamophylla*) and teatree thickets. Breeding in winter.

Taxonomy. For comments on *A. tanami*, see Disney (*Emu* 69: 237, 1969) and Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 68, 1969).

Acanthiza robustirostris Milligan. Grey-backed Thornbill.

Range. Southwestern: north to beyond Lake Macdonald (23° 10'S, 129° 01'E) and Cockatoo Creek; and east to Napperby, Hermannsburg and Mulga Park.

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. Kintore Range and Ayers Rock), but generally uncommon. Mulga. Breeding from July to October.

Acanthiza uropygialis Gould. Chestnut-rumped Thornbill.

Range. Southern quarter of Territory: north to Mt Doreen, Coniston, Mt Riddoch, the Jervois Range and Tarlton Downs; and east to Marqua, Ringwood, Andado and [Mt Dare, S.A.].

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly mulga and other *Acacia* scrubs. Breeding in winter.

Acanthiza iredalei. Samphire (Slender) Thornbill.

Acanthiza iredalei iredalei Mathews.

Status uncertain. Only one record: specimen collected by S.A. White at Idracowra on the lower Finke in August 1913 (Parker, *Emu* 71: 101, 1971).

Acanthiza chrysorrhoa (Quoy & Gaimard). Yellow-rumped Thornbill.

Range. Southern third of Territory, mainly in highlands: north and west to the Petermann Ranges, Mt Olga, Ayers Rock, the Levi Range, Palm Valley, Cockatoo Creek and Phillip Creek; and east to Bonney Creek, MacDonald Downs, Ross River and Andado.

Status etc. Locally common, but generally uncommon and patchily distributed. Mainly lightly wooded flats beside watercourses. Breeding from July to October.

Pyrrholaemus brunneus Gould. Redthroat.

Range. Southwestern: north nearly to The Granites and Barrow Creek; and east to Alice Springs, Bundooma and [the Musgrave Ranges, S.A.].

Status etc. Locally common but generally uncommon. Mulga, *Melaleuca* and other thickets along watercourses. Breeding in March and April and from August to November.

MALURIDAE

Amytornis woodwardi Hartert. White-throated Grasswren.

Range. Far northern interior: northwestern sector of Arnhem Land plateau from Oenpelli southwest to the head of the Mary.

Status etc. Common. Spinifex and shrubs among boulders, terraces and crevices of sandstone. Breeding in January. See Schodde & Mason (*Emu* 75: 12, 1975).

Amytornis dorotheae (Mathews). DOROTHY

Amytornis dorotheae (Mathews). Dorothy Grasswren.

Range. Northeastern interior: sandstone ranges along the McArthur between Western Creek and the Clyde (i.e. 30-60 km southwest of Borrooloola).

Status etc. Moderately common. Spinifex and shrubs among rocks.

Amytornis striatus (Gould). Striated Grasswren.

Amytornis striatus whitei Mathews.

Range. Western and southern deserts: north to Tanami and lat. 19°S (northwest of Tennant Creek); and east to the upper Lander, Haasts Bluff, McMinns Creek, Idracowra, and long. 136°40'E in south of Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Common in southwestern sandy deserts; scarce and patchily distributed elsewhere. Spinifex on sandplains, dunes and interdunes, with or without shrubs or small trees (*Thryptomene*, *Grevillea* and *Eucalyptus*). Breeding in July and (?) August.

Amytornis textilis (Dumont). Thick-billed Grasswren.

Amytornis textilis modestus (North).

Range. Southern watercourses (mainly in the Finke drainage): from Mereenie Bluff and the upper Hugh, south to Lauries Creek, McMinns Creek and the lower Finke.

Status etc. Formerly moderately common, but not recorded since 1936 and presumably extinct. Canegrass (*Zygochloa paradoxa*), saltbush and flood debris on banks and in beds of larger watercourses, but habitat now largely destroyed. Breeding in August.

Taxonomy etc. See Parker (*Emu* 72: 158, 1972).

Amytornis purnelli. Dusky Grasswren.

Amytornis purnelli purnelli (Mathews).

Range. Central and southwestern hills and ranges: north and west to the Kintore Range, Ehrenberg Range, Haasts Bluff, Coniston, Barrow Creek and Powell Creek; and east to Tennant Creek, Davenport Range, Harts Range, Alice Springs, Ellery Creek, Petermann Creek and [the Musgrave Ranges, S.A.].

Status etc. Common. Spinifex and shrubs in gullies and on rocky hillsides. Breeding in August.

Malurus coronatus. Purple-crowned Wren.

Malurus coronatus coronatus Gould.

Range. Northwestern semiarid zone: the Ord and Victoria drainages, south to [Ord River Station, W.A.] and Pigeon Hole.

Status. Formerly common (at least on the Ord and its right-bank tributaries); now rare or extinct in most of range. For similar decline in Kimberley, see Smith & Johnstone (*West. Aust. Nat.* 13(8), 1977).

Malurus coronatus macgillivrayi Mathews.

Range. Northeastern semiarid zone, from Batten Creek south to the head of the McArthur and Springvale.

Status etc. Common. Dense waterside vegetation (pandanus, canegrass, *Juncus* etc.).

Taxonomy. See Harrison (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions 1962-70*, p.210, 1974).

Malurus splendens (Quoy & Gaimard). Splendid Wren.

Malurus splendens callainus Gould.

Range. Southwestern: north and west to the Petermann Ranges, Mt Olga, Ayers Rock, Deering Creek, Central Mt Wedge, Coniston and Tea Tree; and east to Yambah, Ross River, Deep Well and Horseshoe Bend.

Status etc. Common in better-watered country; absent from sandy deserts. Mulga and other thickets, especially on flats and along watercourses. Breeding from August to November.

Malurus lamberti Vigors & Horsfield. Variegated Wren.

Malurus lamberti dulcis Mathews.

Range. Far northern interior: northwestern sector of Arnhem Land plateau, from the King south to El Sherana.

Status etc. Moderately common. Spinifex and shrubbery in rugged sandstone ranges.

Taxonomy. For relationships within the chestnut-shouldered wren complex, see Harrison (*Bull. Br. Mus. Nat. Hist. (Zool.)* 21: 313-328, 1972).

Malurus lamberti rogersi Mathews.

Range. Semiarid northwestern interior: the Victoria drainage from the Pinkerton, Newcastle and Stokes Ranges, south nearly to Victoria River Downs.

Status etc. Moderately common. Spinifex in rugged sandstone ranges.

Malurus lamberti assimilis North.

Range. Arid and semiarid northeastern interior: from Elsey Creek, Mt Roper and Borrooloola, south to Newcastle Creek, the upper McArthur and Alexandria. Southern half of Territory, north to [Nicholson, W.A.], Powell Creek, Frewena, Barry Caves and Manners Creek.

Status etc. Common. All kinds of thickets and shrubbery. Breeding in summer in north, and in July and August in south.

Malurus leucopterus Dumont. White-winged Wren.

Malurus leucopterus leuconotus Gould.

Range. Greater part of arid zone: north to [the Denison Range, W.A.], 27 km north of Banka Banka, Brunchilly and 40 km west of Frewena. (Distribution north of Simpson Desert, i.e. in the Georgina drainage, unknown.)

Status etc. Common. Low vegetation in treeless or sparsely wooded country (*Triodia*, *Zygochloa paradoxa* and other tussock grasses; chenopods, lignum, *Thryptomene*, *Petalostylis*, *Eremophila* and other low shrubs). Breeding in January and August.

Malurus melanocephalus (Latham). Red-backed Wren.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Tanami, Tennant Creek and Alexandria; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common in subhumid and semiarid zones; scarce, patchily distributed and possibly only a summer visitor in driest parts of range (i.e. south of Wave Hill, Newcastle Creek, Anthony Lagoon and Gallipoli). Long grass, rank herbage and shrubbery in lightly wooded country. Breeding from October to March.

Stipiturus ruficeps. Rufous-crowned Emu-wren.

Stipiturus ruficeps ruficeps Campbell.

Range. Western arid zone: north to *ca* lat. 21°S in Tanami Desert and to Frewena; and east to Wauchope, Barrow Creek, Ross River, Hermannsburg and Ayers Rock.

Status etc. Locally common (e.g. near Alice Springs) but generally scarce and very patchily distributed. Mixed spinifex and shrubbery, mainly on stony or sandy ridges. Breeding in winter.

SYLVIIDAE

Acrocephalus stentoreus (Hemprich & Ehrenberg).
(Southern Great) Reed-warbler.

Acrocephalus stentoreus australis (Gould).

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to the lower Victoria (Victoria River bridge) and the Roper (Red Lily Lagoon and Little Red Lily Lagoon). Southern highlands: the upper Finke (including Palm Valley).

Status etc. Scarce resident and winter visitor in north; formerly breeding in south, but not recorded since 1923 and presumably extinct. Reedy margins of lagoons, large dams and river pools; also (on migration) mangroves. Breeding in January (on the Daly).

Acrocephalus arundinaceus Linnaeus. Great Reed-warbler.

Acrocephalus arundinaceus orientalis (Temminck & Schlegel).

Status. Rare visitor from Palaeartic. One record: specimen collected on Melville Island (Hartert, *Treubia* 6: 20, 1924).

Eremiornis carteri North. Spinifex-bird.

Range. Arid interior: north to Wave Hill and Helen Springs; east to Barry Caves and the eastern Macdonnell Ranges (23 km southwest of Arltunga); west to the Siddeley and Gosse Ranges; and south to the James Range and Ooraminna Rock-hole.

Status etc. Uncommon and patchily distributed. Mainly tall spinifex in creek-beds.

Taxonomy. See Ford & Parker (*Emu* 74: 182, 1974).

Megalurus timoriensis Wallace. Tawny Grassbird.

Range. Northern quarter of Territory: south to the Daly, the King, the lower Roper and middle McArthur; also Melville Island, 'islands at head of Van Diemen Gulf', Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Moderately common. Long grass, sedges and rushes in swamps and along watercourses. Breeding in February.

Megalurus gramineus (Gould). Little Grassbird.

Range etc. Rare but possibly increasing as new habitat (bore-drains etc.) becomes available. Recorded from lignum swamps at Brunette Downs, sewage ponds at Alice Springs, and reed-fringed pools on the upper

Finke. Breeding *ca* August. See Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 67, 1969; *Emu* 71: 101, 1971).

Cincloramphus mathewsi Iredale. Rufous Songlark.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from northern coastal plains and Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Nomadic and migratory, appearing north of Larrimah only in dry season (May-September). Locally common in arid zone in good years (e.g. around Alice Springs in winter 1967), but generally uncommon. Lightly wooded country. Only one breeding report (Alexandria; January).

Cincloramphus cruralis (Vigors & Horsfield). Brown Songlark.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from Simpson Desert.

Status etc. Nomadic and migratory. Locally common in good years in arid zone, north to the Negri, Newcastle Creek, Eva Downs, Brunette Downs and Gallipoli; scarce dry-season visitor to northern coastal plains. Short grass and low herbage in sparsely wooded country. One breeding report (Brunette Downs; late summer).

Cisticola exilis (Vigors & Horsfield). Golden-headed Fantail-warbler.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Ord River Station], Victoria River Downs, Elliott, Anthony Lagoon, Brunette Downs and Alexandria; also Melville Island, South Goulburn Island and Groote Eylandt. (No records from northeast Arnhem Land between the King and the Roper.)

Status etc. Moderately common. Long grass on lightly wooded coastal, riverine and black-soil plains; partially retreating in dry season to rank herbage of swamps, waterside thickets and other shrubbery, and edge of closed forests. Breeding from December to March.

Cisticola juncidis (Rafinesque). Common Fantail-warbler.

Cisticola juncidis leanyeri Givens & Hitchcock.

Range. Northwest coast, in Darwin district (from Hope Inlet south to Middle Point). East coast, at estuary of the Roper (Mt Roper).

Status etc. Moderately common in Darwin district. Short to moderately long grasses and sedges of brackish swamps. Breeding from December to March.

NEOSITTIDAE

Neositta chrysoptera (Latham). (Australian) Sittella.

Neositta chrysoptera leucoptera (Gould).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Camfield, Dunmarra, the upper McArthur and Springvale; also Melville Island. Northeastern interior: the Barkly Tableland from Newcastle Creek, Brunette Downs and Alexandria, south to Banka Banka, Brunchilly and 40 km southeast of Frewena.

Status etc. Moderately common in semiarid zone; scarce or uncommon in subhumid and arid zones (e.g. north of Pine Creek and south of Larrimah). Mainly open eucalypt forests and woodlands; also paperbark and gidgea thickets. Breeding in August and September.

Taxonomy. The Barkly Tableland population differs slightly from typical *leucoptera* (Parker, *S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 122, 1970); the name *subleucoptera* Mathews is available for it.

Neositta chrysoptera leucoptera x pileata.

Range. Central regions from Tanami, Camp Noll, Barrow Creek, Alcoota and Harts Range, south to Acacia Well.

Status etc. Moderately common in the Macdonnell Ranges, but generally scarce or uncommon. Mainly eucalypts and tall acacias (mulga and ironwood) growing on flats or along watercourses. Breeding *ca* September.

Taxonomy. For description of this broad hybrid zone, see Parker (*supra*); and for its Queensland extension, Ford & Parker (*Emu* 74: 188, 1974).

Neositta chrysoptera pileata (Gould).

Range. Far southwest: north to the Davenport Hills, and east to Ayers Rock and [the Musgrave Ranges, S.A.].

Status etc. Uncommon. Mainly tall mulga growing on flats and watercourses; also white gums and desert oaks.

CLIMACTERIDAE

Climacteris affinis Blyth. White-browed Tree-creeper.

Climacteris affinis superciliosa North.

Range. Southern highlands: north to Coniston and Harry Creek; east to Undoolya; and south and west to Illara Creek; also the Petermann Ranges.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common in Alice Springs and Hermannsburg districts, but generally scarce. Mainly tall mulga on flats and along watercourses. Breeding in March.

Climacteris melanura. Black-tailed Tree-creeper.

Climacteris melanura melanura Gould.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to Inverway, Wave Hill, Dunmarra, the upper McArthur, Cliff Creek (Alexandria), and [the upper O'Shanassy, Qld]; with two apparently isolated populations further south, at Lake Woods and Banka Banka.

Status etc. Common in semiarid zone, becoming uncommon towards wettest and driest parts of range (e.g. north of Adelaide River and south of Larrimah). Open eucalypt forests and woodlands. Breeding from August to November.

DICAEIDAE

Dicaeum hirundinaceum. Mistletoe-bird.

Dicaeum hirundinaceum hirundinaceum (Shaw).

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Nomadic. Generally common, but scarce or absent in sandy deserts. Visiting all wooded habitats in search of fruiting mistletoes. Breeding from November to January in north, presumably in winter in south.

PARDALOTIDAE

Pardalotus rubricatus Gould. Red-browed Pardalote.

Range. Arid and semiarid zones, mainly western: north to Newry, the lower Victoria and Mataranka; and east to the Strangways (east of Larrimah), Brunchilly, 40 km southeast of Frewena, Barry Caves, Macdonald Downs, Alice Springs, Henbury and the lower Finke.

Status etc. Common in northern eucalypt woodlands and about central and southern watercourses lined with river gums; uncommon in more arid parts of range. Breeding in February, August and September.

Pardalotus striatus (Gmelin). Striated Pardalote.

Pardalotus striatus uropygialis Gould.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Dunmarra, the upper McArthur, and Springvale; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt. (Record from Brunette Downs requires confirmation.)

Status etc. Common. Open eucalypt forests and woodlands. Breeding from June to September.

Pardalotus striatus substriatus Mathews.

Range. Western arid zone: north to Banka Banka; and east to Tennant Creek, Barrow Creek, Alice Springs, Henbury and the lower Finke (Crown Point).

Status etc. Winter visitor (April to September). Moderately common in well-watered parts of south; scarce north of the Petermann and Macdonnell Ranges. Eucalypts (especially river gums) on flats and along watercourses.

ZOSTEROPIDAE

Zosterops lutea Gould. Yellow Silvereye.

Range. Northern coasts and estuaries, south to the Daly and the McArthur; also Greenhill Island, Bathurst Island, Melville Island, Entrance Island, Truant Island, Bickerton Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common. Mainly mangroves; also coastal thickets and monsoon forest. Breeding from October to January.

MELIPHAGIDAE

Lichmera indistincta. Brown Honeyeater.

Lichmera indistincta indistincta (Vigors & Horsfield).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Montejinni, Dunmarra, the upper McArthur, Springvale and [the upper O'Shanassy, Qld]; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group. Northern arid zone, at Tanami, Morphett Creek, Brunchilly and Barry Caves. Southern highlands: Macdonnell, James and Kintore Ranges and the Winnecke Hills.

Status etc. Nomadic. In north very common on coasts and islands in all wooded habitats, less plentiful inland and largely confined to waterside and flowering vegetation. In arid zone locally common (Palm Valley) but generally scarce and patchily distributed. Breeding from June to December.

Myzomela erythrocephala. Red-headed Honeyeater.

Myzomela erythrocephala erythrocephala Gould.

Range. Northern coasts and estuaries from the Daly to the McArthur; also

Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island, Truant Island, Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Common. Mainly mangroves; also adjacent littoral thickets, monsoon forests and flowering eucalypts and paperbarks in open forest. Breeding in June and December.

Taxonomy. See Frith & Hitchcock (*CSIRO Wildl. Tech. Pap.* No. 28: 167, 1974).

Myzomela obscura. Dusky Honeyeater.

Myzomela obscura obscura Gould.

Range. Far north: subhumid zone, south to Port Keats, Edith River, El Sherana and Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island. (Record from Groote Eylandt probably based on *Lichmera indistincta*.)

Status etc. Moderately common. Monsoon forest, mangroves, riverside forests, paperbark swamps, and occasionally flowering trees in adjacent open forest. Breeding in May, June and (?) October.

Taxonomy. See Frith & Hitchcock (*supra*, p.168) and Colston (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions 1962-70*, p.284, 1974).

Certhionyx niger (Gould). Black Honeyeater.

Range. Arid zone, north to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Tundi-eji Waterhole, Barry Caves and [Camooweal, Qld]. Much further north during severe droughts.

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Scarce. Mulga and other acacias and flowering *Grevillea refracta*. Observed by Hopkins (*Qd Bird Notes* 1(1): 7, 1965) in flowering bloodwoods at Mataranka in May 1952.

Certhionyx variegatus Lesson. Pied Honeyeater.

Range. Arid zone, north to the Buchanan Highway (west of Inverway), lat. 19°S (northwest of Tennant Creek), 55 km west of Frewena, and [Mt Isa, Qld]. Much further north during severe droughts.

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Common in favourable areas and favourable years, but generally scarce. Mainly mulga about watercourses; also flowering shrubs. Observed by Hopkins (*Qd Bird Notes* 1(1): 7, 1965) in flowering bloodwoods at Mataranka in May 1952. Breeding north to Alice Springs; March and presumably winter.

Meliphaga albilineata (White). White-lined Honeyeater.

Range. Far northern interior: western escarpment and outliers of Arnhem Land plateau from the King southwest to the head of the Mary and (?) the Katherine Gorge.

Status etc. Moderately common. Broadleaf thickets (*Xanthostemon*, *Terminalia* and *Gardenia*) on cliffs and in gullies of rugged sandstone ranges; also visiting fruiting and flowering trees in monsoon and paperbark forests of valley floors. Breeding from September to December. See Schodde & Mason (*Emu* 75: 12, 1975).

Meliphaga virescens (Vieillot). Singing Honeyeater.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island and North Island (Sir Edward Pellew Group).

Status etc. Common to very common in southern half of arid zone; uncommon to moderately common in northern half of arid zone and most of semiarid zone (i.e. from The Granites and Wauchope north to the lower Victoria and the Roper); scarce, patchily distributed and perhaps only a postnuptial wanderer in far northwestern interior (from Beatrice Hill and Deaf Adder Creek south to Pine Creek and the upper Mary). All kinds of arid and semiarid scrub and thicket. Breeding in February and March in north, and from March to August in south.

Meliphaga keartlandi (North). Grey-headed Honeyeater.

Range. Arid zone, mainly western: north to [35 km north of Nicholson, W.A.] and Elliott; and east to Frewena, nearly to Soudan, MacDonald Downs, the eastern Macdonnell Ranges, the James Range (Palm Valley etc.), Ayers Rock and [the Musgrave Ranges, S.A.]. Semiarid north-eastern interior: Carpentaria drainages from the lower Roper (Mt Roper), Borroloola and the Nicholson, south to McArthur River Station, Alexandria (perhaps the Mittiebah Range), and [a few miles east of Camooweal, Qld].

Status etc. Common. Thickets and shrubbery in rocky gullies, and mallee-spinifex in sandy country. Breeding from February to August and in November.

Meliphaga plumula (Gould). Yellow-fronted Honeyeater.

Range. Arid zone, mainly western: north to Wave Hill and Newcastle Creek; east to Tennant Creek, Jervois Range (42 km west of Jervois Mines), Alice Springs, Gilbert Springs and Angas Downs. Patchily distributed

further north (e.g. specimen from Pinkerton Range, and observations at O.T. Downs, 50 km north of Anthony Lagoon, Springvale etc., but many records probably based on *M. flavescens*).

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly mallees and other small eucalypts on sandplains and minor watercourses; also lancewood and other acacia scrubs, and flowering *Grevillea* and *Bauhinia*. Breeding in January and February in north, and (?) spring in south.

Meliphaga flavescens. Yellow-tinted Honeyeater.

Meliphaga flavescens melvillensis (Mathews).

Range. Melville Island, off far northwest coast.

Status etc. Open forest; also landward edge of mangroves.

Taxonomy. '... *melvillensis* seems a valid race on large size and deeper yellow and more heavily streaked underparts' (S.A. Parker, *in litt.* 7/6/1971).

Meliphaga flavescens flavescens (Gould).

Range. Semiarid northern interior: from the lower Victoria (Timber Creek), the Fergusson and lower Roper (St Vidgen), south to the Negri, the Camfield, Montejinni, Killarney, the head of Birdum Creek, the Strangways (east of Larrimah), the upper McArthur, upper Nicholson, Springvale and [the O'Shanassy, Qld].

Status etc. Common. Mainly riverside forest (especially of flowering eucalypts and paperbarks). Breeding in August, (?) January and (?) May.

Meliphaga penicillata Gould. White-plumed Honeyeater.

Meliphaga penicillata leilavalensis (North).

Range. Arid zone, north to [Gordon Downs, W.A.], Frew Pond, Brunette Downs, Alexandria and [the O'Shanassy, Qld].

Status etc. Common in well-watered country, especially in southern highlands; scarce or absent in deserts. River gums and other eucalypts along watercourses, visiting flowering trees and shrubs on adjacent flats. Breeding in August, September and (?) May.

Stomiopera unicolor. White-gaped Honeyeater.

Stomiopera unicolor unicolor (Gould).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Victoria River Downs, Killarney, Warlock Ponds, the Strangways (east of Larrimah), the

heads of the McArthur, the upper Nicholson, Springvale and [the Seymour, Qld]; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common in far north in all kinds of dense vegetation, including mangroves; less numerous further south and confined to waterside vegetation. Breeding from September to March.

Melithreptus albogularis Gould. White-throated Honeyeater.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Larrimah, the head of the McArthur, Springvale and [the Seymour, Qld]; also Bathurst Island, Melville Island, Crocodile Islands and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Very common in subhumid zone (i.e. north of Pine Creek); moderately common in semiarid zone. All wooded habitats. Breeding from April to October.

Taxonomy. Colston (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions 1962-70*, p.301, 1974) places these birds in *M. a. subalbugularis* Mathews, overlooking the priority of *vinitinctus* DeVis.

Melithreptus gularis (Gould). Black-chinned Honeyeater.

Melithreptus gularis laetior Gould.

Range. Greater part of interior: north to Marrakai; south and west to Tanami, Central Mt Wedge and the upper Finke (Palm Valley and Running Waters); and east to Katherine, Larrimah, Borroloola, Calvert Hills, Springvale, Alexandria, nearly to Tarlton Downs and nearly to Alice Springs.

Status etc. Nomadic. Uncommon. Mainly waterside vegetation; also open forest in north.

Melithreptus cyanotis (Latham). Blue-faced Honeyeater.

Melithreptus cyanotis albipennis (Gould).

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, south to Newry, the East Baines (10 km south of Auvergne), Victoria River bridge, Warlock Ponds, the upper McArthur, Surprise Creek (53 km north of Calvert Hills) and Wollgorang; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common in north, moderately common in south. Waterside forests, especially with flowering melaleucas; also monsoon forest, mangroves and other forests. Breeding in October and November.

Philemon citreogularis. Little Friarbird.

Philemon citreogularis citreogularis (Gould).

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.], Elliott and [the O'Shanassy, Qld]; also Melville Island, Groote Eylandt, Maria Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Generally uncommon to moderately common in subhumid zone, becoming scarce towards far north coast; common in semiarid zone (e.g. the Ord, Victoria, Roper and McArthur drainages); scarce in arid zone, which is apparently vacated in winter. Open forest and woodlands, especially with flowering melaleucas and eucalypts; also monsoon forest and mangroves. Breeding from September to January.

Philemon argenticeps. Silver-crowned Friarbird.

Philemon argenticeps argenticeps (Gould).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Depot, Larrimah, the upper McArthur, upper Nicholson, Springvale and [Policemans Creek, Qld]; also Melville Island, Elcho Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Very common in far north, but generally decreasing in abundance southwards; uncommon to moderately common in far south of range, which is vacated in winter. Open forests and woodlands, especially with flowering eucalypts and paperbarks; also mangroves and monsoon forest. Breeding from October to February.

Philemon gordonii Mathews. Melville Island Friarbird.

Range. West and north coasts, from Port Keats to Yirrkala; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mainly mangroves; also adjacent monsoon forest. Breeding in September.

Philemon buceroides (Swainson). Sandstone Friarbird.

Philemon buceroides subsp.

Range. Northwestern escarpment of Arnhem Land plateau from Oenpelli south to El Sherana.

Status etc. Moderately common. Dense thickets of *Ficus* etc. in sandstone gorges.

Taxonomy. See Parker (*Emu* 71: 54, 1971) and Colston (*Birds of the Harold Hall Australian Expeditions 1962-70*, p.305, 1974).

Phylidonyris albifrons (Gould). White-fronted Honeyeater.

Range. Western arid zone: north to [the Gardiner Range, W.A.] and Tennant Creek; and east to Wauchope, Barrow Creek, the eastern Macdonnell Ranges (Corroboree Rock), Palm Valley and Angas Downs.

Status etc. Uncommon to moderately common visitor (March-September). Flowering shrubs and small trees, especially on sand dunes and stony hills. Breeding in August and September.

Cissomela pectoralis (Gould). Banded Honeyeater.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Montejinni Creek, 33 km south of Larrimah, the upper McArthur, upper Nicholson and [the Seymour, Qld].

Status etc. Nomadic. Common, except on far northern coastal plains (where rare). Flowering trees and shrubs, especially eucalypts and melaleucas, in open forest and woodland. Breeding from November to April.

Ramsayornis fasciatus (Gould). Bar-breasted Honeyeater.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Eley, the middle McArthur (the Clyde) and the Nicholson; also Melville Island and Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status etc. Nomadic. Generally moderately common, but scarce in driest parts of range (especially in winter) and locally in far north (Cobourg Peninsula). Waterside forests, especially with flowering paperbarks. Breeding from December to April.

Conopophila albogularis. Rufous-banded Honeyeater.

Conopophila albogularis albogularis (Gould).

Range. Far north, south to Port Keats, the lower Daly (Red Lily Lagoon), Adelaide River, the middle South Alligator (Darwin-Oenpelli road), Oenpelli and mouth of the Roper; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Waterside forests, mangroves and monsoon forest, visiting flowering trees in adjacent open forests. Breeding from November to February.

Conopophila rufogularis (Gould). Rufous-throated Honeyeater.

Range. Northern half of Territory, from Port Keats, Murrakai, the King and Yirrkala, south to [Sturt Creek, W.A.], Tennant Creek and [Camooweal, Qld].

Status etc. Partial migrant, vacating driest parts of range in winter (i.e. south of the Negri, Lonely Spring Creek, Warlock Ponds and the middle McArthur). Mainly waterside forests and thickets, but visiting flowering trees (*Bauhinia*, *Eucalyptus*) in adjacent woodlands. Breeding from December to February.

Lacustroica whitei North. Grey Honeyeater.

Range. Western arid zone: north to the Tanami Range; and east to Aileron, Hamilton Downs and the upper Finke.

Status etc. Moderately common around Hermannsburg, but generally rare. Mulga. All dated records in winter (May-August).

Grantiella picta (Gould). Painted Honeyeater.

Status unknown. One record: collected in 1913 by H.G. Barnard in flowering *Bauhinia* on a black-soil plain at McArthur River Station.

Manorina flavigula (Gould). Yellow-throated Miner.

Range. Throughout the Territory; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Common in better-watered parts of southern quarter of range (e.g. the Petermann and Macdonnell Ranges); becoming less plentiful and patchily distributed northwards; scarce or absent in far northern coastal areas. All kinds of open forest and open woodland. Breeding in January, March and from June to September.

Acanthagenys rufogularis Gould. Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater.

Range. Arid zone, mainly western: north to [the Denison Range, W.A.] and Elliott; and east to Tundi-eji Waterhole, Frewena, the eastern Macdonnell Ranges (Corroboree Rock) and Andado. Also recorded from Alexandria.

Status etc. Nomadic. Moderately common in southwest; scarce or uncommon north of Barrow Creek. Arid scrubs (mulga, corkwood, teatree etc.). Breeding north to Palm Valley; spring.

EPHIANURIDAE

Epthianura crocea Castelnau & Ramsay. Yellow Chat.

Range etc. Locally common on open flats about northern rivers: the lower Victoria (Ford & Parker, *Emu* 74: 189, 1974), the lower South Alligator (Hartert), the lower East Alligator (Deignan), and the Roper (clutch of

three eggs in Orton Collection, Western Australian Museum, collected by Sep Robinson on 21 October 1917).

Epthianura aurifrons Gould. Orange Chat.

Range. Arid zone, mainly western: west and north to the Petermann Ranges, Tempe Downs, Hamilton Downs, Coniston, Wauchope and Tennant Creek; and east to Alexandria, MacDonald Downs, Ringwood and Andado.

Status etc. Nomadic, mainly appearing in winter (April-July). Moderately common (at least in good years) about the lower Finke (New Crown and Andado Stations), but generally uncommon. Green herbage and saltbush on treeless or sparsely wooded flats. Breeding in December.

Epthianura tricolor Gould. Crimson Chat.

Range. Greater part of Territory, north to Rosewood, the Pine Creek district, Elsey and Borroloola.

Status etc. Highly nomadic. In arid zone very common in good years in southern half (north to Coniston and MacDonald Downs) and moderately common in better-wooded parts of northern half (north to Elliott); uncommon or absent in dry years or droughts. Rare visitor to semiarid zone and Barkly Tableland. Short grass, ephemeral herbage and small bushes growing in open interdunal mulga or on lightly wooded flats (corkwood, ironwood etc.). Breeding north to the Macdonnell Ranges; December to September.

Ashbyia lovensis (Ashby). Gibberbird.

Range. Extreme south, about the lower Finke.

Status etc. Rare. Open stony ('gibber') plains. Recorded by Love (*S. Aust. Orn.* 3: 40, 1917) and White (*Emu* 21: 84, 1921) respectively at and southwest of Charlotte Waters in January 1913 and July 1921.

PLOCEIDAE

Emblema pictum Gould. Painted Finch.

Range. Northeastern interior: from the upper Nicholson (China Wall) south to Alexandria, and east to Springvale. Western interior: north to [Lake Argyle, W.A.] and Wave Hill; and east to Banka Banka, Devils Marbles, Barrow Creek, Napperby, the eastern Macdonnell Ranges (John Hayes Rock-hole), Ellery Creek and McMinns Creek; and south to the Kintore Range, Mt Olga and Ayers Rock.

Status etc. Locally common in southern ranges, but generally uncommon and patchily distributed. Mainly spinifex and shrubbery in rocky gullies. Breeding from June to September.

Neochmia phaeton. Crimson Finch.

Neochmia phaeton phaeton (Hombron & Jacquinot).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Wave Hill, Warlock Ponds, the middle McArthur and [Riversleigh, Qld].

Status etc. Moderately common. Dense waterside vegetation (pandanus, canegrass, bamboo). Breeding from December to April.

Neochmia ruficauda (Gould). Star Finch.

Neochmia ruficauda clarescens (Hartert).

Range. Northern quarter of Territory, from the Daly, upper Mary and lower South Alligator, south to the Keep (Newry), Victoria River bridge, the Roper (Little Red Lily Lagoon) and the middle McArthur.

Status etc. Scarce. Long grass and rushes in swamps and along watercourses. One breeding report (the McArthur; June).

Poephila guttata (Vieillot). Zebra Finch.

Poephila guttata castanotis (Gould).

Range. Ordinarily north to the lower Victoria, Larrimah, the heads of the McArthur and the Kilgour, and Springvale. Occasionally further north in dry season (the upper Roper), reaching Darwin during severe droughts (1952).

Status etc. In arid zone, very common in pastoral country (north to Mistake Creek, Newcastle Creek and the Barkly Tableland), concentrating about bores and other waters; locally common outside of cattle belt. Mainly a dry-season visitor or drought-refugee in southern half of semiarid zone. Open or lightly wooded grasslands with thorny or dense shrubs for shelter and nesting. Breeding north to Victoria River Downs, Elliott and Brunette Downs; January to September.

Poephila bichenovii. Double-bar Finch.

Poephila bichenovii annulosa (Gould).

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Lonely Spring Creek, Dunmarra, the upper McArthur, upper Nicholson and Springvale; also Groote Eylandt and Sir Edward Pellew Group. Casual further south (Elliott, Banka Banka and Alexandria).

Status etc. Generally common, but scarce on northwest coast and Cobourg Peninsula. Open forests and woodlands in vicinity of watercourses. Breeding throughout year, mainly January to June.

Poephila bichenovii bichenovii (Vigors & Horsfield).

Range. Far northeast, west to the lower McArthur and south to Alexandria; also Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Status uncertain, but evidently not uncommon.

Poephila personata. Masked Finch.

Poephila personata personata Gould.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Victoria River Downs, 20 km north of Daly Waters, the McArthur and Surprise Creek. Casual further south (Brunette Downs).

Status etc. Generally moderately common; but only a scarce dry-season visitor to far northern coasts. Open forest and woodland. Breeding north nearly to Darwin (Noonamah); November to July.

Poephila acuticauda (Gould). Long-tailed Finch.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Lake Argyle, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Dunmarra, the head of the McArthur, the upper Nicholson, Springvale and [Riversleigh, Qld]; also Milingimbi Island.

Status etc. Generally common (the commonest finch in all but the wettest parts of its range), but scarce or absent on northwest coast (Darwin district). Open forest and woodland. Breeding from February to August.

Erythrura gouldiae (Gould). Gouldian Finch.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to [Spring Creek, W.A.], Victoria River Downs, Daly Waters, the McArthur, and Calvert Hills; also Greenhill Island.

Status etc. Formerly the commonest finch of the semiarid zone, but now uncommon to moderately common; only a dry-season visitor to the subhumid zone. Open forest and woodland. Breeding from December to April.

Lonchura flaviprymna (Gould). Yellow-rumped Finch.

Range. Northwestern semiarid zone: the Victoria, upstream to Victoria River Downs. (Northern observations require confirmation with specimens; they could be based on juvenile *L. castaneothorax*.)

Status unknown.

Taxonomy. It remains an open question whether this finch is a full species or only a colour variant of *L. castaneothorax*.

Lonchura castaneothorax. Chestnut-breasted Finch.

Lonchura castaneothorax castaneothorax (Gould).

Range. Northwestern subhumid and semiarid zones: east to the King, the middle South Alligator (Darwin-Oenpelli road), the upper Mary and Katherine; and south to Victoria River Downs; also Bathurst Island and Melville Island.

Status etc. Nomadic, tending to move in wet season from low-lying coastal plains to drier and hillier parts of range. Uncommon to moderately common. Long grass, especially along watercourses and around springs and swamps. Breeding from January to April.

Lonchura pectoralis (Gould). Pictorella Finch.

Range. Northern half of Territory: south to [Wolf Creek, W.A.], Banka Banka, Brunette Downs, Alexandria and [Mt Isa, Qld].

Status etc. Nomadic, appearing in southern half of range only during and following wet season (November-June). Generally uncommon; scarce or absent towards northern coasts. Breeding in February and March.

ORIOLIDAE

Oriolus sagittatus (Latham). Olive-backed Oriole.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Victoria River Downs, Larrimah, the upper McArthur and upper Nicholson; also Melville Island, Crocodile Islands and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Nomadic or irregularly migratory, vacating Melville Island and northern coastal areas in wet season. Uncommon to moderately common. Figs and other fruiting trees, mainly in riverside and monsoon forests. Breeding from November to January.

Oriolus flavocinctus. Yellow Oriole.

Oriolus flavocinctus flavocinctus (King).

Range. Far north: south to the Daly (Red Lily Lagoon), Katherine and Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common to common. Monsoon forest, waterside forest, mangroves and other dense vegetation with fruiting trees. Breeding from October to January.

Sphecotheres viridis Vieillot. Figbird.

Sphecotheres viridis flaviventris Gould.

Range. Far north: south to Port Keats, Katherine and Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Locally common (Melville Island and Darwin) and locally scarce or absent (Cobourg Peninsula), but generally uncommon to moderately common. Figs and other fruiting trees, mainly in monsoon and riverside forests. Breeding in December and January.

Taxonomy. See Ford (*Emu* 75: 163, 1975).

DICRURIDAE

Dicrurus megarhynchus (Quoy & Gaimard). Spangled Drongo.

Dicrurus megarhynchus bracteatus Gould.

Range. Far north, south to the King (Maranboy) and Port Bradshaw; also Melville Island, Elcho Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common in subhumid zone (south to Burrundie, the upper Mary and El Sherana); scarce further south. Monsoon forest, riverside forest, mangroves and open forest. Breeding from October to January.

CORCORACIDAE

Struthidea cinerea Gould. Apostlebird.

Range. Northern interior: north to 30 km southwest of Katherine; east to Roper Valley, O.T. Downs and Mundah Waterhole; south to Elliott; and west to Willeroo (Brandy Bottle Creek), the head of Gregory Creek, and No. 12 Bore (Murrnranji Stock Route).

Status etc. Common. Lancewood and other scrubs in vicinity of water.

This conspicuous bird is spreading north and west. Soldier-naturalists failed to record it in the Larrimah-Mataranka-Elsey region in the 1940s, but it was well-established on the upper Roper by 1964. By 1969 it had appeared in the headwaters of the Daly River system; and now it has reached the eastern edge of the Victoria drainage.

GRALLINIDAE

Grallina cyanoleuca (Latham). Magpie-lark.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from waterless tracts (western deserts north of the Petermann Ranges and Ayers Rock, and the Simpson Desert); also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island.

Status etc. Resident, winter visitor and passage migrant. Common in well-watered country. Lightly wooded, sparsely grassed flats, especially around water. Some movement north in April and south in October, largely vacating northern coasts and islands in wet season. Breeding in northern interior (from the lower Victoria, Glencoe, Katherine and the McArthur, south to Banka Banka and Brunette Downs) from October to March, and in southern highlands (from Barrow Creek south to Palm Valley) in July and August.

ARTAMIDAE

Artamus leucorhynchus (Linnaeus). White-breasted Wood-swallow.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to Rosewood, Victoria River Downs, the head of Birdum Creek, Collabirian Creek and [Thorntonia, Qld]; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island and Groote Eylandt. Northeastern interior: Barkly Tableland, from Newcastle Creek and Elliott, southeast through Anthony Lagoon, Brunette Downs and Alexandria to Avon Downs. Casual further south (Tennant Creek).

Status etc. Nomadic. Common on coasts; uncommon inland. Vicinity of coasts, river-pools and other waters, especially in towns and settlements. Breeding from November to January.

Artamus personatus (Gould). Masked Wood-swallow.

Range. Greater part of Territory.

Status etc. Highly nomadic. Frequent visitor to arid and semiarid zones, north to Edith River; infrequent visitor to subhumid zone, reaching Darwin during droughts. Very common in good years, its occurrence and numbers depending on rainfall in south and on the flowering of trees and shrubs (especially eucalypts and grevilleas) in north. Breeding north to the Barkly Tableland; July and August in south.

Artamus superciliosus (Gould). White-browed Wood-swallow.

Range etc. As in *A. personatus*, with which it invariably occurs, but in much smaller numbers. No record of breeding.

Artamus cinereus Vieillot. Black-faced Wood-swallow.

Artamus cinereus melanops Gould.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but not Cobourg Peninsula.

Status etc. Common to very common in arid and semiarid zones, north to Pine Creek; moderately common in subhumid zone as a dry-season visitor, but scarce (and perhaps only recently established) as a breeding bird. Lightly wooded country. Breeding north to Humpty Doo; October to April in north; winter and early spring in south.

Artamus minor Vieillot. Little Wood-swallow.

Range. Northern half of Territory, south to Tanami, Banka Banka and Alexandria; also Groote Eylandt. Southern highlands: the Macdonnell, James, Levi and Kintore Ranges, the Davenport Hills, Mt Olga and Ayers Rock.

Status etc. Partial migrant, largely vacating arid zone in winter, at which season it visits northern coastal plains. Moderately common in northern subhumid and semiarid zones (south to the Negri, Dunmarra, the upper McArthur and Springvale); scarce and patchily distributed further south. Lightly wooded country, especially in vicinity of cliffs. Breeding north to Oenpelli; October to January.

CRACTICIDAE

Cracticus quoyi (Lesson & Garnot). Black Butcherbird.

Cracticus quoyi spaldingi Masters.

Range. West and north coasts and tidal sectors of rivers, from Port Keats east to the Goyder; also Melville Island.

Status etc. Moderately common. Mangroves and occasionally adjacent monsoon forest. Breeding from October to January.

Cracticus torquatus. Grey Butcherbird.

Cracticus torquatus argenteus Gould.

Range. Northern subhumid zone, from Darwin east to Cape Arnhem, inland to Pine Creek. Northwestern semiarid zone: Pinkerton Range.

Status etc. Moderately common. Tall eucalypt forest in subhumid zone; *Ficus* thickets at foot of talus slopes in Pinkerton Range.

Cracticus torquatus torquatus (Latham).

Range. Southwestern: north to the Ligertwood Cliffs, Yuendumu and Tea Tree; and east to Alice Springs, Hermannsburg, Angas Downs and Mulga Park.

Status etc. Locally moderately common in far south, but generally scarce. Mainly tall, dense mulga.

Cracticus nigrogularis (Gould). Pied Butcherbird.

Range. Greater part of Territory; also Melville Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Common. Lightly wooded country, but not sandy deserts or sparsely wooded plains. Breeding from August to October.

Cracticus tibicen. Magpie.

Cracticus tibicen tibicen (Latham).

Range. Groote Eylandt. Northern and northeastern interior, from Katherine, Elsey, Borroloola and Surprise Creek, south to the Murrniji Stock Route (ca 60 km east of Top Springs), south of Dunmarra, Anthony Lagoon, Brunette Downs, Alexandria and [Camooweal, Qld]. Southern and central highlands: north and west to the Petermann Ranges, Ayers Rock, the western Macdonnell Ranges, Coniston, Willowra and Elliott; and east to Brunchilly, the Barkly Highway (35 km east of the Stuart Highway), MacDonald Downs, the eastern Macdonnell Ranges, and western edge of Simpson Desert (East Creek).

Status etc. Moderately common in southern and central highlands; uncommon and patchily distributed elsewhere. Lightly wooded country. Breeding in October and November and presumably in winter.

Cracticus tibicen leuconotus (Gould).

Status uncertain. For details of specimens from Alice Springs, see Parker (*S. Aust. Orn.* 25: 70, 1969).

Strepera versicolor (Latham). Grey Currawong.

Strepera versicolor plumbea Gould.

Range. Far southwest: north to the Petermann Ranges and east to 35 km west of Victory Downs.

Status etc. Uncommon. Tall acacias and river gums on flats near foot of ranges.

PARADISAEIDAE

Ptilonorhynchus maculatus (Gould). Spotted Bowerbird.

Ptilonorhynchus maculatus guttatus (Gould).

Range. Southern highlands: from Mt Allan, MacDonald Downs and the Jervois Range, south to the James Range; also the Petermann Ranges and Mt Olga.

Status etc. Moderately common in the Macdonnell and James Ranges, but seldom reported from elsewhere. Mainly thickets of *Ficus platypoda* in rocky country. Breeding from December to February.

Ptilonorhynchus nuchalis. Great Bowerbird.

Ptilonorhynchus nuchalis nuchalis Jardine & Selby.

Range. Northern third of Territory, south to the Negri, Camfield, Dunmarra, the upper McArthur, upper Nicholson, Springvale and [the O'Shanassy, Qld]; also Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Bickerton Island and Groote Eylandt.

Status etc. Moderately common. Thickets in open forest and woodland, edge of monsoon forest, landward edge of mangroves, and town and homestead gardens. Breeding from September to December.

CORVIDAE

Corvus coronoides Vigors & Horsfield. Australian Raven.

Range. Eastern interior: north to the Nicholson; west to Brunette Downs, Barkly Highway (35 km east of Stuart Highway) and Andado.

Status etc. Moderately common. Lightly wooded country. Breeding in August.

This is possibly a recent immigrant to the Territory. At any rate there are no earlier records than those of Rowley (*Emu* 69: 183, 1969).

Corvus bennetti North. Little Crow.

Range. Arid zone, north to [Nicholson, W.A.], Elliott and Alexandria.

Status etc. Common. Lightly wooded country, especially around towns, homesteads and slaughter yards. Breeding in April and July.

Corvus orru Bonaparte. Orru Crow.

Corvus orru salvadorii Finsch.

Range. Greater part of Territory, but absent from sandy deserts and apparently from eastern interior (i.e. range of *C. coronoides*); also Bathurst Island, Melville Island, Milingimbi Island, Groote Eylandt and Maria Island.

Status etc. Common. Lightly wooded country. Breeding from December to August.

GAZETTEER

Latitudes are south and longitudes are east.

- Abminga, S.A. (26°07', 134°52'). Station on Central Australia Railway.
- Acacia Well (25°35', 132°52'). On Erldunda Station.
- Adelaide River. Flowing into northwest coast in 12°13', 131°12'.
- Adelaide River (13°14', 131°07'). Town on the Adelaide where crossed by Stuart Highway and North Australia Railway.
- Aileron (22°38', 133°20'). Settlement on Stuart Highway.
- Alcoota (22°49', 134°27'). Cattle station 115 km NE of Alice Springs.
- Alexandria (19°03', 136°42'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.
- Alice Springs (23°43', 133°52'). Town at southern terminus of Stuart Highway and northern terminus of Central Australia Railway.
- Alice Well (24°53', 134°14'). On the lower Hugh.
- Alroy Downs (19°17', 136°03'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.
- Ammaroo (21°45', 135°14'). Cattle station on the Sandover.
- Andado (25°23', 135°16'). Cattle station on western edge of Simpson Desert.
- Angas Downs (25°00', 132°15'). Cattle station on Alice Springs-Ayers Rock road.
- Anson Bay (13°20', 130°05'). In northwest coast.
- Anthony Lagoon (17°59', 135°33'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.
- Arafura Sea. Off north coast.
- Aralka Bore (24°00', 135°30'). On the Hale.
- Archie Creek, Qld. Left-bank tributary of the lower Gregory, which it joins in 18°10'.
- Areyonga (24°05', 132°16'). Native settlement.
- Argadargada (21°40', 136°40'). Cattle station on the Sandover flood-out.
- Argyle Downs, W.A. (16°17', 128°47'). Former cattle station on the lower Behn; now beneath Lake Argyle.
- Artunga (23°27', 134°46'). Former town in eastern Macdonnell Ranges.
- Arnhem Land (13°00', 134°00'). Eastern half (especially the great sandstone plateau) of far north of Territory.
- Aroota Bore (23°02', 137°44'). On the Field.
- Arragoona Waterhole (22°04', 132°42'). On the Lander.
- Arthur Creek. Crossed on Plenty Highway in 22°43', 136°39'.
- Attack Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway in 19°02', 134°08'.
- Auvergne (15°41', 130°00'). Cattle station on the East Baines.
- Avon Downs (20°02', 137°30'). Cattle station on Barkly Highway.
- Ayers Rock (25°21', 131°01'). Monolith and settlement.
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- Balbirini (16°45', 135°45'). Cattle station on the upper McArthur.
- Banka Banka (18°48', 134°02'). Cattle station on Stuart Highway.
- Barkly Highway. Connecting Mt Isa with Stuart Highway (north of Tennant Creek).
- Barkly Tableland (18°30', 136°00'). Northeastern region of grassy plains.
- Barrow Creek (21°31', 133°53'). Settlement on Stuart Highway.
- Barry Caves (20°00', 136°39'). Road-house on Barkly Highway.
- Basedow Range. Crossed on Alice Springs-Ayers Rock road in 25°09', 132°10'.

Batchelor (13°04', 131°01'). Station on North Australia Railway.
 Bathurst Island (11°40', 130°20'). Off northwest coast.
 Batten Creek. Left-bank tributary of the McArthur which it joins in 15°54', 136°32'.
 Beatrice Hill (12°38', 131°19'). On the lower Adelaide.
 Behn River. Right-bank tributary of the Ord, which it joins in 16°13', 128°43'.
 Bickerton Island (13°45', 136°12'). Between east coast and Groote Eylandt.
 Bing Bong Creek. Flowing into Gulf of Carpentaria in 15°36', 136°19'.
 Birdum Creek. Right-bank tributary of Elsey Creek, which it joins in 15°14', 133°00'.
 Blunder Bay (15°12', 129°44'). In the estuary of the Victoria.
 Bonney Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway in 20°26', 134°14'.
 Bonython Range (23°38', 128°58').
 Border Waterhole (18°36', 138°00'). On the Queensland border east of Springvale.
 Borroloola (16°03', 136°17'). Settlement on the lower McArthur.
 Boucaut Bay (12°00', 134°28'). In north coast.
 Braithwaite Point (11°46', 133°56'). On north coast.
 Brocks Creek (13°28', 131°25'). Station on North Australia Railway.
 Brunchilly (18°52', 134°29'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.
 Brunette Creek. Flowing into Lake Sylvester, Barkly Tableland, in 18°46', 135°43'.
 Brunette Downs (18°39', 135°57'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.
 Buchanan Creek. Left-bank tributary of the Playford, which it joins in 19°11',
 136°16'.
 Buchanan Highway. Connecting Stuart Highway (near Dunmarra) with Duncan Highway
 (at Nicholson, W.A.).
 Buchanan Islet (11°49', 130°39'). Off Bathurst Island.
 Bundooma (24°54', 134°15'). Station on Central Australia Railway.
 Burrundie (13°32', 131°42'). Station on North Australia Railway.
 Burt Plain (23°15', 133°45').
 Bushy Park (22°54', 133°55'). Cattle station 90 km N of Alice Springs.
 Bustard Islands (13°43', 136°22'). Between east coast and Groote Eylandt.

Calvert Hills (17°14', 137°20'). Cattle station in far northeast.
 Calvert River. Flowing into Gulf of Carpentaria in 16°16', 137°44'.
 Camfield (17°09', 131°22'). Cattle station on the Camfield.
 Camfield River. Right-bank tributary of the Victoria, which it joins in 16°55', 131°15'.
 Camooweal, Qld (19°55', 138°07'). Town on Barkly Highway.
 Camp Noll (20°26', 130°42'). In Tanami Desert Wildlife Sanctuary.
 Cape Barrow (13°40', 136°04'). On east coast.
 Cape Cockburn (11°20', 132°53'). On north coast.
 Cape Don (11°18', 131°46'). West point of Cobourg Peninsula.
 Cape Shield (13°19', 136°20'). On east coast.
 Carrara Creek. Crossed on Gallipoli-Springvale track in 18°50', 137°49'.
 Carrara Range (18°42', 137°36').
 Caulfield Clay Flats (18°16', 137°24'). In the Nicholson drainage.
 Central Mt Wedge (22°52', 131°49'). In the Stuart Bluff Range.
 Charles Point. Lighthouse on northwest coast, 25 km WNW of Darwin.
 Charlotte Waters (25°54', 134°56'). Former telegraph station.

Chilla Well (21°30', 130°52'). On southern edge of Tanami Desert.
China Wall (17°46', 137°13'). On the Calvert-Nicholson divide.
Claraville (23°23', 134°44'). Homestead in eastern Macdonnell Ranges.
Cleanskin Creek (18°24', 137°27'). In the Nicholson drainage.
Clyde River. Right-bank tributary of the McArthur, which it joins in 16°25', 136°10'.
Cobourg Peninsula (11°20', 132°15'). Northwestern extremity of mainland.
Cockatoo Creek (22°05', 132°09').
Cockatoo Spring, W.A. (15°54', 128°57').
Coniston (22°08', 132°32'). Cattle station in the Lander drainage.
Connor Well (22°58', 133°32'). On Stuart Highway 90 km N of Alice Springs.
Coomalie Creek. Crossed by Stuart Highway in 13°01', 131°07'.
Corella Creek. Flowing into Corella Lake, Barkly Tableland, in 18°36', 135°37'.
Corroboree Rock (23°40', 134°14'). In eastern Macdonnell Ranges.
Cox River. Left-bank tributary of the Limnen Bight River, which it joins in 15°20', 135°25'. Formerly known as the Wickham.
Crocodile Islands (12°05', 134°55'). Off north coast.
Croker Island (11°10', 132°34'). Off north coast.
Crown Point (25°31', 134°22'). On the lower Finke.
Cumberland Strait (11°28', 136°28'). Between two of the Wessel Islands.
Curtin Springs (25°19', 131°45'). Cattle station on Alice Springs-Ayers Rock road.

Dalmore Downs (19°45', 135°59'). Cattle Station on Barkly Tableland.
Daly River. Flowing into northwest coast in 13°18', 130°14'.
Daly River (13°46', 130°42'). Police Station on the lower Daly.
Daly Waters (16°15', 133°22'). Settlement on Stuart Highway.
Darwin (12°27', 130°50'). City on northwest coast.
Darwin River (12°50', 130°58'). Railway station on North Australia Railway.
Davenport Hills (23°34', 129°17').
Davenport Range (20°45', 134°45').
Deaf Adder Creek. Right-bank tributary of the South Alligator, crossed on Darwin-Oenpelli road in 12°50', 132°44'.
De Bavay Hills (20°46', 130°58'). In Tanami Desert.
Deep Well (24°21', 134°02'). Railway station on Central Australia Railway, 11 km SW of Deep Well HS.
Deering Creek. Draining southwestern Macdonnell Ranges.
Delamere (15°44', 131°32'). Cattle station in the Victoria drainage.
Delmore Downs (22°29', 134°50'). Cattle station in the Sandover drainage.
Denison Range, W.A. (19°17', 128°22').
Derwent Creek (23°20', 132°05'). In western Macdonnell Ranges.
Devils Marbles (20°34', 134°16'). On Stuart Highway 11 km N of Wauchope.
Docker Creek. In Petermann Ranges, crossed on Giles-Ayers Rock track in 24°52', 129°05'.
Dunmarra (16°41', 133°25'). Road-house on Stuart Highway.

East Alligator River. Flowing into Van Diemen Gulf in 12°05', 132°35'.
East Baines River. Left-bank tributary of the Victoria, crossed on Victoria Highway in

15°45', 130°02'.

East Creek (25°08', 135°36'). In southwest of Simpson Desert.

Edith Falls (14°11', 132°11'). On the upper Edith, a left-bank tributary of the Fergusson.

Edith River (14°12', 132°02'). Station on North Australia Railway.

Ehrenberg Range (23°21', 130°20').

Elcho Island (11°58', 135°45'). Off north coast.

Elkedra River. Flowing east from the Davenport Range.

Ellery Creek. Left-bank tributary of the Finke, crossed on Alice Springs-Hermannsburg road in 23°55', 132°56'.

Elliott (17°35', 133°33'). Town on Stuart Highway.

Elsey (14°58', 133°20'). Cattle station on the upper Roper.

Elsey Creek. Right-bank tributary of the Roper, crossed on Stuart Highway in 15°05', 133°07'.

El Sherana (13°31', 132°31'). Mine on the upper South Alligator.

Elvire River, W.A. Right-bank tributary of the Ord, which it joins via the Panton.

Entire Creek (22°54', 135°12').

Entrance Island (11°58', 134°13'). Off north coast.

Erlunda (25°14', 133°12'). Cattle station on Adelaide road.

Eureka. Former mine 33 km ENE of Pine Creek.

Eva Downs (18°01', 134°52'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.

Ewaninga (23°59', 133°56'). Station on Central Australia Highway.

Fanny Bay. 5 km NNW of Darwin.

Fergusson River. Right-bank tributary of the Daly, crossed on Stuart Highway and North Australia Railway in 14°04', 131°59'.

Field River. Flowing into Queensland in 23°45'.

Finke (25°35', 134°35'). Station on the Central Australia Railway where it crosses the lower Finke.

Finke River. Flowing into South Australia in 135°25'.

Fogg Dam (12°34', 131°18'). 8 km NE of Humpty Doo.

Fountain Head (13°28', 131°28'). Station on North Australia Railway.

Frazer Creek. Right-bank tributary of the Bunday, which it joins in 22°21', 135°16'.

Frewena (19°26', 135°24'). Road-house on Barkly Highway.

Frew Pond (16°56', 133°22'). On Overland Telegraph between Newcastle Waters and Dunmarra.

Gallipoli (19°08', 137°52'). Cattle station on Barkly Tableland.

Gardiner Range, W.A. (19°13', 128°49').

George Gill Range (24°20', 131°45').

Georgina Downs (21°07', 137°39'). Cattle station on the Sandover flood-out.

Georgina River. Flowing into Queensland in 21°04'.

Gilbert Springs. 32 km W of Hermannsburg.

Glencoe. Former cattle station 11 km ENE of Brocks Creek.

Glen Helen (23°42', 132°40'). Tourist camp on the upper Finke.

Glen Helen Gorge. Gorge of the Finke through Macdonnell Ranges near Glen Helen Tourist Camp. Formerly known as Finke Gorge.

Glen of Palms. Gorge of the Finke through James Range south of Hermannsburg.
Glenormiston, Qld (22°55', 138°48'). Cattle station.
Golden Gate, W.A. (15°59', 128°58').
Gordon Downs, W.A. (18°45', 128°35'). Cattle station on Sturt Creek.
Gorrie. Former military camp on Stuart Highway, 14 km N of Larrimah.
Gosse Range (23°51', 132°17').
Goulburn Islands (11°35', 133°25'). Off north coast.
Gove Peninsula (12°25', 136°35'). Northeastern extremity of mainland.
Goyder River. Flowing into north coast in 12°15', 135°03'.
Goyder Well. Presumably same as Goyder Bore, 12 km WSW of Finke.
Greenhill Island (11°36', 132°08'). Off south coast of Cobourg Peninsula.
Gregory Creek. Right-bank tributary of the Victoria, which it joins in 15°37', 131°08'.
Gregory River. Flowing into Queensland in 19°06'.
Groote Eylandt (14°00', 136°40'). Off east coast.
Gulf of Carpentaria. In northeast coast.

Haasts Bluff (23°28', 131°53'). Native settlement in western Macdonnell Ranges.
Hale River. Flowing into Simpson Desert.
Hamilton Downs (23°31', 133°16'). Cattle station.
Harrison Dam (12°35', 131°20'). 10 km ENE of Humpty Doo.
Harry Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway, 50 km N of Alice Springs.
Harts Range (22°59', 134°58'). Police Station.
Hatches Creek (20°53', 135°10'). Settlement in Davenport Range.
Haul Round Island (11°53', 134°13'). Off north coast.
Helen Springs (18°26', 133°53'). Cattle station on Stuart Highway.
Henbury (24°33', 133°15'). Cattle station on the Finke.
Hermannsburg (23°57', 132°46'). Mission station on the upper Finke.
Hidden Valley (16°32', 132°56'). Cattle station 58 km SW of Daly Waters.
Hooker Creek (18°15', 130°25').
Hope Inlet. 24 km ENE of Darwin.
Horseshoe Bend (25°14', 134°14'). Cattle station on the Finke.
Howard Island (12°08', 135°23'). Off north coast.
Howells Ponds. 32 km NNW of Newcastle Waters.
Huckitta Out-station (22°53', 135°28'). On Plenty Highway.
Hugh River. Left-bank tributary of the Finke, which it joins in 25°01', 134°10'.
Humpty Doo (12°38', 131°16'). Settlement near the lower Adelaide.

Idracowra (25°00', 133°47'). Cattle station on the Finke.
Ilbunga, S.A. (26°25', 135°03'). Station on Central Australia Railway.
Illamurta Spring (24°18', 132°41'). On McMinns Creek.
Illara Creek. One of the sources of the Palmer.
Indiana (23°20', 135°26'). Cattle station.
Inverway (17°51', 129°38'). Cattle station on Buchanan Highway.
Irving Creek (25°04', 129°58'). In Petermann Ranges.
Isle Woodah (13°27', 136°09'). Off east coast.

James Range (24°10', 133°00').
Jasper Gorge (16°02', 130°41'). 37 km NNW of Victoria River Downs.
Jervois (22°38', 136°16'). Mine in Jervois Range.
Jim Jim Creek. Right-bank tributary of the South Alligator, crossed on Darwin-Oenpelli road in 12°56', 132°33'.
John Hayes Rock-hole (23°32', 134°21'). In eastern Macdonnell Ranges.
Joseph Bonaparte Gulf (14°25', 128°45'). In west coast.

Kapalga (12°33', 132°18'). On the lower South Alligator.
Katherine (14°28', 132°16'). Town on Stuart Highway and North Australia Railway where they cross the Katherine.
Katherine Gorge. On the Katherine, 28 km NE of Katherine.
Keep River. Flowing into Joseph Bonaparte Gulf in 15°07', 129°12'.
Kilgour River. Right-bank tributary of the McArthur, which it joins in 16°37', 135°59'.
Killarney (16°04', 131°51'). Cattle station between Willeroo and Top Springs.
King River. Flowing into north coast in 11°48', 133°33'. McLennan collected here for H.L. White.
King River. Left-bank tributary of the Katherine, which it joins in 14°42', 131°59'. Wilkins collected for the British Museum near Maranboy.
Kintore Range (23°19', 129°22').
Koolpinyah. Cattle station 34 km ENE of Darwin.
Kununurra, W.A. (15°46', 128°44'). Town on the lower Ord.

Lake Argyle, W.A. Formed after damming the Ord in 16°07', 128°44'.
Lake Macdonald. On Western Australian border in 23°30'.
Lake Mackay. On Western Australian border in 22°25'.
Lake Woods (17°50', 133°31').
Lander River. Flowing into Tanami Desert.
Larrimah (15°35', 133°12'). Town on Stuart Highway; southern terminus of North Australia Railway.
Lauries Creek (24°10', 131°20'). In George Gill Range.
Levi Range (24°30', 132°10').
Ligertwood Cliffs (23°40', 129°23').
Limnen Bight River. Flowing into Gulf of Carpentaria in 15°06', 135°42'.
Litchfield (13°29', 130°42'). Out-station of Tipperary.
Little Red Lily Lagoon (14°55', 133°26'). On the upper Roper, 11 km ENE of Elsey.
Liverpool River. Flowing into north coast in 12°00', 134°10'.
Lonely Spring Creek. Crossed on Buchanan Highway 19 km SW of Top Springs.
Lucy Creek (22°26', 136°17'). Cattle station.

McArthur River. Flowing into Gulf of Carpentaria in 15°50', 136°40'.
McArthur River (16°27', 136°06'). Cattle station on the McArthur.
MacDonald Downs (22°29', 135°14'). Cattle station on Frazer Creek.
Macdonnell Ranges (23°30', 133°00').
McMinns Creek. Right-bank tributary of the Finke, which it joins in 24°23', 132°58'.
Mallapunyah (16°58', 135°49'). Cattle station on the upper McArthur.

Manners Creek (22°06', 137°57'). Cattle station in the Georgina drainage.
 Manton River. Left-bank tributary of the Adelaide, crossed on Stuart Highway in 12°49', 131°08'.
 Maranboy (14°40', 132°39'). Railway station on North Australia Railway, 20 km SW of Maranboy Police Station.
 Maria Island (14°52', 135°44'). Off east coast.
 Marqua (22°50', 137°20'). Cattle station in the Field drainage.
 Marrakai (12°48', 131°22'). Cattle station on Marrakai Creek.
 Marrakai Creek. Right-bank tributary of the Adelaide, which it joins in 12°40', 131°20'.
 Mary River. Flowing into Van Diemen Gulf in 12°15', 131°40'.
 Maryvale (24°40', 134°04'). Cattle station on the Hugh.
 Mataranka (14°56', 133°04'). Town on Stuart Highway and North Australia Railway.
 Melville Bay (12°15', 136°42'). In north coast.
 Melville Island (11°30', 131°00'). Off northwest coast.
 Mereeine Bluff (23°38', 131°56'). In western Macdonnell Ranges.
 Middle Point. 5 km S of Darwin.
 Middleton Ponds (24°31', 132°34'). Cattle station on the upper Palmer.
 Milingimbi Island (12°05', 134°54'). One of the Crocodile Islands off north coast.
 Mistake Creek (17°05', 129°03'). Cattle station on the Negri.
 Mittiebah Range (18°54', 136°47'). On Barkly Tableland.
 Montejinni Creek. Crossed on Buchanan Highway, 8 km W of Top Springs.
 Morphett Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway in 18°53', 134°04'.
 Mt Allan (22°28', 132°12'). Cattle station.
 Mt Brockman (12°44', 132°55'). On western escarpment of Arnhem Land plateau.
 Mt Bunday (12°52', 131°35').
 Mt Dare, S.A. (26°04', 135°17'). Out-station on the lower Finke.
 Mt Doreen (22°03', 131°19'). Cattle station in Treuer Range.
 Mt Ebenezer (25°11', 132°40'). Cattle station.
 Mt Isa, Qld (20°43', 139°30').
 Mt Leisler (23°21', 129°21'). In Kintore Range.
 Mt Liebig (23°18', 131°22'). In western Macdonnell Ranges.
 Mt Olga (25°18', 130°44').
 Mt Quinn (24°38', 132°47'). Former homestead on the Palmer.
 Mt Riddock (23°02', 134°40'). Cattle station on Plenty Highway.
 Mt Roper (14°50', 135°04'). On the lower Roper.
 Mt Rugged. 16 km E of Tennant Creek.
 Mt Ultim (22°29', 135°25').
 Mulga Park (25°54', 131°40'). Cattle station.
 Mundah Waterhole (17°08', 134°12'). On Newcastle Creek, Barkly Tableland.
 Murrarji Stock Route. Connecting Newcastle Waters and Top Springs.
 Musgrave Ranges, S.A. (26°15', 131°35').

 Napperby (22°30', 132°45'). Cattle station in Reynolds Range.
 Negri River. Right-bank tributary of the Ord, entering Western Australia in 17°04'.
 Nellie Creek. 27 km NE of Pine Creek.
 Newcastle Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway 37 km N of Elliott.

Newcastle Range ($15^{\circ}45'$, $130^{\circ}25'$).
 Newcastle Waters ($17^{\circ}23'$, $133^{\circ}24'$). Settlement on Newcastle Creek.
 Newry ($16^{\circ}03'$, $129^{\circ}16'$). Cattle station near Victoria Highway crossing of the Keep.
 Nicholson, W.A. ($18^{\circ}02'$, $128^{\circ}53'$). Cattle station.
 Nicholson River. Flowing into Queensland in $18^{\circ}00'$.
 No. 12 Bore ($16^{\circ}45'$, $132^{\circ}10'$). On Murraraji Stock Route.
 Noonamah. On Stuart Highway and North Australia Railway, 32 km SE of Darwin.
 North Bore ($25^{\circ}07'$, $135^{\circ}30'$). On Andado Station.
 North Island ($15^{\circ}35'$, $136^{\circ}52'$). One of the Sir Edward Pellew Group.
 North West Vernon Island ($12^{\circ}02'$, $131^{\circ}03'$). 50 km NNW of Darwin.
 Nourlangie ($12^{\circ}46'$, $132^{\circ}40'$). Tourist camp on Deaf Adder Creek.
 Nowranie River, Qld. 24 km S of Camooweal.
 Numery ($24^{\circ}01'$, $135^{\circ}25'$). Cattle station on the Hale.

Oenpelli ($12^{\circ}19'$, $133^{\circ}04'$). Mission station.
 Old Andado ($25^{\circ}22'$, $135^{\circ}26'$). Former homestead on western edge of Simpson Desert.
 Ooraminna ($24^{\circ}15'$, $134^{\circ}01'$). Railway station on Central Australia Railway.
 Ooraminna Rock-hole. 40 km S of Alice Springs.
 Ooratippra ($21^{\circ}53'$, $136^{\circ}05'$). Cattle station on the Sandover.
 Orange Creek ($24^{\circ}22'$, $133^{\circ}26'$). Cattle station on Adelaide road.
 Ord River, W.A. ($17^{\circ}24'$, $128^{\circ}52'$). Former cattle station on the Ord.
 O'Shanassy River, Qld. Crossed on Burketown road, 40 km NE of Camooweal.
 O.T. Downs ($16^{\circ}39'$, $135^{\circ}02'$). Homestead at head of Limnen Bight River.

Palmer River. Right-bank tributary of the Finke, which it joins in $24^{\circ}45'$, $133^{\circ}24'$.
 Palm Valley. 20 km SSW of Hermannsburg.
 Patonga ($13^{\circ}00'$, $132^{\circ}37'$). Tourist camp on Jim Jim Creek.
 Pearce Point ($14^{\circ}25'$, $129^{\circ}21'$). On west coast.
 Peron Islands ($13^{\circ}10'$, $130^{\circ}03'$). Off west coast.
 Petermann Creek. Right-hand tributary of the Palmer, which it joins in $24^{\circ}28'$,
 $132^{\circ}28'$.
 Petermann Ranges ($25^{\circ}05'$, $129^{\circ}30'$).
 Phillip Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway in $19^{\circ}18'$, $134^{\circ}11'$.
 Pigeon Hole ($16^{\circ}49'$, $131^{\circ}14'$). Out-station on the Victoria.
 Pine Creek ($13^{\circ}50'$, $131^{\circ}50'$). Town on Stuart Highway and North Australia Railway.
 Pinkerton Range ($15^{\circ}45'$, $129^{\circ}45'$).
 Playford River. Terminating on Barkly Tableland in $19^{\circ}05'$, $135^{\circ}35'$.
 Plenty River. Flowing into Simpson Desert; crossed on Plenty Highway at Huckitta.
 Police(mans) Creek, Qld. Crossed on the Mt Isa-Burketown road in $19^{\circ}10'$.
 Port Bradshaw ($12^{\circ}30'$, $136^{\circ}45'$). Inlet in east coast.
 Port Essington ($11^{\circ}22'$, $132^{\circ}09'$). Usual name for Victoria, former settlement on Port
 Essington, an inlet in north coast of Cobourge Peninsula.
 Port Keats ($14^{\circ}14'$, $129^{\circ}32'$). Mission station on west coast.
 Powell Creek ($18^{\circ}05'$, $133^{\circ}41'$). Former telegraph station, 55 km S of Elliott.

Quail Island ($12^{\circ}31'$, $130^{\circ}25'$). Off northwest coast.

Red Lily Lagoon ($13^{\circ}45'$, $130^{\circ}43'$). On the lower Daly.
Red Lily Lagoon ($14^{\circ}53'$, $133^{\circ}25'$). On the upper Roper, 12 km NE of Elsey.
Red Rock ($14^{\circ}43'$, $134^{\circ}26'$). On the lower Roper.
Renner Springs ($18^{\circ}20'$, $133^{\circ}48'$). Settlement on Stuart Highway.
Reynolds Range ($22^{\circ}20'$, $132^{\circ}50'$).
Reynolds River. Crossed on Daly River road in $13^{\circ}32'$, $130^{\circ}53'$.
Ringwood ($23^{\circ}50'$, $134^{\circ}55'$). Cattle station.
Riversleigh, Qld ($19^{\circ}02'$, $138^{\circ}44'$). Cattle station on the upper Gregory.
Rodinga ($24^{\circ}33'$, $134^{\circ}05'$). Station on Central Australia Railway.
Roper River. Flowing into east coast in $14^{\circ}44'$, $135^{\circ}24'$.
Roper Valley ($14^{\circ}56'$, $134^{\circ}01'$). Cattle station on the Roper.
Ross River ($23^{\circ}36'$, $134^{\circ}29'$). Tourist camp in eastern Macdonnell Ranges.

Sahul Shelf. Continental shelf off northwest coast.
St Vidgen ($15^{\circ}02'$, $134^{\circ}42'$). Former homestead.
Sandover River. Flooding out in $21^{\circ}45'$, $136^{\circ}30'$.
Sandy Island ($11^{\circ}56'$, $134^{\circ}40'$). Off north coast. Now known as Maine Island.
Sandy Island No. 2 ($11^{\circ}07'$, $132^{\circ}18'$). Off north coast of Cobourg Peninsula.
Santa Teresa. Mission station 45 km SE of Alice Springs.
Seymour River, Qld. Crossed on Mt Isa-Burketown road in $19^{\circ}20'$.
Shaw Creek ($25^{\circ}04'$, $129^{\circ}43'$). In Petermann Ranges.
Siddeley Range ($22^{\circ}47'$, $131^{\circ}31'$).
Simpson Desert. In southeast.
Sir Edward Pellew Group ($15^{\circ}40'$, $136^{\circ}50'$). In Gulf of Carpentaria.
Soudan ($20^{\circ}03'$, $137^{\circ}01'$). Cattle station on Barkly Highway.
South Alligator River. Flowing into Van Diemen Gulf in $12^{\circ}10'$, $132^{\circ}23'$.
South West Island ($15^{\circ}44'$, $136^{\circ}40'$). One of the Sir Edward Pellew Group.
Spring Creek, W.A. ($16^{\circ}50'$, $128^{\circ}52'$).
Springvale ($18^{\circ}32'$, $137^{\circ}36'$). Cattle station in Nicholson drainage.
Stirling ($21^{\circ}44'$, $133^{\circ}45'$). Cattle station on Stuart Highway.
Stokes Pass ($23^{\circ}30'$, $132^{\circ}07'$). In western Macdonnell Ranges.
Stokes Range ($15^{\circ}45'$, $130^{\circ}55'$).
Strangways River. Right-hand tributary of the Roper, which it joins in $14^{\circ}52'$,
 $133^{\circ}48'$.
Stuart Highway. Connecting Darwin and Alice Springs.
Sturt Creek. Flowing into Western Australia in $18^{\circ}22'$.
Sturt Plain. 50-70 km N of Newcastle Waters.
Surprise Creek. Crossed on the Borroloola-Burketown track in $16^{\circ}53'$, $137^{\circ}13'$.

Tanami ($19^{\circ}58'$, $129^{\circ}42'$). Former gold town.
Tanami Desert Wildlife Sanctuary ($20^{\circ}50'$, $131^{\circ}15'$).
Tarlton Downs ($22^{\circ}39'$, $136^{\circ}47'$). Cattle station on Plenty Highway.
Taylor Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway in $21^{\circ}13'$, $134^{\circ}07'$.
Tea Tree ($22^{\circ}08'$, $133^{\circ}25'$). Settlement on Stuart Highway.
Tennant Creek ($19^{\circ}39'$, $134^{\circ}11'$). Town on Stuart Highway.

The Granites (20°34', 130°21'). Former settlement on Tanami track.
Thomas Reservoir (23°43', 130°44').
Thorntonia, Qld (19°30', 138°56'). Cattle station.
Timber Creek (15°39', 130°29'). Police station on Victoria Highway.
Timor Sea. Off northwest coast.
Tobermorey (22°17', 137°57'). Cattle station in Georgina drainage.
Todd River. Flowing into Simpson Desert.
Toko Range. Crossed by Queensland border in 22°45'.
Top Springs (16°36', 131°50'). Road-house on Buchanan Highway.
Truant Island (11°40', 136°50'). Off north coast.
Tundi-eji (or Tandyidgee) Waterhole (17°48', 133°50'). On Barkly Tableland.

Undoolya. Cattle station 18 km E of Alice Springs.
Union Reef. 19 km NNW of Pine Creek.
Urquhart Islet (15°30', 136°57'). One of the Sir Edward Pellew Group.

Vanderlin Island (15°42', 137°01'). Largest of the Sir Edward Pellew Group.
Van Diemen Gulf (11°50', 132°00'). In northwest coast.
Vaughan Springs (22°17', 130°51'). Homestead in Treuer Range.
Victoria Highway. Connecting Stuart Highway (at Katherine) with Duncan Highway (SE of Kununurra).
Victoria River. Flowing into Joseph Bonaparte Gulf in 14°55', 129°34'. Bridged on Victoria Highway in 15°35', 131°05'.
Victoria River Depot (15°37', 130°26'). On the lower Victoria.
Victoria River Downs (16°25', 131°00'). Cattle station on the lower Wickham, a left-bank tributary of the Victoria.
Victory Downs (25°59', 132°58'). Cattle station.

Wallera (24°39', 132°21'). Tourist camp in Levi Range.
Warlock Ponds (15°06', 133°07'). Near Stuart Highway crossing of Elsey Creek.
Wauchope (20°38', 134°13'). Settlement on Stuart Highway.
Wave Hill (17°27', 130°50'). Police station at Buchanan Highway crossing of the upper Victoria.
Wessel Islands (11°25', 136°30'). Off north coast.
Whamelk Bluff (14°10', 133°51'). On south edge of Arnhem Land plateau.
Willeroo (15°17', 131°34'). Cattle station on Victoria Highway.
Willowra (21°15', 132°38'). Cattle station on the Lander.
Wilson Creek (19°05', 130°05').
Winnecke Hills (23°10', 129°10').
Wologorang (17°13', 137°56'). Cattle station in far northeast.
Wonarah (19°53', 136°20'). Telegraph office on Barkly Highway.
Wycliffe Creek. Crossed on Stuart Highway in 20°47', 134°14'.

Yambah (23°08', 133°50'). Cattle station 63 km N of Alice Springs.
Yam Creek (13°30', 131°33'). Former settlement 45 km NW of Pine Creek.
Yelvertoft, Qld (20°05', 138°46'). On Barkly Highway.

Yirrkala (12°15', 136°53'). Mission station on Gove Peninsula.
Yuendumu (22°15', 131°47'). Native settlement.

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