

Broome Bird Observatory

Annual Report 2021

Cover photo: Common Redshank (Chris Young)



Summary

This report summarises observations of all bird species recorded in the Broome region during 2021.

Rainfall at the BBO was below average during the first half of 2021. However, this came on top of an early start to the wet season in November and December 2020: as significant rain had already fallen by the turn of the year, Roebuck Plains saw its most extensive flooding since 2018, and conditions were excellent for breeding waterbirds and other wetland specialists. Highlights of the early part of the year included large numbers of Magpie Goose, Pied Stilt, Whiskered Tern and Yellow Chat breeding on the flooded low-lying grasslands of the marine plain.

Little rain through the rest of the year meant that the Roebuck Plains lakes were accessible throughout, and showcased their usual changing cast of species as water levels dropped. Lake Champion held water until November, and both Lake Eda and Taylor's Lagoon held water for the entire year. Kidneybean Claypan was superb for the first half of the year, but despite holding water until October supported little birdlife in August and September, probably due to the high salinity levels that saw the wetland turn to a salt crust after it dried.

Roebuck Bay as always supported outstanding numbers of shorebirds and other waterbirds.

Some exciting species were present this year that had been scarce in preceding years, perhaps drawn by the flooding: Tawny Grassbird, Little Button-quail, Baillon's Crake, Black-tailed Native-hen and regular Flock Bronzewing to give some examples. As in 2020 though, and unlike some other years (e.g. 2019), this was a fairly poor year for nomadic desert and woodland species; 2021 saw no Budgerigar, Banded Honeyeater, Black Honeyeater, Pied Honeyeater or Pictorella Mannikin, and few Painted Finch and Varied Lorikeet.

Overall, 2021 saw a healthy species count of 240 – an improvement on 2020's 235, though still lower than 2019's 242. This included the recording of two new species for Broome: Common Ringed Plover and Arafura Fantail. Other highlights included House Swift, Banded Stilt, Little Stint, Red-necked Phalarope, Orange Chat, Chestnut-breasted Mannikin, Gouldian Finch and Grey Wagtail. More information on these records is provided in the species accounts below.

The year's impressive tally is partly testament to the excellent efforts of local birders. Broome and the BBO have always been lucky to be supported by a passionate birding community, but efforts to get out and find birds were especially impressive in 2021.

Methods

The body of this report is an annotated checklist, with a summary of records provided for each species. Taxonomy follows the Working List of Australian Birds (BirdLife Australia 2019; birdlife.org.au/conservation/science/taxonomy). Underlying records come from the below sources.

Broome Bird Observatory Bird Log

The records in the systematic species list are taken from the BBO's bird log. This is a daily record of all sightings made by BBO wardens, assistant wardens, camp hosts and guests, including occasional reports from other local birders and visitors, and occasionally supplemented by well-documented records submitted to the online platform eBird.org. We review guest records for accuracy: more unusual claims from less experienced observers require higher standards of evidence. The recording area covers everywhere within a 70 km radius of the Broome Bird Observatory. The regular log covers the period from 21st January until 22nd December, after which the wardens left for the wet season. A few noteworthy records have been added from outside these dates.

Many records come from tours led by BBO wardens and assistant wardens to sites around Roebuck Bay and Roebuck Plains. This has two implications for the data underlying this report: (1) as it is not possible to make thorough surveys when leading a tour and interpreting for guests, most records simply document the presence or absence of a species at a location, (2) records are biased towards sites visited frequently on these tours. The numbers of records provided for species below therefore give an indication, rather than a definitive measure, of their relative abundance during the year.

Counts

As noted above, counts are not routinely collected as part of the BBO Bird Log because for most records (collected while tour guiding) accurate counting is beyond our ability. However, we often go birding in our free time, and sometimes at these times are able to record counts. Records submitted by local birders also often include counts. When possible these counts are included in the log, and noteworthy counts are included in the accounts below.

For shorebirds, comprehensive counts of Roebuck Bay were made twice during 2021 as part of the AWSG's Monitoring Yellow Sea Migrants in Australia (MYSMA) project, supported by funding from the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Counts made on 12th and 13th July by Chris Hassell, Adrian Boyle, Olivia Garcey, Ben Vasic and Connie Grohmann estimated the numbers of overwintering shorebirds on the northern shores and at Bush Point respectively. For migratory species, these are almost all immature birds waiting to make their first breeding migrations in subsequent years. The summer surveys were made on 4th (northern shores) and 7th December (Bush Point) by Chris Hassell, Adrian Boyle, Kerry Hadley, Nigel Jackett, Nyil Khwaja, George Swann, Connie Grohmann and Franky O'Connor. These counted total numbers of each species after the return of all breeding migrants and juvenile birds. The results of the MYSMA counts are summarised in the shorebird accounts in this report.

Migration Watch

During March, April and May, Roebuck Bay's migratory shorebirds and terns depart from the bay in flocks, usually in the late afternoon, visible from the beach in front of the observatory. BBO wardens, assistant wardens, interested guests and volunteers count these flocks as they leave during watches between 4-6 PM each afternoon from early March until mid-May: beginning after the first Far Eastern Curlews are heard departing over the observatory, and ending in May after three consecutive sessions with no departures. In 2021 the watch period spanned 2nd March until 5th May, with 19,787 individuals of 19 different species counted in total. A graphical summary is shown for each species that was observed migrating on three or more separate watches, under visible migration in the accounts below. For species observed migrating on one or two watches, or at other sites or times, details are provided in the text.

Contributors

Many people contributed to our records in 2020, including BBO staff and volunteers, visiting researchers and birders, and dedicated locals who made great contributions to our coverage of the area. We would like to thank the following people for their contributions, acknowledged by initials after noteworthy sightings.

AB – Adrian Boyle, BG – Bruce Greatwich, BV – Ben Vasic, CW – Cass Wittwer, CGM – Clare and Grant Morton, CJ – Carla Jackett, CJH – Chris Hassell, CR – Colin Rogers, DA – Debbie Andrew, DB – Damian Baxter, DS – David Secomb, GG – Geoff Groom, GH – Glenistair Handcock, GQ – Gary Quirke, GS – George Swann, JB – John Baas, JC – John Curran, JG – John Graff, JH – Joseph Hamilton, JM – Jason Moore, JR – Jenni Rusbridge, JT – Jane Taylor, KB – Kimberley Birdwatching Ashmore Reef cruise group, KH – Kerry Hadley, LB – Linda Bird, LH – Lincoln Harris, LP – Larissa Porter, MP –

Madeleine Pearson, NJ – Nigel Jackett, NK – Nyil Khwaja, OG – Olivia Garcey, PW – Peter White, SF – Stu Ford, SM – Shelley Moore, SS – Steven Spragg, WM – Wayne Merritt.

Systematic bird list

- STUBBLE QUAIL *Coturnix pectoralis*** 1 record
One found on Roebuck Plains from the Great Northern Highway on 11th April (NJ and CJ).
- BROWN QUAIL *Synoicus ypsilophorus*** 29 records
Regularly recorded in grassland habitats throughout the year. Usually in coveys of up to 10 birds.
- MAGPIE GOOSE *Anseranas semipalmata*** 52 records
Arrived on the flooded grasslands of Roebuck Plains to breed during good conditions in the wet season. Goslings were first reported from the Great Northern Highway on 5th April (CJH), and the species continued to be seen on the plains until early May. After this, mostly juvenile birds remained in the region and retreated to the main water bodies, principally Lake Eda, where they were present consistently until 4th August. Following this, the only record was of an immature at Crescent Lake during our Birds of the Broome Region course on 4th October. High count for the year was 1,000 on the plains along the Great Northern Highway on 23rd January (CJH); many more were likely to have been present given the continuation of suitable habitat beyond what is visible from the highway.
- PLUMED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna eytoni*** 155 records
Commonly recorded across the wetlands and flooded grasslands of the region early in the year. A large flock was present at the Broome South sewage works throughout the year, with ducklings reported there on 16th February and 20th April. Continued to be seen feeding on the Common and heard flying over the observatory shortly after dusk (presumably to feed on Roebuck Plains) throughout the year. High count of 5,000 at the Broome South sewage works on 3rd October (CJH).
- WANDERING WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna arcuata*** 47 records
Regularly recorded at the Roebuck Plains wetlands during the first half of the year, with one record at Lake Champion on 24th September, and another at Lake Eda on 14th October. One or two were seen at the Broome South sewage works between 15th August and 17th September, with one there again on 14th December. High count of 500 from the Great Northern Highway on 16th February (CJH).
- PINK-EARED DUCK *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*** 79 records
Regular in small numbers at the Roebuck Plains wetlands and Broome South sewage works throughout the year. High count of 85 at Lake Eda on 2nd May (AB).
- BLACK SWAN *Cygnus atratus*** 27 records
Two at Kidneybean Claypan on 29th April, and two at the 'Square Dam' on Roebuck Plains on 21st June (both NK). Otherwise all records were from Lake Eda, where a pair successfully bred early in the year, raising eight cygnets. The family group were present there until 20th October.
- GREEN PYGMY-GOOSE *Nettapus pulchellus*** 24 records
Present at Lake Champion between 27th April and 10th September. Also recorded at Taylor's Lagoon on four occasions between 11th March and 21st June, at Upper Loomingum Bore on 30th June, and at Nimalarragun on 17th December. High count of 29 at Champion on 30th August (JG).
- AUSTRALIAN WOOD DUCK *Chenonetta jubata*** 45 records
Regular in small numbers around the Roebuck Plains wetlands throughout the year; by the end of the season restricted to Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Eda. High count of 30 at Taylor's during our Birds of the Broome Region course on 6th September.

- HARDHEAD *Aythya australis*** 169 records
Common at wetlands throughout the region, including regular records from Roebuck Bay in the first half of the year. High count of 300 at Lake Eda on 30th October (CJH).
- PACIFIC BLACK DUCK *Anas superciliosa*** 214 records
Very commonly recorded at all freshwater wetlands, with a further four records from Roebuck Bay (in March and July). Ducklings were seen at Collins Lagoon and the Broome South sewage works during February. High count of 500 at Lake Campion on 19th July (DS).
- GREY TEAL *Anas gracilis*** 192 records
The most common duck at most freshwater sites throughout the year. Also seen 14 times in Roebuck Bay. There were ducklings at Collins Lagoon on 15th February and Upper Loomingum Bore on 30th June. An estimated 2,000 at Lake Eda on 5th July (NK) was the high count for the year, though this was during a tour and likely to have been an under-count.
- AUSTRALASIAN GREBE *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*** 144 records
Common throughout the year at all wetlands with sufficiently deep fresh water. Bred early in the year, with young juveniles at Collins Lagoon on 15th February and Lake Campion on 5th March. One also seen on a nest at Ram-Paddock Well on 10th December (NK and NJ). High count of 120 at Lake Campion on 5th July (NK); more are likely to have been present there earlier in the year, but they were difficult to count at that time due to the dense aquatic vegetation.
- HOARY-HEADED GREBE *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*** 24 records
Regular in small numbers at freshwater wetlands between 27th April and 30th August, with a high count of six at Kidneybean Claypan on 29th April (NK).
- FLOCK BRONZEWING *Phaps histrionica*** 19 records
First seen from the Great Northern Highway in pindan near the turnoff for Eco Beach on 1st April (BG). Five days later a pair were seen chasing one another in what looked like courtship flights on the flooded plains further north (NK). A group of up to 24 were regular around the Square Dam on Roebuck Plains between 21st June and 29th August (the dam dried a few days after this); singles were also seen occasionally at Taylor's Lagoon during this time, and remarkably one was photographed from Cable Beach on 24th July flying out over the ocean towards Gantheaume Point (JM). There were occasional records of up to 20 at lakes Campion and Eda from 30th August until 6th December.
- CRESTED PIGEON *Ocyphaps lophotes*** 403 records
Common in pindan and eucalypt woodland, particularly around water sources, and often seen along roads. Recorded regularly around the BBO grounds. An estimated 120 at Lake Eda on 9th October (CJH) was the high count for the year.
- DIAMOND DOVE *Geopelia cuneata*** 208 records
Common on the eastern part of Roebuck Plains Station, especially around Taylor's Lagoon. Less common but still regularly recorded in the pindan woodland around the observatory. An estimated 400 at Taylor's Lagoon on 21st November (KH) was the high count for the year.
- PEACEFUL DOVE *Geopelia placida*** 418 records
Very common in pindan, eucalypt and paperbark woodland, particularly around water sources. Recorded daily around the BBO grounds. An estimated 300 at Lake Eda on 28th November (CJH) was the high count for the year.

BAR-SHOULDERED DOVE <i>Geopelia humeralis</i>	411 records
Very common in pindan and paperbark woodland, mangals, and gardens. Recorded daily around the BBO grounds. An estimated 200 at Lake Eda on 28 th November (CJH) was the high count for the year.	
TAWNY FROGMOUTH <i>Podargus strigoides</i>	80 records
Common in wooded habitats and the most frequently encountered nocturnal bird in the region.	
SPOTTED NIGHTJAR <i>Eurostopodus argus</i>	3 records
Seen shortly after dusk in the BBO Paddock of Roebuck Plains on 19 th June and 13 th July (NK). One seen just before dusk flying low over the BBO accommodation block on 30 th June (NK and GQ).	
AUSTRALIAN OWLET-NIGHTJAR <i>Aegotheles cristatus</i>	15 records
All records from the BBO grounds, between 5 th May and 17 th August. A few days after this last record a cat was seen at a known roosting hollow (GH); the resident pair have not been seen or heard since.	
SWIFTLET SP.	1 Record
One record of a single individual flying over northern shores of Roebuck Bay on 18 th January (AB). Left impression of nest swiftlet species however, views not sufficient for confirmed identification.	
FORK-TAILED SWIFT <i>Apus pacificus</i>	24 records
Seen regularly early in the year from a variety of locations, larger numbers often coinciding with low-pressure systems. The last record before northward migration was on 23 rd April (NJ). The first returned migrants were seen at Entrance Point on 7 th September (NJ), after which there were a further four records from there, Broome and the BBO. An estimated 500 at Entrance Point on 14 th November (KH) was the high count for the year.	
HOUSE SWIFT <i>Apus nipalensis</i>	3 records
A brief influx associated with the passing of Tropical Low 08U. One was seen at Entrance Point on 21 st January (NJ), followed by an amazing 26 at the same location the following morning (NJ and AB), when one was also seen from the BBO Viewing Platform (NK).	
PHEASANT COUCAL <i>Centropus phasianinus</i>	143 records
Common throughout the year in pindan and paperbark woodland, wetlands and gardens. A pair with young were found on the flooded plains along the Great Northern Highway on 20 th February (CGM).	
EASTERN KOEL <i>Eudynamys orientalis</i>	7 records
A male found calling on Lullfitz Drive on 21 st October (JC) continually present for the rest of the year.	
CHANNEL-BILLED CUCKOO <i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	35 records
Locally common in the summer months, especially around Broome and Twelve Mile. The last record before northward migration was in Twelve Mile on 26 th April, with the first returned bird at the same location on 26 th September (CJH).	
HORSFIELD'S BRONZE-CUCKOO <i>Chalcites basalis</i>	66 records
Regularly recorded at woodland sites throughout the region all year.	
BLACK-EARED CUCKOO <i>Chalcites osculans</i>	3 records
A pair seen along the Dampier Downs Road on 21 st April (CJH and KH), one in woodland near Tagarana Bore on 21 st October (JT and SM) and a juvenile at One Tree on 4 th December (AB, KH, NK)	

LITTLE BRONZE-CUCKOO *Chalcites minutillus* 108 records

Commonly recorded throughout the year in mangals, paperbark forest and coastal pindan. Regular around the BBO grounds. A juvenile was seen being fed by a Dusky Gerygone in the Crab Creek mangroves on 4th March (NK and BV).

BRUSH CUCKOO *Cacomantis variolosus* 93 records

Recorded regularly through most of the year in pindan and paperbark woodland, but with no records between 6th April and 12th June. This is a regular pattern for the species in Broome, although it is unclear if they are genuinely absent during this period or overlooked because they aren't calling.

PALLID CUCKOO *Heteroscenes pallidus* 65 records

An excellent year for this species, in sharp contrast to 2020. Seen regularly around Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Champion, and occasionally at other woodland and grassland sites, until the end of August. From 30th August onwards a pair were heard calling regularly around the BBO grounds.

ORIENTAL CUCKOO *Cuculus saturatus* 5 records

One at James Price Point on 23rd January (NJ) was the only record before northward migration. The first returned bird was photographed over the Broome South sewage works on 18th October (SS). One was flushed from pindan along Crab Creek Road, near Tattler Rocks, on 12th November (NK). On 17th November a rufous-morph female was flushed several times from around the BBO Viewing Platform and firebreak (NK, DB and WM); later in the day another individual was seen over Guy Street in Broome, being harassed by Torresian Crows (DB).

BUFF-BANDED RAIL *Hypotaenidia philippensis* 6 records

Two juveniles were seen on flooded plains along the Great Northern Highway on 4th April (GS). An adult found in the Crab Creek mangroves on 22nd August (LP) was seen on two further occasions in the following five days. Another was at Crescent Lake on 4th and 5th September (NK and OG).

AUSTRALIAN SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana fluminea* 1 record

One at Crescent Lake, 5th September (BG), one at Broome South sewage works, 30th December (AB).

BAILLON'S CRAKE *Zapornia pusilla* 5 records

One flushed from reeds at Lake Champion on 5th March (NK). Singles at the same location on 21st June (DA, NK and JT) and 4th July (NJ and AB). One was at Crescent Lake on 5th September (AB), with two seen there on 30th September (NJ, NK and BV) the final record of the year.

SPOTLESS CRAKE *Zapornia tabuensis* 3 records

All records from Crescent Lake: on 26th July, 30th September and 3rd December (all NK).



A Baillon's Crake at Crescent Lake on 5th September (Adrian Boyle).

WHITE-BROWED CRAKE *Amaurornis cinerea*

4 records

All records from Nimalarragun, where there appears to be a small resident population. At least three were present on 28th January (NK and JT), with further records from 8th May (NJ), 5th December (AB) and 17th December (NJ, JG and SF).

PURPLE SWAMPHEN *Porphyrio porphyrio*

39 records

Present throughout the year at Nimalarragun and Crescent Lake. Also recorded from the flooded grasslands along the Great Northern Highway until 8th May, and lakes Eda and Campion until 14th July. One was at Ram-Paddock Well on 10th December. A rather tame individual was seen on the lawns of the Roebuck Plains Roadhouse on 30th June, 20th October and 10th December. The high count for the year was an estimated 20 at Nimalarragun on 30th September (NJ, BV and NK).

BLACK-TAILED NATIVE-HEN *Tribonyx ventralis*

9 records

A single at the Tamarisk Bore on the Great Northern Highway on 29th March (CGM) was joined by another the following day (OG and BV); one was seen there again on 1st April (NK). One was at Lake Eda on 9th June, 21st June, 5th July (all NK) and 28th November (CJH). One was found at the Broome South sewage works on 14th December (NK) and continued to be seen there for the rest of the year.

EURASIAN COOT *Fulica atra*

126 records

Common throughout the year at all wetlands with sufficiently deep fresh water. High count of 320 at Lake Eda on 25th July (AB).

BROLGA *Antigone rubicunda*

224 records

Uncommon in the early part of the year. A pair with two young chicks at Lake Campion on 11th March was possibly the first breeding record for Broome (BV, NJ, NK and OG). Much more numerous in the dry season, foraging on grasslands and coming to drink and cool off in numbers at the lakes, especially Lake Eda. The high count for the year was 526 at Eda on 28th November (CJH).

AUSTRALIAN BUSTARD *Ardeotis australis*

26 records

Uncommonly recorded across woodland and grassland habitats, throughout the year.

WILSON'S STORM-PETREL *Oceanites oceanicus*

5 records

Fairly common in ocean waters off Broome, but only occasionally reported to the log. Seen from vessels off the west coast on 23rd May (NJ), 15th August (BG), 9th September (JH) and 26th November (KB), and from Entrance Point on 14th June (AB).



Adult Brolga (right) with two downy young at Lake Campion on 11th March (Nyil Khwaja): this was a very rare breeding record for Broome.



This Wedge-tailed Shearwater seen off Broome on 12th September was of the pale morph, an unusual sight in waters off Western Australia (Adrian Boyle).

- WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *Ardenna pacifica* 1 record
 A pale-morph individual was seen in deep water off Broome on 12th September (AB). A probable Bulwer's Petrel *Bulweria bulwerii* was also seen on this trip, but with insufficient views to confirm ID.
- STREAKED SHEARWATER *Calonectris leucomelas* 2 records
 One seen in water c.29 m deep approximately 52 km south-west of Broome Port on 28th February (GS). Also seen in deep water off Broome on 12th September (AB).
- HUTTON'S SHEARWATER *Puffinus huttoni* 2 records
 Twelve seen from a vessel on a tuna work-up off Willie Creek on 7th July (BG). Also seen in deep water off Broome on 12th September (AB).
- BLACK-NECKED STORK *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus* 145 records
 Regularly seen in Roebuck Bay and at shallow wetlands throughout the year, usually in ones and twos. High count of 14 at Lake Eda on 19th June (CJH). Young juveniles were seen in the BBO Paddock on 21st April, and at Crescent Lake and the Broome South sewage works during November.
- YELLOW-BILLED SPOONBILL *Platalea flavipes* 4 records
 Two found at Lake Eda on 19th July (NK) were still there six days later (AB). A single bird with a stick apparently stuck in its breast was with Royal Spoonbills at Lake Champion on 17th October (CGM) and again three days later (JT and NK).
- ROYAL SPOONBILL *Platalea regia* 95 records
 Regularly recorded at wetlands throughout the region, including Roebuck Bay, but in smaller numbers than previous years. One in a group of Australian White Ibis at the BBO bird baths on 15th November (NK) was a nice addition to the Shadehouse list! High count of 35 at Taylor's Lagoon on 21st November (KH).
- STRAW-NECKED IBIS *Threskiornis spinicollis* 264 records
 Common around the lakes and bores of Roebuck Plains, as well as irrigated lawns and parks in the town of Broome. High count of 200 on the Common on 2nd September (NK).
- AUSTRALIAN WHITE IBIS *Threskiornis moluccus* 424 records
 Very common around the town of Broome and in Roebuck Bay, particularly during the dry season. Birds regularly visited the Shadehouse bird baths, in greater numbers once conditions dried out later in the year. At this time a flock would often roost around the BBO grounds. Also regular roosting and

loafing around Tagarana Bore, Nimalarragun and Crescent Lake. Scarce in the eastern part of Roebuck Plains Station.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* 75 records

A very good year for this species. Irrupted into the region following the rains, with large numbers seen on flooded grasslands including a high count of 3,000 from the Great Northern Highway on 16th March (KH). Restricted to the lakes and dams of Roebuck Plains from June, as the grasslands dried out, but continued to be seen at these wetlands for the rest of the year, with 3 also seen at Crescent Lake on 25th July.

NANKEEN NIGHT-HERON *Nycticorax caledonicus* 10 records

Seen around the flooded plains along the Great Northern Highway on seven occasions between 10th February and 25th May; it seems likely that the species nested around this site, with a juvenile found dead there on 25th May. Also seen at Kilito Station on 20th July, Crescent Lake on 25th July, and on a roof in Roebuck Estate on 19th November.

STRIATED HERON *Butorides striata* 155 records

Common in mangroves at Crab Creek and Barred Creek, and also regularly recorded along the beaches of northern Roebuck Bay.

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis* 13 records

Thirteen at Kidneybean Claypan on 16th June were the first recorded in the year (NK and NJ). After this seen fairly regularly in small numbers at Lake Eda, often accompanying the cattle allowed to graze there through the middle of the year, and on the Common. One was on the irrigated crop field at the Broome North sewage works on 30th September (BV and NK). One roosting with Australian White Ibis at Tagarana Bore on 30th October (NK) was the final record of the year.

WHITE-NECKED HERON *Ardea pacifica* 79 records

Commonly recorded at vegetated freshwater wetlands, with one record from the Broome South sewage works (15th May). High count of 15 at Lake Eda on 5th July (NK). The final record of the year was one at Lake Eda on 7th November (NK, JR and NJ).

GREAT EGRET *Ardea alba* 299 records

Commonly recorded at wetlands throughout the region all year, including Roebuck Bay, with a high count of 146 at Kidneybean Claypan on 13th June (NK).

PLUMED EGRET *Ardea plumifera* 32 records

Recorded regularly in small numbers at vegetated freshwater wetlands until 29th August. After this, records were limited to one bird at the Broome South sewage works on 5th November, 10th November, 4th December and 22nd December. High count of 15 at Lake Eda on 11th May (NK).

WHITE-FACED HERON *Egretta novaehollandiae* 278 records

Very commonly recorded at wetland sites throughout the region. There were nests with chicks at Tagarana Bore and in the BBO Paddock during March.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta* 253 records

Very common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year, and also seen regularly at Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Eda. Three hundred counted along Crab Creek from Migration Watch on 25th April (NK) was the most recorded in the year.

EASTERN REEF EGRET *Egretta sacra* 213 records
Common all along the coastline, with the grey morph predominating in Roebuck Bay, but white-morph birds nonetheless seen regularly. One at the Broome South sewage works on 8th May was unusual (NJ).

AUSTRALIAN PELICAN *Pelecanus conspicillatus* 382 records
Common in Roebuck Bay and at larger freshwater wetlands throughout the year. High count of 352 at Kidneybean Claypan on 8th August (CJH).

LESSER FRIGATEBIRD *Fregata ariel* 13 records
Uncommonly recorded at coastal sites, throughout the year.

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster* 73 records
Common at Entrance Point and other west coast sites throughout the year. Occasionally seen in Roebuck Bay between June and September.

LITTLE PIED CORMORANT *Microcarbo melanoleucos* 89 records
Commonly recorded at freshwater sites throughout the year, with occasional records in Roebuck Bay and at Gantheaume Point. High count of 45 at Lake Eda on 30th August (JG).

LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* 24 records
Scarce in the first half of the year, with the only records from the flooded Great Northern Highway on 20th February (CGM) and Lake Eda on 21st April (NK). From July, regular at Taylor's Lagoon and Eda, with one record each from Lake Champion and the Broome South sewage works. No records from Roebuck Bay or any other coastal sites. High count of 42 at Lake Eda on 28th November (CJH).

GREAT PIED CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax varius* 44 records
Much less common than in previous years, but recorded occasionally in Roebuck Bay, and fairly regularly at Lake Eda and Entrance Point. High count for the year was just 10 birds at Lake Eda on 17th June (NK).

AUSTRALASIAN DARTER *Anhinga novaehollandiae* 41 records
First recorded along the flooded Great Northern Highway on 13th April, and thereafter seen regularly at freshwater sites. Occasional at coastal sites (six records from Roebuck Bay and two from Entrance Point). High count of 20 at Lake Eda on 24th September (NK).

BUSH STONE-CURLEW *Burhinus grallarius* 8 records
Seen several times on the all-weather section of Crab Creek Road and on the track between BBO and Twelve Mile in February, March and April, including a pair with one young on 24th February. Scarce thereafter: one heard at the BBO campground on the night of 16th June and one head at the Broome Caravan Park on 28th August were the only further records.

BEACH STONE-CURLEW *Esacus magnirostris* 29 records
Uncommon but recorded regularly from Roebuck Bay and other coastal sites including Barred Creek. One was often seen on the BBO Beach during the second half of the year.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	1	1
Bush Point	0	0
Total	1	1

AUSTRALIAN PIED OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus longirostris*

258 records

Common at coastal sites throughout the year.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	104	67
Bush Point	75	281
Total	179	348

SOOTY OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus fuliginosus*

63 records

Present in small numbers in Roebuck Bay for most of the year, often seen at Eagle’s Roost. Also seen at other rocky coastal sites. One was on the northern shores during the winter MYSMA count, but none were recorded on any of the other counts.

BANDED STILT *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*

3 records

One found feeding among large numbers of Pied Stilt and Red-necked Avocet at Kidneybean Claypan on 7th July (NK) was seen again at the same site on 10th July (NK and BV) and 18th July (AB).

RED-NECKED AVOCET *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

67 records

First recorded on 1st June, when two were seen in Roebuck Bay. Regular thereafter in the bay, and at Kidneybean Claypan during June and July. Also seen later in the year at Crescent Lake and Lake Champion. Thirty-eight were seen during the summer MYSMA count on the northern shores of Roebuck Bay, with none recorded during any of the other counts. The high count for the year was 170 along the northern shores of the bay on 10th August.

PIED STILT *Himantopus leucocephalus*

338 records

Commonly recorded at wetlands throughout the year. Large numbers appeared to be nesting in the flooded areas around Kidneybean Claypan early in the year, with distraction displays and agitated mobbing of raptors observed around the site. It seems they were successful: huge numbers of the species including many juveniles were present at Kidneybean during June and July, with a high count of 5,300 on 13th June (NK). Vocal flocks of 85 and 70 birds were seen taking off from the flooded Jabiru Paddock fence line on 6th May in apparent migratory flights, but both eventually returned and remained there until dusk (NK). There were no definitive records of migratory departures this year.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	295	179
Bush Point	0	0
Total	295	179



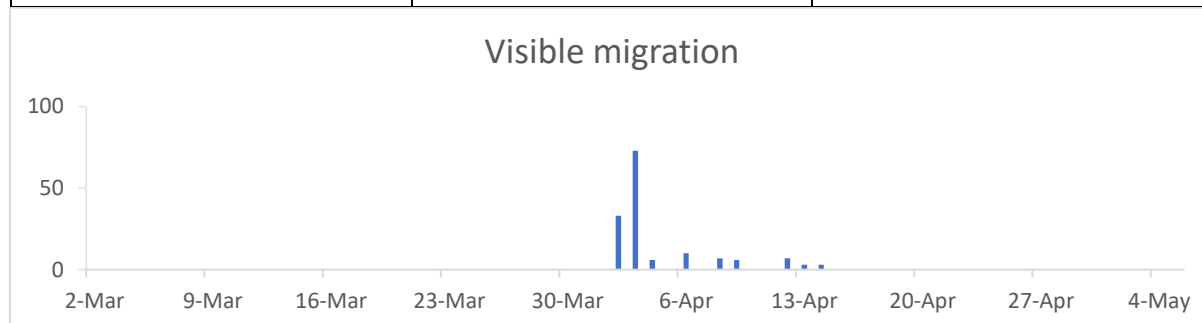
A Banded Stilt among Pied Stilts at Kidneybean Claypan on 7th July (Nyil Khwaja).

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

141 records

Recorded regularly in Roebuck Bay throughout the year.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	14	217
Bush Point	54	95
Total	68	312



PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER

77 records

Small numbers in Roebuck Bay throughout the year; occasional sightings of overwintering birds. Also regular at the Broome South sewage works during the summer months. The first juvenile of the season was seen at Entrance Point on 7th October (NK).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	0	45
Bush Point	0	20
Total	0	65

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

13 records

Subject to BARC review this is another new shorebird for the Broome list! First found as a 'Ringed/Semipalmated Plover' in a large mixed roost on Wader Beach on 4th October (GS). Seen several times in the following week foraging on exposed sand flats off the BBO Beach. Despite excellent views and photos, it was challenging to identify, with some features seeming to point to each of the two candidates. It was then not seen until 9th December, when it was again foraging in front of BBO (NK). It stayed faithful to this area outside the high tide period and was seen regularly there over the next week, as well as roosting on shingle between BBO and the Gurlbinwila boat ramp at high tide. Consensus has built around Common Ringed Plover based on plumage features (which strongly support ID), bill length and apparent lack of webbing between middle and inner toes.



A Common Ringed Plover first found in October was again being seen regularly on sand flats in front of BBO during December (Nigel Jackett).

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

9 records

One found at Crescent Lake on 1st September (NJ) was present for the following four days, but not seen again at the site. On 28th October, one was found at Lake Eda (BV): quite possibly the same individual. It was seen on most visits to Eda for the rest of the year.

RED-CAPPED PLOVER *Charadrius ruficapillus*

209 records

Abundant in Roebuck Bay throughout the year, as well as open country inland near freshwater wetlands such as Crescent Lake, Lake Eda, Kidneybean Claypan and other areas of Roebuck Plains. A nest with eggs was found just off the track through the BBO Paddock on 1st May. Chicks were also seen at Coconut Wells in February (CGM), and at Crescent Lake and Lake Eda in September.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	179	864
Bush Point	2,262	1,094
Total	2,441	1,958

LESSER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius mongolus*

117 records

Commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay throughout the year; also at Quondong Point on 28th January (NK and JT). The first juvenile of the season was seen on 8th September (CJH). A loose group of four birds were seen leaving on migration from the BBO Beach on 9th April.

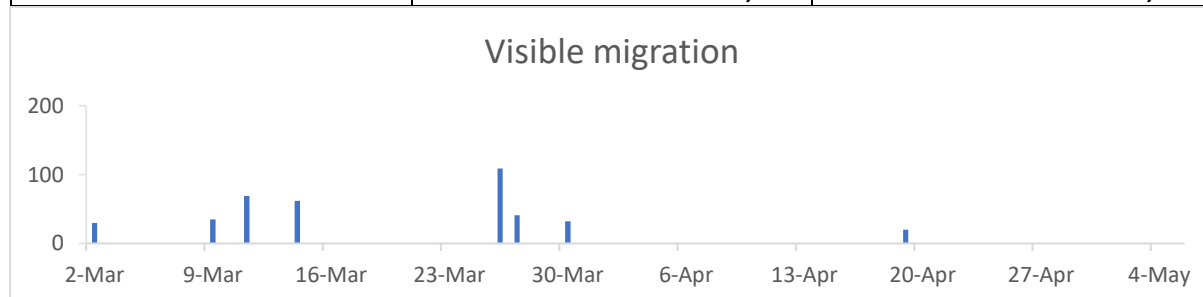
Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	93	127
Bush Point	7	22
Total	100	149

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii*

162 records

Abundant in Roebuck Bay throughout the year. Also reported from Quondong Point, and three times at Crescent Lake. The first juvenile of the season was at Wader Spit on 16th August (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	6	3,651
Bush Point	2,062	14,160
Total	2,068	17,811

**ORIENTAL PLOVER *Charadrius veredus***

25 records

No records prior to northward migration. The first of the year was a returnee at the Square Dam on Roebuck Plains on 30th August (AB). They continued to be seen at grassland and wetland sites for the rest of the year. There were 129 at Bush Point during the summer MYSMA count.

BLACK-FRONTED DOTTEREL *Elsayornis melanops*

136 records

Very common at freshwater wetlands, with a high count of 104 at Lake Eda on 28th November (CJH).

MASKED LAPWING *Vanellus miles* 281 records

Very common at freshwater wetlands and wet grasslands, including irrigated areas in Broome. Occasionally heard from the BBO at night, likely birds moving onto Roebuck Plains. Chicks were noted at the Broome South sewage works in September and November. At least 100 were present around Kidneybean Claypan on 20th June (CJH), which was the high count for the year.

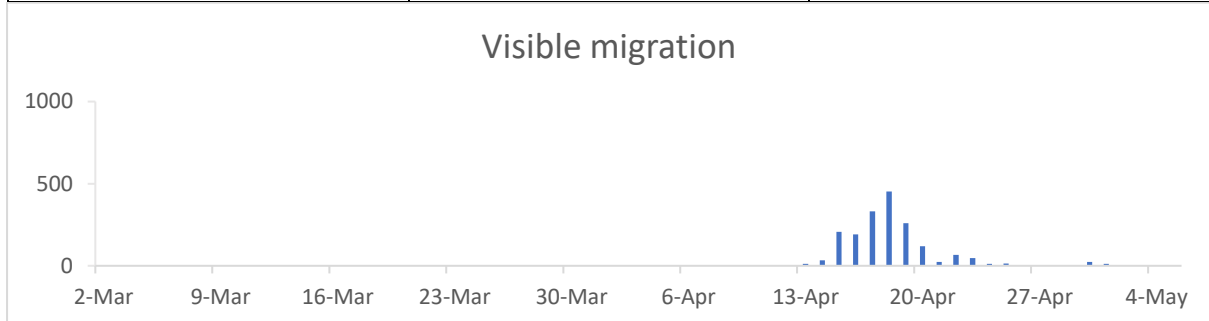
RED-KNEED DOTTEREL *Erythrogonys cinctus* 79 records

Common at vegetated freshwater wetlands including all Roebuck Plains lakes. Most abundant following the wet season, with a high count of 190 near Kidneybean on 7th March (NK).

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* 295 records

Common in Roebuck Bay and other coastal sites. First juvenile in the bay on 29th September (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	208	500
Bush Point	138	108
Total	346	608



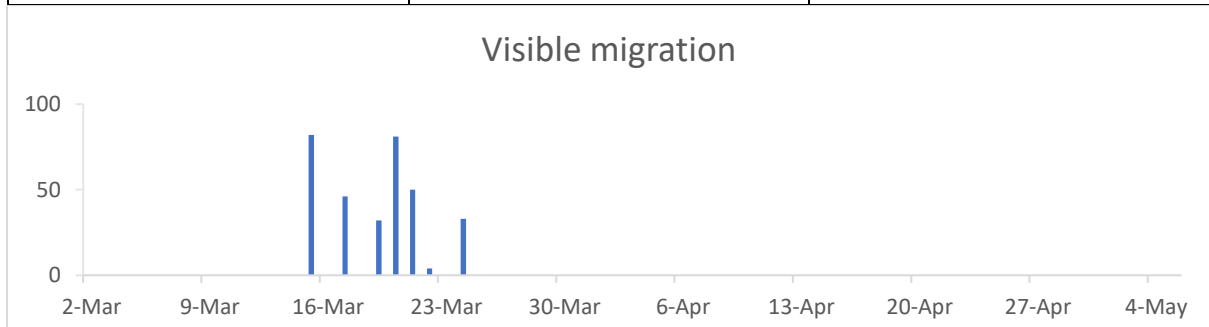
LITTLE CURLEW *Numenius minutus* 28 records

Three near Kidneybean Claypan on 18th February and one at the Broome South sewage works on 5th and 7th April were the only records before northward migration. First returnee at Lake Eda on 17th September (BV). Regular at wetlands and grasslands thereafter. Most numerous around Eda, with over 2,000 there on occasions in December. One at Bush Point during the summer MYSMA count.

FAR EASTERN CURLEW *Numenius madagascariensis* 192 records

Present in Roebuck Bay all year. The first juvenile was seen at Wader Spit on 15th August (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	28	508
Bush Point	1	109
Total	29	617

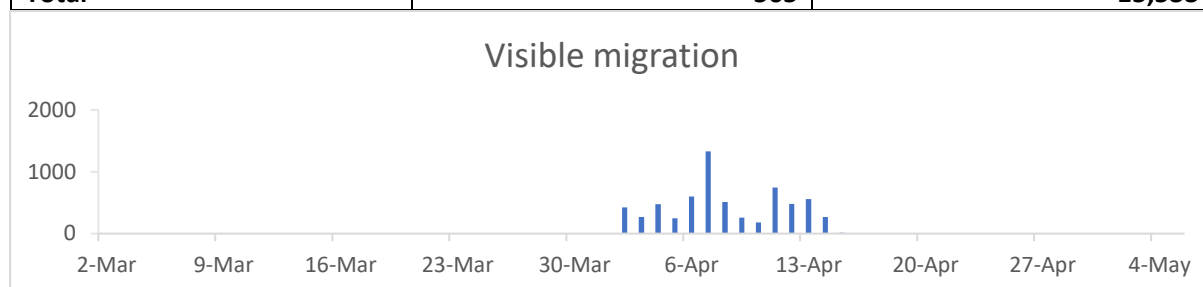


BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica*

229 records

Very common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year. By far the most numerous species counted leaving on migration, although outnumbered by Great Knot and Greater Sand Plover in the full MYSMA counts of the bay. Nevertheless, once migrants had returned, the total numbers present in the bay at the end of the year were noticeably lower than in previous years. The first juvenile was not recorded until 12th October on Campsite Beach (KH), and relatively few were seen thereafter, suggesting a poor breeding season for the species.

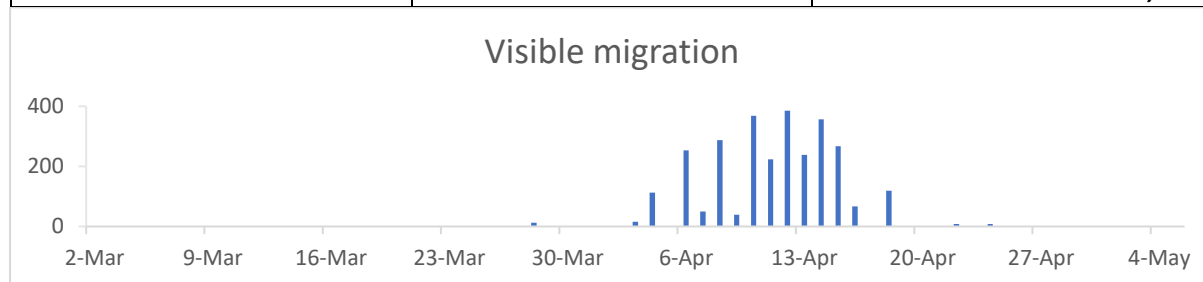
Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	224	5,857
Bush Point	341	9,676
Total	565	15,533

**BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa***

157 records

Common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year and regularly recorded at freshwater wetlands during the summer months, generally in small numbers. The first juvenile of the season was seen in the bay on 6th September (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	157	2,477
Bush Point	0	2
Total	157	2,479

**RUDDY TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres***

205 records

Common at coastal sites throughout the year and also regular at the Broome South sewage works and Crescent Lake. The first juvenile was seen in Roebuck Bay on 30th August (CJH). No visible migration observed.

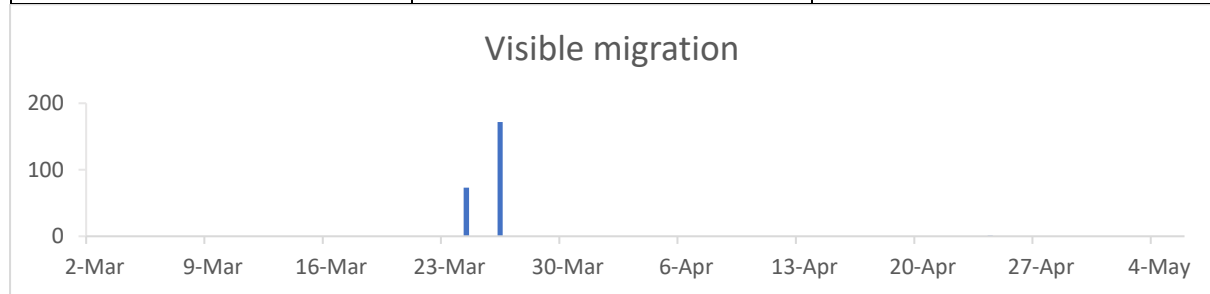
Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	52	455
Bush Point	199	495
Total	251	950

GREAT KNOT *Calidris tenuirostris*

193 records

Abundant in Roebuck Bay throughout the year. Also recorded at the Broome South sewage works on 12th November (NK). The first juvenile was seen in the bay on 30th August (AB).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	2,194	20,325
Bush Point	1,037	18,452
Total	3,231	38,777

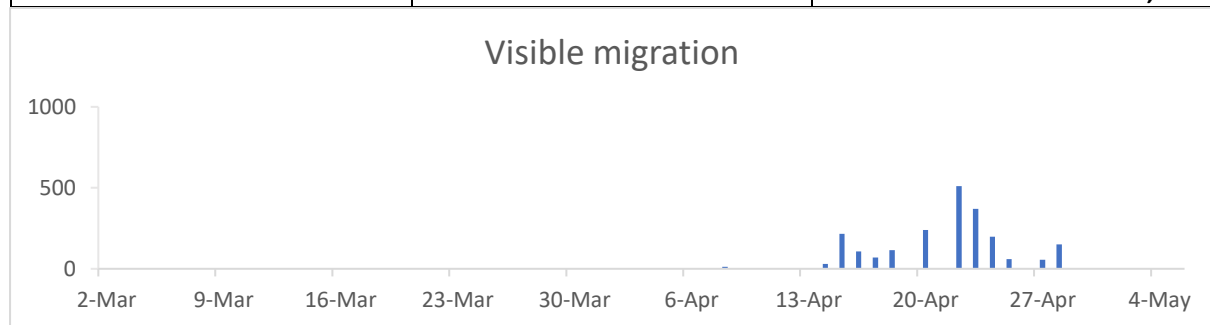


RED KNOT *Calidris canutus*

189 records

Very common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year; unusually there was also one regularly seen at Lake Eda after return migration. The first juvenile was seen in the bay on 14th September (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	468	1,958
Bush Point	35	1,555
Total	503	3,513

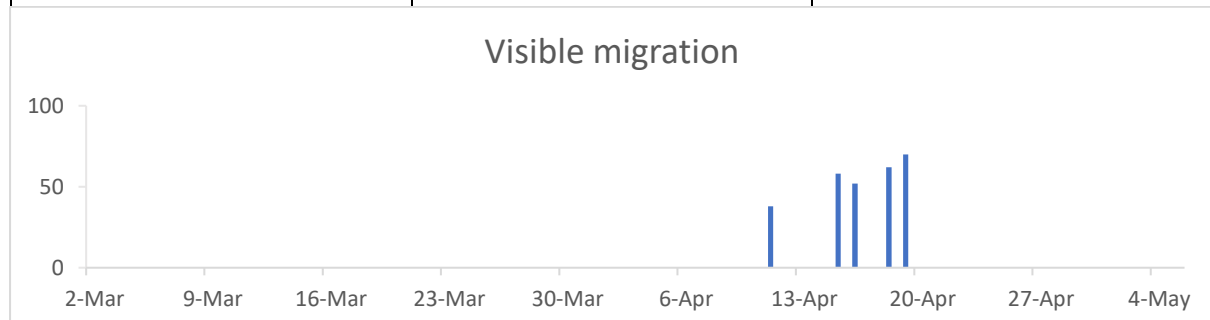


BROAD-BILLED SANDPIPER *Calidris falcinellus*

57 records

Regular in Roebuck Bay during the summer months. No records between 19th April and 16th July, suggesting none overwintered. The first juvenile was seen on Wader Beach on 6th October (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	0	110
Bush Point	0	324
Total	0	434



SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER *Calidris acuminata*

123 records

Common at freshwater wetlands in the summer months, and in Roebuck Bay after return migration. A few recorded on Roebuck Plains in late May and early July may have overwintered, or could have been late to depart and early to return respectively. First juvenile seen in the bay on 8th September (CJH). A group of 12 in line formation departed on migration from the BBO Beach on 17th March.

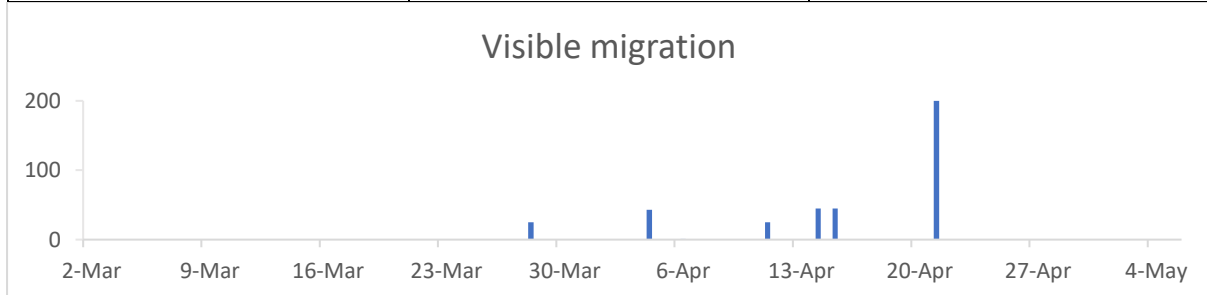
Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	1	212
Bush Point	0	79
Total	1	291

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

121 records

Commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay throughout the year and at freshwater wetlands during the summer months. The first juvenile was seen at Wader Spit on 28th August (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	40	848
Bush Point	29	262
Total	69	1,110



LONG-TOED STINT *Calidris subminuta*

35 records

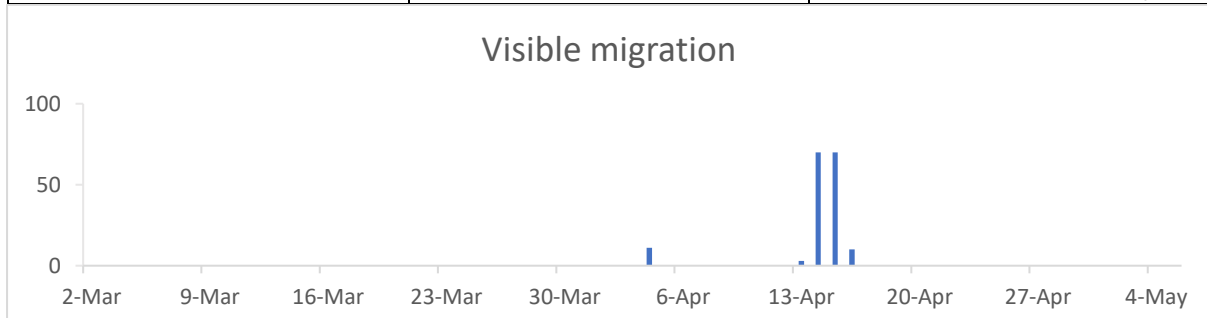
No records before northward migration. The first returned bird was at Lake Eda on 25th July (AB). From then on this species was seen regularly at freshwater wetlands, with a high count of 20 at Eda on 28th November (CJH). The first juvenile was seen at the same site on 24th September (NK).

RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis*

133 records

Very common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year and commonly recorded at freshwater wetlands during the summer months. The first juvenile was seen in the bay on 25th September (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	71	4,339
Bush Point	654	7,318
Total	725	11,657





A Little Stint in breeding plumage at Lake Eda on 11th November (John Baas).

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

18 records

Seen occasionally at coastal sites including Roebuck Bay’s northern shores; the species’s stronghold in the region is Bush Point, which was only visited twice for counts. The first juvenile was seen on the bay’s northern shores on 5th October (NK).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	0	2
Bush Point	354	1,071
Total	354	1,073

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

1 record

A stunning adult in full breeding plumage was found at Lake Eda on 11th November (NK, JB and PW). It could not be located on follow-up trips in subsequent days.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *Calidris melanotos*

1 record

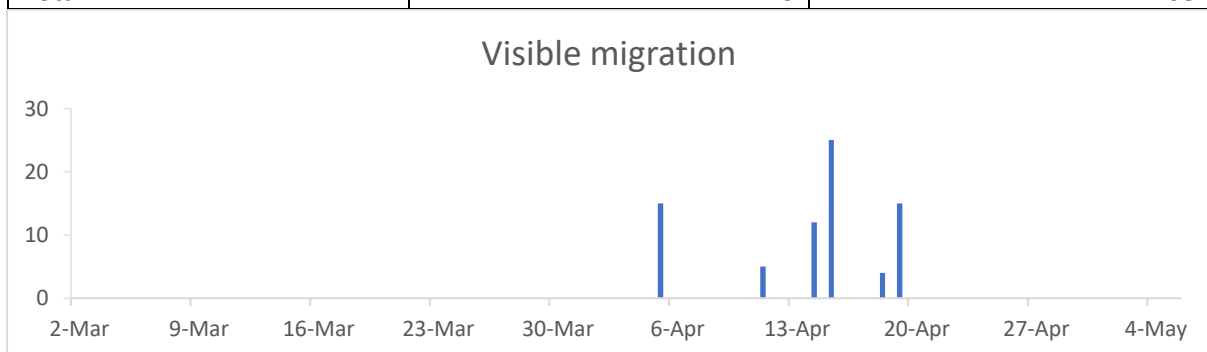
One found on 4th November at Taylor’s Lagoon (GS and GG) was the only record of the year.

ASIAN DOWITCHER *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

49 records

Seen regularly throughout the year roosting on the beaches along Roebuck Bay’s northern shores and feeding on the Crab Creek mudflats. The first juvenile of the season was seen at Fish Heads on 27th August (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	6	1
Bush Point	0	67
Total	6	68





A Red-necked Phalarope at the Broome South sewage works on 22nd December (Nyil Khwaja): the first time this rare migrant has been seen in Broome since 2018.

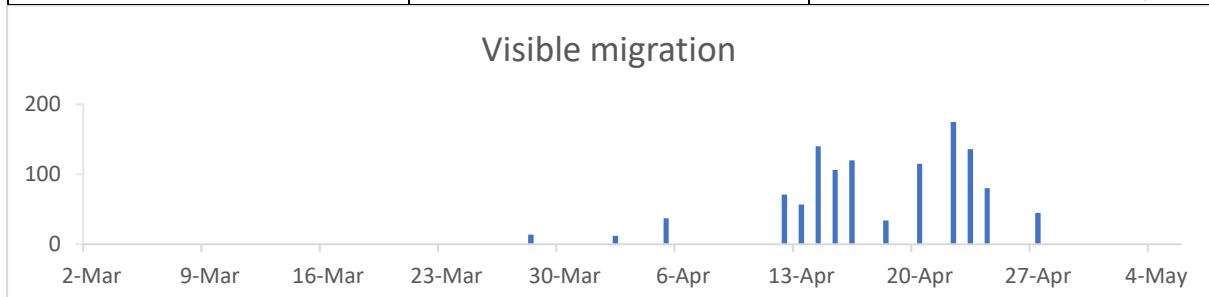
PINTAIL SNIPE *Gallinago stenura* 2 records
 One identified by flight call at Collins Lagoon on 15th February (NK) was still present on 11th March, when the ID was confirmed by recording the call (NJ). Another silent and unidentified snipe was also present on this second visit.

SWINHOE'S SNIPE *Gallinago megala* 1 record
 One identified from a recorded flight call at Nimalarragun on 17th December was the only confirmed record for the year (NJ, JG and SF).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus* 1 record
 A brilliant late addition to the year list: one found at the Broome South sewage works on 22nd December (AB) was the first in the region for three years.

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus* 159 records
 Common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	71	755
Bush Point	36	319
Total	107	1,074



COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos*

186 records

Very commonly recorded along creek lines, rocky shores and freshwater margins during the summer months. The last before northward migration was at Little Crab Creek on 17th May. A very early presumed returnee was seen at Tattler Rocks on 1st July (BV and NK). One was seen leaving on migration from Gantheaume Point on 16th April (NJ and BG).

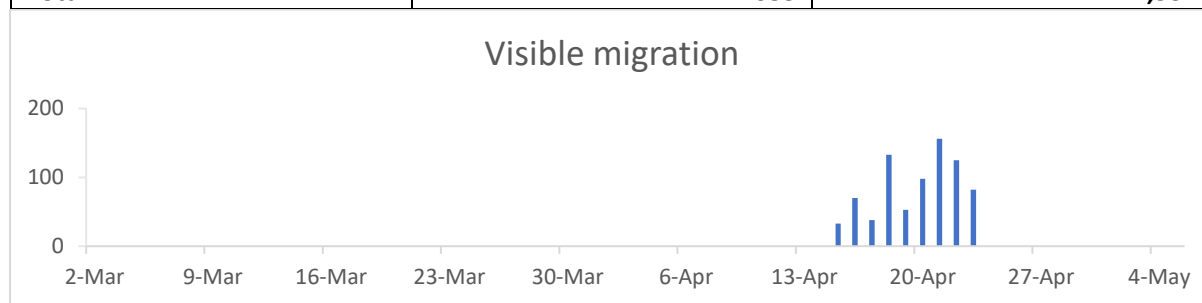
Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	0	20
Bush Point	0	3
Total	0	23

GREY-TAILED TATTLER *Tringa brevipes*

199 records

Very common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year, with occasional sightings at Crescent Lake and an unusual inland record from Lake Campion on 6th October (GS and NK). The first juvenile was seen in the bay on 11th September (CJH).

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	246	2,670
Bush Point	413	322
Total	659	2,992

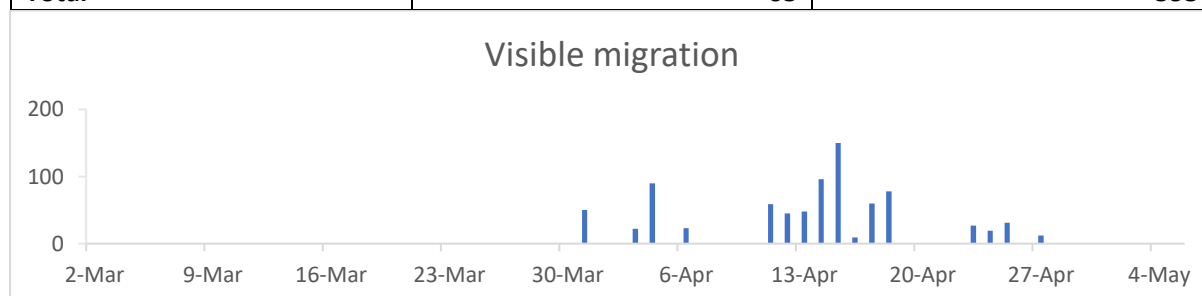


COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

258 records

Commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay all year and often also seen on freshwater wetlands and saltmarsh claypans.

Roebuck Bay MYSMA counts	Winter	Summer
Northern Shores	65	587
Bush Point	0	8
Total	65	595



COMMON REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

18 records

Regularly found feeding outside the high tide period on the mudflats around Crab Creek, but not often seen at high tide, with only three records from shorebird roosts on the northern shores of Roebuck Bay. Not seen between 8th May and 18th September, so it is possible that none

overwintered. High count of five from Crab Creek on 24th April (NJ). One was at Taylor's Lagoon on 6th October (NK) and seen again there four days later: a rare inland record.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* 51 records
Common in freshwater habitats during the summer months. The last record before northward migration was on 6th April along the flooded Great Northern Highway. The first three returnees were seen at Lake Eda on 25th July (AB). High count for the year was 24 at Lake Campion on 10th October (BV, JT, NK and OG).

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* 72 records
Commonly recorded at freshwater wetlands and in Roebuck Bay during the summer months, with a few overwintering birds seen during June mainly at Kidneybean Claypan and once in Roebuck Bay. The first juvenile of the season was seen at Lake Eda on 31st August (CJH). At least 50 foraging on the Crab Creek mudflats on 18th September (NK) was the high count for the year.

LITTLE BUTTON-QUAIL *Turnix velox* 4 records
A handful of records early in the year: on the Common on 26th April (GG), in the BBO Paddock on 28th April (CJH and KH), along the Dampier Downs Road on 8th May (NJ) and at Shamrock Station on 7th June (NJ and AB).

AUSTRALIAN PRATINCOLE *Stiltia Isabella* 117 records
Scarce early in the year, but common in grassland and around freshwater wetlands from the start of May. Highest numbers were usually at Lake Eda, where 300 or more were often seen cooling off in the middle of the day.

ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE *Glareola maldivarum* 22 records
Present in the region in great numbers in late January, but mostly dispersed after heavy rain, and only seen occasionally from early February. The last before northward migration were seen along the Great Northern Highway on 5th April. The first returned bird was seen with Australian Pratincoles at Lake Eda on 14th October (NK). By mid-November there were thousands of birds visiting Eda and forming spectacular flocks. Thirteen were recorded at Bush Point during the summer MYSMA count.

BROWN NODDY *Anous stolidus* 1 record
At least 20 birds seen in mixed seabird feeding flocks offshore from the lower Dampier Peninsula on 26th November (KB).

SILVER GULL *Larus novaehollandiae* 342 records
Very commonly seen at coastal sites and around the town of Broome.



A Little Button-quail on the Common on 26th April (Geoffrey Groom) was the first record of four this year, and the first in the region for several years.



A juvenile Sooty Tern found on Cable Beach on 10th December (Cass Wittwer).

SOOTY TERN *Onychoprion fuscatus* 1 record

A juvenile found in poor condition on Cable Beach and taken into care on 10th December was the year's only record (CW).

BRIDLED TERN *Onychoprion anaethetus* 2 records

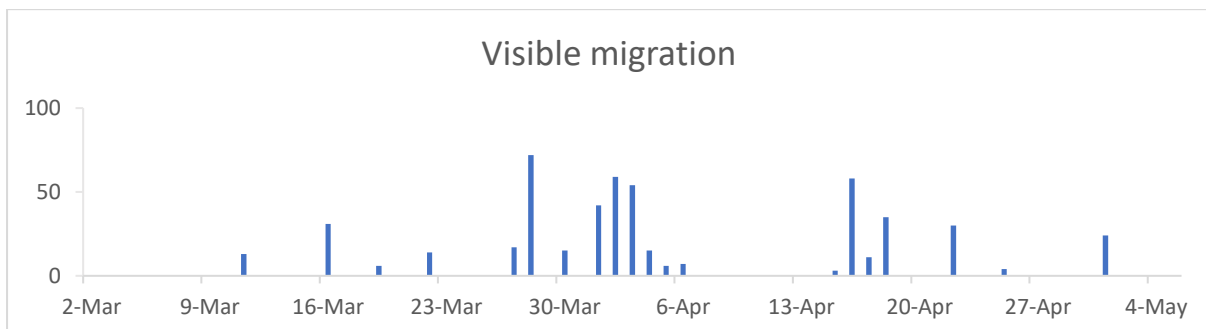
One photographed flying over near the Viewing Platform on 19th October (SS). Two seen at Quarry Beach on 20th November (CJH).

LITTLE TERN *Sternula albifrons* 79 records

Commonly recorded at coastal sites until the end of April, and again from the start of September, with occasional records of overwintering birds in between. High count of 700 at Simpson's Beach on 13th February (CJH).

COMMON GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica* 218 records

Commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay throughout the year. Also recorded on Roebuck Plains early in the year, and around freshwater wetlands such as Kidneybean Claypan and Lake Eda.



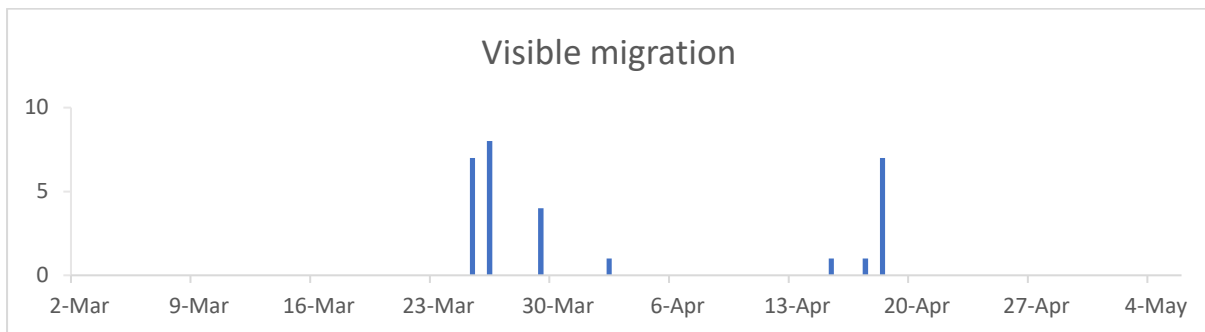
AUSTRALIAN GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon macrotarsa* 157 records

Common in Roebuck Bay throughout the year, and regular at freshwater wetlands such as Kidneybean, Lake Eda and the Broome South sewage works. Also seen hawking over Roebuck Plains

during wet conditions early in the year. High count of 784 on Roebuck Bay's northern shores during the winter MYSMA count.

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne caspia* 152 records
Common in Roebuck Bay; occasional at Lake Eda, Kidneybean and the Broome South sewage works.

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida* 277 records
Very common at freshwater wetlands and in Roebuck Bay; especially abundant in the summer months, when local breeders were joined by migrants from Asia. The first juvenile (presumed) migrant was seen on 21st September (CJH). There were active nests at Kidneybean during February. An estimated 5,000 along the flooded Great Northern Highway on 8th February was the high count for the year (KH).



WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* 50 records
Abundant on Roebuck Plains early in the year. The last seen before northward migration was at Lake Eda on 19th May (NK). The first returnee was at the Broome South sewage works on 13th September (AB). Following this they were regular there and seen occasionally at coastal sites and offshore.

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii* 5 records
One was seen at Quondong Point on 23rd January (NJ). Eighteen were seen offshore from Broome on 23rd May (NJ). Around 200 were seen offshore from Willie Creek on 7th November (AB, BV and OG), with several thousand in a similar area on 26th November (KB). They were also present at Bush Point during the summer MYSMA count there.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* 15 records
Seen fairly regularly in Roebuck Bay and at other coastal sites during the summer months. Usually more numerous offshore. Three coming in to Kidneybean Claypan in a large flock of Whiskered Terns on 7th July was an unusual record both for location and time of year (NK).

LESSER CRESTED TERN *Thalasseus bengalensis* 156 records
Commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay all year, with occasional sightings from other coastal locations. High count of 407 at Bush Point during the winter MYSMA count.

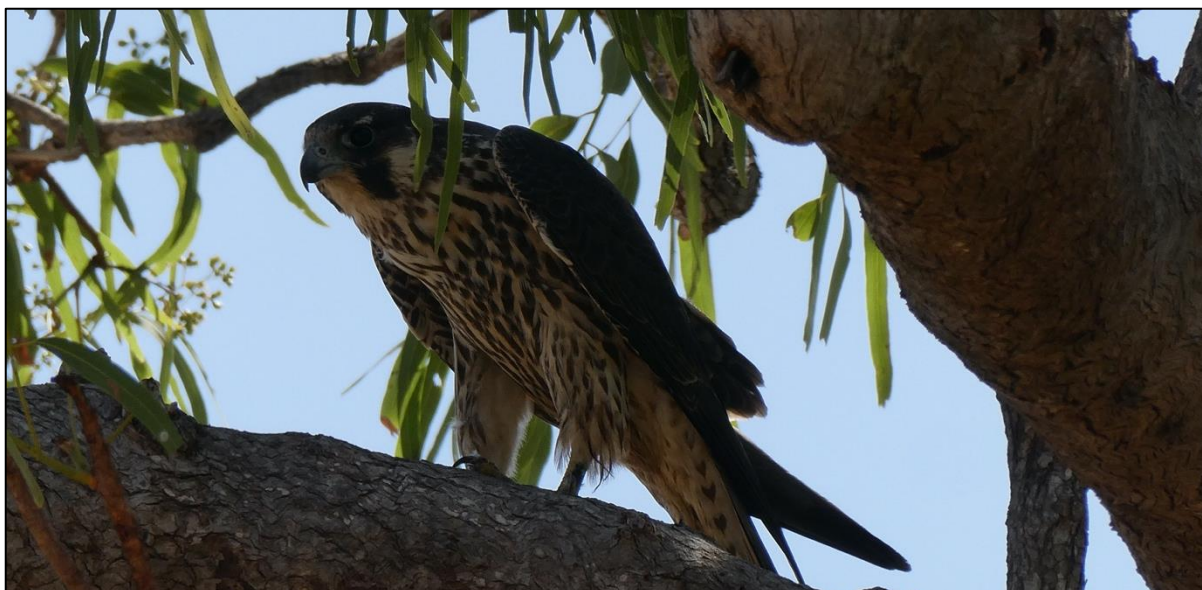
GREATER CRESTED TERN *Thalasseus bergii* 105 records
Widespread in coastal locations and commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba* 1 record
One seen on Buckley's Plain on 10th June (NJ).

BARKING OWL *Ninox connivens* 21 records
Regularly recorded around the town of Broome, with two records from Nimalarragun.

SOUTHERN BOOBOOK <i>Ninox boobook</i>	21 records
Most commonly recorded along pindan tracks between the BBO and the Broome Highway; also at Twelve Mile, along the Dampier Downs Road and twice heard from the observatory grounds.	
OSPREY <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	275 records
Very commonly recorded along the coastline and occasionally at near-coastal wetlands such as Kidneybean Claypan, Crescent Lake and the Broome South sewage works. Several pairs were observed nesting in Broome, including the regular pair at the Gantheaume Point lighthouse. Another pair again attempted to nest on Tattler Rocks, but were unsuccessful.	
BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE <i>Elanus axillaris</i>	91 records
Locally common in open country. A pair at the 'Tamarisk Bore' on the Great Northern Highway were observed feeding one another on 21 st June and sitting on a nest three days later. A group of eight, including six juveniles, were observed several times around the edge of Roebuck Plains near the BBO from mid-October, suggesting successful breeding nearby.	
BLACK-BREASTED BUZZARD <i>Hamirostra melanosternon</i>	46 records
Commonly recorded around the grasslands and wetlands of Roebuck Plains, especially in the dry season, with a high count of four at Lake Campion on 28 th September (NK).	
SQUARE-TAILED KITE <i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	2 records
One seen on Dampier Downs Rd on 2 nd April (AB), another exactly one month later at Taylor's Lagoon on 2 nd May (AB and LB).	
WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE <i>Aquila audax</i>	125 records
Commonly recorded in most habitats, generally away from the coast. A pair were seen copulating at Tagarana Bore on 1 st May.	
LITTLE EAGLE <i>Hieraetus morphnoides</i>	9 records
Occasionally recorded between 20 th April and 3 rd October, from a variety of locations throughout the region. Most were of the light morph, with one dark-morph bird in Twelve Mile on 20 th April (CJH).	
SWAMP HARRIER <i>Circus approximans</i>	91 records
Very commonly recorded, mostly around wetlands, up until the end of August. There was only one record after this, of a single seen at Taylor's Lagoon on 7 th November (NJ and NK): unusual for the time of year in Broome.	
SPOTTED HARRIER <i>Circus assimilis</i>	38 records
Not particularly common, but recorded regularly in open country throughout the year, including a pair that were nesting at the Tamarisk Bore in March.	
BROWN GOSHAWK <i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	220 records
Common in wooded habitats, and a regular visitor to the BBO bird baths.	
COLLARED SPARROWHAWK <i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>	20 records
Uncommon, especially around the observatory and town, where Brown Goshawk predominates. An occasional visitor to the BBO and around, with other records from Roebuck Plains wetlands and the lower Dampier Peninsula. One was seen to catch a Long-tailed Finch at Lake Eda on 30 th August.	
WHITE-BELLIED SEA-EAGLE <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	368 records
Very commonly recorded throughout the year around coastal sites and inland wetlands. Seen with various prey, mainly sea snakes in Roebuck Bay, but also Magpie Goose and Plumed Whistling-Duck at freshwater sites. A very young juvenile was seen in the Crab Creek mangroves on 11 th February.	

- WHISTLING KITE *Haliastur sphenurus*** 545 records
Ubiquitous in all habitats throughout the year. Active nests were found around the observatory and Roebuck Plains.
- BRAHMINY KITE *Haliastur indus*** 387 records
Very commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay and at other coastal and near-coastal wetlands. Occasionally seen further inland at Tagarana Bore, Ram-Paddock Well and Lake Eda. A pair that nested around the BBO in August and September successfully raised their chick to fledging.
- BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans*** 414 records
Very commonly recorded throughout the region all year, though appeared less numerous (especially in the late dry season) than some previous years; occasionally an entire Lakes Tour would go by without seeing one. Two nests in paperbark woodland near Tagarana Bore raised two chicks each in February and March. High count of 40 at the Broome South sewage works on 21st September (OG).
- RAINBOW BEE-EATER *Merops ornatus*** 461 records
Abundant throughout the region all year. Two fledglings were seen being fed by adults along the BBO firebreak on 29th January, while adults were seen visiting nesting burrows along the coastal section of Crab Creek Road through September and October. An estimated 250 at Lake Eda on 19th January, including one flock of around 100 birds (GS), was the high count for the year.
- ORIENTAL DOLLARBIRD *Eurystomus orientalis*** 126 records
Common and conspicuous in woodland habitats during the summer months. The last record before northward migration was in Broome on 14th April, and the first returning bird was at Nimalarragun on 30th September (BV, NJ and NK). Twenty-three individuals seen on Yamashita Drive in Twelve Mile on 23rd January, including at least eleven juveniles, was an exceptionally high count (CJH and KH).
- SACRED KINGFISHER *Todiramphus sanctus*** 259 records
Commonly recorded throughout the year in woodland and along the coast.
- RED-BACKED KINGFISHER *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius*** 11 records
Recorded from savanna woodland and grassland edges between 17th June and 20th October.
- BLUE-WINGED KOOKABURRA *Dacelo leachii*** 234 records
Common in pindan, paperbark and eucalypt woodland, including around the BBO grounds.
- NANKEEN KESTREL *Falco cenchroides*** 148 records
Common in open habitats. A regular pair nesting at Tagarana Bore were seen copulating on 20th June, and with a young juvenile on 18th October.
- AUSTRALIAN HOBBY *Falco longipennis*** 39 records
Not common, but recorded fairly regularly throughout the region all year.
- BROWN FALCON *Falco berigora*** 147 records
Common in woodland and grassland habitats throughout the year. Two young and very approachable juveniles were seen several times along the BBO firebreak during November.
- BLACK FALCON *Falco subniger*** 5 records
One seen on the floodplain along the Great Northern Highway on 3rd February (CGM); one was found dead at the same location on 14th June (CJH). One was seen in woodland north of Tagarana Bore during our Wave the Waders Goodbye course on 28th March. One was at Kidneybean Claypan on 18th July (AB). The final record of the year was one in the Crab Creek mangroves during our Birds of the Broome Region course on 5th October.



A juvenile Siberian Peregrine Falcon at 'Ned's Dam' on 21st December (Franky O'Connor).

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus* 17 records
 All records of both taxa were in the summer months. On eight occasions, subspecies could not be confirmed by the observer.

Australian Peregrine Falcon *F. p. macropus*. Only confirmed once, along Crab Creek Road on 14th April (NK), but sightings in the same location on 13th and 18th would very likely have been the same individual. Also a probable record at the BBO on 17th November, of an individual soaring over the firebreak which looked dark but was too distant to confirm facial pattern (NK).

Siberian Peregrine Falcon *F. p. calidus*. Seen on the floodplain along the Great Northern Highway on 2nd April (AB). The first confirmed returned migrant of this taxon was seen on the tower opposite the Eco Beach turnoff on the Great Northern Highway on 21st October (BV, NK and OG), although Peregrines had also been seen at the lakes on 17th and 20th October. Further confirmed records of this taxon came from Lake Champion, Taylor's Lagoon, Lake Eda and 'Ned's Dam' (opposite the turnoff to Nimalarragun). The overall pattern of records suggests two or three individuals.

COCKATIEL *Nymphicus hollandicus* 31 records
 Two were seen over the BBO on the morning of 2nd July (NK). Otherwise, all records were of small parties (up to 20) around Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Champion, between 9th March and 20th October.

RED-TAILED BLACK-COCKATOO *Calyptorhynchus banksii* 147 records
 Commonly recorded at woodland sites throughout the year, with the largest numbers at hangouts such as Tagarana Bore, 'Seventy KM Pool', Lake Champion and Ram-Paddock Well, with each appearing to be favoured at different times of year. Small numbers were often seen flying over the observatory in the evenings.

GALAH *Eolophus roseicapilla* 76 records
 Locally common around Taylor's Lagoon, Lake Champion, the Roebuck Plains Roadhouse, Tagarana Bore and the Broome North sewage works. High count of 90 at Taylor's on 13th November (CJH).

MAJOR MITCHELL'S COCKATOO *Cacatua leadbeateri* 2 records
 Seen along the Dampier Downs Road on 21st April (CJH and KH) and 8th May (NJ).

LITTLE CORELLA <i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	176 records
Commonly recorded around the town of Broome, Twelve Mile, the Roebuck Plains Roadhouse, Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Campion.	
VARIED LORIKEET <i>Psitteuteles versicolor</i>	5 records
Scarce this year, with two records from savanna woodland near Taylor's Lagoon (9 th June and 6 th October) and three from the BBO grounds (26 th November, 30 th November and 14 th December). All in small flocks (up to 20).	
RED-COLLARED LORIKEET <i>Trichoglossus rubitorquatus</i>	181 records
Very common, particularly around the town of Broome where there are several large roosts, but also regular at most woodland sites including the BBO.	
RED-WINGED PARROT <i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i>	340 records
Very common and conspicuous throughout the region all year.	
GREAT BOWERBIRD <i>Chlamydera nuchalis</i>	399 records
Very common throughout the coastal part of the recording area, and also regularly seen at the Roebuck Plains Roadhouse. Daily around the BBO grounds. A young juvenile was seen being fed by an adult at the BBO in early September.	
BLACK-TAILED TREECREEPER <i>Climacteris melanurus</i>	29 records
Locally common in mixed eucalypt-paperbark woodland on Roebuck Plains Station. Most records came from near the gate to Taylor's Lagoon.	
VARIEGATED FAIRY-WREN <i>Malurus lamberti</i>	142 records
Common in pindan and paperbark woodland. Regularly recorded around the BBO grounds.	
RED-BACKED FAIRY-WREN <i>Malurus melanocephalus</i>	150 records
Common throughout the region in all terrestrial habitats.	
BROWN HONEYEATER <i>Lichmera indistincta</i>	385 records
Abundant in pindan, paperbark woodland and mangals throughout the year, though numbers fluctuated. Two were seen attempting to move south from Entrance Point on 13 th March (NK).	
WHITE-THROATED HONEYEATER <i>Melithreptus albogularis</i>	20 records
Locally common at Twelve Mile and on the lower Dampier Peninsula, with occasional records from the Broome South sewage works and Tagarana Bore.	
GOLDEN-BACKED HONEYEATER <i>Melithreptus laetior</i>	17 records
Regularly recorded from a variety of woodland sites between 2 nd May and 13 th August. Only one record outside this time, of three on the coastal track between Barred Creek and Quondong Point on 28 th January (NK and JT).	
LITTLE FRIARBIRD <i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	418 records
Abundant in woodland and gardens throughout the year, including at the BBO. At least 100 estimated to be present around Taylor's Lagoon on 13 th November (CJH).	
RED-HEADED HONEYEATER <i>Myzomela erythrocephala</i>	48 records
Locally common in and around the Dampier Creek mangroves, including at Streeter's Jetty (which was inaccessible due to works for most of the year) and adjacent parts of Broome. Also recorded several times at Crescent Lake. Two juveniles were seen at the BBO on 3 rd February. A guest photographed an almost fully leucistic individual at Streeter's Jetty on 4 th April.	



A male Orange Chat was seen several times at Taylor's Lagoon during November (Adrian Boyle).

RUFIOUS-THROATED HONEYEATER *Conopophila rufogularis* 252 records

Common in pindan, including around the BBO, though numbers fluctuated through the year. Very common in savanna woodland on Roebuck Plains Station throughout the year. At least 400 were estimated to be present around Taylor's Lagoon on 21st November (KH).

YELLOW CHAT *Epthianura crocea* 114 records

In the early part of the year, mostly seen on the Crab Creek saltmarsh, and around Kidneybean Claypan and other flooded areas in the western part of Roebuck Plains Station. Breeding activity was noted at Kidneybean and on the floodplains around the Great Northern Highway during March and April. It appeared that breeding was highly successful, as flocks of up to 400 individuals each were seen several times around Kidneybean in June and July. As multiple flocks were often observed on visits, and many parts of the wetland were inaccessible, it seems reasonable to estimate at least 1,000 birds were present there at this time. From July they started to be seen around the Square Dam on the eastern part of Roebuck Plains, and by mid-September they were regular at all three Roebuck Plains lakes; they continued to be present around Kidneybean even after it dried, but in apparently lower numbers than earlier in the year, suggesting many of these birds had dispersed east to the area around the lakes. They continued to be seen at the lakes for the rest of the year.

ORANGE CHAT *Epthianura aurifrons* 6 records

First records in the region since 2006. A bright male in breeding plumage was found at Taylor's Lagoon on 11th November (NK and PW), and seen there on four further occasions up until 27th November. Remarkably, on 18th November another individual (female or juvenile) was photographed with Yellow Chats at Lake Eda (CR and GS).

WHITE-GAPED HONEYEATER *Stomiopera unicolor* 299 records

Recorded near-daily around the BBO grounds. Common in the town of Broome, in Twelve Mile and on the lower Dampier Peninsula.

SINGING HONEYEATER *Gavicalis virescens* 358 records

Abundant in pindan woodland and recorded daily around the BBO grounds. Adults were noted feeding juveniles at the BBO in May and November.

YELLOW-TINTED HONEYEATER *Ptilotula flavescens* 48 records

Common in woodland in the eastern part of Roebuck Plains Station.



An adult Red-browed Pardalote carrying nesting material on the Dampier Downs Road on 26th April (Adrian Boyle).

GREY-HEADED HONEYEATER *Ptilotula keartlandi* 6 records

All records from Entrance Point, in February, March, June and September. On two occasions in March an individual was seen attempting to move south.

YELLOW-THROATED MINER *Manorina flavigula* 4 records

One seen at Entrance Point on 21st January (GS). Other records came from the south-eastern edge of the region, along the Dampier Downs Road (8th May and 4th July) and on Shamrock Station (7th June).

RED-BROWED PARDALOTE *Pardalotus rubricatus* 5 records

Reported from around Collins Lagoon on 14th February (CGM). The remaining records were all from along the Dampier Downs Road: on 21st April (CJH and KH), 26th April (AB), 8th May (NJ) and 4th July, when an adult was seen carrying food to a nest burrow (NK).

STRIATED PARDALOTE *Pardalotus striatus* 95 records

Recorded regularly in the town of Broome and other locations with eucalypts, including the savanna woodlands in the eastern part of Roebuck Plains Station, up until 13th September. There were no records after this. One was heard calling regularly at the BBO between 30th March and 20th April.

WHITE-THROATED GERYGONE *Gerygone olivacea* 167 records

Common in woodland throughout the region, and regularly recorded around the BBO grounds. A young branchling was seen on the Spinifex Trail on 29th January (NK).

DUSKY GERYGONE *Gerygone tenebrosa* 81 records

Common in mangroves, with most records from Little Crab Creek, where a young juvenile was noted on 4th March.

MANGROVE GERYGONE *Gerygone levigaster* 46 records

Locally common in paperbark forest, especially around Nimalarragun and Crescent Lake. A pair were present in the Little Crab Creek mangroves between 11th February and 6th April.

WEEBILL *Smicornis brevirostris* 24 records

Fairly common locally at eucalypt woodland sites.

GREY-CROWNED BABBLER <i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i>	384 records
Very common in woodland habitats, including around the BBO grounds.	
VARIED SITTELLA <i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	26 records
Recorded fairly regularly in eucalypt and paperbark woodland, and occasionally in pindan. Only once recorded at the BBO, on 12 th September (NK). An adult was seen on a nest in savanna woodland between Lake Campion and Lake Eda on 17 th June (NK).	
OLIVE-BACKED ORIOLE <i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	134 records
Commonly recorded at the observatory and other woodland sites. A young juvenile was seen around the BBO grounds in late February.	
CRESTED BELLBIRD <i>Oreoica gutturalis</i>	4 records
Records limited to the south-east of the region, along the Dampier Downs Road on 21 st April (CJH and KH) and 8 th May (NJ), and on Shamrock Station on 7 th June and 10 th December (both NJ).	
RUFIOUS WHISTLER <i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	330 records
Very common in woodland habitats throughout the region, including at the observatory. Two young juveniles were seen at the BBO on 3 rd February.	
WHITE-BREASTED WHISTLER <i>Pachycephala lanioides</i>	98 records
Common in the Crab Creek mangroves, and also recorded at other mangrove sites such as Streeter's Jetty and Barred Creek.	
MANGROVE GOLDEN WHISTLER <i>Pachycephala melanura</i>	44 records
Regular in the Crab Creek mangroves, and also recorded at other mangrove sites.	
GREY SHRIKE-THRUSH <i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	268 records
Common in all woodland habitats throughout the region, including around the BBO. One was seen carrying food along the coastal section of Crab Creek Road on 17 th November.	
BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE <i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	441 records
Very common in woodland throughout the region, including around the BBO.	
WHITE-WINGED TRILLER <i>Lalage tricolor</i>	53 records
Fairly common in woodland throughout the year, more so inland, for example around Taylor's Lagoon. Recorded on four occasions around the observatory grounds. Young fledglings were seen around Collins Lagoon on 15 th February.	
AUSTRALIAN MAGPIE <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	163 records
Recorded regularly, but generally restricted to several known locations around the town of Broome, the Common, Tagarana Bore, the Roebuck Roadhouse and eastern parts of Roebuck Plains Station.	
PIED BUTCHERBIRD <i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>	423 records
Very common in pindan and eucalypt woodland throughout. Recorded daily around the BBO.	
MASKED WOODSWALLOW <i>Artamus personatus</i>	22 records
Dry season visitor, much less common than in the previous two years, but still recorded fairly regularly. First seen over the BBO Beach on 16 th April, and last seen at Taylor's Lagoon on 24 th September. Occasional large flocks seen, with a high count of 1,000 between Lake Campion and Lake Eda on 2 nd May (CJH).	

BLACK-FACED WOODSWALLOW *Artamus cinereus* 171 records
Common in savanna woodland, grassland edges and along fencelines in open country, and sometimes also in pindan. In March and April, up to seven were seen coming to roost in the mangroves in front of the BBO.

LITTLE WOODSWALLOW *Artamus minor* 11 records
Uncommon, but recorded occasionally throughout the year. All records from woodland areas east of the Great Northern Highway, with most coming from around Taylor's Lagoon.

WHITE-BREASTED WOODSWALLOW *Artamus leucorhyn* 305 records
Commonly recorded in Roebuck Bay, particularly around the Crab Creek mangroves, and at sites near fresh water throughout the region all year. A group of 140 were seen near the gate from the BBO into Roebuck Plains during thick fog on 23rd July; this represents a large congregation for the species in Broome (and the highest count of the year), and may have been a flock on the move brought down by the fog (CJH).

NORTHERN FANTAIL *Rhipidura isura* 16 records
Localised, but recorded regularly at Barred Creek, Streeter's Jetty, and Nimalarragun.

WILLIE WAGTAIL *Rhipidura leucophrys* 436 records
Very common in all terrestrial habitats. Begging fledglings were at the Broome South sewage works on 20th February, and an active nest at the Roebuck Plains Roadhouse on 14th October.

ARAFURA FANTAIL *Rhipidura dryas* 6 records
An incredible find on 14th November (CJH): a first for the Broome region, with the nearest known population several hundred kilometres to the east. The bird was in the dense cajuput stands on the south side of the Nimalarragun wetland. It continued to be recorded there on subsequent visits up until 5th December, but was often difficult to find, offering up only brief views or calls and sticking to dense cover. Black spotting across the breast suggests *R. d. dryas* from the north Australian coast, ruling out potential vagrant *R. d. semicollaris* from Indonesia.



An Arafura Fantail present at Nimalarragun during November and December was an astonishing find and a new species for the Broome region (Adrian Boyle).

MANGROVE FANTAIL *Rhipidura phasiana* 120 records
Very common in the Crab Creek mangroves, and also regular at other sites. Seen at the BBO on five occasions. A young fledgling was with an adult in the mangroves behind Crab Creek on 27th January.

GREY FANTAIL *Rhipidura albiscapa* 13 records
Dry-season visitor, first recorded at Lake Campion on 19th May, and last recorded at Little Crab Creek on 1st September. Subspecies only recorded on two occasions.

Inland Grey Fantail *R. a. albicauda*. One around the BBO grounds on 6th June (NK).

South-eastern Grey Fantail *R. a. alisteri*. One in Twelve Mile on 22nd June (NK).

LEADEN FLYCATCHER *Myiagra rubecula* 5 records
Males were seen around the BBO wardens' house on 27th April (JT), at Barred Creek on 20th June (AB) and along Crab Creek Road on 18th July (JR). A female visited a garden in Twelve Mile on 25th September. Another female seen in pindan woodland north of Tagarana Bore on 30th October (NK).



A male Leaden Flycatcher found at Barred Creek on 20th June (Adrian Boyle).

BROAD-BILLED FLYCATCHER *Myiagra ruficollis* 136 records
Common in the Crab Creek mangroves and those around Streeter's Jetty in Broome. Also regularly recorded around the BBO grounds (48 records, usually of immatures). An adult was seen on a nest in the Crab Creek mangroves on 11th February.

PAPERBARK FLYCATCHER *Myiagra nana* 345 records
Very common in pindan and paperbark woodland and around all sources of freshwater. Recorded daily around the BBO grounds.

MAGPIE-LARK *Grallaria cyanoleuca* 530 records
Ubiquitous in all habitats throughout the year. Often gathered in large numbers around freshwater wetland, foraging on the margins, with a high count of 81 at Lake Eda on 21st November (KH).

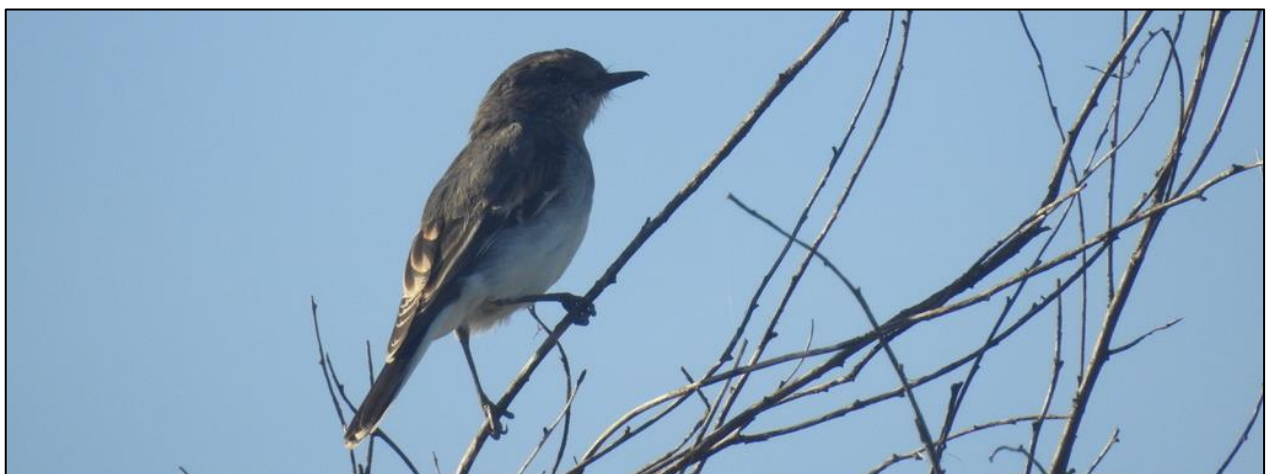
TORRESIAN CROW *Corvus orru* 514 records
Abundant in all habitats throughout the region. Several adults were seen on nests from late September onwards.

KIMBERLEY FLYCATCHER *Microeca tormenti* 4 records
Scarcely reported. One at Streeter's Jetty on 8th May (NJ), with the remaining records coming from the Crab Creek mangroves in July and August.

JACKY WINTER *Microeca fascinans* 40 records
Common in woodland in the eastern part of Roebuck Plains Station. Occasionally recorded in the pindan around the BBO and Tagarana Bore. Other records came from the Manari and Dampier Downs roads.

HOODED ROBIN *Melanodryas cucullata* 8 records
A good year for this species. Two records of a family group north of Twelve Mile early in the year. Also recorded twice each north of Tagarana Bore, around Lake Champion and along the Dampier Downs Road.

HORSFIELD'S BUSHLARK *Mirafra javanica* 129 records
Common in grassland and saltmarsh habitats throughout the year. Seen in numbers around Taylor's Lagoon after burns in the early dry season. Recorded in abundance on Roebuck Plains after the wet season rains, when making conspicuous song flights; 215 were estimated in the area between Kidneybean Claypan and the northern fenceline of the Jabiru Paddock on 18th February (NK).



An immature male Hooded Robin seen on the Dampier Downs Road on 4th July (Nyil Khwaja).

GOLDEN-HEADED CISTICOLA <i>Cisticola exilis</i>	47 records
Regularly recorded throughout the year in grassland, saltmarsh and wetland edges.	
AUSTRALIAN REED-WARBLER <i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	4 records
Twice recorded singing along the flooded Great Northern Highway, on 26 th April and 8 th May. Recorded at Nimalarragun on 30 th May and 30 th September: this is the only regular site for the species in Broome.	
BROWN SONGLARK <i>Cincloramphus cruralis</i>	67 records
Regularly recorded in grassland throughout the year.	
RUFIOUS SONGLARK <i>Cincloramphus mathewsi</i>	6 records
Uncommon in woodland habitats, with occasional records from around Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Champion in the winter months. One was on a fenceline on the open plains along the Great Northern Highway on 24 th January (NK and BV). One was at Entrance Point on 4 th December (NJ and GS).	
TAWNY GRASSBIRD <i>Cincloramphus timoriensis</i>	5 records
One found on the flooded grassland along the Great Northern Highway on 5 th April (CJH and KH) was recorded twice more, on 6 th and 11 th April. One was at the Nimalarragun wetland on 1 st July (NJ). One at Crescent Lake on 21 st August was the final record of the year (GG and GS).	
LITTLE GRASSBIRD <i>Poodytes gramineus</i>	11 records
One heard singing on the flooded grassland along the Great Northern Highway on 26 th April (NK). Otherwise, all records from the localised population around Nimalarragun and Crescent Lake, with at least a dozen singing birds estimated to be present around Nimalarragun on 30 th November (NJ, NK and BV). An adult seen feeding a young juvenile on 26 th July was a rare breeding record (NK).	
FAIRY MARTIN <i>Petrochelidon ariel</i>	40 records
Regular around the lakes, and small numbers sometimes seen in large Tree Martin flocks closer to the BBO. High count of 300 at Lake Champion on 17 th July (CJH).	
TREE MARTIN <i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	161 records
Commonly recorded throughout the year, especially near the coast. Flocks of several thousand were seen around Kidneybean Claypan and other western areas of Roebuck Plains during May and June.	



A Tawny Grassbird moved into the lush flooded grasslands along the Great Northern Highway in April (Adrian Boyle).

- WELCOME SWALLOW *Hirundo neoxena* 7 records
 Dry season visitor, first recorded at the Broome North sewage works on 31st May (CJH), with the final records of the year coming on 23rd July when two were seen on the Crab Creek saltmarsh.
- BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica* 25 records
 Regularly recorded during the summer months, with the last before northward migration on 27th March, and the first returnee at Lake Campion on 3rd October (BG). At least 85 behind the Crab Creek mangroves on 2nd January (NJ) was the highest count of the year.
- AUSTRALIAN YELLOW WHITE-EYE *Zosterops luteus* 336 records
 Very common in mangals and coastal pindan, and also regular in dense paperbark woodland further inland. Abundant around Crab Creek; 300 were estimated at One Tree on 27th April (CJH).
- MISTLETOEBIRD *Dicaeum hirundinaceum* 275 records
 Common in mangals and terrestrial woodland. Seen attempting to move south from Entrance Point on 13th March. A pair were nesting at Richard's Point on 27th March, and a young juvenile was seen at the BBO bird baths a month later.
- CHESTNUT-BREADED MANNIKIN *Lonchura castaneothorax* 3 records
 A rare species in the region. An adult was seen coming to drink in a large mixed finch flock at Taylor's Lagoon on 10th October (JT, BV, NK and OG). Both subsequent records were also at Taylor's Lagoon in the same circumstances (7th and 13th November), and are likely to refer to the same individual.
- PAINTED FINCH *Emblema pictum* 1 record
 One seen coming to drink at Taylor's Lagoon on 9th June was the only record of the year (NK and BV).
- LONG-TAILED FINCH *Poephila acuticauda* 197 records
 Common in woodland around Taylor's Lagoon and Lake Campion, and a regular visitor to the BBO. Four hundred were estimated visiting Taylor's Lagoon on 21st November (KH).



A Chestnut-breasted Mannikin found at Taylor's Lagoon on 10th October (Olivia Garcey).

ZEBRA FINCH *Taeniopygia castanotis* 273 records
Common throughout the region and seen in numbers drinking at water sources including the Shadehouse baths; 500 were estimated visiting Lake Eda on 28th November (CJH).

DOUBLE-BARRED FINCH *Taeniopygia bichenovii* 356 records
Very common in pindan and paperbark woodland near suitable water sources. Recorded around the BBO daily: the most numerous visitor to the Shadehouse bird baths.

GOULDIAN FINCH *Chloebia gouldiae* 2 records
A continuing flock of 39 birds, first found in December 2020, were seen along the coastal track between Barred Creek and Quondong Point on 1st January (CJH). A single juvenile was seen and photographed at Lake Campion on 14th October (NK and OG).

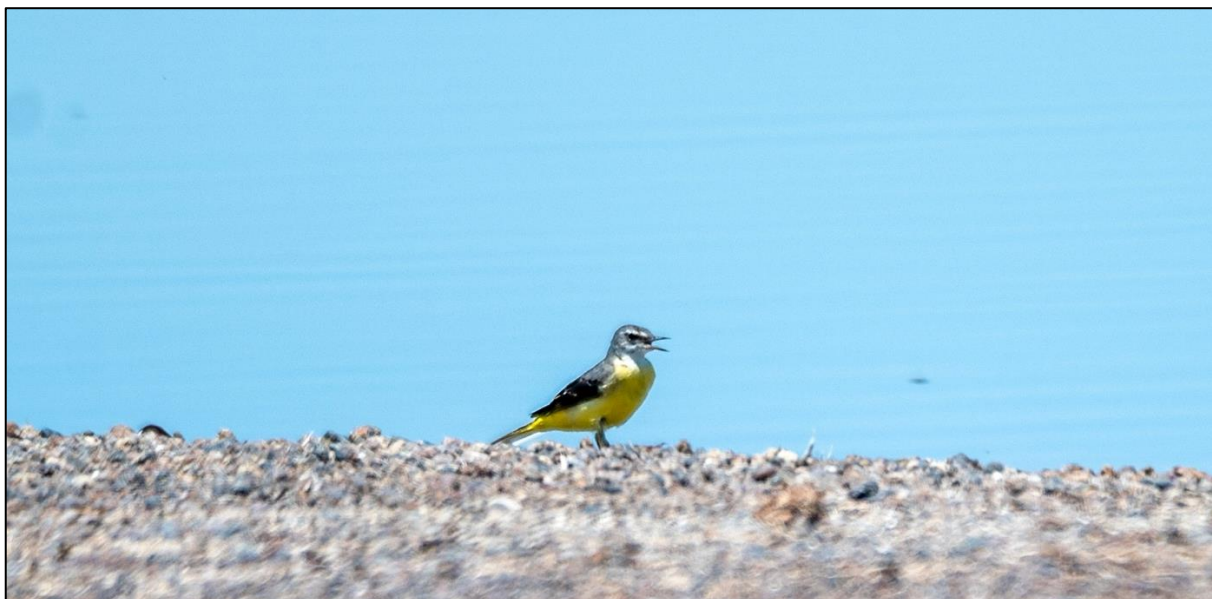
AUSTRALASIAN PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae* 185 records
Common in open country throughout the year.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea* 3 records
One at Lake Eda on 17th November (NK) was seen there again on 18th (AB) and 21st November (CJH).

EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla tschutschensis* 19 records
Regular in grassland and on wetland edges during the summer months. The last seen before northward migration were nine around Kidneybean Claypan on 29th April (NK). The first returnees were seen at the Broome South sewage works on 27th September (LH and MP). High count of 44 seen in grassland around Kidneybean Claypan on 18th February (NK, BV and JT). On this and most other occasions, views were too distant to confirm subspecies, but they could be identified at times. One of *M. t. macronyx* type was seen at the Broome South sewage works on 19th December (NJ).

East Siberian Yellow Wagtail *M. t. tschutschensis*. The most common taxon present around Broome. At least three were on dirt mounds in the BBO Paddock on 2nd February (NK and JT). One in full breeding plumage was noted in flooded grassland north of Kidneybean on 7th March, with at least five at the same location on 29th April (both NK).

Green-headed Wagtail *M. t. taivana*. One seen at the Broome South sewage works on 14th December (NK).



A Grey Wagtail at Lake Eda on 17th November (Geoffrey Groom).