

September 2016 Birdwatch report

Despite the cold wind and wet forecast, thirty-nine people joined in our eight bird surveys on two Sunday mornings in September plus one in August (Edwardes Lake, Reservoir). A total of 67 species was seen.

Being spring many of the birds were nesting. The survey groups reported seeing nests of Tawny Frogmouths, Pied Currawongs, Little Ravens, Butcher Birds, Magpie Larks and Red Wattlebirds. The nest of a large wading bird (possibly Egret or Heron) was also seen at Coburg Lake

The wet spring has also brought out the frogs with Common Froglets being seen spawning at Galada Tamboore and Pobblebonks heard calling at Strettle Wetland

Native Noisy Miners were recorded at four sites: Edwardes Lake (12), Egan's Reserve (3), East Brunswick (11) and Hall Reserve Clifton Hill (19) but their numbers were lower than on the previous survey.

The most widespread species (occurring at all 8 site) were natives: Magpie, Willie Wagtail, Red Wattlebird and Little Raven. Not far behind were Magpie Larks, Pacific Black Ducks, Silver Gulls, Rainbow Lorikeets and the non-native Blackbirds, which were all recorded at 7 sites. On the other hand, 20 species were each recorded at only one site. The most numerous species were, Rainbow Lorikeet (148) Rock Dove (110) and the Red Wattlebird (107).

The sites with the most diversity were Blyth Street-Moreland Road East Brunswick (with 32 species), plus Bababi Marning and Kirkdale st to Merri Park in East Brunswick (each with 31 species). Coburg Lake Reserve again had the most individual birds, an estimate of 333.

Trevor Hausler

(for Ann McGregor)

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