



Biodiversity Solutions

biodiversity planning - strategy – surveys - monitoring – evaluation

Bird surveys at Dog Rocks Flora and Fauna Sanctuary and Honey Woodland, Batesford. 10 October 2020

As part of the Batesford Fyansford Stonehaven Landcare Group's **Lower Moorabool Bio-link Project Biodiversity Grant**, expert bird observers and volunteers will perform regular bird surveys, collecting data to monitor the responses of woodland birds to the establishment of the bio-link and its interaction with remnant bush.

A spring survey was undertaken on 10 October 2020. Compared to the previous spring survey in November 2019 and autumn survey in May 2020, there were ongoing numbers of a variety of honeyeaters feeding in the flowering Yellow Gums. These included Yellow-faced and White-naped Honeyeaters and Red Wattlebirds which are probably a mixture of local breeding residents and individuals in transit to breed later in the spring in the Otways. A Little Eagle calling from the Sanctuary, and later seen flying overhead, suggests that this numerically rare species might be nesting in the Sanctuary. Another highlight was lovely views of Rufous Whistlers, a summer migrant that arrives in the Sanctuary in October to breed.

Numbers of each species counted on various legs of the survey are given below:

Bird species	Number recorded (individuals heard or seen)							
	Route 1	Route 2	Route 3	Route 4	Route 5	Route 6	Incidental	River Reserve
Australian Wood Duck			1					x
Pacific Black Duck			2					x
Grey Teal			3					
Chestnut Teal			2					
Australasian Grebe			2					
Common Bronzewing		2						
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo		1						
Fan-tailed Cuckoo		1	2					
Dusky Moorhen			1					x
Eurasian Coot			2					
Black-fronted Dotterel			2					
Little Pied Cormorant			1					
Little Black Cormorant								x
Little Eagle		1		1				

Wedge-tailed Eagle				1				
Brown Goshawk				1	1			
Black Kite	1							
Whistling Kite			1					
Laughing Kookaburra								x
Brown Falcon		1						
Galah			4					x
Long-billed Corella				2				
Purple-crowned Lorikeet		2		2				x
Rainbow Lorikeet	4		6		2			x
Crimson Rosella					1			
Eastern Rosella		6	10					x
Red-rumped Parrot	2	4	4		2			x
Superb Fairywren		4	10	8				x
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	6	4	12	8	4			x
Noisy Miner			4					
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater		6	2	1				x
Red Wattlebird	8	8	35	8	4			x
White-plumed Honeyeater	4		14	2	2			x
New Holland Honeyeater	2	4		4				x
Brown-headed Honeyeater	2							
White-naped Honeyeater		5	8					
Spotted Pardalote	1			3	1			
Striated Pardalote	2	2	2	2	1			
White-browed Scrubwren			1	4				x
Yellow-rumped Thornbill							x	
Weebill	2	4		5				
Black-faced Cuckooshrike								x
Crested Shrike-tit								x
Grey Shrikethrush	2	2	1					x
Golden Whistler		1						
Rufous Whistler	2	4	4	4				
Olive-backed Oriole								x
Australian Magpie			6					x
Pied Currawong							x	
Willie Wagtail			2					x

Grey Fantail	2	2	1	2				
Magpie-lark		1	2					x
Little Raven	4	2	8	2		3		x
Eastern Yellow Robin		1		1				
Australasian Bushlark							x	
Eurasian Skylark							x	
Australian Reed Warbler			1					
Welcome Swallow			4					x
Silvereye	6	2		6	2			
Common Starling	2	2	4					
Red-browed Finch	1			2				x
Australasian Pipit							x	
European Goldfinch	2		2					