Birds of Lake Bullrush Lake Reserve 1960-2015

Compiled from records of Rod Bird, Jane Hayes and HFNC

No.	SPECIES	Status	No.	SPECIES	Status
	Brolga, Coots Grebes & Swan			Gulls & Terns	
1	Black Swan	с	33	Silver Gull	с
2	Brolga	mc	34	Whiskered Tern	mc
3	Eurasian Coot	с			
4	Hoary-headed Grebe	u		Grassbird, Cisticola & Reed-warblers	
			35	Golden-headed Cisticola	mc
	Ducks & Geese		36	Little Grassbird	u
5	Australasian Shoveler	u			
6	Australian Shelduck	с		Raptors	
7	Australian Wood Duck	u	37	Australian Hobby	u
8	Blue-billed Duck	r	38	Black Falcon	r
9	Chestnut Teal	u	39	Black-shouldered Kite	mc
10	Freckled Duck	u	40	Brown Falcon	с
11	Grey Teal	с	41	Nankeen Kestrel	mc
12	Hardhead	r	42	Spotted Harrier	r
13	Musk Duck	r	43	Swamp Harrier	mc
14	Pacific Black Duck	mc	44	Wedge-tailed Eagle	mc
15	Pink-eared Duck	mc	45	White-bellied Sea-eagle	r
			46	Whistling Kite	mc
	Moorhen, Native-hen & Swamphen				
				Other Native Species	
	Cormorants & Darter		47	Australian Magpie	с
16	Little Pied Cormorant	r	48	Australasian Pipit	c, s
			49	Blue-winged Parrot	u
	Herons, Egrets, Ibis, Pelican & Spoonbills		50	Brown Songlark	u, s
17	Australian Pelican	r	51	Crested Pigeon	r
18	Australian White Ibis	mc	52	Little Raven	mc
19	Royal Spoonbill	mc	53	Long-billed Corella	u
20	Straw-necked Ibis	mc	54	Magpie-lark	mc
21	White-faced Heron	mc	55	Stubble Quail	u, s
22	White-necked Heron	u	56	Tree Martin	mc
23	Yellow-billed Spoonbill	mc	57	Welcome Swallow	с
			58	White-fronted Chat	mc
	Shorebirds/Waders		59	White-plumed Honeyeater	mc
24	Banded Stilt	u	60	Willie Wagtail	mc
	Black-winged Stilt	mc	61	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	u
26	Double-banded Plover	u, s		-	
	Masked Lapwing	с		Introduced Species	
28	Red-capped Plover	mc	62	Eurasian Skylark	mc
29	Red-kneed Dotterel	u	63	European Goldfinch	с
30	Red-necked Avocet	u		House Sparrow	r
31	Red-necked Stint	mc, s			
32	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	mc, s			

Status (the likelihood of a visitor to this wetland seeing a listed species here):

r, rare (mostly only 1 or a few birds); **u**, uncommon: (mostly in low numbers)

mc, moderately common (often in low numbers);

c, common (perhaps in low numbers);

s, seasonal migrants (cuckoos, plovers, sandpipers, snipe, song-larks, stints, quail).

This shallow wetland of 155 ha is less saline than that of Lake Linlithgow and therefore is often host to a different set of waterbirds. Its catchment is from overflow from Krause Swamp to the east.

The lake is a favoured nesting place for Black Swan and feeding ground when drying for lapwings, plovers, sandpipers, stilts and stints. Recently it has also become a place where Brolga flock to in summer & autumn.

Tree planting on the southern bare fringe of the lake was begun by John Harris (Parks Victoria) in 2002. The east side of the lake is unfenced and grazing over many years has eliminated the Bullrush. This may account for the absence of Swamphens and Moorhens. *Shoenoplectus pungens* (Sharp Club-sedge) is the main littoral plant.

The lack of records for birds other than waterbirds is due mostly to the lack of trees and other vegetation around the lake prior to 2002. Non-waterbirds were not noted at all before 1980 and often not reported since then.