

Tamar Island Wetland Reserve

- an annotated checklist of

BIRDS



Black Swan- Prominent throughout the Reserve. Breeding resident

Cape Barren Geese – Pair regularly visit reserve in Spring –water flats north west of Centre

Australian Shelduck – Seen mostly feeding north of 3rd bridge at low tide, occasionally in water near Centre.

Australian Wood Duck – Small groups, feeding on exposed vegetation, usually north of 2nd & 3rd bridges

Pacific Black Duck – small numbers throughout the Reserve. Breeding resident

Australian Shoveler - A few pairs near Centre, mostly observed north of 2nd & 3rd bridges with other duck species.

Grey Teal - Large numbers Nov – May mostly north of 2nd bridge, on waters edge or in water. Second most numerous duck in Reserve.

Chestnut Teal - Most numerous duck species, seen on all waterways throughout Reserve mainly Oct-May.

Australasian Grebe – Rare, usually in water north of 2nd bridge

Great Crested Grebe – Uncommon, usually in water north of 2nd bridge and in river channel north of jetty

Great Cormorant – Usually flying over or perched on exposed posts & stumps or on old dredge

Little Black Cormorant – Uncommon, as per G/Cormorant

Little Pied Cormorant – As per Great Cormorant

Pelican – a few birds roosting above tide north of old dredge or on exposed areas – far south of Reserve – west side of main river channel.

White-faced Heron – a few birds throughout Reserve Oct-May. Numbers increase late Summer

Great Egret – Single birds or small groups throughout Reserve Oct –May.

Nankeen Night-Heron – Rarely seen in daylight, one immature bird flushed near birdhide paperbarks where they sometimes roost.

Australasian Bittern – difficult to see – has been flushed from reeds.

Royal Spoonbill – occasional visitor Spring/Summer

White-Bellied Sea Eagle – Breeds along river. Regularly seen mornings & evenings flying over or fishing.

Wedge-tailed Eagle – Uncommon – seen quartering above wetlands near highway.

Whistling Kite – Last recorded flying over 2003, 2009

Swamp Harrier – Breeds in reserve reed beds. Usually seen flying lazily over reeds or perched on post Aug-May

Brown Goshawk – Uncommon—

Brown Falcon – Uncommon, usually seen perched on Hawthorn near highway at southern end of Reserve.

Australian Spotted Crake – Rarely seen, usually along Centre ponds margins when water is lower. Very secretive.

Spotless Crake – Same as for Spotted Crake

Purple Swamphen – Breeding resident. Common throughout Reserve

Tasmanian Native Hen – Breeding resident, common throughout Reserve

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Uncommon northern hemisphere migrant, small groups on exposed areas north of 3rd bridge – south of 2nd bridge. Nov-Mar

Common Sandpiper – Northern Hemisphere migrant, single bird up 5 years in a row. Very rare in Tasmania. Usually on exposed mudflats near or north of 2nd bridge – Oct-Mar. Not seen since 2006

Pied Oystercatcher – Occasionally seen on mudflats near 3rd bridge.

Double Banded Plover – Regular Autumn/Winter NZ migrant to Tas. but rare in Reserve. Exposed areas north of 3rd bridge.

Black Fronted Dotterel – one or two birds, Nov –Mar on exposed flats and in car park!

Masked Lapwing – Common breeding resident throughout the Reserve

Pacific Gull – More prominent in Summer mostly on exposed areas near 3rd bridge or near pontoon on main river channel. Mature & immature birds. Roosts on third bridge

Silver Gull – large flocks on exposed areas west side of main river channel in southern end of Reserve.

Caspian Tern – uncommon, quartering and diving into channels near 2 & 3rd bridges Nov – Mar. Occasionally near Centre.

Crested Tern – Same as Caspian Tern

White-winged Black Tern –Single juvenile, Visitor Centre ponds—November 2012

Superb Fairy-wren – Breeding, seen throughout the Reserve

Brown Thornbill – Breeding, seen mostly in and around paperbark trees and on island

Yellow Wattlebird – Rare in Reserve, seen on island.

Crescent Honeyeater – a few birds seen/heard on island early Spring.

White-fronted Chat – Nov – Mar. small flocks feeding on exposed areas.

Grey Fantail – Breeding, seen mostly in and around paperbark trees and on island.

Forest Raven – mostly seen flying over reserve

European Greenfinch – Nov-May, usually seen perched on top of paperbarks or in trees on island

European Goldfinch – Oct –May, small flocks, usually on island or flying over.

House Sparrow – One or two birds seen near highway and on island.

Welcome Swallow – breeding around Centre veranda – often seen perched on bridge railings, mainly Sept. May

Little Grassbird – Breeding resident in reed beds, very secretive, occasionally seen flying just over or through tops of reeds. Can be mistaken for female Blue Wren but does not cock tail when perched. Often heard calling from within reeds – soft, three-note high pitched call.

Clamorous Reed Warbler – Migrant, breeds within reed beds spring/summer. More often heard – when seen usually perched near top of reed stem.

Silvereye – migrant, small flocks in paperbarks and in trees on island & wild fruit trees (summer) just east of Centre.

Blackbird – a few birds on island and in paperbarks

Common Starling – usually on island where it breeds in tree hollows. A pest!

Domestic Goose – Resident and breeding. Seen mainly on and around ponds near Centre. Another pest!

NOTE: The best birding is generally when the tide is out or low.

January 2013

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