

List of Fauna (mammals, reptiles and birds) observed at and near Banyule Flat and Warringal Parklands 1980 to 2016/17

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July 2017

with additional historical records from the notebooks of Anthea Fleming, a published report of Beardsell (1997), a booklet on Birds of Heidelberg and the Yarra Valley (Warringal Conservation Society 1981), historical publications (Kearland 1900; Tarr 1948) and other observations that became known to us.

Introduction

This list includes all bird, mammal, reptile and frog species that we know have occurred at Banyule Flat, Warringal Parklands and nearby publicly accessible areas from 1980 to June 2017. It is mainly a compilation of our own observations. RHL has made intermittent observations mainly of birds and mammals since moving to Viewbank in 1987; LE has made almost daily morning walks since 2002, and a detailed study of the resident owls and frogmouths; and GD made frequent visits from 2009 to 2014, including searches for reptiles and frogs. AE has conducted formal surveys in 2014-16 as part of a project for the City of Banyule, and has also extracted data from the Atlas of Victorian Wildlife and BirdData (the database run by BirdLife Australia).

We have also included selected records from the notebooks of Anthea Fleming, who has made intermittent observations since the 1970s. The list builds on an earlier list produced in 2005 by Celia Browne et al. We did not have time to make a broader search of the literature, or of historical data held by particular individuals. Such searches could add detail and records of vagrant species. However, we doubt that they will alter the general picture presented by this list, for the period since 1980. We would like to know much more about the earlier history of the area and its fauna.

The area covered by this list includes all of the Shire Reserves of Warringal Parklands and Banyule Flat, plus associated land managed by Parks Victoria along the Yarra River from Heidelberg to Bonds Road. The near-daily walks conducted by LE usually extend from Somerset Road to the confluence of the Plenty and Yarra Rivers, continuing east along the main Yarra trail to the powerlines. Named land marks include the horse beach (~50m downstream from where the Yarra Trail meets the Yarra River west of the Plenty River), and a windmill ~300m further downstream from there. Observations have also been made in the Rosanna Golf Course near the Plenty River confluence, and in former farmland (now managed by Parks Victoria) on the hill north of Banyule Flat. LE included the main wetland at Banyule Flat in recent years, and we have collated many records from that wetland as it has been a popular destination for birders since it was re-flooded by the Shire in 1999. We have spent much less time in the Warringal Parklands, because the important habitats there (including newly constructed wetlands) are generally small and less diverse than the main wetland at Banyule Flat. BirdLife Australia has conducted annual

“Breakfast with the Birds” public events in spring from 1999 with support from the City of Banyule (through Fleur Anderson, John Milkins et al.) and bird lists were provided by the organiser (Janet Hand): these lists included separate information for Banyule Flat and the Warringal Parklands.

Land use changes affecting habitat values

Much of this area was cleared for farming in the 19th century (from ~1856 when the Banyule Homestead was built) and used for cattle grazing during much of the 19th century. The main wetland at Banyule Flat (commonly known as Banyule Swamp) was partly drained during this period, and fences built across it although it continued to flood in most winters (Fleming 2010). Cattle were removed from the swamp area in ~1985 but continued to be grazed around the billabong to the east. A windmill was used to pump water from the Yarra River to keep the billabong full as a source of water for the cattle and in the 1990s for conservation purposes. The billabong was the main water body in the area during the 1980s and 1990s (Cowling 1991; Fleming 2010). Fish were occasionally released into the billabong, and at times it was popular with local anglers. A bird hide was built overlooking the billabong, but was burned by vandals in the late 1990s. The water level fluctuated in the billabong despite the pumping, and was very low in 1980-81 before Melbourne Water pumped water in at the request of the WCS.

Cattle were removed from the billabong in the later 1990s, and large numbers of trees and shrubs were planted in the former paddocks (Fleming 2010). Previously the WCS had organised a Megaplanting of native plants in spring 1989, with help from other environmental groups. Melbourne Water also undertook revegetation initiatives at this time. Along with natural regeneration and follow-up infill plantings, this has produced a substantial area of planted eucalypts and wattles on the east side of the billabong. Many revegetation efforts have been made in various parts of the whole area. Substantial areas of grassland remain near the main wetland and in the centre of the billabong, and are mown periodically to maintain amenity values. Cattle continue to be grazed on farmland east of the Rosanna Golf Club, extending to Bonds Road and beyond.

When cattle were removed water pumping also ceased and the billabong dried out in 1998 and the early 2000s and remained dry for most of the “millennium drought” to 2009. A dense regrowth of River Red Gum seedlings was produced as the flood receded at that time. The seedlings were then large enough to survive a major early-summer flood in 2005, which lasted several months despite the drought conditions. The billabong flooded again in spring 2010, held water for much of 2011 and dried out in the following months. A few smaller ephemeral wetlands also exist near the billabong, and fill for short periods following heavy rain or floods.

As part of the same management initiative, the Shire raised the level of the drain from the main wetland (Banyule Swamp) in 1999, and established a small settling pond where a stormwater drain enters the swamp in its north-east corner. The pond does a very effective job of trapping rubbish before it enters the main wetland. In consequence, the pond is often dotted with rubbish and this has earned it the unfortunate local name of “the grotty pond” (previously “the grubby pool”, Fleming 2010). This nickname evolved when the pond hosted an extremely rare bird, an Australian Painted-Snipe that

inhabited the area in 2001. Despite this label, the pond has become an excellent small habitat for cryptic waterbird species, and a popular place for observing these birds.

The raising of the level of the drain from the main wetland did a very effective job in expanding and restoring this large wetland, described as the most important in the middle floodplain of the Yarra River (Beardsell 1997). It became transformed from a small near-permanent swamp next to a larger seasonally filled swamp of rushes and hardy aquatic plants to an attractive wetland, with a large expanse of open water backed by rush beds on the north and west sides, and a healthy growth of Water Ribbons below the water surface. It dries out in some summers, and during the drying process it attracts more shorebirds than when it is completely full. Nest boxes have been placed in this wetland during the 2000s, but some were then blocked off when they were found to attract Common Starlings and Common Mynas rather than native ducks. A pair of seats has been placed at one of the best vantage points, and they are popular with visitors (including walkers and cyclists as well as birders). Some local people began feeding ducks from this point in the early 2000s, with the unfortunate effect of attracting some introduced domestic ducks. Signs were erected to discourage this practice and there has been no return of the practice or the domestic ducks.

Several changes have been observed in the ecology of this wetland in recent years, as are to be expected from dynamic ecosystems of this sort. For example, it dried out completely at least twice during the Millennium Drought, and low water levels were observed in most summers. There was an extensive growth of algae (Net Weed *Hydrodictyon* sp.) from January to May 2012, accompanied by disappearance of the previously healthy growth of Water Ribbons: it has also been suggested that the Water Ribbons may have suffered from the second drying event, and has been slow to recover. Numbers of dead or dying fish (introduced carp and native eels) were left stranded each time the wetland and billabong dried out. Such changes may contribute to the special nature and diversity of ephemeral wetlands over time.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Fleur Anderson and colleagues from the City of Banyule for commissioning an earlier version of this work, Alice Ewing of Practical Ecology for her contribution and John Milkins (City of Banyule) for continuing support. We are also very grateful to Anthea Fleming for providing historical material and her notebooks from the 1970s to the present, Celia Browne for her leading contribution to the previous (2005) list, Cam Beardsell for discussions when we made that list and Peter Menkhorst, Geoff Easton, Janet Hand, Daphne Hards, Anne Kennedy, Neil Murray, James Deane and Debbie Tully for additional records.

Observers are indicated in particular cases by their initials including FTHS (the late Fred Smith), PB (Pat Bingham), CB (Celia Browne), DM (Denise Moore), EM (the late Ellen McCulloch), BO'K (Bernie O'Keefe), the observers mentioned above and the authors.

1. Mammals of Banyule Flats, Warringal Parklands and associated areas 1980-2017.

BF=Banyule Flat (main wetland); WP=Warringal Parklands; river=Yarra River. See map (Fig 1 at end) for other abbreviations. [I] indicates species that were introduced to Australia. [D] indicates domestic animals. [Square brackets indicate species for which further confirmation is needed.] Species names follow Menkhorst and Knight (2001).

Platypus <i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i>	Regular along the river; surveys by LE revealed 39-76 observations per year 2003-08, rising to 100 in 2011 and falling to 17-34 in 2012-14, then 45 in 2015, 36 in 2016 and 11 in the first half of 2017. Often seen in Yarra at Plenty River confluence, or in next km downstream to horse-beach.
Short-beaked Echidna <i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>	Singles seen on rare occasions; one seen drinking at swamp (JD); one found long-dead.
Common Wombat <i>Vombatus ursinus</i>	Small numbers resident along river, with scats commonly found (burrows and animals at night occasionally seen) - the closest to Melbourne that this species is resident; has become more common since early 2000s.
Koala <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Small numbers occasionally seen but not resident; surveys suggest a decrease since 2011.
Common Brushtail Possum <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Common especially where old River Red Gums provide hollows, and in nearby suburbs and golf courses
Sugar Glider <i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	Small numbers occasionally seen or heard, mainly along river, perhaps more in 2015-16. Nine found held as prey of Powerful Owl (singles in June 2014, July 2015 and Feb 2016; four 20 July to 3 Aug 2016; singles Jan 2017 and Feb 2017).
Common Ringtail Possum <i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	Common especially where there are thickets of mid-storey shrubs near river, and in nearby suburbs
Eastern Grey Kangaroo <i>Macropus giganteus</i>	Mobs often seen in nearby grassland, and sometimes in tall grass beside wetland BF2; rare before 2000s and annual number of observations by LE has risen from 19 in 2003 to 202 in 2014
Black (Swamp) Wallaby <i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	Small numbers resident mainly near billabong, max 6 in BF5 and between BF5 and river in 2013; surveys by LE show a rapid increase from no observations 2003-05 to 78 in 2014, 59 in 2015 and 67 in 2016.
Grey-headed Flying-fox <i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Regular visitor to flowering trees and to flowering or fruiting trees in nearby suburbs, from downstream roost ~5 km away; numbers increased in 1980s or 90s at same time as Rainbow Lorikeets (thought by some to be in response to drought in NSW, AF).
insectivorous bat spp.	Fairly common but not surveyed. A moribund Lesser Long-eared Bat was found on one occasion, and a dead Chocolate Wattled Bat on another.

Water Rat (Rakali) <i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i>	Probably regular, but infrequently seen, along the Yarra River, and occasionally in billabongs (max 3 in Feb 2014). Four observations near Plenty confluence in June 2017, after just one in the previous three years (LE).
House Mouse [I] <i>Mus musculus</i>	Undoubtedly present but not surveyed; common in nearby suburbs; one photographed on western bike path in 2014 (AF).
Black Rat [I] <i>Rattus rattus</i>	Occasionally recorded and likely to be widespread; fairly common in nearby suburbs.
Red Fox [I] <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Regularly recorded especially around wetlands, where up to 3 at a time have been seen patrolling the shores as water levels drop.
Domestic Dog [D] <i>Canis familiaris</i>	Rarely observed except for pets with their owners: this is a popular area for exercising dogs.
House Cat [D] <i>Felis catus</i>	Rarely observed, e.g. a white cat seen hunting near billabong on 29 Jun 1990 (AF), and most are likely to be wandering domestic pets from suburbs where they are common
European Rabbit [I] <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Common, especially on sandy banks along the escarpment
European Hare [I] <i>Lepus europeus</i>	Singles often seen in wooded grassland BF1 and BF5 in mid 2000s (RHL) but not in recent years
Sambar Deer [I] <i>Cervus unicolor</i>	One BF at dusk 19 June 2017 (LE): this introduced species is expanding its range from the forested hills down the Yarra Valley.

2. Reptiles of Banyule Flats, Warringal Parklands and associated areas 1980-2017.

BF=Banyule Flat (main wetland); WP=Warringal Parklands; river=Yarra River. See map (Fig 1 at end) for other abbreviations. [Square brackets indicate species for which further confirmation is needed.]

Eastern Snake-necked Turtle <i>Chelodina longicollis</i>	Several resident BF and in the Yarra River, often basking on logs in water; surveys by LE suggest a recent increase, with 4-9 annual observations 2003-09, 35 in 2010 and 12-26 in 2011-14; seen burying eggs at least twice (AF, RHL). [We know of no records of the Murray Turtle <i>Emydura macquarii</i> , an inland species which has been found at some sites near Melbourne, perhaps as a result of introductions.]
Southern Water Skink <i>Eulamprus tympanum</i>	One record of two on rocks beside the outflow channel of BF in Sep 2009
Pale-flecked Garden Sunskink <i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>	Abundant and widespread in rank grass and woodland. [The superficially similar Dark-flecked Garden Sunskink L. <i>delicata</i> is recorded from the general area, as is the Weasel Skink <i>Saproscincus mustelinus</i> .]
Blotched Blue-tongued Lizard <i>Tiliqua nigrolutea</i>	Several observations between Somerset Road carpark and billabong, including slow-moving individuals in cold weather
Eastern Blue-tongued Lizard <i>Tiliqua scincoides</i>	Singles recorded several times each year in wooded habitats and sometimes in nearby suburban gardens
Tiger Snake <i>Notechis scutatus</i>	Singles recorded most years around BF, other wetlands and the River Yarra corridor; surveys by LE show decrease since 2009 (max 10 observations in 2006; none seen 2011-15, one 25 Oct 2016 (LE) and another 11 Nov 2016 (RHL)

3. Birds of Banyule Flats, Warringal Parklands and associated areas 1980-2017.

BF=Banyule Flat (main wetland); WP=Warringal Parklands; river=Yarra River. [I] indicates species that were introduced to Australia. [E] indicates species that may be escapees or free-flying captive birds. [E+] indicates species that may be descended from escaped captive birds, now breeding wild in parts of Melbourne. {Curly brackets indicate species that have been observed close to the area but not in it.} [Square brackets indicate species for which further confirmation would be useful.] Species order follows Christidis and Boles (2008).

Species	Notes
Stubble Quail <i>Coturnix pectoralis</i>	Rare visitor to nearby grasslands, mainly in summer; also seen in suburban gardens on rare occasions (eg one in Viewbank Feb 2017, NM); previously common in 1970s when area was mainly grazed grassland (Warringal Conservation Society 1981; Fleming 2010).
Brown Quail <i>Coturnix ypsilophora</i>	A few heard and seen in rank vegetation BF1&2 for periods of a few months June 2004, Jul 2005, Nov 2008, Oct 2010, Nov 2012, Feb 2013 and Jan 2014; reared 10 young BF2 in Feb 2013. Also recorded breeding 1991-92 (Beardsell 1997), and drinking at nearby gardens in 2000s (per AF).
Musk Duck <i>Biziura lobata</i>	One female BF 9 Feb to 23 May 2017, with three short absences of a week each, and a male as well on 24 April (NM).
Freckled Duck <i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	A few BF on rare occasions from 2011 (1 on 4 Nov 2011; 1, Jan 2013; 1 on 4 Feb 2013; 1, Nov 2013; 1 and sometimes 2 for 12 days Dec 2014; a single on at least 11 days 1-24 March 2017).
Black Swan <i>Cygnus atratus</i>	Pairs breed BF in most years when it contains water, generally excluding other adult swans (including a pair of swans carrying collars from Albert Park Lake, which spent a few weeks on the river and nearby wetlands Sep 2006). Rarely seen on billabong, even when it was regularly flooded in the 1990s, but two were seen there on 1 Mar 1997 (RHL). Rarely seen on the river, except for the pair with collars mentioned above. Began breeding on main wetland in 1999, the year it was first flooded. Another collared swan (F14) spent 3 weeks at the main wetland Jun to Jul 2016 in company with an uncollared bird, but they were then driven off by the resident pair. A new collared swan (a 3-yr-old female) arrived later, and paired for the first time with a collared 7-yr-old male that arrived on 29 April 2017. They then chased off an uncollared pair, and remained as sole occupants in May 2017.
Australian Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadornoides</i>	Surprisingly rare, but occasionally observed on the flooded billabong in 1970s or 80s (Beardsell 1997) and on main wetland BF2 in recent years: one Aug 2003; 1, 2 or 3 Jan, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct and Dec 2005; one Sep 2009; one on fence post 2 Oct 2011, remaining at BF2 into Dec 2011; 4, Nov 2012 and 4, 5, 6, 7 for 10 days in Dec 2012; 2, Aug 2014; surprisingly rare
Australian Wood Duck <i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Common on small wetlands and dams, or sometimes along river, nesting in hollow trees nearby and feeding mainly from short grass in golf course or grazed pasture (but rarely on mown sports ovals); a few sometimes visit BF but usually the

	species is notable by its absence on that wetland, and much more likely to be seen on the river or in small dams and wetlands including WP. Max 78 BF2 on 4 Feb 2012, 55 on river bend BF5 on 4 Mar 2007 and 65 Warringal Parklands near Sills Bend WP1b May 2015. Rare in Melbourne area before 1983 drought.
Pink-eared Duck <i>Malacorhynchus membranaceus</i>	Occasional visitor BF2, typically staying a few days, max 9, Sep 2012 and Jan 2013; 2 seen in Yarra River Sep 2007.
Australasian Shoveler <i>Anas rhynchos</i>	Occasional visitor BF2, typically staying a few days or weeks, max 7 Jun-Jul 2001; 7 on 21 Jul 2002; 6, Jul 2005; a female with 11 new ducklings on 8 Oct 2006, and 6 (2 male 4 female) on 28 Aug 2011. Also seen in ephemeral wetland BF5 several times in Feb 2005; Nov 2008.
Grey Teal <i>Anas gracilis</i>	Often present BF2 (max 75 on 6 Feb 2013 and 16, Dec 2013, usually <10) and small wetlands; often dives for food in recent years when water levels are high (instead of dabbling as usual); rare or absent after rains in inland Australia. A pair bred 2009, rearing 4 young in Dec, still present & well grown in Jan 2010.
Chestnut Teal <i>Anas castanea</i>	Usually present BF2 (max 25 on 18 Mar 2000; 32 on 28 Feb 2002; 35 on 23 June 2007; 43 on 27 Jan 2013) and a few on small wetlands, especially the grotty pond; breeds locally (broods up to 5 young seen BF). Rarely seen diving for food BF vs the usual dabbling (3 on 10 July 2014; a few Mar-Jul 2015).
Mallard [I]/Domestic Duck [E+] <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	A small group of domestic ducks (of Mallard or Pekin Duck origin) inhabited BF for a few months in early 2000s while people fed them, but disappeared when this practice was terminated; 1 Khaki Campbell duck seen on 14 days in Feb-Mar 2008; a pair of Khaki Campbell ducks seen on Yarra River in Warringal Parklands on 14 June 2015. These ducks usually associate with their own kind but AF reports a male Mallard paired with a Pacific Black Duck in the flooded billabong on 15 Oct 1980.
Domestic Muscovy Duck [E] <i>Cairina moschata</i>	A white bird on river Nov 2013 and intermittently to May 2017, often near Warringal Parklands; in 2017 also seen on Rosanna golf course, less often on river.
Pacific Black Duck <i>Anas superciliosa</i>	Usually present BF2 (max 70 on 23 Apr 2003; 75 on 27 Apr 2009; 76 on 7 May 2011; 135 on 7 May 2013; 102 on 1 Apr 2015; 91 on 24 Mar 2013; 50 May 2011 and Mar 2015; usually <30). Also regular on small wetlands and along river, with a regular concentration on riverbend BF5 in mid 2000s, max 45 in Mar 2008 (RHL), and in Warringal Parklands more regularly, eg 30 at Sills Bend on 25 Aug 2008 when there were also 20 on the WP wetlands (RHL); breeds locally, with several broods BF each year but very few broods 2014/2015. One seen diving for food on 10 May 2008 (instead of dabbling as usual).
Hardhead <i>Aythya australis</i>	Small numbers BF when water levels are high, max 19 on 24 Sep 2011; 15-20 Jul-Aug 2012; a record 41 on 10 Nov 2012 and 25 still there on 24 Nov 2012. Very low numbers early 2000s (but up to 14 Aug-Sep 2001) with increased frequency and numbers since 2005.
Blue-billed Duck <i>Oxyura australis</i>	Singles BF on rare occasions: a female on 18 Nov 2009; a female 1 & 3 Nov 2011 (LE); a female 25 Aug and several days in Sep 2012; 3 females Dec 2012; a male Sep 2012; unrecorded sexes Nov 2011 and Aug 2012; a female 19 April 2017.

Australasian Grebe <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>	Usually present BF, max 26 on 28 Feb 2010 (13 adult 13 young, RHL), 20 in May 2010 and 20 on 3 June 2012 and sometimes on small wetlands (eg breeds Martins Lane dam when it contains water); one or more pairs breed at wetlands each year, max 3 pairs in 2009-10. Three seen dabbling for food along vegetated shore on 10 May 2008 (instead of diving as usual). Observed on river only on rare occasions, but two birds flew out separately from riverbank near horse-beach Aug 2009.
Hoary-headed Grebe <i>Poliiocephalus poliocephalus</i>	Often present BF when water levels are high, max 15 on 1 Sep 2002 and 14 on Dec 2012. seen building a nest on 3 Jan 2013, and a pair bred Jan 2015; absent after rains in inland Australia. Rare in 1990s when the billabong was the main open water, but one seen there on 5 Mar 1995.
Rock Dove [I] <i>Columba livia</i>	A flock of these feral birds is resident in nearby farmland, nesting and roosting in the old silos and feeding mainly in horse paddocks nearby. A pair bred under Plenty River bridge at the Rosanna Golf Course spring 2013 and 2014, and in a nearby River Red Gum hollow spring 2016 (LE).
Spotted Dove[I] <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Common in suburbs and also regular in wooded parkland BF, WP and along river, sometimes drinking at shores of small wetlands (eg often at grotty pond)
Common Bronzewing <i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>	Increasingly common in woodland and wooded parkland, often in pairs feeding below wattles (max 20, Jun 2014 and an amazing concentration of 59 feeding below Tree Violets in Aug 2016, LE). Nestlings suffer high predation rates in early breeding season, much more successful in subsequent nestings (Feb and Mar).
Crested Pigeon <i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	This species was rare in Melbourne till the early 2000s but then became common, feeding mainly in open areas including horse paddocks and sports ovals; 10-20 often on sports oval BF and in other open habitats
Peaceful Dove <i>Geopelia striata</i>	One on several days late Nov 2007, beside Yarra from horse-beach to power-lines (LE).
Tawny Frogmouth <i>Podargus strigoides</i>	An extraordinary density of this species in local woodland and along river, e.g. 8 pairs nesting within 500m of the Somerset Road carpark in 2014; also common in suburbs and farmland nearby (max 23, Dec 2007, and some resident birds were missed that day). Decreased slightly 2015-16.
Australian Owlet-nightjar <i>Aegotheles cristatus</i>	A few records mainly from River Red Gum woodland near the Plenty/Yarra confluence east of BF5; one regularly roosted in a hollow there (observed four times Apr 2009; once Aug 2009; four times Sep 2009; twice Oct 2009; 30 times Nov 2009; and 23 times Dec 2009, LE).
White-throated Needletail <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	Flocks often seen overhead or flying low over BF in late summer each year until the late 1990s (e.g. 40 feeding low over BF4 on 25 Jan 1993, RHL) but now rare: seen once only in each of Jan 2004, 2007, 2015 (LE).
{Fork-tailed Swift} <i>Apus pacificus</i>	Flocks occasionally seen over nearby suburbs in late summer, mainly before thunderstorms; has always been scarce and erratic in this area, and no definite records from BF or WP.
Australasian Darter	Singles often present along the river (more frequently from mid 2000s); singles BF on rare occasions (roosting on trees or stumps, not seen feeding there); one record of a recent fledgling in river at Plenty River confluence Jan 2001 (AF).

<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	
Little Pied Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	Often present BF (usually 0-3), on small wetlands and along the river; an unusually large group of 27 was seen circling the wetland and flying over on 17 Oct 2005 (LE)
Great Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Occasional visitor along river and BF, where 0-5 sometimes roost in dead trees; sometimes more frequent for a few weeks; an unusually large flock of 50 was seen flying overhead on 17 Oct 2011 (LE)
Little Black Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	Occasional visitor BF (max 16, Aug 2006 and 14, Apr 2013), where sometimes roosts in dead trees, and along river; small flocks sometimes on billabong during 1990s, and began nesting activity there one winter in 1990s; a flock of 20 flew over on 17 Oct 2011 (LE)
Pied Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	Rare vagrant: singles in river 18 May 2004, 20 Dec 2010 and 20 Jan 2011; one in wetland on the next day 21 Jan 2011; one flying over wetland on 8 Nov 2014, and then seen flying with a Great Cormorant on 13 Nov 2014, at wetland on 16 & 17 Nov 2014 and on snag in river 5 Dec 2014 (LE)
Australian Pelican <i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	A few often BF, in the billabong before it dried out and along river early 2000s, sometimes perching on dead River Red Gums BF and roosting at night on crossbar of a nearby power pole (May 1998, RHL), but rarely seen since 2008, with just one record of one on 14 Apr 2014 (LE)
[Australasian Bittern] <i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	One heard calling from a seasonal wetland near Banyule swamp on 28 Dec 1991 (Beardsell 1997). Keartland (1900) says that the species was sometimes encountered in lagoons near Heidelberg in late 1800s.
White-necked Heron <i>Ardea pacifica</i>	Occasionally seen BF, WP and small wetlands, mostly singles but 7 seen circling Oct 2011; was regular at billabong in 1970s (AF).
Eastern Great Egret <i>Ardea modesta</i>	One or two regular in billabong in 1990s. Occasionally seen BF, WP and small wetlands, mostly singles but max 12, Jul 2013; numbers vary, more records in 2012-13 than other years (recorded on 56 dates in 2012, 66 in 2013, vs only one date in 2009)
[Intermediate Egret] <i>Ardea intermedia</i>	One with Great Egrets at billabong in early 1970s (AF). Single birds believed to be of this species were seen in Jul 2003; Mar, Apr, Sep, Dec 2005; Sep 2007 and Apr 2008 (LE), along Yarra River between horse-beach and windmill. This species is not easy to distinguish from Eastern Great Egret and further confirmation is needed.
Cattle Egret <i>Ardea ibis</i>	Winter visitor, often feeding in nearby grazed pasture and roosting in trees BF, or sometimes feeding in wetland BF: max 100 feeding on sports oval WP on 16 July 1995; 100, Sep-Oct 2005 (LE); increased to mid 2000s but then declined (e.g. max 20 in 2009); some stayed into late spring in some years, acquiring various degrees of breeding plumage
White-faced Heron <i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>	At least one resident pair breeds in River Red Gums beside river, feeding on small animals such as skinks in long grass and along shores of BF or small wetlands (max 8, Jan 2010)
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Rare vagrant: one on shores of billabong 3 Apr 1992 (Beardsell 1997) and one BF2 on 2 Feb 2013, following a group of 4 Yellow-billed Spoonbills presumably to catch prey that they disturbed (RHL)

Nankeen Night Heron <i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	One or two often adults or immatures visit BF and smaller wetlands for a few weeks mainly in spring-summer, feeding among emergent vegetation in wetland (at all times of day) and roosting in trees nearby or along river, or along billabong BF5 if flooded. Nesting along Yarra River in BF5 produced 2 young.
Australian White Ibis <i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	A few feed along exposed shores BF, max 16, Feb 2009 and 15, Aug 2012 or at smaller wetlands; occasionally join flocks of Straw-necked Ibis in nearby pasture, or roosting in dead trees BF; larger flocks seen occasionally in farmland north-east of Bonds Road.
Straw-necked Ibis <i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>	Flocks often feed in nearby pasture and ovals 100, Jun 2013 and roost in dead trees BF (max 90, July 2013), sometimes gathering there at any time of day
Royal Spoonbill <i>Platalea regia</i>	Occasionally seen BF and small wetlands (including billabong and WP), mostly singles but 4 on 17 Feb 2013
Yellow-billed Spoonbill <i>Platalea flavipes</i>	Occasionally seen BF and billabong, mostly singles but 5 together with a Royal Spoonbill in Nov 2011 and 4, Feb-Apr 2013.
Black-shouldered Kite <i>Elanus axillaris</i>	Singles occasionally seen over rank grassland but mainly in nearby farmland. Nested on pylon Oct 2006 producing 3 young. More frequent in 1980s and 90s than in 2000s.
Whistling Kite <i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	Up to 14 gathered at billabong to feed on trapped carp when it was drying in April-May 2013; otherwise seen occasionally in many years. One bird seen going to ground and returning to perch with remains of Common Ringtail Possum, Jan 2016.
Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans</i>	One soaring over BF on 28 May 2015 (LE). The species was common near Melbourne in the 19 th century (Keartland 1900) but absent for most of the 20 th century, and is now staging a revival.
Brown Goshawk <i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	Breeding resident in wooded habitats, also hunting for birds and rabbits in a range of habitats including nearby suburbs. Nest with young in River Red Gum beside river Nov-Dec 2016 (LE).
Collared Sparrowhawk <i>Accipiter cirrhocephalus</i>	Seen in most years, mostly hunting for birds in wooded habitats; a pair regularly nested in clump of pine trees WP3 during 2000s, eg Dec 2005.
Grey Goshawk <i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>	Singles of the white form observed BF 13 Mar 1990 (one hunting near billabong, RHL), 2004 (one resident near river, e.g. 3 observations May-Jun 2004, LE), 2007 (3 observations May & Aug 2007, LE), Feb 2015 (LE) and 13 & 14 May 2017 (LE et al.), the latter seen carrying a Common Ringtail Possum.
Spotted Harrier <i>Circus assimilis</i>	One on 23 Mar 2014 near small wetland in farmland east of Banyule Flats, perched in wattle being harassed by Brown Goshawk, then took flight eastward harassed by ravens and magpies.
Swamp Harrier <i>Circus approximans</i>	Singles over BF on rare occasions, e.g. one attacking waterbirds on 12 Oct 2001 (RHL); 2 observations Jan 2005; 1, Nov 2005; 1, Apr 2010 (LE); 1 over BF5 June 2013.
Wedge-tailed Eagle <i>Aquila audax</i>	Pair often resident in farmland east of BF (near power-lines), nesting in some years at Westerfolds Park; occasionally seen hunting throughout area. Number of annual observations by LE: 1, 2004; 1, 2005; 10, 2006; 1, 2007; 71, 2008; 31, 2009; 7, 2010; 1, 2011; 5, 2013; 5, 2014; none in 2015 or 2016.

Little Eagle <i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Singles sometimes seen hunting BF and open country (most years); usually flying high but sometimes low over BF; recently seen regularly on ridge to north, preying on rabbits and once taking a Red Wattlebird (NM).
Nankeen Kestrel <i>Falco cenchroides</i>	Singles rarely over open country and perched on dead trees at wetlands. Nested in hollow of dead tree in open farmland east of Banyule Flats spring 2011.
Brown Falcon <i>Falco berigora</i>	Singles rarely over open country. Believed to have nested in clump of trees under powerlines in open farmland east of Banyule Flats 2008 (18 observations by LE Aug-Oct)
Australian Hobby <i>Falco longipennis</i>	Singles and pairs often seen hunting for birds over wetlands and nearby suburbs: probably breeding resident. Seen occasionally at wetlands on dead trees launching to catch dragonflies, returning to perch and feeding, with dragonflies' wings floating away. Fewer records since 2013 than previously.
Black Falcon <i>Falco subniger</i>	One over pasture near silos north of BF Sep 2013 (NM) and one in pasture just east of BF Dec 2015, landing in eucalypt (LE)
Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Singles observed several times each year in general area, hunting for large flying birds over all habitats
Purple Swamphen <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Breeding resident BF and small wetlands when they contain water; mainly inhabits vegetated western and northern shores of BF, often seen well at grotty pond
Buff-banded Rail <i>Gallirallus philippensis</i>	Pairs breed in most years, eg in ephemeral swamps near Somerset Road carpark; often seen along shores of BF, grotty pond or WP (max 9 around BF, Nov 2013; 3 pairs BF, Dec 2012; 2 at WP3, Sep 2012) when suitable muddy shores are exposed, and foraging in nearby open grassland including golf course
Baillon's Crake <i>Porzana pusilla</i>	Several BF most summers (Sep-Mar, every year 2005-9 and 2012-13), often feeding among emergent vegetation close to shore or along exposed muddy shores (max 2, Dec 2012). One seen feeding from edge of Black Swans' nest on 12 Sep 1999, the first year the wetland was reflooded. Rarely seen since Water Ribbons disappeared in 2012.
Australian Spotted Crake <i>Porzana fluminea</i>	A few visit BF (max 4 on 9 Jan 2013) and small wetlands many summers, feeding along exposed muddy shores; can sometimes be seen well at grotty pond
Spotless Crake <i>Porzana tabuensis</i>	A few BF in most recent years (mainly at or near the grotty pond), feeding below dense vegetation and from exposed muddy shores; successfully reared two young at the grotty pond in 2012-13 (2 adults 2 juveniles on 17 Jan 2013, RHL).
Black-tailed Native-hen <i>Tribonyx ventralis</i>	Rare vagrant; one bird BF on 24 Sep 2009 (LE). (An earlier second-hand report of one nearby at Annulus Billabong south of Bourke Road Mar-Jul 1986 (per AF))
Dusky Moorhen <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	Breeding resident BF (vegetated shores and grotty pond,) max 52 BF on 28 Feb 2002; 42 BF on 9 Apr 2012 (RHL), along river and on small wetlands including WP
Eurasian Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	Often present BF (max 234 on 25 Feb and 240 on 24 Nov 2012, LE) and sometimes on small wetlands including WP; occasionally breeds BF, e.g. pairs with 2 young Feb 2009, Nov 2009 and Oct 2010; several pairs bred 2009-10. The high numbers in 2012 coincided with a temporary bloom of algae, followed by disappearance of Water Ribbons from the

	wetland: both plants are eaten by coot. In 2014-15, a flock of up to 16 took to grazing from golf greens on Rosanna Golf Course. Individuals have occasionally been seen feeding from bankside vegetation along river.
Black-winged Stilt <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	One, two or three pairs often present BF and WP when water levels are high and falling, often breeding in spring BF; occasionally present at smaller wetlands. Max on main wetland BF 14, Nov 2006.
Black-fronted Dotterel <i>Elseyornis melanops</i>	Pairs sometimes present and breeding BF, WP and smaller wetlands; more gather BF as water levels drop, max 11, Feb 2014; 10, Apr 2005, and 6, Feb 2013. More common in 1990s when billabong was regularly filled.
Red-kneed Dotterel <i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i>	A few on shore BF as water dries out leaving exposed mud, max 5, Jan-Feb 2013.
Masked Lapwing <i>Vanellus miles</i>	Many pairs resident in general area, including suburbs (nesting on flat rooves & feeding on sports ovals, schoolyards and grass verges), wetlands (BF, WP and smaller wetlands) and golf courses. Often a pair or two BF2, occasionally up to ~12; larger flocks more frequent previously, max 24 on 11 Feb 1976 (AF).
Banded Lapwing <i>Vanellus tricolor</i>	One on 30 Jan 2015 on western edge of wetland BF2
Australian Painted Snipe <i>Rostratula australis</i>	One immature female of this endangered species took up residence at and near grotty pond (BF2), Oct-Dec 2001
Latham's Snipe <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Regular summer visitor BF2, e.g. 10 on 6 Jan 2003; 16, Dec 2006; 25 on 31 Dec 2006 (RHL); 13, Jan 2008; 5, 2009 and 2012; 23 on 25 Jan 2013 (RHL); 19, Feb 2013; 9, Jan 2014 and less often on other wetlands (eg one in drying billabong 12 Feb 2017); mainly seen when water levels drop away from vegetation and these birds may feed openly from exposed mud, resting on roots of Water Ribbons, even seen higher on dead trees at wetlands; can often be viewed well at grotty pond. Higher numbers were recorded in the 1980s and 1990s when the billabong was regularly flooded, e.g. 37 on 26 Nov 1980 (AF), 30 on 30 Dec 1994 and up to 50 during snipe surveys at both wetlands (Beardsell 1997).
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper <i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Rare vagrant: two at BF2 26-28 Oct 1999 soon after the water level was raised (AF & FTHS)]
{Painted Button-quail} <i>Turnix varia</i>	Not recorded in actual area but a few records nearby: one in River Red Gum woodland Martins Lane on 19 Oct 2003 (RHL); one in nearby suburban garden 16 th & 17 th April 2009 (LE); and one at Rosanna Golf Links Primary School, March 2009 (DT), the latter caught and released at Martins Lane.
Whiskered Tern <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	One in wetland BF2 5 Nov 1999, and found dead on bank two days later (FTHS, AF); two perching on posts in wetland 1 Nov 2015 (LE)
Silver Gull <i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>	Small numbers feed from exposed mud BF when water levels drop to low levels, e.g. one on 4 Dec 2002 and two, Nov 2005; otherwise surprisingly rare until late 2000s when a pair took up residence and began nesting each year from 2009 when water levels were high, either in fork of dead River Red Gum or in open-topped nest-box from 2009 and failing to fledge any young despite numerous attempts; it successfully reared young in Dec 2010; 2011 x 3; 2012; 2013; and in 2014 two pairs fledged young and aggressively excluded other gulls. The second pair became established in 2014 when broods

	of 1 and 3 fledged successfully from nests in the tree-fork and nest-box respectively. The species then became more regular even when water level was high, eg 12, Feb 2014, and 18 on 12 Oct 2014.
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo <i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	Regular small numbers of non-breeding birds, max 100, May 2009, often feeding on grubs under bark of wattles. Flocks of 40-60 regularly in years 2005 to 2009, containing dependent young; 70 in poplars June 2011. As wattles have died off in plantations along river and surrounds numbers have declined markedly since ~2010.
Gang-gang Cockatoo <i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	One or two, occasionally three (June 2013) are erratic but regular winter visitors, sometimes feeding on Hawthorn berries along north of BF5. Small flocks of 8 to 12 birds; 70 feeding in Hawthorn bushes along Yarra Trail 100 metres east of PV1, Mar 2009.
Galah <i>Cacatua roseicapilla</i>	Common in lightly wooded open country (from 1970s), often feeding in pairs on sports ovals and along grass verges of suburban roads
Long-billed Corella <i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i>	Common in lightly wooded open country (from early 1990s), often feeding in small flocks in horse paddocks or in pairs on sports ovals. Flocks of 130, Jun 2005 and 200, Apr 2009 flying over; numbers declined subsequently as Little Corellas increased, but flocks of 35-40 in June 2017 (NM).
Little Corella <i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	Common in lightly wooded open country (from late 1990s but especially from late 2000s), and flocks regularly use red gums BF for perching and drinking; seen feeding on wattle blossom BF Nov 2014; max 60 pre-roost BF 9 Dec 2012 (GD); ~100, May 2011; 74, Oct 2012; 200, Aug 2014 on dead trees at wetland; larger flocks nearby (up to 400 along Plenty River). Flocks of each corella species sometimes in close proximity but rarely intermingled. A Little Corella with wholly pink-washed underparts observed June 2016 (NM); others with pink throat markings may suggest some hybridisation (NM).
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo <i>Cacatua galerita</i>	Common in lightly wooded open country (from 1980s) and in red gums along river; flocks feeding mainly in pasture, less often from sports ovals. Nest in large riverside River Red Gums.
Cockatiel [E] <i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	One or two birds often on wires Banyule Road, and occasionally along river or elsewhere; one of them is banded and both are believed to be escaped or free-flying cage-birds
Rainbow Lorikeet <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	Abundant (from early 1990s) along river and in all treed areas including suburbs, feeding from blossom of eucalypts and on fruit (also on wattle blossom Nov-Dec 2014) and nesting in tree hollows mainly along river. Rare in Melbourne for most of the 20 th century (Loyn and Menkhorst 2011); local records were considered noteworthy as late as 1991 (AF)
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet [E+] <i>Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus</i>	A few seen occasionally along Yarra Trail, nearby suburbs (gardens & street trees), often as pairs among groups of Rainbow Lorikeets. A group of 6-8 regularly sought shade in a deciduous European Ash tree in Viewbank 2008-09, but not seen after the Black Saturday heatwave in early Feb 2009.
Musk Lorikeet <i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>	Common visitor to flowering eucalypts or fruiting trees, in varying numbers with influxes often in December or Jul-Aug, max ~50

Little Lorikeet <i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	A few records most years, mainly of 1 or 2 birds in riverside trees , flying over or nearby gardens, max 10 on 10 Mar 2007 (RHL); 3 BF3 Dec 2013 (GD) and over 100 records , but 3 or 4 max usually flying over or in riverside eucalypts near Yarra/ Plenty confluence (LE).
Purple-crowned Lorikeet <i>Glossopsitta porphyrocephala</i>	Flocks up to 6 or 8 flying over BF3, BF5 and PV1 in flowering Sugar Gums and other eucalypts, mainly in suburbs. Attempted to nest in a small hollow in a River Red Gum near golf course, but driven away by Red-rumped Parrots (which proceeded to nest there).
Australian King-Parrot <i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	Pairs seen along river and in nearby suburbs from ~2005, probably now resident in small numbers. Nesting near confluence of Yarra and Plenty Rivers 2007 and 2008. Up to 10 seen daily in Viewbank 5 km up the Plenty River 2015-17 (NM).
Crimson Rosella <i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Mainly winter visitor to riverside forest (max 10 on 18 & 26 July 2003 (RHL) and 20, June 2013 (GD)) with a few also in suburban gardens; a few pairs remain over summer and probably breed locally in riverside forest
Eastern Rosella <i>Platycercus eximius</i>	Common resident in open woodland including golf courses
Red-rumped Parrot <i>Psephotus haematonotus</i>	Common resident in open woodland including golf courses. In mid 2000s often seen in flocks of 40-106, but somewhat fewer in recent years. Two known nest sites along Yarra River now inhabited by Rainbow Lorikeets. Three nest sites at wetlands, one being investigated by Rainbow Lorikeet Feb 2015.
Budgerigar [E] <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	Occasional records of escaped cage-birds (blue)
Blue-winged Parrot <i>Neophema chrysostoma</i>	Flock of 10 seen feeding beside swamp and billabong on 3 Apr 1992 (Beardsell 1997); one seen on dead wattle near river PV1, Oct 2003 (LE) and two near powerlines Oct 2015 (LE); also reported in 1947 (Tarr 1948).
Rose-ringed Parakeet [E] <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	One flying over July 2016, presumed escapee (this species is native to Asia & Africa, but is often kept as pets)
Australian Koel <i>Eudynamys cyanocephala</i>	A male seen on riverside dead tree near powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats on 14 Mar 2011 (LE); others heard nearby in spring of several recent years
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo <i>Chrysococcyx basalus</i>	Singles in woodland mainly Aug-Oct; some remained later in previous decades when generally more common
Black-eared Cuckoo <i>Chrysococcyx osculans</i>	Singles seen in riverside vegetation east of powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats Nov 2006 and Feb 2008 (LE).
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo <i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>	Summer visitor mainly to riverside forest, calling Sep-Dec and silent individuals sometimes seen later

Pallid Cuckoo <i>Cuculus pallidus</i>	Irregular summer visitor to open woodland and adjacent riverside forest Aug-Dec, or juveniles through to March; more in some years than others (many in 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and none 2012, 2013, 2014.) A juvenile seen fed by Bell Miners near Plenty River 5 Mar 1995.
Fan-tailed Cuckoo <i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>	Fairly common in riverside forest and nearby woodland Aug-Nov, and a few at other times of year. Still present till Jan but often silent. At least one calling in winter some years including 2015. May have declined somewhat in recent years.
Brush Cuckoo <i>Cacomantis variolosus</i>	One calling in riverside forest 8 Nov 2016, in morning and evening (LE, AK); one recorded next day near Bulleen.
Powerful Owl <i>Ninox strenua</i>	Pair breeds in riverside forest and nearby woodland, feeding on possums and large birds; a few other adults seen occasionally from 2002 to 2005, not since; 12 young birds reared from this female 2005-16 from four different nests, with nesting attempted in nine of the eleven years (all except 2010 or 2013), and failed three times including one year when they tried twice (in 2006).
Southern Boobook <i>Ninox boobook</i>	Has bred in open woodland near Rosanna Golf Course 2009 and near Banyule ovals 2015 (3 young); individuals sometimes inhabit riverside forest for a few weeks, but surprisingly scarce
Eastern Barn Owl <i>Tyto javanica</i>	Singles found roosting in trees near billabong on rare occasions: 16 times Sep-Oct 2005; May, Aug, Sep 2011; Jun-Sep 2012; May & Jul 2014 (LE)
Azure Kingfisher <i>Alcedo azurea</i>	Occasionally seen along river, especially at Plenty-Yarra confluence where bred successfully Feb 2004 (juvenile photographed by GE); once seen fishing in billabong (June 2012, RHL), once at main wetland and once at WP3 (Sep 2012); recording rates along river have declined from 8 to 12 observations per year from 2002 to 2010; only 4, 1 or 2 records in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2016 (8 Jan), no records in 2013 (LE). In 2017 singles observed at Plenty-Yarra confluence 4 June (NM), and along the river generally on seven occasions by LE (30 Jan, 8 & 9 March 3 dates in June), suggesting a welcome revival.
Laughing Kookaburra <i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	Fairly common in riverside forest and open woodland including golf courses. Breeding along river in hollows in eucalypts but also records of breeding in Poplar and Willow trees.
Red-backed Kingfisher <i>Todiramphus pyrrhopygius</i>	One perched on sanctuary notice-board on 17 Nov 1985 (AF); detailed description provided.
Sacred Kingfisher <i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>	Fairly common summer visitor (Sep-Mar) to riverside forest, where it nests (in holes in riverbank, or hollow tree spouts), feeding mainly on insects and skinks; possibly declined in recent years.
Dollarbird <i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	One bird seen perched in River Red Gum near river 120 m from horse beach on 6 Nov 2009 (LE, NM).

White-throated Trecreeper <i>Cormobates leucophaeus</i>	One took up residence in riverside forest from corner of PV1 near horse-beach to downstream 220 metres ; with 83 observations by LE and some by RHL, GD et al. between 23 Dec 2010 and Dec 2013, mostly feeding from trunks of wattles and dead eucalypts.
Satin Bowerbird <i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i>	One in eucalypt near powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats on 16 Nov 2009 (LE).
Superb Fairy-wren <i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	Common in riverside forest and in scrub near wetlands; declined in drought 2000-09, eg disappearing from Martins Lane dam, but still reasonably common near wetlands and river though much less so than previously.
White-browed Scrubwren <i>Sericornis frontalis</i>	Common in riverside forest and in other shrubby woodland (mostly near streams or wetlands, occasionally in gardens)
Weebill <i>Smicrornis brevirostris</i>	Up to 6 in regrowth eucalypts BF during drought Mar to Sep 2007 (RHL, LE) and groups of 2 or 3 seen once in Mar 2009, once in Feb 2016, three times in Jan 2017 and once each in Feb 2017 and March 2017, the 2017 records all east of powerlines (LE)
White-throated Gerygone <i>Gerygone olivacea</i>	Two singing males just east of BF5 on 17 Nov 2012 were presumably passage migrants as absent a week later (GD). Another singing same area 27 Oct 2016 (LE). (One in Viewbank suburbs 4 Oct 2001 (RHL).)
Striated Thornbill <i>Acanthiza lineata</i>	Small groups occasionally in riverside forest where has bred (feeding young near windmill BF5 in Jan 2013) and nearby eucalypt stands, also up to 3 east of BF5 May and Oct 2013. Groups of 10 to 12 regularly in recent years along riverside since 2008, mostly 0-200m downstream from windmill BF5. Reported as "very common" in 1940s (Tarr 1948).
Yellow Thornbill <i>Acanthiza nana</i>	One family group PV1 often wanders into BF5; fledglings noted in 2012. Very often in eucalypt and wattle plantations east of billabong PV1 and to powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats.
Yellow-rumped Thornbill <i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>	Now rare, mainly seen in cattle pasture east of power-lines; previously common (when cattle were grazed near BF); groups seen occasionally BF to late 2000s. Nested in BF5 Oct 2008
Brown Thornbill <i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>	Abundant in riverside forest, plantations of eucalypts and wattles and anywhere with tall shrubs; often in suburban gardens
Spotted Pardalote <i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>	Common in eucalypts, including riverside forest and patches of woodland elsewhere, often in gardens. Nesting regularly in burrows along riverbank and escarpment along Yarra Trail.
Striated Pardalote <i>Pardalotus striatus</i>	Often present in mature River Red Gums near river, sometimes elsewhere, nesting in tiny hollows in River Red Gums along river. Generally scarce (up to 4 birds) and no recent records of large flocks.
Eastern Spinebill	A few all year in riverside forest; more in winter when also found in nearby gardens. Max 8, Apr 2006.

<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>	
Yellow-faced Honeyeater <i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i>	In 2000s considered mainly a summer visitor (Sep-May) to riverside forest and nearby woodland; has increased in recent years and is now often present in all seasons (first June record was in 2016, LE). Visible migration evident in April/May, perhaps less often than previously. Breeding confirmed Jan 2015 and suspected in most recent years.
White-eared Honeyeater <i>Lichenostomus leucotis</i>	One in riverside eucalypt past powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats 19 Feb 2007 (LE) and one in same area on 1 Apr 2015 (LE)
White-plumed Honeyeater <i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i>	Abundant in riverside forest and suburban gardens to 1990s; disappeared from gardens in early 2000s and declined in riverside forest post-drought (2010-14); now persists along river in very small numbers; formerly also occurred in plantations of eucalypts and wattles. Bred Dec 2014 (near powerlines, first for several years) (LE).
Bell Miner <i>Manorina melanophrys</i>	Colonies mainly in riverside forest; increased during drought, expanding into regrowth eucalypts BF, then vanished from whole area in early years post-drought from July 2009 with a temporary reappearance of 3 or 4 birds beside river near powerlines for seven days in Oct 2013, and at least one bird again near powerlines 1 Nov 2016; a small colony then became established there, with breeding recorded in early 2017.
Noisy Miner <i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	Abundant in open woodland including golf courses and margins of wetlands and sports ovals; also in suburban gardens; has increased steadily since 1990s
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater <i>Acanthagenys rufogularis</i>	Singles in dead wattles near Yarra Trail in PV1 (in dead wattles horse-beach to windmill): Jan 2008; Apr 2008; Aug 2014; one in wattles with box mistletoes near powerlines on 11 & 12 Apr 2015
Little Wattlebird <i>Anthochaera chrysoptera</i>	Common in suburban gardens with flowering Grevilleas, Banksias, etc; occasionally seen BF in vegetation surrounding wetland or riverside forest
Regent Honeyeater <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>	One in riverside forest with wattles near power lines 4 Jan to ~14 Jan 1998 (PB, CB, DM, EM, AF et al.)
Red Wattlebird <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	Common in riverside forest, suburban gardens and most wooded areas, max 50, BF, April 2013 (GD); 100 near powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats Mar 2008. Flocks of 30-40 seen in Feb/Mar most years. (LE)
White-fronted Chat <i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	Small numbers occurred at billabong in 1970s and 80s, possibly as winter visitors (Beardsell 1997); fairly common in 1940s (Tarr 1948)

Scarlet Honeyeater <i>Myzomela sanguinolenta</i>	Several feeding from Box Mistletoe 2 Apr to Sep 2010; 9, Apr 2010 with 65 records by LE, max 12 Aug 2010 (RHL); this was part of an extraordinary influx of this species to southern Victoria where the species had previously been regarded as a scarce summer visitor to East Gippsland
New Holland Honeyeater <i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>	Several in shrubs near BF5 and PV1 in plantation east of billabong and on west side of main wetland (at planted flowering Grevilleas) with seasonal disappearances, eg disappeared in winter 2013, back in Nov 2013; a few in nearby gardens but generally uncommon, max 5 or 6, Feb 2014.
White-naped Honeyeater <i>Melithreptus lunatus</i>	Occasional small flocks in riverside forest and other stands of mature eucalypts, mainly in winter, eg 3 on 2 June 2001; 5 to east of BF5, June 2013; up to 7 Mar 2015; several records of 2 or 3 birds June and Aug 2016; 22-23 Apr, 4 & 11 May and 30 June 2017 (up to 3 birds in April, 5 in May-June).
Noisy Friarbird <i>Philemon corniculatus</i>	4 records: several birds in riverside eucalypts just downstream of powerlines 1km east of Banyule Flats on two days in Mar 2007; several birds in trees next to Somerset Drive carpark on one day in Mar 2007 and one at ephemeral wetlands behind billabong BF5 Mar 2007. One reported nearby (Price Park) for several weeks in early 2015.
Little Friarbird <i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	One on top of dead wattle on side of Yarra Trail near horse-beach PV1 on 29 Sep 2014 (LE)
Painted Honeyeater <i>Grantiella picta</i>	One heard, seen & photographed near powerlines east of BF5 on 14 Jan 2013 (BO'K): this species is rare south of the Great Dividing Range.
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike <i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Common in riverside forest and most other stands of tall eucalypts, especially in summer but a few remain over winter. Numbers increasing over last 5 years.
White-winged Triller <i>Lalage tricolor</i>	Erratic summer visitor to eucalypt woodland near river and billabong, in varying numbers, eg 4 males Oct 2000; up to 20 in Oct 2009; 3 nests in two adjoining eucalypts forming one canopy Nov and Dec 2009, 50 metres upstream from horse-beach; 6 in Dec 2012, rare 2014-15.
Crested Shrike-tit <i>Falcunculus frontatus</i>	One or more pairs resident in riverside forest and nearby stands of eucalypts; has declined in recent years: 24 records in 2015, none in 2016 or 2017.
Olive Whistler <i>Pachycephala olivacea</i>	One, May 2013, in dense native shrubs beside billabong just east of BF5 (GD); one on 9 Sep 2013 and two subsequent dates in spring 2013 (RHL, PWM) one in Tree Violets near powerlines 1km east of Banyule Flats Sep 2014 (LE).
Golden Whistler <i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	Common in shrubs in riverside forest and plantations of eucalypts and wattles. Declined from 9 or 10 known territories in late 2000s to 3 or 4 in recent years.
Rufous Whistler <i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	Summer visitor (Sep-Apr) to open woodland and plantations of eucalypts and wattles, avoiding areas dominated by Noisy Miners; numbers declined in recent years from 5 or 6 known territories in late 2000s to 1 or 2 in recent years (2012-16), but still occupied by presumed breeding pairs (e.g. in 2012 just east of BF5, and in 2014 one pair in riverside forest near golf course and one pair near poplars and windmill).

Grey Shrike-thrush <i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	Common in riverside forest and plantations of eucalypts and wattles.
Olive-backed Oriole <i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	Summer visitor (Aug-Dec, then goes quiet) to riverside forest and nearby woodland including golf courses; occasional birds have stayed into early May or over-wintered; earliest record one on 30 July 2011 (GE); one overwintering near horse-beach in 2015, calling quite often.
White-breasted Woodswallow <i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	One over BF on 10 Jun 2000 (RHL)
Masked Woodswallow <i>Artamus personatus</i>	One over billabong Oct 2002 (LE); a few with Dusky Woodswallows at powerlines Aug 2008 (LE)
White-browed Woodswallow <i>Artamus superciliosus</i>	Flock of 30 flying over billabong on 14 Oct 1994 (RHL) and small flock Oct 2009 (LE); other flocks nearby in some summers
Dusky Woodswallow <i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	Summer visitor (Sep-Apr); a few in open woodland near power-lines where they breed most years and less often near BF though a number of observations near windmill spring 2012, 2013 and 2014 (LE).
Grey Butcherbird <i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	Common in open woodland, mainly where there are Noisy Miners
Australian Magpie <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Common in open woodland, pasture and other open areas (including sports ovals, golf courses and suburban gardens). Large groups of up to 100 have been seen occasionally in nearby farmland.
Pied Currawong <i>Strepera graculina</i>	Fairly common in forest, woodland and treed gardens, with flocks up to 50+ in winter but increasingly some pairs remaining over summer and breeding locally
Grey Currawong <i>Strepera versicolor</i>	Small numbers resident among trees including parks and golf courses and breeding locally, near wetlands.
Rufous Fantail <i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	Singles in riverside forest on spring or autumn passage in many years, mainly late October to early November or late March to early April, near river east of BF5, e.g. 21 Oct 2003; 27 Oct 2013 (JD); 23 Oct 2016 (DH); 4 Mar 2005; 3 Apr 2007; 21 Mar 2015.
Grey Fantail <i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>	Abundant in most wooded habitats except those dominated by Noisy Miners; more in summer than winter; some dark birds of Tasmanian race observed in winter; largest concentration 25 on east side of billabong on 8 Sep 2012.
Willie Wagtail <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	Formerly common in open habitats but became scarce in drought 2000-09; now rare except among cattle in pasture east of study area, and sometimes a few round BF wetland and in horse paddocks nearby. Nesting observed every year until 2013, but no nests found in 2014 (though young birds were seen on 4 Jan 2015).
Little Raven <i>Corvus mellori</i>	Common in open country and suburbs, but quite rarely observed on sports ovals or golf courses. Nest in Eucalypts along river.

Leaden Flycatcher <i>Myiagra rubecula</i>	Singles in riverside forest on 14 Nov 2004; 29 & 30 Oct 2007; 2 & 11 Nov 2010 on spring passage
Satin Flycatcher <i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Singles in riverside forest on 31 Oct 2002; 15 Nov 2004; 29 to 4 Nov 2005 (female); 3 Dec 2005 (female); 22 & 23 Oct 2007 (female); 24 Oct 2010; 20, 24 & 25 Oct 2011; 30 Oct 2012; 25 & 26 Oct 2013; xx-27 Oct 2016. All on spring passage, mostly singles in late October or early November, but a female seen and male heard near horse-beach on 26 Oct 2013, the day after a male had been seen there on 25 Oct 2013.
Magpie-lark <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	Common in open woodland, beside wetlands and in some gardens, often feeding from short grass on sports ovals and golf courses. Nesting near wetlands, near billabong and along river.
White-winged Chough <i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i>	A small group nested in open woodland PV1 in spring 2012 (up to 11 birds) but were unsuccessful (perhaps because harried by Pied Currawongs); four adults and three young were seen BF5 on 27 Oct 2016 (LE), after just occasional records in preceding months (LE, AK). Occasional records in open woodland at other times (mainly outside the study area, e.g. at end of Martins Lane). Up to 20 seen in PV1, from 16 June 2012; a dozen observations near powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats (20 on 12 Mar 2016) and near Plenty River bridge at confluence with Yarra River Jan 2015.
Scarlet Robin <i>Petroica multicolor</i>	One juv near billabong on 19 Jan 1999 (RHL); one male singing BF2 on 21 Jul 2002; records by LE include 10 in 2003; 1 pair seen 27 times in PV1 in 2004; quite erratic observations since then, with none in 2005 or 2006; 9 in 2007; 2 in 2008; 23 in 2009; 31 in 2010; 1 in 2011; 18 in 2012; 20 in 2013 (even though LE was away Apr-Jun), 17 observations in 2014. Locations have been from BF5 behind the billabong to farmland beyond powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats; with many in PV1 and along Yarra Trail on fences. Max 6, May 2014 (LE) and up to 5 wintered BF5 Apr-Jul 2013 (GD).
Red-capped Robin <i>Petroica goodenovii</i>	One female or immature seen on 3 days to east of BF5, on 2, 4 & 5 Oct 2013 (LE, RHL, GD); occasional other records.
Flame Robin <i>Petroica phoenicea</i>	Winter visitor, with flocks up to ~15 in open grassland Mar-Sep; declined since 1990s, now mainly in cattle pasture east of study area. Seen occasionally along Yarra Trail dropping to path from nearby wattles and occasionally in BF5 on fence posts.
Rose Robin <i>Petroica rosea</i>	Singles on spring passage Aug-Nov, mainly in riverside forest, often in wattles, eg one on 25 Sep 2010 (LE) and a female 4 Oct 2013 (chasing with a female Red-capped Robin) (LE, RHL), mostly single males but two together in one early year near powerlines.
Pink Robin <i>Petroica rodinogaster</i>	Rare winter visitor: one female Apr 2007; two on 10 May 2013, one remaining to 28 May, feeding in dense River Red Gum regrowth over muddy drying billabong in BF5 (GD)
Eastern Yellow Robin <i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	Resident among shrubs in riverside forest and regrowth in billabongs; declined during drought 2000-09. In early 2000s LE found many nests, but no nests found for several years (although evidence of nesting behaviour in a few remaining territories).

Eurasian Skylark [1] <i>Alauda arvensis</i>	One seen flying NE over grassland near Somerset Road 18 May 1996 (RHL), and two heard flying north on 14 Sep 1997 (RHL). Many older records of birds singing in nearby farmland in 1980s and early 1990s (AF), and common in the 1940s (Tarr 1948) and 1970s when the area was grazed (Warringal Conservation Society 1981; Fleming check date).
Golden-headed Cisticola <i>Cisticola exilis</i>	Formerly a common resident in rank grassland in and near BF to late 2000s; has become scarce and erratic in recent years; LE recorded the species on 19 dates in 2003; 48 in 2004; 50 in 2005; 48 in 2006; 33 in 2007; 56 in 2008; 44 in 2009; 25 in 2010; 28 in 2011; 23 in 2012; 19 in 2013; 2 in 2014; 8 in 2015 and one in 2016 (Oct).
Australian Reed-Warbler <i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	Summer visitor (Aug-Apr) to reed-beds, rushes and adjacent shrubs; formerly regular in ornamental ponds near Banyule Road (in 1990s) but now scarce and erratic, usually just a few records each year from the main swamp (where it was never reliably common since 1990s) (e.g. GD recorded up to 4, Nov 2008 and 3, Dec 2013). LE recorded the species on four dates in 2002; two in 2003; one in 2004; four in 2005; six in 2006; none in 2007; seven in 2008; none in 2009; eleven in 2010; six in 2011; two in 2012; none in 2013 or 2014; one in 2015 and none in 2016. The species was undoubtedly present in most years but may be under-recorded.
Little Grassbird <i>Megalurus gramineus</i>	Resident in flooded billabong in 1990s. One or two occasionally establish territories in dense vegetation in main swamp, and may be present for a few months and then disappear. LE observed one bird twice in 2010; 38 times in 2012 (may have bred in ephemeral wetland near Somerset Road carpark, but disturbed by slashing); 17 times in 2013 and only once in 2014. Described as "always present" in 1940s (Tarr 1948).
Rufous Songlark <i>Cincloramphus mathewsi</i>	Regular summer visitor in 1970s (and previously, Tarr 1948), rarely found in 1990s. A few recent records in open grassland mainly near the powerlines 1 km east of Banyule Flats but once in PV1 just over the fence from BF5, e.g. one 6 Nov and 7 Dec 2008; one Oct-Nov 2009 (GD, LE); 3 Jan 2012; one on 2 Sep, 4 Oct, 2 Nov and 1 Dec 2012; 2 Sep 2013. One photographed at Sills Bend 24 Oct 2012 (AF).
Brown Songlark <i>Cincloramphus cruralis</i>	Common in 1940s (Tarr 1948) and regularly reported in 1970s and early 80s (AF), rare subsequently; just one bird on the escarpment beside Yarra Trail in PV1 Nov 2002 (LE).
Silvereye <i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	Common especially in wattles along river, with flocks visiting a range of habitats in different seasons; more in summer than winter, with brown-flanked birds (Tasmanian subspecies) observed erratically in winter. Flocks of up to 60, e.g. flock of 50 flew SW on 8 Sep 2012.
Welcome Swallow <i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	Fairly common over pasture and wetlands, with large numbers occasional at all seasons, e.g. 250 over BF on 14 May 2012; 170-200 over BF Jan 2013 and similar numbers more often in winter than summer
Fairy Martin <i>Hirundo ariel</i>	Scarce summer visitor (Aug-Apr); flocks up to 20 feeding over pasture and wetlands; bred nearby under Burke Road bridge till 2009 (e.g. 13 birds there in Sep 2009, GD) and prospecting observed more recently but no recent confirmed breeding records. Dozens of records in early 2000s, now only a few each year if at all.
Tree Martin <i>Hirundo nigricans</i>	Occasional birds over wetlands on migration (Aug-Sep and Mar-Apr); formerly more common and possibly breeding in red gums along river. No records at all since 2006.

{Red-whiskered Bulbul} [I] <i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	No known records from the actual area, but one spent a few days in nearby Viewbank suburbs 1998 (RHL).
Bassian Thrush <i>Zoothera lunulata</i>	Four records of singles in woodland PV1 (two in May 2004; one in Feb 2005 and one in Jun 2007).
Common Blackbird [I] <i>Turdus merula</i>	Common in suburban gardens and also in riverside forest and woodland near wetlands; declined during drought but still common
Song Thrush [I] <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Scarce resident in suburban gardens & parks and in open areas of riverside forest; declined during drought 2000-09 and became locally extinct in Viewbank from ~2009 until 15 Dec 2012 when one was singing near horse-beach PV1, and then one or two pairs established territories nearby in 2013 (PV1 extending into BF5) where still present.
Common Starling [I] <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Common in pasture and suburban gardens; declined during drought 2000-09; small flocks sometimes come to drink at wetlands or feed from muddy shores as water recedes (e.g. 100 feeding from mud with 100 Welcome Swallows and ~15 Willie Wagtails on 27 Jan 2013). Also found where cattle graze in farmland at the powerlines 1km east of Banyule Flats.
Common Myna [I] <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common in suburban gardens and open woodland; often comes to drink at wetlands, e.g. grotty pond; nests in tree hollows along river and elsewhere
Mistletoebird <i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>	Common in wooded areas, including plantations where wattles support growth of Box Mistletoe; numbers vary between years (common 2014-15)
Red-browed Finch <i>Neochmia temporalis</i>	Small numbers in riverside forest and beside wetlands; flocks in winter (e.g. 40 on 12 June 1995 and 40 on sports oval BF3 on 4 June 2000 with 30 still there on 8 July); has declined in recent years, but flocks up to 20 are still seen occasionally.
House Sparrow [I] <i>Passer domesticus</i>	Formerly abundant in suburbs but became locally extinct in Viewbank area in 2007; one recent record in suburbs (one Nov 2014); no known records from the BF study area except for some near the billabong on 7 Jan 1989 (RHL).
Eurasian Tree Sparrow [I] <i>Passer montanus</i>	Formerly resident in suburban gardens in Viewbank area and at the old Banyule High School but also became locally extinct in 2007; always rare or absent in the BF/WP study area but recorded as present with House Sparrows near billabong on 2 Apr 1985 (AF)
Australasian Pipit <i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	No known records since the 1970s, when the species was reported regularly BF (grazed by cattle at the time) (AF) though listed as rare by the Warringal Conservation Society (1981).
Common Greenfinch [I] <i>Chloris chloris</i>	Small numbers resident among cypresses in nearby suburbs to mid 2000s, often visiting BF to feed on seeds of aquatic plants in main wetland or billabong (especially in autumn); declined during drought and now locally extinct; no records since one behind the billabong in Feb 2006.
European Goldfinch [I] <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Formerly common in open country, feeding on thistle seeds in rank grassland; declined during drought 2000-09 and now scarce, mostly seen among cattle in pasture east of study area, but flocks occasionally visit the billabong in winter, max 48 just east of BF in Apr 2013 (GD). Several juveniles in smaller flock in PV1 Feb 2015. Larger flocks previously, e.g. 60 near Somerset Road on 10 Apr 1992 (RHL).

Inconclusive (unacceptable) records have been reported for the following additional species:

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* (one report of a possible from billabong in 1979: usually inhabits large open wetlands; one unexpected record nearby of a juvenile at the Martins Lane dam in Viewbank on 9 March 2012, NM). Great Crested Grebes occur on large water bodies on the edge of Melbourne, and might be expected to occur occasionally in our area: they were not listed by the Warringal Conservation Society (1981).

Lewin's Rail *Lewinia pectoralis* (reports of possibles from grotty pond and other small vegetated wetlands)

Australian Little Bittern *Ixobrychus dubius* (vague reports of one or more flushed from swamp in 1970s, along with Australasian Bitterns)

Pale-headed Rosella *Platycercus adscitus* (one presumed escapee seen briefly in ~2012)

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus* (a few second-hand reports, none substantiated)

Note that the main list includes two species for which further confirmation would be desirable (Australasian Bittern, included on the basis of one bird heard only and historical records) and Intermediate Egret (one seen a few times beside the river, an unusual habitat for this locally uncommon species, and an older record from the billabong in 1970s).

The list also mentions a few species that have been seen nearby but not to our knowledge in the actual area of interest in the specified period (Fork-tailed Swift, Painted Button-quail and the introduced Red-whiskered Bulbul).

Other species seen within a few km include Australian Little Bittern (has bred in Bundoora) and Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor* (visiting many suburbs in winter and spring, including a flock of 40+ in Macleod winter 2015). Two Superb Parrots *Polytelis swainsonii* were seen in Manna Gums in Viewbank in June 1999, and two others were heard nearby (NM); two were also reported in the same month in Greensborough. These were widely dismissed as probable escapees but the possibility remains that they were wild birds searching widely for winter food 300 km south of their usual range.

The list does not include extra species recorded in the 1930s and 40s by Tarr (1948), for an area along the river from Heidelberg to Ivanhoe. He reported many grassland species as common (including Stubble Quail, Brown Songlark and the introduced Eurasian Skylark, with Australian Pipits "present in fields") and recorded some important species that have not been reported in recent years or continue to be recorded as rare visitors. These include Australian Little Bittern ("rare records, once breeding"), Lewin's Rail (three records in ten years), Masked Owl (breeding noted in winter 1947), Grey Goshawk (a white bird in 1936), Blue-winged Parrot (in 1947, his first record), White-fronted Chat (common), Restless Flycatcher (odd pairs noted), Jacky Winter (occasional records) and Buff-rumped Thornbill (occasionally recorded). He lists Striated Thornbill as "very common", whereas it is now very scarce. He describes Eastern Rosella as the common parrot and mentions "occasional breeding records" by Red-rumped Parrots, which are now a much more common species.

He mentions a single case of breeding by Sulphur-crested Cockatoos (in 1947) and would have been astounded by the recent proliferation of cockatoos, corellas, Rainbow Lorikeets and Crested Pigeons (which were generally absent in his time).

Keartland (1990) described the bird fauna of Melbourne in the late 1800s, and includes records of Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae*, Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris* and Australasian Bittern for the “Heidelberg area”. His general account might imply that several other species would have occurred in the area, including Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*, Jacky Winter *Microeca fascinans* and Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta* (Loyn and Menkhorst 2011), two of which were apparently still present in the 1940s (Tarr 1948, see above). Some other forest bird species (e.g. Varied Sittella *Daphoenositta chrysoptera*) would have been expected to occur in the area when there was more substantial forest cover, and some birds now recorded only rarely (e.g. White-throated Treecreeper) would have been more common.

The list of birds published by the Warringal Conservation Society (1981) covers a large section of the middle Yarra Valley, not just our area of interest. Some additional species on that list include Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*, Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* (heard calling overhead on migration), Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus* (more likely to have been White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis*), Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*, Jacky Winter, Gilbert’s Whistler *Pachycephala inornata* (unlikely), Restless Flycatcher, Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops*, Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*, Yellow-rumped Pardalote (unlikely, and now lumped with Spotted Pardalote) and several species likely to have been escapes or their progeny (Major Mitchell’s Cockatoo *Lophochroa leadbeateri*, Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii*, Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*, Australian Ringneck *Barnardius zonarius*, Pale-headed Rosella *Platycercus adscitus*, Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata*, Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax*, Nutmeg Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*).

It is likely that some of the species mentioned above, and others, will be reported in future years, probably as vagrants staying for short periods of time.

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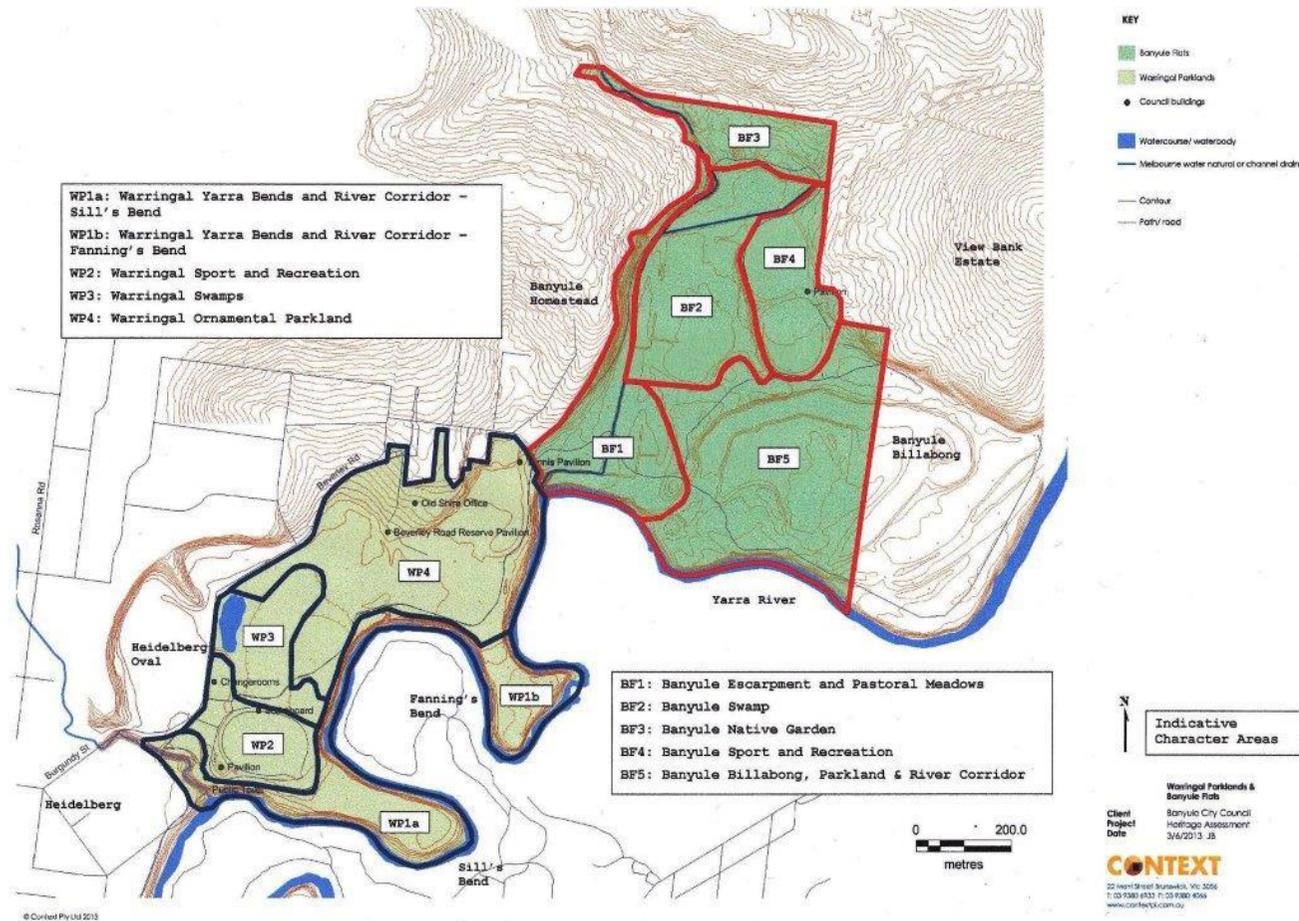


Fig. 1 Map of Banyule Flat and Warringal Parklands, showing zones used by the City of Banyule for management (BF1, WP1, etc). The main wetland lies in BF2 and the billabong (now usually dry) is in BF5 and PV1. Wooded land along the river to the east of BF5 is managed by Parks Victoria: it is designated PV1 in the current document but this term is not in general use.