



Culham inlet lies on the eastern boundary of the internationally recognised Fitzgerald River National Park, and within the Fitzgerald Biosphere. It is situated 7km west of Hopetoun in the Shire of Ravensthorpe.

Culham Inlet is a large shallow inlet of approximately 11.3 sq. km, closed off from the ocean by a narrow strip of sand dunes. The inlet is fed by two rivers, the Phillips and the Steere, which are normally saline and have low flows, but which can experience sporadic flooding.

The presence of birds on and around Culham Inlet varies considerably depending on the water level and presence or absence of surrounding mud flats. There is a bird hide situated on the southern aspect of the inlet adjacent to Hamersly Drive. Another good site for observing birds is in the Phillips River Reserve off John Forrest Road. The reserve runs along the Phillips River through Yate trees to an area of swampland, so provides a number of different habitats.



Hooded Plover

BIRD LIST CODES

Abundance

C common
M mod. common
U uncommon
R rare

Seasons

Su summer
Au autumn
Wi winter
Sp spring

Status

Mi migratory N nomadic

Numbers (right column in bird list) indicate the panel where the bird is illustrated.

Juvenile Pacific Gull



Adult Pacific Gull

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BirdLife Western Australia members are offered a variety of activities and services including conservation and research projects, excursions, campouts, surveys and social activities. There is also a library and books for sale at the office. To view the full range of bird guides visit the website (see below).



Caspian Tern

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BirdLife Australia is dedicated to achieving outstanding conservation results for our native birds and their habitats. With our specialised knowledge and the commitment of an Australia-wide network of volunteers and supporters, we are creating a bright future for Australia's birds.

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Birds of Culham Inlet



Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (female) by John Anderson

birds are in our nature



Bird List



Black Swan

Emu	M	
Brown Quail	M	
Musk Duck	U	
Black Swan	C	4
Australian Shelduck	C	7
Australian Wood Duck	M	
Pink-eared Duck	U	
Grey Teal	C	7
Chestnut Teal	C	7
Pacific Black Duck	C	7
Blue-billed Duck	U	



Little Pied Cormorant

Australasian Grebe	C	8
Hoary-headed Grebe	C	
Great Crested Grebe	U	
Common Bronzewing	M	
Brush Bronzewing	U	
Crested Pigeon	C	



Australian Pelican

Australasian Darter	M	
Little Pied Cormorant	C	4
Great Cormorant	M	
Little Black Cormorant	C	



White-bellied Sea-Eagle

Australian Pelican	M	4
Eastern Great Egret	M	
Cattle Egret	R	
White-faced Heron	C	8
Eastern Reef Egret	U	
Australian White Ibis	M	
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	U	
Black-shouldered Kite	M N	
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	U	4



Masked Lapwing

Whistling Kite	M	
Swamp Harrier	U	
Wedge-tailed Eagle	M	
Nankeen Kestrel	C	
Brown Falcon	C	
Australian Hobby	U	
Peregrine Falcon	U	

Black-tailed Native-hen	R	
Eurasian Coot	M	



Purple-crowned Lorikeet

Australian Pied Oystercatcher	C	8
Sooty Oystercatcher	C	
Black-winged Stilt	M N	8
Banded Stilt	U N	9
Red-necked Avocet	U	9
Red-capped Plover	C	9
Black-fronted Dotterel	M	9
Hooded Plover	U	3
Masked Lapwing	M	5
Common Sandpiper	M Mi Su	10
Common Greenshank	M Mi Su	10
Red Knot	U Mi Su	
Red-necked Stint	C Mi Su	10
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	M Mi Su	



Sacred Kingfisher

Caspian Tern	C	
Crested Tern	C	10
Pacific Gull	C	Back
Silver Gull	C	10

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo	M	Cover
Galah	C	
Purple-crowned Lorikeet	M N	5
Western Rosella	R	
Australian Ringneck	C	
Red-capped Parrot	M	



Yellow-rumped Thornbill

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	M Mi Wi-Sp	
Pallid Cuckoo	M Mi Au-Sp	
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	U Mi Wi-Sp	

Laughing Kookaburra	M	
Sacred Kingfisher	M Mi Sp-Au	

Rainbow Bee-eater	U Mi Sp-Au	
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Grey Butcherbird

Splendid Fairy-wren	C	11
Western Bristlebird	R	
White-browed Scrubwren	C	11
Rufous Fieldwren	U	
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	C	5
Inland Thornbill	U	



Grey Currawong

Spotted Pardalote	C	
Striated Pardalote	C	

Western Spinebill	M	
Singing Honeyeater	M	11
Purple-gaped Honeyeater	M N	
Yellow-throated Miner	C	
Western Wattlebird	M	
Red Wattlebird	C	12
New Holland Honeyeater	C	12

White-browed Babbler	U	
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Willie Wagtail

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	M	
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Golden Whistler	U	
Grey Shrike-thrush	M	

Dusky Woodswallow	U	
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Grey Butcherbird	C	6
Australian Magpie	C	
Grey Currawong	C	6

Grey Fantail	M	
Willie Wagtail	C	6

Australian Raven	C	6
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Magpie-lark	M	
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Scarlet Robin	U	
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Australian Reed-Warbler	U	
Silveryeye	C	12

Welcome Swallow	C	12
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Australasian Pipit	M	
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Australian Raven

Species Profiles

Australian Shelduck

Large, boldly marked duck. Common on fresh or salt water. Feeds by grazing or by sifting food from water.



Grey Teal

Smaller than Pacific Black Duck. Feeds by upending. They move away to fresh water after good rains. Easily confused with female Chestnut Teal.



Chestnut Teal

Rich green head and chestnut body of male is unmistakable but male in eclipse is like a dark female. Prefers saline habitats.



Pacific Black Duck

Feeds by upending in shallow water for plant or animal food. Nests in a stump or tree hollow near water. Often seen loafing in the daytime.



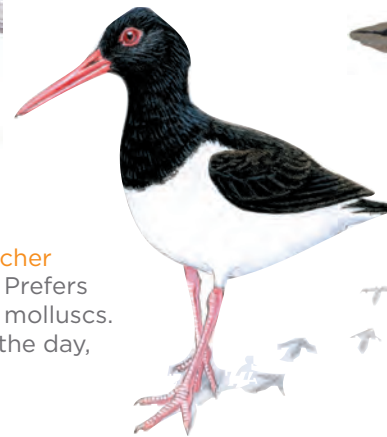
Australasian Grebe

Tiny diving bird, often mistaken for a duckling. Builds a floating nest of water weeds. Yellow eye and facial patch, brighter when breeding.



White-faced Heron

Feeds on frogs, fish, insects and small crustaceans found in shallow water or in open grassy areas. Builds a stick nest in a tree.



Australian Pied Oystercatcher

Sturdy, handsome wader. Prefers sandy beaches. Feeds on molluscs. Active at night or during the day, depending on tides.



Black-winged Stilt

Wades through shallow water, feeds on aquatic plants, insects and shrimps. Breeds in Australia in small colonies in coastal and sub-coastal areas.

Banded Stilt

Lacks black nape; in breeding plumage both sexes have a broad dark chestnut breast band. Mostly in large compact flocks.



Red-necked Avocet

Distinctive long upturned bill. Wades through shallow water, sweeping bill in search of food.



Red-capped Plover

Plump, lively little wader with short black bill. When feeding, runs a short distance, then jabs at prey.



Black-fronted Dotterel

Feeds on shallow margins, mudflats. Runs, bobs its head, tips and runs. Nests on ground, relying on cryptic colouring and distraction displays for protection.



Common Sandpiper
Wanders solitarily along water margins, bobbing nervously. Note that the white of the breast forms a white 'hook' around bend of wing.

Common Greenshank
Usually solitary, wanders along water margin searching for insects and molluscs. Call is a haunting two- or three-note 'tew-tew-tew'.



Red-necked stint
Tiny migratory wader. Rarely shows reddish neck/breast in southern WA. Small parties to large flocks along shore.

Crested Tern
Note yellow bill and shaggy black fringe on back of head. Plunge-dives for fish.



Silver Gull
Under natural conditions, feeds on plankton, small crustaceans and invertebrates. Compare the bill with Pacific Gull's massive red-tipped yellow bill. Both have mottled brown young.



Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo
(See cover) Although these cockatoos don't nest in the area, there are large roosts in the northern section of the inlet. They feed on seeds of banksia, hakea and grevillea species.

Splendid Fairy-wren
Live in family groups. Have long, cocked tails. Males are very colourful in breeding plumage. Nest built low in dense scrub.

White-browed Scrubwren
Occupies a permanent territory in dense scrub where it feeds on insects and spiders on the ground or in lower branches.



Singing Honeyeater
Smaller than wattlebirds; bigger than New Holland Honeyeater. Note black stripe through eye. Feeds on nectar, insects, berries and other fruits.

Red Wattlebird
Largest of the honeyeaters with fleshy red neck wattles and yellow belly. Noisy; guards territory aggressively.



New Holland Honeyeater
Boldly marked with bright yellow wing patch. Usually in small parties, often very noisy.



Silvereye
Moves in flocks searching for grubs, aphids, berries and nectar. Variety of thin high calls.

Welcome Swallow
Note deeply forked tail. Catches insects in flight. Mud nests are often built in domestic or farm buildings.

