

Cattana Wetlands Bird Checklist

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|--------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| Orange-footed Scrubfowl | C,Rs | Black-shouldered Kite | R,Sv |
| Brown Quail | R,S? | Pacific Baza | R,Sv |
| Magpie Goose | C,Sv | White-bellied Sea-Eagle | C,Rs |
| Plumed Whistling-Duck | U,Sv | Whistling Kite | C,Rs |
| Wandering Whistling-Duck | C,Sv | Brahminy Kite | C,Rs |
| Radjah Shelduck | U,Sv | Black Kite | C,Rs |
| Pink-eared Duck | R,Sv | Brown Goshawk | R,S? |
| Australian Wood Duck | R,Sv | Grey Goshawk | R,S? |
| Cotton Pygmy-goose | R,Sv | Nankeen Kestrel | R,S? |
| Green Pygmy-goose | C,Rs | Brown Falcon | R,S? |
| Grey Teal | U,Sv | Australian Hobby | R,S? |
| Pacific Black Duck | C,Rs | Peregrine Falcon | R,S? |
| Hardhead | U,Sv | Purple Swamphen | C,Rs |
| Australasian Grebe | C,Rs | Buff-banded Rail | R,Rs |
| Rock Dove | U,S? | White-browed Crake | C,Rs |
| Spotted Dove | C,Rs | Pale-vented Bush-hen | R,Rs |
| Emerald Dove | R,Sv | Dusky Moorhen | U,Sv |
| Peaceful Dove | C,Rs | Eurasian Coot | R,Sv |
| Bar-shouldered Dove | C,Rs | Bush Stone-curlew | C,Rs |
| Brown Cuckoo-Dove | R,Sv | Black-winged Stilt | C,Rs |
| Pied Imperial-Pigeon | C,Mn | Black-fronted Dotterel | C,Rs |
| Australian Swiftlet | C,Rs | Red-kneed Dotterel | R,Sv |
| Fork-tailed Swift | R,Mn | Masked Lapwing | C,Rs |
| Australasian Darter | C,Rs | Comb-crested Jacana | C,Rs |
| Little Pied Cormorant | C,Rs | Latham's Snipe | R,Mn |
| Great Cormorant | R,Sv | Common Sandpiper | R,Mn |
| Little Black Cormorant | C,Rs | Marsh Sandpiper | U,Mn |
| Australian Pelican | U,Sv | Red-necked Stint | R,Mn |
| Black-necked Stork | C,Rs | Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | U,Mn |
| Black Bittern | R,Sv | Gull-billed Tern | R,Sv |
| White-necked Heron | R,Sv | Caspian Tern | R,Sv |
| Eastern Great Egret | C,Sv | Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | C,Rs |
| Intermediate Egret | C,Sv | Rainbow Lorikeet | C,Rs |
| Cattle Egret | C,Sv | Scaly-breasted Lorikeet | C,Rs |
| Striated Heron | R,S? | Double-eyed Fig-Parrot | C,Rs |
| Pied Heron | R,Sv | Pheasant Coucal | C,Rs |
| White-faced Heron | U,Sv | Eastern Koel | C,Mn |
| Little Egret | C,Sv | Channel-billed Cuckoo | C,Mn |
| Nankeen Night-Heron | R,S? | Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo | R,Sv |
| Glossy Ibis | U,Sv | Shining Bronze-Cuckoo | R,Sv |
| Australian White Ibis | C,Sv | Little Bronze-Cuckoo | C,Rs |
| Straw-necked Ibis | C,Sv | Brush Cuckoo | C,Rs |
| Royal Spoonbill | C,Sv | Oriental Cuckoo | R,Mn |
| Yellow-billed Spoonbill | R,Sv | Little Kingfisher | R,S? |
| Eastern Osprey | U,Rs | Laughing Kookaburra | C,Rs |

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| Blue-winged Kookaburra | R,S? | Grey Fantail | R,Sv |
| Forest Kingfisher | C,Rs | Willie Wagtail | C,Rs |
| Sacred Kingfisher | U,Sv | Torresian Crow | R,S? |
| Rainbow Bee-eater | C,Sv | Leaden Flycatcher | C,Rs |
| Dollarbird | R,Mn | Shining Flycatcher | R,S? |
| Red-backed Fairy-wren | C,Rs | Black-faced Monarch | R,Sv |
| Lovely Fairy-wren | U,Rs | Spectacled Monarch | C,Rs |
| Large-billed Gerygone | C,Rs | Magpie-lark | C,Rs |
| Fairy Gerygone | U,Rs | Horsefield's Bushlark | R,Sv |
| Striated Pardalote | R,Sv | Golden-headed Cisticola | C,Rs |
| Yellow-spotted Honeyeater | C,Rs | Tawny Grassbird | C,Rs |
| Graceful Honeyeater | U,Rs | Barn Swallow | Vag |
| Yellow Honeyeater | C,Rs | Welcome Swallow | C,Rs |
| Brown-backed Honeyeater | C,Mn | Fairy Martin | C,Rs |
| Dusky Honeyeater | C,Rs | Tree Martin | R,Sv |
| Brown Honeyeater | C,Rs | Metallic Starling | C,Mn |
| White-throated Honeyeater | U,Sv | Common Myna | C,Rs |
| Blue-faced Honeyeater | R,Sv | Mistletoebird | C,Rs |
| Helmeted Friarbird | C,Rs | Olive-backed Sunbird | C,Rs |
| Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike | R,Sv | Crimson Finch | C,Rs |
| White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike | C,Rs | Nutmeg Mannikin | C,Rs |
| Cicadabird | U,Rs | Chestnut-breasted Mannikin | C,Rs |
| Varied Triller | C,Rs | Australasian Pipit | U,Rs |
| Grey Whistler | U,Rs | House Sparrow | R,S? |
| Rufous Whistler | R,Sv | Yellow Wagtail | Vag |
| Little Shrike-thrush | C,Rs | | |
| Australasian Figbird | C,Rs | | |
| Yellow Oriole | C,Rs | | |
| Olive-backed Oriole | U,Sv | | |
| White-breasted woodswallow | C,Rs | | |
| Black Butcherbird | C,Rs | | |
| Spangled Drongo | C,Mn | | |
| Rufous Fantail | R,Sv | | |

List compiled with assistance from Ron & Derna Elsdon, Dawn & Arnold Magarry, John Seale, Eremaea Birds and the Birds Australia Atlas.

LIST ANNOTATIONS

Abundance

C=Common - Likely to be recorded on most visits

U=Uncommon - Recorded regularly but not every visit

R=Rare - Recorded infrequently

OR=Out of Range - Does not usually occur in this area

Seasonal status

Rs=Resident, believed to occur in the area all year

Mn=Migrant from the North, approx Oct-Mar

Sv=Seasonal Visitor from within Australia

S?=Status uncertain

Vag=Vagrant

The **Abundance (C/U/R)** annotations give an indication of how easy or difficult it might be to find a species. They indicate the likelihood that an experienced birder might record the species, during a day bird-watching, at the right time of year, in the appropriate habitat., within the area described in this list.

The **Seasonal Status** annotations give a guide as how much time a species might spend in this area. Thus **Resident** species are believed to occur at least somewhere within the area all year round. **Seasonal Visitors** include migrants from within Australia, wandering nomadic species which move to the area when local conditions are suitable and also waterbirds such as ducks and egrets which may move out of the area to breed when conditions inland are suitable.

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WHO ARE WE?

BirdLife Northern Queensland

is a branch of the national organisation BirdLife Australia, formed in 2012 by the merger of Birds Australia and BOCA.

BirdLife Northern Queensland organizes both scientific and social activities. These include bird surveys, outings, workshops and presentations with guest speakers. The regular field trips and campouts cater for all levels of expertise from beginner to professional and emphasise fun as well as worthwhile conservation projects.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter *Contact Call* detailing local activities and also enjoy *BirdLife Australia* magazine dealing with national bird issues.

You can join BirdLife Australia and help the conservation of Australian birds at www.birdlife.org.au

*New or unusual sightings?
Register with Eremaea Birds
www.ereamae.com*

For more information see also:
<http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/facilities-and-recreation/parks/cattana-wetlands>

<http://www.nqit.net/cattana/>

Names and taxonomic order used for the bird list follow
Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds
by L Christidis & W E Boles (CSIRO, Melbourne, 2008)

INFORMATION

The **Cattana Wetlands** are situated about 15km North of Cairns, accessed from Dunne Road near Smithfield. The wetlands are well signposted from the main highway passing through Smithfield. The purpose of this list is to indicate to visitors the chances of seeing various bird species during their visit.

The wetlands comprise about 80 hectares and include a series of lagoons, swamps, grasslands and rare Feather Palm forest. It is a man shaped area, created from degraded sand & gravel pits and sugar cane farm land. It was restored by the Cairns City Council. The restoration works are ongoing with over 10,000 trees planted. With respect to birdlife, this area will only improve with time. There are a series of walking tracks, picnic areas and bird hides overlooking the lagoons. There is also an elevated boardwalk through the palm forest enabling visitors to admire rainforest bird species in comfort.

The wetlands are open 05.30 –19.00 every day of the year.

Notable bird species include the Black-necked Stork which nests here and is seen regularly. With luck, Lovely Fairy-wrens can be seen on the edges of the rainforest. White-browed Crakes are on the edges of the lagoons and Crimson Finches in both grassland and reedy areas.

The occurrence of waterbirds is variable with many species dispersing inland to breed in the wet season but returning in winter. Thus waterbirds might be abundant or completely absent.

It is also recommended to visit the nearby Yorkey's Knob Golf Course Lagoon. See Bird checklist No 8

CATTANA WETLANDS

Bird Checklist No 33



BirdLife Northern Queensland



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