



NATURE TERRITORY

July 2008

Newsletter of the Northern Territory Field Naturalists Club Inc.
PO Box 39565, Winnellie, NT 0821

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Committee Member:	Lyn Reid 8985 3250 (w)
Committee Member:	Susan Jacups 8985 2935 (h)

Club web-site: <http://www.geocities.com/ntfieldnaturalists>

Meetings are generally held on the second Wednesday of the month, commencing at 7:45 PM, in Blue 1.03 (room 22.03; Business Faculty Building) on the Casuarina Campus of Charles Darwin University.

Subscriptions are on a financial-year basis and are: Families/Institutional - \$30; Singles - \$25; Concessions - \$15. Part-year discounts are available for new members from January 1 each year.



A fine specimen of Banyan (*Ficus virens*), a strangling fig. It was photographed by Kit Edwards at Brian Creek Monsoon Forest in the Mary River National Park on the ANN camp-out.

More photos from the camp-out on page 5.

**Annual subscriptions
are now due.
See notice on page 3.**

Club activities .. p2; Club notices .. p3-4;

ANN photos .. p5; fire .. p6; Damar Is. .. p7-8; Bird Billabong .. p9;

bird observations .. p10; recent literature .. p11.

Club activities

July meeting. Wednesday July 9, 7:45 PM. Blue 1.03 (=22.03, Business Building), CDU.

Simon Ward

"Threatened species research in the Northern Territory"

More than 200 species are threatened or extinct in the NT. Many of these have been adversely affected by introduced predators, competition with introduced grazing animals, over-harvesting, marine pollution or changes in fire regime. A few species are so restricted in distribution, either naturally or as a result of severe declines, that intensive management is required. Among them is a suite of species, of which so little is known of their ecology that research need to be undertaken in order to develop management regimes for their recovery.

Simon Ward is the threatened species manager for the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts. His talk will cover some of the activities NRETA is undertaking to ensure threatened species management is supported by scientific research.

*One of the threatened species Simon Ward
is working on: the Northern Shrike-tit.
Photographed near Katherine by Trevor Collins.*



July field trip. Saturday July 19. **Threatened and other plants on Mt Bundy.**

This half-day excursion will be led by Herbarium botanist Ian Cowie. Meet at 8:30AM at the Mary River National Park information bay beside the Arnhem Hwy (left hand side as you travel out from Darwin). Allow plenty of time to get there. Bring lunch, drinking water, robust footwear, sunscreen, hat etc. We will walk into the Mt Bundy Hills but be back at the information bay for lunch. This should be a fascinating morning.

PS We're not obsessed with the Mary River area; it just seems like it at the moment.

August 2008 meeting. Wednesday August 13. Annual General Meeting. Gay Crowley:
Botanical stories from Vietnam.

September 2008 meeting. Wednesday Sept. 10. Mark Ziembecki: *Stuffed mammals.*

October 2008 meeting. Wednesday October 8. Peter Dostine: *The Flock Bronzewing.*

November 2008 meeting. Wednesday Nov. 12. Don Franklin: *Slow boat on the Mekong.*

Top End Native Plant Society activities

General Meeting: Thursday July 17

Dale Dixon (Herbarium) - *Plant ID workshop. Introduction to native plant identification.*

Field Trip: Sunday July 20 Plant ID workshop. *Location to be advised.* Register with Marj King, phone 8985 6885 or email seeds@topendseeds.com.au by 7th July.

General Meeting: Thursday Aug 21 Ian Cowie - *Floristics of East Timor*

General meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Marrara Christian College, corner Amy Johnson and McMillans Drives, and commence at 7:30 PM (speaker at 8 PM). For more information, contact Russell Dempster on 8983 2131.

Club notices

Welcome to new members: Strider; Lucas Cernusak & Lisa Petheram.

CONGRATULATIONS JARRAD AND VANESSA

Congratulations are due to Jarrad Holmes and Vanessa Boxshall on the birth of daughter Lilly. Mother and daughter (and father?) are reported to be doing well.

CONGRATULATIONS JOHN

In the recent NT Government's Research & Innovation Awards, Dr. John Woinarski won the Tropical Knowledge Research Award, and on this basis went on to win the overall Chief Minister's Research and Innovation Award. This is recognition of his many years of innovative work on *Biodiversity conservation in northern Australia*. John is a long-standing member of the NTFNC.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are now due. Your prompt payment would be appreciated. Membership rates remain unchanged.

For those who receive the newsletter by conventional mail:

Your membership expiry date is written below your address on the back page of the newsletter. You can renew using the membership form which also appears on the back page of the newsletter.

If you'd like your nature photos in colour, consider changing your subscription to newsletter by email.

For those who receive the newsletter by email:

You should have received a membership form with this email newsletter. If you have already renewed your membership or only joined in the last few months, please ignore this.

Forgotten / lost your membership renewal form? You can print a copy from the Club's web-site at:
<http://www.geocities.com/ntfieldnaturalists/subscription.htm>.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 2008 Annual General Meeting will be held as part of the Club's August Meeting - on Wednesday August 13 at 7:45 PM in Blue 1.03 (room 22.03) at Charles Darwin University. The business for the AGM is:

- the election of office-bearers and committee members for 2008-09 (nomination form below); and
- consideration of the Club's annual financial statement.

The Club's annual financial statement will be included in the August newsletter and be available from the Treasurer from July 30 - email fiona.douglas@octa4.net.au.

Please consider joining the Committee and thus contributing to the success of the Club.

NOMINATION FOR NTFNC COMMITTEE, 2008/09

Name of person being nominated: _____

Position being nominated for (circle):

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Member (up to 7 needed)

Signature of Nominee: _____

Proposer's name: _____ and signature: _____

Seconder's name: _____ and signature: _____

Under our Constitution, written nominations received by our Secretary (Linda Rennie) prior to the commencement of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) have precedence. Either: (1) mail nominations to NTFNC, PO Box 39565, Winnellie, NT 0821, (2) hand deliver to Secretary or current committee member, or (3) bring to the AGM.

A copy of the Club's constitution may be obtained by emailing our Public Officer: fiona.douglas@octa4.net.au.

The NT Associations Act can be found at http://www.nt.gov.au/justice/graphpages/cba/clubs_assoc/index.shtml.

More Club notices

Thank you

The previous issue was proof-read by Christine Maas. It was printed by Gay Crowley and Don Franklin using equipment kindly made available by the Biodiversity Unit, Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts, Berrimah and the School for Environmental Research at Charles Darwin University. It was collated and mailed by Susan Jacups.

Resignations from the Committee

Due to weight of other commitments, Jarrad Holmes (addition to family) and Linda Rennie (holidays followed by study) have resigned from the Club's Committee. Jarrad has been an active member of the Committee since August 2003, and Linda since August 2006 (Secretary since August 2007), so their absence will be keenly felt. We thank them both for their great contributions.

At its June meeting, the Committee decided to take no action to fill these vacancies as elections are due soon.

Newsletter contributions welcome

Sightings, reports, travelogues, reviews, photographs, sketches, news, comments, opinions, theories , anything relevant to natural history. Please forward material to don.franklin@cdu.edu.au or the Club's postal address, or contact the editor on 8948 1293.

Deadline for the August newsletter: Friday July 25.

Club library

The Club's journal, magazine and reference collection is available to members.

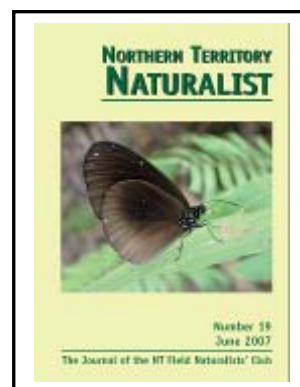
Lists of books, reports, CDs and journals held can be found on our web-site:

<http://www.geocities.com/ntfieldnaturalists>. The library is housed in two sections:

Books, reports and CDs: at the medical clinic of Dr. Lyn Reid in the Rapid Creek Business Village. Journals: in the office of Don Franklin at CDU Casuarina (Red 1.2.34 = room 31.2.34).

Northern Territory Naturalist

Northern Territory Naturalist is a registered, peer-reviewed journal (ISSN 0155-4093). Author instructions may be downloaded from <http://www.geocities.com/ntfieldnaturalists/journal.htm>. If possible, manuscripts should be submitted in digital form by emailing to lynda.prior@cdu.edu.au.



What are we doing to our savannas?

One of the justifications of early burning is to prevent intense late dry season fires. So this early burn (photographed near the Edith River on 8 June this year by Don Franklin) is not intense? If only this was merely an unusual accident

Fires such as this may be worse for ground-dwelling fauna than late fires because they leave the ground exposed for a much longer period.

There are more burning issues on page 6.

ANN photos

Photos from the Australian Naturalists' Network campout by Kit Edwards



*Artist at work,
Fogg Dam.*

*A Decaisnina
mistletoe on the
edge of the
Jimmy Creek
Monsoon Forest,
possibly
D. petiolata.*



*Traditional
owners of the
Fogg Dam /
Marrakai
Track area
introduce ANN
participants to
stories, bush
tucker and art.*



*One in a field of wildflowers on the walk into
the Brian Creek forest: Buchnera linearis.*

*The Graphic Flutterer Rhyothemis
graphiptera, a common dragonfly.*



*Cryptic grasshopper,
Mistake Billabong.*

Fire and other land management issues

Summarised from references in Recent Literature, page 11

Fire and erosion

When soil is laid bare by fire, does it make it more prone to erosion during the subsequent wet season? Russell-Smith *et al.* (2006) used marker pins to measure soil movement at matching sites unburnt and burnt late in the dry season. Their study sites were moderate to steep slopes (3-22°) in savanna at Bradshaw Military Training Area in the VRD and Tortilla Flats near Batchelor. Both burnt and unburnt areas suffered substantial soil erosion, but soil movement was twice, and soil loss three times as high, at burnt sites.

Comparing land tenures

Franklin *et al.* (2008) evaluated the state of lowland savannas in six tenures: two national parks, two Aboriginal tenures, a cluster of pastoral properties, and a military training area from the Mary River eastwards to Maningrida. Measures assessed were: the frequency and seasonality of fire; the biomass and composition of the herb layer; the abundance of large feral herbivores (buffalo, horses, cattle, pigs); and weediness. "European tenures varied greatly in fire frequencies but were consistently burnt earlier in the dry season than the two Aboriginal tenures, the latter having intermediate fire frequencies. Weeds were more frequent in the European tenures, whilst feral animals were most abundant in the Aboriginal tenures." The frequency of fire was greatest in Kakadu National Park and the Mt Bundy Military Training Area, with fires in the former area dispersed throughout the dry season but in the latter concentrated strongly in the early dry season. Mary River National Park and adjacent pastoral leases had a higher proportion of savanna that remained unburnt through the four years of evaluation than other tenures. Prior to the BTEC control program of the 1980s, Asian Water Buffalo were abundant in Kakadu but apparently less so in Arnhem Land; now they are scarce in the western tenures but abundant in Arnhem Land (which was not subject to the BTEC program). In contrast, Feral Pigs were more or less equally common throughout.

Essentially the same patterns of fire frequency and seasonality were found in a more detailed analysis of fire regimes extended to a wider range of habitats in the same tenures by Petty & Bowman (2007). Findings include that "The lowland eucalypt savannas were the most burnt of any vegetation type" and "Aboriginal lands had an even distribution of fire throughout the dry season in contrast to the marked bias towards early dry season landscape burning on all Euro-Australian controlled lands."

An analogous study of fire regimes and their land tenure correlates in the Darwin region by Owen Price and Bryan Baker (2007) found that 20% of freehold land, but only 5% of most public and Aboriginal land, was long unburnt. Late fires were most prevalent on NT Land Corporation and Perpetual Pastoral Leases, and least on freehold. They suggest that much freehold land is managed for fire suppression whereas "common land" is either managed to protect private property or burnt by pyromaniacs.

Measuring smoke pollution from savanna fires

How much carbon and aerosols does burning of the north Australian savannas release, and where does it go? These questions were addressed for the entire savanna region through the 2004 dry season in a two-part study by Meyer *et al.* (2008) and Luhar *et al.* (2008) using a combination of field measurements, satellite imagery and meteorological models. They estimated that 67.6 million tonnes of carbon were released (note that much of this will be reabsorbed in subsequent wet-season growth), along with 0.67 million tonnes of small particles (PM_{2.5}). Much of this is moved offshore over the Timor Sea and towards Indonesia. Over large areas, levels of small particles in the atmosphere were estimated to exceed health advisory levels more than 30 times in that year. Fires were also predicted to influence atmospheric conditions ("atmosphere direct radiative forcing") with potential implications for the weather, especially over the western Top End [i.e. over or near Darwin].



There's no simple answer to the burning question. Photo: Don Franklin.

Birds of Damar Island

An introduction to Indonesia's "Forgotten Islands"

Reporting back on Colin Trainor's talk at the June meeting

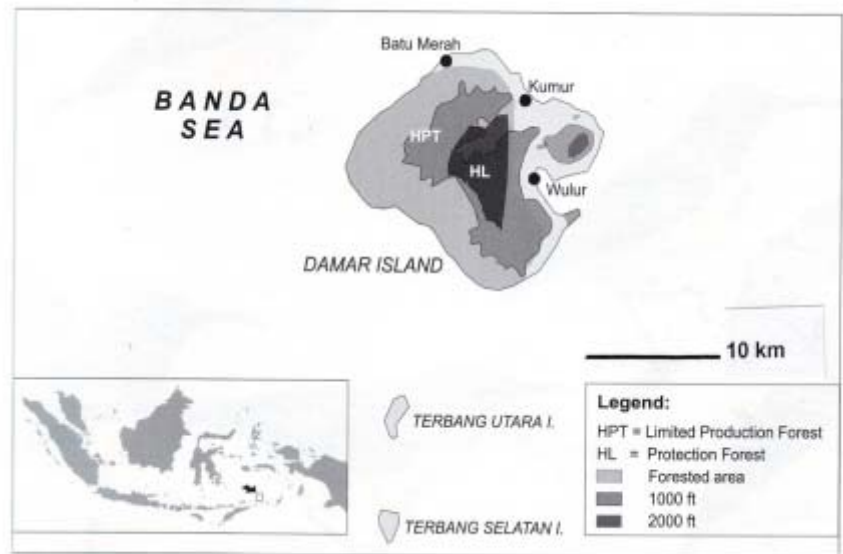
By Kit Edwards, a temporary Territorian

Colin "Indiana" Trainor donned his fedora in August and September 2001 and spent two months looking for lesser known birds in the 'Forgotten Islands' of Damar, Wetar, Kisar, Moa, Leti, Barabar and Terbang Islands. The avifauna of these islands had not been well observed since late in the 19th century, and the Damar Flycatcher *Ficedula henrici* (described in 1898) had not been seen since. "Adventure" is an apt description for this expedition, one month of which was spent travelling mostly in small steel trading ships and local wooden boats.

The presentation featured Damar birds; the endemic flycatcher and new and missing species. The response of birds to forest disturbance as a present and future issue was outlined.

The region is one of great biodiversity. The Banda Sea region is exceptionally rich in endemic birds with 43 species, with eight or nine endemic birds on Tanimbar Island, the only island to have been regularly surveyed, alone.

Damar is small (198 km²), remote (100 km from the similar-sized islands of Romang and Barabar) and volcanic (868 m high). Seventy-five percent of the island is tropical forest. The Island supports a human population of 5,000 who are dependent on cash crops (cloves, coconuts) together with subsistence market gardening and fishing. Colin sees slash and burn agriculture as the main threat to forests and thus habitat.



Damar Island is north-west of Timor and about 650 km NNW of Darwin

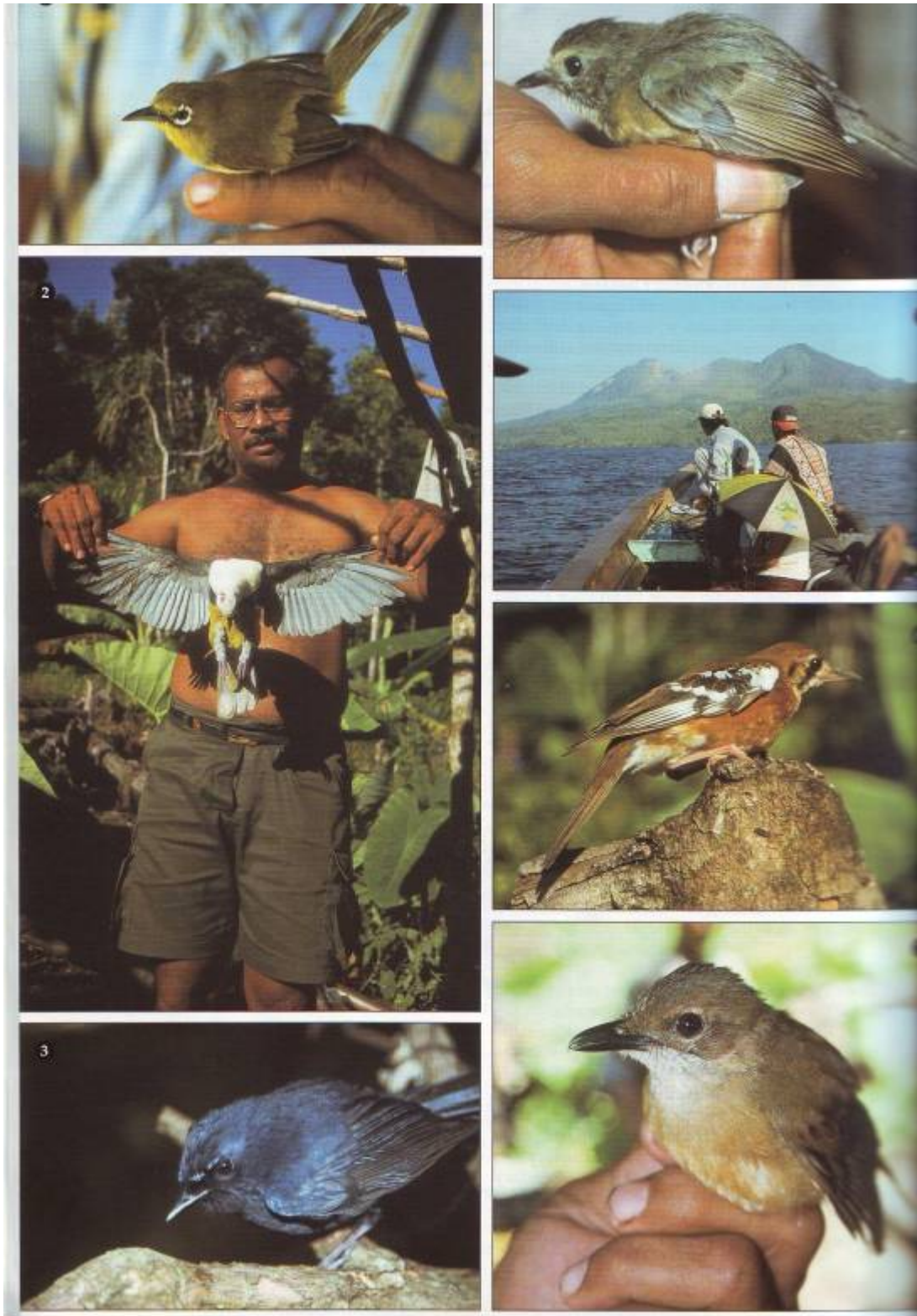


Colin, with the assistance of a forestry officer and local villagers recorded 54 bird species on Damar and two offshore islets. The avifauna is a mix of Timor and Banda Sea birds with a high proportion of "Australian" species: honeyeaters, whistlers and gerygones. Thirteen globally restricted-range birds were recorded, including the Damar Flycatcher at three sites. Although inconspicuous, it was relatively common and Colin estimated its population to be between twenty and thirty thousand. As a result, the IUCN Threatened status of the Damar Flycatcher has been downgraded to Near-threatened from Vulnerable.

Six birds recorded historically were missed in this survey including three restricted-range species. Colin believes these may now be extinct. On the other side of the ledger, Colin added 15 species to the Island's bird list including the restricted-range Dusky Cuckoo-dove, and a *Tyto* Owl.

*Not recorded for more than 100 years: the Damar Flycatcher *Ficedula henrici*. Photo: Colin Trainor.*

Birds of Damar Island *continued*



Damar Island and its birds. Top left: Ashy-bellied White-eye *Zosterops citrinellus*. Top right: Damar Flycatcher *Ficedula henrici* (female). Centre left: Clemens Bulurdity holding a Dark-backed Fruit-dove/Banded Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus cinctus* shot by a local hunter. Centre right (1): the Wurlali volcano on Damar. Centre right (2): Orange-banded Thrush *Zosterops peronii*. Bottom left: Damar Flycatcher *Ficedula henrici* (male). Bottom right: Golden Whistler (female) *Pachycephala pectoralis* (Damar endemic race *dammeriana*). Reproduced with the permission of the author/photographer from: Trainor, C. 2002. An expedition to Damar Island, south-west Maluku, Indonesia Oriental Bird Club Bulletin 36: 18-23.

Bird Billabong

Reporting back on the field trip of June 15th, 2008

Penny Steele

Thirteen assorted Field Naturalists assembled at the beginning of the Bird Billabong walk in Mary River National Park at approximately 8.30am. The team was ably led by Sheryl Keates and her support act, Arthur! We slowly walked along the walking track through the woodland noting several species of honeyeaters including Rufous-throated, Banded and Bar-breasted. There were great views of Black-tailed Treecreepers, White-winged Trillers, Little Woodswallows and Diamond Doves. In the paperbark trees around the boardwalk we saw a Brush Cuckoo and several Lemon-bellied Flycatchers. Several butterfly species were also identified. Overhead we spotted Brahminy Kite, Square-tailed Kite and, of course, Whistling Kite and Black Kites.

The covered viewing area at the billabong was a beautiful as ever with plenty of waterbirds and a significant number of fresh and saltwater crocodiles.

Consequently on our return trip along the western border of the billabong, we maintained a generous distance between our path and the water! We saw a number of Australian Pratincoles and Black-fronted Dotterels along the way.

Thank you Sheryl for an excellent morning.



Twelve "assorted" naturalists.

The thirteenth was photographer Arthur Keates.

On a different but related note.

The night before the bird

billabong walk I stayed at Mary

River Park. I have done this on previous occasions and found it a delightful way to begin a morning of birdwatching in the Mary River/Marrakai region. The grassy campsite is attractive and the sounds of thumping wallabies and Barking Owls a great way to go to sleep. However on this occasion my experience was very different, as I had to try to sleep to the accompaniment of a loud thumping bass stereo and barking inebriated employees around a campfire on a team-building week-end. In addition one of the other campers had been allowed to bring a dog which spent some of the night chasing after wallabies and other wildlife.

Clearly the new owners have yet to find a balance between conference attendees and genuine nature-lovers.

Bird list for the excursion. Compiled by Sheryl & Arthur Keates. 73 species were observed.

Plumed Whistling-Duck	Square-tailed Kite	Rainbow Lorikeet	Lemon-bellied Flycatcher
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Black Kite	Red-winged Parrot	Rufous Whistler
Radjah Shelduck	Whistling Kite	Brush Cuckoo	Leaden Flycatcher
Australasian Grebe	Brahminy Kite	Blue-winged Kookaburra	Restless Flycatcher
Australian Darter	Brown Goshawk	Forest Kingfisher	Magpie-lark
Little Pied Cormorant	Wedge-tailed Eagle	Sacred Kingfisher	Northern Fantail
Little Black Cormorant	Black-fronted Dotterel	Rainbow Bee-eater	Willie Wagtail
Australian Pelican	Red-kneed Dotterel	Black-tailed Treecreeper	Spangled Drongo
White-faced Heron	Masked Lapwing	Red-backed Fairy-wren	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Little Egret	Australian Pratincole	Striated Pardalote (heard)	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike
White-necked Heron	Gull-billed Tern	Weebill	White-winged Triller
Pied Heron	Whiskered Tern	Little Friarbird	Varied Triller
Eastern Great Egret	Diamond Dove	White-gaped Honeyeater	Little Woodswallow
Intermediate Egret	Peaceful Dove	White-throated Honeyeater	Double-barred Finch
Cattle Egret	Bar-shouldered Dove	Brown Honeyeater	Masked Finch
Australian White Ibis	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Bar-breasted Honeyeater	Mistletoebird (heard)
Straw-necked Ibis	Little Corella	Rufous-throated Honeyeater	Fairy Martin
Royal Spoonbill	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Banded Honeyeater	
Black-necked Stork		Dusky Honeyeater	

Interesting bird sightings

23 May to 19 June 2008

Compiled by Sheryl Keates

Sightings are as reported (unvetted, unconfirmed) and have been mostly compiled from the e-mail digest of the NT birder website (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ntbirds>) moderated by Niven McCrie.

Species	Date	Location	Observer/s	Nos./comments
Pink-eared Duck	31/05/08	Leanyer sewage ponds	A Carlson	6
Diamond Dove	15/06/08	Bird Billabong woodland walk	NT Field Nats	c. 6
Banded Fruit-dove	25/05/08	Gunlom (top)	A Carlson	3
Tawny Frogmouth	9/06/08	Howard Springs	A Carlson	1
Spotted Nightjar	3/06/08	Kakadu H'way c.15km Cooina	M Gardner	1
Lesser Frigatebird	19/06/08	Goulburn Island	M Gardner	1
Black Bittern	24/05/08	Gunlom (bottom)	A Carlson	1
Great-billed Heron	31/05/08	Mary River Park cruise	via A Carlson	1
Eastern Osprey	9/06/08	TV tower near Botanic Gardens	A & S Keates	pair nesting
Square-tailed Kite	9/06/08	Charles Darwin NP	H Larson & D Ringer	1
	15/06/08	Bird Billabong woodland walk	NT Field Nats	1 soaring
Black-breasted Buzzard	24/05/08	Central Arnhem Road	C Garland	1
	7/06/08	Kakadu Hwy, 10 km E Pine Ck	M Gardner	1
	8/06/08	Kakadu Hwy, 5 km S Jabiru	M Gardner	1
	14/06/08	3 km north of Jabiru	M Gardner	2
Pacific Baza	3/06/08	Bagot Rd near RAAF housing	A Carlson	1
	4/06/08	CDU near Horticulture buildings	H Moorcroft	1
Grey Goshawk	23/05/08	Wagaman Primary School	N McCrie	1 perched
	10/06/08	Rapid Ck	R Noske <i>et al.</i>	1 rising to c. 100m
Spotted Harrier	14/06/08	c. 30 km west of Maningrida	M Gardner	2
Little Eagle	25/05/08	Marrakai Track	R Noske <i>et al.</i>	1
Black Falcon	7/06/08	visitors centre, Katherine	M Gardner	1 flying overhead
Buff-banded Rail	28/05/08	off Smith St, Darwin	C Garland	1 dead in carpark
Australian Bustard	24/05/08	Stuart H'way, n'th of Katherine	C Garland	1
	24/05/08	Bitter Springs Rd, Mataranka	C Garland	pair
White-winged Black Tern	1/06/08	Leanyer sewage ponds	N McCrie	2 over wintering?
Cockatiel	14/06/08	c. 100 km west of Maningrida	M Gardner	c. 10
Northern Rosella	7/06/08	Water Gardens, Pine Ck	M Gardner	pair
Channel-billed Cuckoo	7/06/08	Pt Stuart Rd & Arnhem Hwy	A & S Keates & J Allen	2 flying & calling
Horsefield's Bronze-cuckoo	7/06/08	Snipe Lagoon (Knuckey's)	A & S Keates & J Allen	1 feeding on ground
Rufous Owl	31/05/08	Darwin Botanic Gardens	A Carlson	2 in rainforest area
Barking Owl	30/05/08	Casuarina Dr, Rapid Creek	A & S Keates	1 on street light
	1/06/08	Botanic Gardens woodland	S Jacups	2
	2/06/08	front Katherine Club, Katherine	M Gardner	1
	3/06/08	Rapid Creek	A & S Keates	2 heard early morn.
	6/06/08	Rapid Creek	S Keates	1 on light pole
Southern Boobook	3/06/08	10km S Kakadu & Arnhem Hwy	M Gardner	1
Red-backed Kingfisher	27/05/08	Robbie Robbins Res, Berrimah	S Popple	1 on powerlines 1 wk
Cicadabird	9/06/08	Fogg Dam	A Carlson	1 male
Mangrove Golden Whistler	31/05/08	Kulaluk Bay	A Carlson	1 male
Masked Woodswallow	25/05/08	Gunlom (top)	A Carlson	2
	29/05/08	Driptstone Middle School	N McCrie	1 with WBWSs
	8/06/08	Jabiru	M Gardner	c. 300
White-browed W'swallow	8/06/08	Jabiru	M Gardner	few with Masked WS
Black Butcherbird	25/05/08	McMinns Dr, McMinns Lagoon	D Franklin <i>et al.</i>	1 heard
Rufous Songlark	25/08/08	Marrakai Track	R Noske <i>et al.</i>	1
Brown Songlark	25/05/08	floodplain, Adelaide R., h'way	R Noske <i>et al.</i>	30+
Fairy Martin	15/06/08	Bird Billabong	NT Field Nats	c. 20
Zebra Finch	7/06/08	visitors centre, Katherine	M Gardner	1 male, escapee?
Gouldian Finch	8/06/08	Fergusson River	M Gardner	8+ (2 black face)

Tawny Frogmouth.
Photo: Lochran Traill.



Recent literature about Top End natural history

Conservation, land management, fire

Compiled by Don Franklin

Special features, books, major reports

- Special feature: *Conservation in northern Australia*. *Wildlife Matters* Dec. 2007. This issue of the newsletter of Australian Wildlife Conservancy includes articles on Conservation in northern Australia, Northern Australia: a natural treasure under threat, Pungalina [a station in the NT's Gulf country, hopefully soon to be purchased for conservation], profiles of the Spectacled Hare Wallaby and Northern Quoll, Developing a research strategy for northern Australia, and an activity update on their Wongalara property on the southern fringe of Arnhem Land.
- Garnett S, Woinarski J, Gerritsen R, Duff G. 2008. *Future options for north Australia*. Charles Darwin University Press: Darwin. 57 pp.
- Luckert MK, Campbell BM, Gorman JT, Garnett ST, eds. 2007. *Investing in Indigenous natural resource management*. Charles Darwin University Press: Darwin.
- Walden D, Nou S, eds. 2008. *Kakadu National Park Landscape Symposia Series 2007–2009. Symposium 1: Landscape Change Overview, 17–18 April 2007*. Supervising Scientist Division: Darwin. 137++ pp. Available on-line at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/ssd/publications/ir/532.html>.

Land management

- Boyden J., Walden D., Bayliss P. and Saalfeld K. (2008) *A GIS compendium for landscape-scale risk assessment of the Magela Creek floodplain and broader Alligator Rivers Region, NT*. Supervising Scientist Report 192, Darwin. Available on-line at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/ssd/publications/ssr/index.html>.
- Bradley J, Yanyuwa Families. 2007. *Barni-Wardimantha Awara Yanyuwa Sea Country Plan*. National Oceans Office: Canberra. 67 pp. [Sir Edward Pellew islands and nearby coast, Gulf of Carpentaria]
- Bradshaw CJA, Field IC, Bowman DMJS, Haynes C, Brook BW. 2007. Current and future threats from non-indigenous animal species in northern Australia: a spotlight on World Heritage Area Kakadu National Park. *Wildlife Research* 34: 419-436.
- Franklin DC, Petty AM, Williamson GJ, Brook BW, Bowman DMJS. 2008. Monitoring contrasting land management in the savanna landscapes of northern Australia. *Environmental Management* 41: 501-515.
- Gorman J, Pearson D, Whitehead P. 2008. Assisting Australian indigenous resource management and sustainable utilization of species through the use of GIS and environmental modeling techniques. *Journal of Environmental Management* 86: 104-113.
- Gorman JT, Whitehead PJ, Griffiths AD, Petheram L. 2008. Production from marginal lands: indigenous commercial use of wild animals in northern Australia. *The International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology* 15: 240-250.

Threatened species legislation

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- WWF. 2008. Recommendations for improving threatened species provisions within legislation in the Northern Territory. WWF. Available at: <http://www.wwf.org.au/publications/nt-threatened-species-recommendations>.
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Fire

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