

Knoxfield Ecologist's Reports

Development Victoria's ecologist, Ecocentric Environmental Consulting, has been undertaking regular assessments on the site since 2014 and formal monitoring of flora and fauna since 2017 - including assessing any breeding activity of the Blue-billed Duck.

This regular monitoring focuses on Blue-billed Duck and other significant species.

You can read our ecologist's monitoring reports for October 2021 – December 2021 below. This information is provided to keep the community informed of the wildlife which has been spotted within the development site.

Ecologist's Reports are available below for the following dates:

- 22 December 2021
- 10 December 2021
- 9 December 2021
- 21 November 2021
- 10 November 2021
- 25 October 2021
- 5 October 2021

Report Date – 22 December 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Light breeze, 19 degrees

Time: Afternoon

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--|
| <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | Common Myna | 10 | |
| <i>Anas castanea</i> | Chestnut Teal | 5 | x2 pairs; 1 pair in the drainage swale from school |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Northern Mallard | 1 | |
| <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | Pacific Black Duck | 20 | |
| <i>Cacatua galerita</i> | Sulfur-crested Cockatoo | 3 | |
| <i>Cacatua sanguinea</i> | Little Corella | 5 | |
| <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | Australian Wood Duck | 20 | |
| <i>Corvus mellori</i> | Little Raven | 5 | |
| <i>Cracticus tibicen</i> | Australian Magpie | 20 | |

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----|---|
| <i>Fulica atra</i> | Eurasian Coot | 20 | |
| <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | Dusky Moorhen | 20 | |
| <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> | Magpie-lark | 2 | |
| <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | Welcome Swallow | 15 | |
| <i>Microcarbo melanoleucos</i> | Little Pied Cormorant | 1 | Breeding colours, diving |
| <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> | Noisy Miner | 5 | |
| <i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i> | Crested Pigeon | 2 | |
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 2 | x2 males (no females - may be nesting) |
| <i>Platycercus eximius</i> | Eastern Rosella | 5 | |
| <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i> | Willie Wagtail | 2 | Nesting |
| <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i> | Spotted Turtle-Dove | 1 | |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | Common Starling | 10 | |
| <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | Australasian Grebe | 15 | Chicks and on nest |

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| <i>Threskiornis molucca</i> | Australian White Ibis | 7 | |
| <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i> | Rainbow Lorikeet | 1 | |
| <i>Vanellus miles</i> | Masked Lapwing | 3 | |

Report Date – 10 December 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Breezy, 15 degrees

Time: Morning

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 5 | Pair and 3 males |

Report Date – 9 December 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Light drizzle, breezy, 12 degrees

Time: Morning

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------|---|
| <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | Common Myna | 2 | |
| <i>Anas castanea</i> | Chestnut Teal | 6 | 3 pairs - may be nesting in southeast corner (one roosting in Eucalyptus.ovata) |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Northern Mallard | 1 | |
| <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | Pacific Black Duck | 5 | |
| <i>Cacatua sanguinea</i> | Little Corella | 5 | |
| <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | Australian Wood Duck | 10 | |
| <i>Corvus mellori</i> | Little Raven | 6 | |
| <i>Cracticus tibicen</i> | Australian Magpie | 2 | |
| <i>Crinia signifera</i> | Common Froglet | 1 | one calling early in northeast corner of dam |

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| <i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i> | White Faced Heron | 1 | south of dam |
| <i>Fulica atra</i> | Eurasian Coot | 10 | Nesting |
| <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | Dusky Moorhen | 5 | Nesting |
| <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | Welcome Swallow | 10 | |
| <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> | Noisy Miner | 3 | |
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 4 | Pair (dominant male shepherding female) and two lone males |
| <i>Platycercus eximius</i> | Eastern Rosella | 2 | |
| <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> | Purple Swamphen | 1 | on nest in Typha |
| <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i> | Willie Wagtail | 2 | Defending a nest north of dam |
| <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | Australasian Grebe | 10 | Nesting |
| <i>Threskiornis molucca</i> | Australian White Ibis | 5 | 3 south of dam, 2 overflying |
| <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i> | Rainbow Lorikeet | 3 | |

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| <i>Vanellus miles</i> | Masked Lapwing | 2 | Pair, likely nesting south of dam |
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Report Date – 21 November 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Breezy, 19 degrees

Time: Afternoon

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|
| <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | Common Myna | 5 | |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Northern Mallard | 1 | |
| <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | Pacific Black Duck | 5 | Pairs with ducklings |
| <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i> | Red Wattlebird | 5 | |
| <i>Cacatua sanguinea</i> | Little Corella | 15 | |
| <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | Australian Wood Duck | 10 to 15 | Pairs with ducklings |
| <i>Corvus mellori</i> | Little Raven | | |
| <i>Cracticus tibicen</i> | Australian Magpie | 10 to 15 | |
| <i>Fulica atra</i> | Eurasian Coot | 24 | |
| <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | Dusky Moorhen | 10 | |

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|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|---|
| <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | Welcome Swallow | 15 | |
| <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> | Noisy Miner | 10 | |
| <i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i> | Crested Pigeon | 3 | |
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 5 | 3 male and 2 female; (one bonded pair), 3 feeding across whole dam |
| <i>Platycercus eximius</i> | Eastern Rosella | 10 to 15 | |
| <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> | Purple Swamphen | 2 | |
| <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i> | Willie Wagtail | 2 | |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | Common Starling | 20 | |
| <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | Australasian Grebe | 5 to 10 | with chicks |
| <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i> | Rainbow Lorikeet | 10 | |

Report Date – 10 November 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Light breeze, 11 degrees

Time: Morning

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | Common Myna | 5 | |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Northern Mallard | 1 | |
| <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | Pacific Black Duck | 20 | Juveniles and chicks |
| <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i> | Red Wattlebird | 5 | |
| <i>Chelodina longicollis</i> | Eastern Snake-necked Turtle | 1 | On western bank (photographed) |
| <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | Australian Wood Duck | 20-30 | |
| <i>Cracticus tibicen</i> | Australian Magpie | 10 | |
| <i>Fulica atra</i> | Eurasian Coot | 20 | Nesting |
| <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | Dusky Moorhen | 5 | |
| <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | Welcome Swallow | 15 | |

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|------------------------------------|--------------------|----|---|
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 4 | Two pairs; one pair observed entering vegetation on southern margin (possibly looking to nest, but may have been sheltering from rain); second pair split to feed |
| <i>Platycercus eximius</i> | Eastern Rosella | 2 | |
| <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i> | Willie Wagtail | 1 | |
| <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | Australasian Grebe | 10 | x1 pair nesting on floating vegetation |

Report Date – 25 October 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Light breeze, 11 degrees

Time: Morning

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | Common Myna | 10 to 15 | |
| <i>Anas castanea</i> | Chestnut Teal | 1 | Adult male in breeding plumage |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Northern Mallard | 1 | |
| <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | Pacific Black Duck | 5 | |
| <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i> | Red Wattlebird | 10 to 15 | |
| <i>Cacatua galerita</i> | Sulfur-crested Cockatoo | 5 | Overfly |
| <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | Australian Wood Duck | 20-30 | Group of 9 juvenile adults |
| <i>Corvus mellori</i> | Little Raven | 2 | |
| <i>Cracticus tibicen</i> | Australian Magpie | 10 | |

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|---|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| <i>Cygnus atratus</i> | Black Swan | 1 | |
| <i>Fulica atra</i> | Eurasian Coot | 30 to 40 | Nesting and chicks |
| <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | Dusky Moorhen | 8 | Looking to nest in Typha |
| <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> | Magpie-lark | 5 | |
| <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | Welcome Swallow | 20 to 30 | |
| <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> | Noisy Miner | 10 | |
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 2 | 2 adult males (no females) |
| <i>Platycercus eximius</i> | Eastern Rosella | 2 | |
| <i>Strepera graculina</i> | Pied Currawong | 1 | |
| <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i> | Spotted Turtle-Dove | 3 | |
| <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | Australasian Grebe | 10 | Nesting and chicks |
| <i>Threskiornis molucca</i> | Australian White Ibis | 1 | |
| <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i> | Rainbow Lorikeet | 10 to 15 | |

Report Date – 5 October 2021

Location: Knoxfield Development Site

Weather: Moderate gusty wind, 12 degrees

Time: Morning

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Count | Notes |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | Common Myna | 6 | |
| <i>Anas castanea</i> | Chestnut Teal | 3 | |
| <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | Northern Mallard | 1 | |
| <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | Pacific Black Duck | 3 | |
| <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i> | Red Wattlebird | 1 | |
| <i>Cacatua galerita</i> | Sulfur-crested Cockatoo | 5 | |
| <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | Australian Wood Duck | 12 | |
| <i>Corvus mellori</i> | Little Raven | 3 | |
| <i>Cracticus tibicen</i> | Australian Magpie | 5-10 | |
| <i>Fulica atra</i> | Eurasian Coot | 26 | Several nests and young observed |

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| <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | Dusky Moorhen | 3 | |
| <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> | Magpie-lark | 1 | |
| <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | Welcome Swallow | 15-20 | |
| <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> | Noisy Miner | 1 | |
| <i>Microcarbo melanoleucos</i> | Little Pied Cormorant | 1 | Flyover |
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | 4 | 2 males, 2 females. Mostly inactive. No breeding behaviour observed |
| <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i> | Willie Wagtail | 1 | |
| <i>Strepera graculina</i> | Pied Currawong | 1 | |
| <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i> | Spotted Turtle-Dove | 3 | |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | Common Starling | 4 | |
| <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | Australasian Grebe | 4 | Two nests observed |
| <i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i> | Rainbow Lorikeet | 10-15 | |

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|----------------------|------------------|---|---|
| <i>Turdus merula</i> | Common Blackbird | 1 | Heard calling from adjacent Blind Creek |
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