

Birds Recorded in the Kau Wildlife Area at Baitabag and the adjacent coastal strip, Madang Province, May - November 1996

By *Brian S. Fletcher*

Introduction

The Kau Wildlife Area is a patch of primary and re-growth lowland rainforest that has been protected from any major interference by its traditional owners, the Didipa Clan of Baitabag Village, since the mid-sixties. In total it covers an area of approximately 500 hectares and represents one of the major patches of surviving lowland rainforest close to Madang. As the elders of the clan preserved the forest on their own initiative, most outsiders did not know of its existence until 1991. Thus, it was not visited by Bailey during his 1989 observations on the birds of lowland Madang Province (Bailey, 1992), and was not included in any of the earlier surveys carried out in the Madang area.

While carrying out ecological studies on insects in the Kau Reserve from mid-May to mid-October 1996, I also used my frequent visits to make observations on the avifauna. The forest there is relatively thick with few clear views of the canopy, so that most observations were made along the entrance track and the walking trails inside the forest.

The reserve is approximately 18 km from Madang Town and 4 ms from the Jais Aben Resort / Christensen Research Institute Grounds. When approaching from Madang along the main north coast road, the reserve can be reached by taking the road to the left about 100 metres before the sign-posted turn-off to JAR/CRI, which is on the right. As the reserve is privately owned, intending visitors should seek permission and the services of a guide from the Didipa Clan at Baitabag Village before entering the forest.

The bird names used here follow Beehler et al. (1986) except for Ochre-collared Monarch (*Arses insularis*) which is given specific rank (ref. Coates, 1990). I have attempted to give some indication of the status of the different species in the reserve by ranking them as common, fairly common, uncommon or rare, based on the frequency with which they were seen and/or heard during the period of observation. Common species were seen and/or heard on almost every visit and appeared to be distributed more or less throughout the reserve. Fairly common species were those that were encountered on most visits at a few locations (e.g. King Bird of Paradise) or more widely at less frequent intervals. Species were classed as uncommon if they were seen infrequently, and rare if they were only recorded on one occasion. As I was not familiar with the calls of some species (e.g. Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon, White-throated Pigeon, White-crowned Koel, Dwarf Koel) these and some others may have been under-recorded. Some species were noticeably less abundant in July and August when it was drier and there were fewer fruiting trees in the forest than at other times.

A feature of the lowland rainforest was the mixed-species feeding flocks of predominantly rufous-brown and black birds that were frequently encountered. These usually comprised an individual or pair of Spangled Drongos, plus Rufous Babbler, Rusty Pitohuis and Black Cuckoo-shrikes. Often the flocks also included Variable or

Hooded Pitohuis, a pair of Rufous Monarchs plus Hooded and other monarchs. Sometimes Glossy Mantled Manucodes and King Birds of Paradise and occasionally other species e.g. Yellow-faced Myna, Yellow-breasted Boatbill and Lemon-bellied Flycatcher or Grey Whistler also joined in these feeding flocks.

The only species I did encounter for which there are recent reliable records (there are a few others for which there are doubtful records), were Victoria Crowned Pigeon, Barred Owlet Nightjar and Rufous Night-Heron. A few species that were uncommon in the reserve were common in the more disturbed terrain nearby along the coastal strip (e.g. Emerald Dove, Grand Mannikin and Torresian Crow). In addition there are a number of species that occur along the adjacent coastal strip that were not recorded in the Kau reserve.

For completeness, at the end of the next section I have included a list of the species that I recorded either in the grounds of JAR/CRI (including birds seen from the foreshore) or in the disturbed area between the resort and the main north coast road but **not** in Kau Wildlife Area. Two sites in particular proved good for birding in this area, a track which crosses a small stream on the right, approximately 100 metres after the turn off to JAR/CRI, and a swampy area on the right about 300 metres before the entrance gate to the resort.

Annotated List of the Birds recorded in the Kau Wildlife Area, Baitabag.

1. **Northern Cassowary** (*Casuarus unappendiculatus*) Rare. Although no birds were actually sighted, fresh droppings of this species were observed along tracks in the reserve on 17 and 18 June.
2. **Brown-collared Brush-Turkey** (*Talegalla jobiensis*) Common. Calling birds were heard on most visits to the reserve but the birds are very wary and individuals were only sighted on 3 occasions. Two active nest mounds were also located.
3. **Common Scrubfowl** (*Megapodius freycinet*) Fairly common. Flushed from the side of tracks on a number of occasions, particularly near old gardens. Three active nest mounds were also located. (Presumably of the northern species *affinis*- Editor.)
4. **Forest Bittern** (*Zonerodius heliosylus*) Rare. A female of this little known species was caught by a villager's dog in the reserve along the Baitabag River on the 23 June and shown to me the following day. As it had a damaged wing it was taken back to CRI to recuperate but unfortunately died a few days later. While in captivity it laid an egg, indicating that it had been in breeding condition. The egg was pale blue in colour and almost spherical measuring 3.5 by 3.0 cm.
5. **Crested Hawk** (*Aviceda subcristata*) Uncommon. A flock of 4 individuals were seen foraging for food in the forest canopy on 23 August.
6. **Long-tailed Buzzard** (*Hemicopernis longicauda*) Uncommon. Single birds usually observed perched or flying through the canopy. A pair were observed soaring over the reserve on 16 June

7. **Black Kite** (*Milvus migrans*) Common, with up to six individuals observed flying over the reserve together at one time. An active nest was discovered in a large tree by the river on 11 July.
8. **Whistling Kite** (*Haliastur sphenurus*) Generally uncommon around Madang although one perched regularly in one of the trees occupied by the fruit bat colony in the centre of town. One seen flying over the reserve on the 18 August.
9. **Brahminy Kite** (*Haliastur indus*) Although common in the general area only observed flying over the reserve twice.
10. **Gurney's Eagle** (*Aquila gurneyi*) Rare. One seen soaring above the eastern edge of the reserve on 10 July.
11. **New Guinea Harpy Eagle** (*Harpyopsis novaeguineae*) Rare. Good views were obtained of an individual perched in the mid-canopy of a large tree within the reserve on 16 May
12. **Grey Goshawk** (*Accipiter novaehollandiae*) Uncommon. Individuals of the dark phase were seen on several occasions in trees on the edge of the reserve. A white phase individual (race *leucosomus*) was seen soaring above the reserve on 18 and 21 June.
13. **Grey-headed Goshawk** (*Accipiter poliocephalus*) Rare. One seen in the forest on 8 July
14. **Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) Rare. The only sighting was on 18 June when an individual was observed having a minor aerial duel with the white phase Grey Goshawk.
15. **White-throated Pigeon** (*Columba vitiensis*) Rare. One observed perched in the upper canopy on 22 July. A rather more elegant pigeon than depicted in Bechler .
16. **Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove** (*Macropygia nigrirostris*) Uncommon. The only verified sightings were on the 27 June and 2 Sept., but some of the other cuckoo-doves seen in flight were probably this species.
17. **Brown Cuckoo-Dove** (*Macropygia amboinensis*) Uncommon. Apparently scarce and/ or wary as only sighted on a few occasions, usually in flight.
18. **Great Cuckoo-Dove** (*Reinwardtoena reinwardtii*) Uncommon. One observed perched high in a fig tree along with a large feeding flock of Orange-bellied Fruit-Doves on 8 June. A pair and a calling male were seen on 27 June. The call was a repeated *tig-whoop..tig-whoop..tig-whoop* at a rate of one per second.
19. **Stephan's Ground-Dove** (*Chalcophaps stephani*) Uncommon. Seen less frequently than the Emerald Ground-Dove, and usually when flushed from the ground beneath the forest understorey. Good perched views were obtained of both sexes.

20. **Emerald Ground-Dove** (*Chalcophaps indica*) Fairly common. Singles observed fairly frequently, either flying across tracks, particularly the entrance track, or in the forest.
21. **Cinnamon Ground-Dove** (*Gallicolumba rufigula*) Rare. Although I had earlier occasionally flushed birds that could have been this species, the only confirmed sighting was one seen at close range along the entrance track on the 14 Oct.
22. **Victoria Crowned Pigeon** (*Goura cristata*). Rare. I never saw this species in the reserve, although Ulai, a local elder who helped me with my field work, flushed one while walking in the forest on 1 Sept. Another villager later reported seeing two drinking at a pool in a dried up creek bed in the reserve early one morning the previous week.
23. **Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus iozonus*) The commonest fruit-dove within the reserve and frequently seen in small groups, and occasionally large flocks, feeding in fruiting trees or perched on exposed branches.
24. **Superb Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus superbus*) Fairly common. Individuals or pairs seen in the lower-canopy fairly frequently and small numbers also observed occasionally feeding with other fruit-doves in fruiting fig trees.
25. **Beautiful Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus pulchellus*) Fairly common. Seen frequently, usually as single individuals perched in the lower-canopy, although sometimes seen feeding in company with other fruit-doves. Occupied nests, each with a single egg, were located on low branches above forest trails on 4 July and 2 Sept.
26. **Ornate Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus ornatus*) Uncommon. Small flocks of this species (6-8 individuals) was observed in the reserve on several occasions.
27. **Pink-spotted Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus perlatus*) Uncommon. A single record of two individuals observed feeding with other doves in a large fig tree on 14 May.
28. **Coroneted Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus coronulatus*) Fairly common. Single individuals or pairs were seen perched or feeding in the lower-canopy regularly, except during July and August when noticeably scarce.
29. **Wompoo Fruit-Dove** (*Ptilinopus magnificus*) Common. Individuals or pairs seen on most visits to the reserve. Occupied nests of this species, each with a single egg, were located on 5 June and 26 July.
30. **Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon** (*Ducula rufigaster*) Uncommon. One observed perched high in the forest canopy on 18 June and one seen in flight on 13 July.
31. **Pinon Imperial Pigeon** (*Ducula pinon*) Common. Small numbers were observed or heard calling on almost every visit to the reserve. Display flights were observed in June and July. Beside the usual call, a *zooca..zooca...zooca* and a grunt were also heard when birds were interacting.

32. **Zoe Imperial Pigeon** (*Ducula zoeae*) Common. This species was heard calling on most visits to the reserve but was seen less frequently than the previous species as it normally stays within the canopy.
33. **Papuan Mountain Pigeon** (*Gymnophaps albertisi*) Common. Flocks of up to twenty individuals were seen frequently circling over the reserve, and sometimes perched in the taller trees.
34. **Dusky Lory** (*Pseudeos fuscata*) Common. Flocks seen flying over the reserve most mornings with a few landing.
35. **Rainbow Lorikeet** (*Trichoglossus haematodus*) Uncommon. Flocks seen flying over the reserve on a few occasions.
36. **Black-capped Lory** (*Lorius lory*) Common. Pairs seen or heard on most visits but only present in the reserve in small numbers. A pair were seen inspecting a 'nesting' hole on 14 Oct.
37. **Palm Cockatoo** (*Probosciger aterrimus*) Rare. A single record on the 10 November.
38. **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** (*Cacatua galerita*) Fairly common. Present in the reserve in small numbers with eight individuals been the greatest number seen in a single flock.
39. **Buff-faced Pygmy Parrot** (*Micropsitta pusio*) Fairly common. Pairs or small groups seen or heard fairly frequently, particularly along the entrance track but also within the forest.
40. **Double-eyed Fig-Parrot** (*Cyclopsitta diophthalma*) Rare. The only sighting was of a pair perched in a tree along the entrance track on 8 July.
41. **Red-checked Parrot** (*Geoffroyus geoffroyi*) Fairly common. Individuals heard fairly regularly flying over the reserve but only seen perched occasionally.
42. **Eclactus Parrot** (*Eclactus roratus*) Uncommon. Only recorded on a few occasions, almost always as single individuals flying overhead, although a flock of five were seen on 14 June.
43. **Papuan Hanging Parrot** (*Loriculus aurantiifrons*) Rare. A pair of this species was observed in a tree along the entrance track on 16 June.
44. **Brush Cuckoo** (*Cacomantis variolosus*) Fairly common. Heard frequently but only seen on a few occasions.
45. **Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo** (*Cacomantis castaneiventris*) Uncommon. Heard occasionally, and one seen on 20 July.
46. **White-crowned Koel** (*Caliechthrus leucolophus*) Rare. One seen in the canopy of a fruiting fig tree on 27 June.
47. **Dwarf Koel** (*Microdynamis parva*) Uncommon. A male was seen in a tree along the entrance track on 24 June, and a pair was seen feeding in a tree with small red berries in the same area on the 28 August.
48. **Channel-billed Cuckoo** (*Scythrops novaehollandiae*) Rare. One seen flying over the reserve on 12 July.
49. **Greater Black Coucal** (*Centropus menbeki*) Fairly common. Heard calling regularly, including duetting 'pairs' on several occasions. One was observed feeding on berries in a small tree along the entrance track on 20 June.
50. **Marbled Frogmouth** (*Podargus ocellatus*) Uncommon. Two separate individuals heard calling briefly on 12 July when I stayed in the forest till 10.30 p.m.
51. **Papuan Frogmouth** (*Podargus papuensis*) Fairly common. Heard calling during the day on several occasions. Good perched views were obtained of a pair that flushed from a tree within the forest on 18 June.
52. **Papuan Nightjar** (*Eurostopodus papuensis*) Fairly common. Sighted flying over the forest from the balcony of the village museum, or along the entrance track, on most occasions when I visited the area at dusk.
53. **Moustached Tree-Swift** (*Hemiprocne mystacea*) Uncommon. Seen occasionally in small groups flying above the forest ridges
54. **Uniform Swiftlet** (*Collocalia vanikorensis*) Common. Seen most evenings and sometimes during the day, particularly after rain, flying above the forest.
55. **[Three-toed Swiftlet (*Collocalia papuensis*)]** Uncommon? On a few occasions (14 May, 19 June and 14 Oct) I observed small groups of a swiftlet that was noticeably more robust and had a paler throat than Uniform Swiftlet flying along the forest ridges. Bailey (1992) also observed this swiftlet in the area and tentatively identified it as *C. papuensis*. Final confirmation of its identity would require birds in the hand.
56. **Glossy Swiftlet** (*Collocalia esculenta*) Fairly common. Observed less often than uniform swiftlet but still recorded fairly frequently.
57. **Pacific Swallow** (*Hirundo tahitica*) Uncommon. Small numbers were seen hawking along the ridges on a few occasions.
58. **Common Paradise-Kingfisher** (*Tanysiptera galatea*) Common. Several individuals were heard calling on almost every visit to the reserve, although sightings were much less frequent.
59. **Hook-billed Kingfisher** (*Melidora macrorrhina*) Fairly common. Although never sighted, the calls of this species were frequently heard when I visited the reserve at dusk.

60. **Rufous-bellied Kookaburra** (*Dacelo gaudichaud*) Common. Individuals or groups were heard calling and seen on almost every visit to the reserve.
61. **Forest Kingfisher** (*Halcyon macleayii*) Uncommon. A pair were seen perched in a dead tree on the edge of the forest on a few occasions.
62. **Yellow-billed Kingfisher** (*Halcyon torotoro*) Fairly common. Based on the number of individuals heard calling, less common than *T. galatea* (and also more difficult to see) but still recorded fairly frequently.
63. **Dwarf Kingfisher** (*Ceyx lepidus*) Uncommon. Perched individuals seen in the forest on 16 May, 15 July, 15 Aug, 28 August, 2 Sept and 14 Oct. and probable fly-bys on a few other occasions.
64. **Azure Kingfisher** (*Alcedo azurea*) Fairly common. Seen regularly when walking along the larger streams in the forest. One observed perched close to a nest burrow on 26 July.
65. **Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*) Rare. Seen once along the Baitabag river on the 23 August.
66. **Rainbow Bee-eater** (*Merops ornatus*) Rare. One seen flying along the edge of the forest on 27 June.
67. **Dollarbird** (*Eurystomus orientalis*) Common. Observed on most visits till mid-October, either perched on exposed branches or flying over the forest.
68. **Blyth's Hornbill** (*Rhyticeros plicatus*) Uncommon. This species seems to visit the reserve irregularly, usually in pairs, although during August at least 4 individuals were present in the reserve for 2-3 weeks.
69. **Blue-breasted Pitta** (*Pitta erythrogaster*) Fairly common. This is another species that was heard calling regularly but rarely seen. The only sightings were of an individual flushed from the side of a track on 25 May and calling birds lured in by a taped play back of their call on 18 June and 8 July.
70. **White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike** (*Coracina papuensis*) Fairly common. Usually seen in pairs, particularly along the entrance track.
71. **Cicadabird** (*Coracina tenuirostris*) Fairly common. Females were seen fairly regularly foraging in trees along the entrance track. Males, however, were only seen occasionally.
72. **Black Cuckoo-Shrike** (*Coracina melaena*) Fairly common. Both sexes were observed regularly in the mixed feeding flocks of brown and black birds that occurred in the forest. However, they were noticeably commoner in May and June than later.

73. **Black-browed Triller** (*Lalage atrovirens*) Common. A 'family' group of 3-4 individuals that frequented some trees along the entrance track were seen on almost every visit. Individuals were also heard or seen regularly in the upper canopy of the forest trees.
74. **Blue Jewel-Babbler** (*Ptilorrhoa caerulescens*) Uncommon. Another species that was heard more often than seen. The first 2 sighted were flushed from the bank of a small stream on 5 June, and individuals were seen on 4 subsequent occasions (25 June, 12 July, 15 Aug. and 28 Aug).
75. **Rufous Babbler** (*Pomatostomus isidorei*) Common. This species was encountered fairly frequently foraging in family groups either alone or in mixed feeding flocks. One nest/roost was located hanging from a palm tree.
76. **Yellow-bellied Gerygone** (*Gerygone chrysogaster*) Fairly common. Observed and/or heard singing fairly frequently in the mid to upper canopy of the forest.
77. **Fairy Gerygone** (*Gerygone palpebrosa*) Uncommon. Males accompanied by females were seen on 22 May, 14 June and 28 Aug. foraging in the canopy. Females were also seen on a few other occasions.
78. **Green-backed Gerygone** (*Gerygone chloronotus*) Uncommon. First heard and seen on 18 July. Individuals were also recorded on a few other occasions, with sightings on the 26 July and 28 August and 10 Nov.
79. **Sooty Thicket-Fantail** (*Rhipidura threnothorax*) Fairly common. The distinctive 3 syllable call was heard fairly frequently but the bird was not always easy to see. On 11 July, a pair was observed building a nest on the top of a large leaf about 0.5 m. from the ground, in a small gully near the Baitabag river. A further nest containing 2 recently hatched young was located on the leaf of a low palm in the same general area on 23 August.
80. **White-bellied Thicket-Fantail** (*Rhipidura leucothorax*) Fairly common. The distinctive call was heard fairly frequently and birds were observed on several occasions, usually near the forest edge, but sometimes along gullies in the forest.
81. **Rufous-backed Fantail** (*Rhipidura rufidorsa*) Fairly common. The call was heard on most visits to the reserve and individuals or pairs were observed regularly during July and August, but less frequently at other times.
82. **Northern Fantail** (*Rhipidura rufiventris*) Common. This species was the most frequently observed fantail, with sightings of one or more birds on most visits to the forest.
83. **Willie Wagtail** (*Rhipidura leucophrys*) Common. Encountered fairly frequently in the garden areas on the edge of the forest and along the entrance track
84. **Rufous Monarch** (*Monarcha rubiensis*) Fairly common. Although less common than the other monarchs, this species was regularly seen either singly or in pairs in mixed feeding flocks containing other rufous coloured birds. On 4 Sept. a pair

was observed putting the finishing touches to a nest in the top fork of a 3 metre sapling on the bank of a forest stream. (A significant observation as few nests are known-Editor)

85. **Black-faced Monarch** (*Monarcha melanopsis*) Rare. One immature individual (considered to be this species, rather than Island Monarch, because of size and plumage colour) was observed in a small fig tree on the edge of the forest on 18 June. A second individual with black face feathers partly grown was seen in a mixed feeding flock on the 23 Sept. These sightings represent a significant north-westward extension of its range as shown in Coates.
86. **Spot-winged Monarch** (*Monarcha guttula*) Common. The commonest of the monarchs with sightings, usually of pairs, in the sub-canopy or lower canopy of the forest, on almost every visit.
87. **Hooded Monarch** (*Monarcha manadensis*) Fairly common. Less common than the previous species but observed fairly frequently, often in mixed feeding flocks with babblers and pitohuis.
88. **Golden Monarch** (*Monarcha chrysomela*) Fairly common. Usually seen in pairs with the male often being quite vocal and attracting attention when foraging.
89. **Ochre-collared Monarch** (*Monarcha insularis*) Common. Usually observed in pairs, either foraging alone or in mixed feeding flocks. An occupied nest suspended from a vine about 5 metres from the ground, was seen on the 4 Sept.
90. **Satin Flycatcher** (*Myiagra cyanoleuca*) Uncommon. Female plumaged birds of this species were observed on a few occasions in trees along the forest edge in May and early June, but not subsequently.
91. **Yellow-breasted Boatbill** (*Machaerirhynchus flaviventer*) Uncommon. The first sighting was on 31 July and this was followed by 3 further sightings in other parts of the reserve during the following 2 weeks. Then not seen again until 14 Oct.
92. **Shining Flycatcher** (*Myiagra alecto*) Common. Frequently seen and heard along the forest edge and along streams deeper within the forest. One nest with a sitting female was found in a tree by a stream in the forest on 20 July.
93. **Lemon-bellied Flycatcher** (*Microeca flavigaster*) Fairly common. Usually observed foraging in the forest sub-canopy, often in the company of other small birds such as warblers and monarchs.
94. **Olive Flycatcher** (*Microeca flavovirescens*) Uncommon. A pair was observed foraging for insects from adjacent perches in the forest sub-canopy on 16 May, and individuals were also recorded on 23 May and 23 Sept.
95. **Grey Whistler** (*Pachycephala simplex*) Uncommon. However, possibly overlooked to some extent, particularly when not calling as they tend to be fairly

inactive when foraging in the canopy. First recorded on the 27 June and then on 19 and 26 July and 28 August.

96. **Little Shrike-Thrush** (*Colluricincla megarhyncha*) Fairly common. Seen and heard regularly, sometimes in mixed feeding flocks.
97. **Variable Pitohui** (*Pitohui kirhocephalus*) Fairly common. Heard more frequently than seen but observed regularly, sometimes in mixed feeding flocks. Most individuals were of the grey-hooded race.
98. **Hooded Pitohui** (*Pitohui dichrous*) Uncommon. Small groups or individuals seen on a few occasions, sometimes foraging in mixed feeding flocks. A family group also frequented a patch of disturbed bush along the entrance road to JAR/CRI.
99. **Rusty Pitohui** (*Pitohui ferrugineus*) Fairly common. Seen regularly in mixed feeding flocks containing Spangled Drongos, Rufous Babblers and other brown birds.
100. **Black Berrypecker** (*Melanocharis nigra*) Fairly common. Observed frequently in the forest sub-canopy during May and June, but it then became rather scarce until late September.
101. **Papuan Flowerpecker** (*Dicaeum pectorale*) Fairly common. Observed frequently, either singly or in pairs, particularly in tall trees along the forest edge.
102. **Black Sunbird** (*Nectarinia aspasia*) Common. Frequently seen visiting flowering trees and shrubs along the forest edge. An active nest was located near the museum on 14 June.
103. **Yellow-bellied Sunbird** (*Nectarinia jugularis*) Uncommon. Observed occasionally visiting flowers along the forest edge.
104. **Long-billed Honeyeater** (*Melilestes megarhynchus*) Fairly common. Both adult and immature plumaged individuals were observed on numerous occasions, sometimes foraging in the lower canopy or in small trees along the forest edge.
105. **Yellow-bellied Longbill** (*Toxorhamphus novaeguineae*) Fairly common. Observed fairly frequently in the forest sub-canopy and the regrowth covering old gardens.
106. **Dwarf Honeyeater** (*Oedistoma iliolophus*) Uncommon. Good views of this species were only obtained on a few occasions but it was possibly overlooked to some extent because of its habits.
107. **Pygmy Honeyeater** (*Oedistoma pygmaeum*) Uncommon. The only definite sighting was along the entrance track on the 28 August, but this also is a species that can be easily overlooked.

108. **Green-backed Honeyeater** (*Glycichaera fallax*). Uncommon. Only recorded on 28 August and 3 Sept.
109. **Puff-backed Meliphaga** (*Meliphaga aruensis*) Common. A frequently observed inhabitant of the forest interior.
110. **Mimetic Meliphaga** (*Meliphaga analoga*) Fairly common. Usually in the garden trees along the forest edge but also observed occasionally in the forest.
111. **Tawny-breasted Honeyeater** (*Xanthotis flaviventer*) Fairly common. Seen frequently foraging in trees along the entrance track or in feeding flocks with other birds in the forest.
112. **Plain Honeyeater** (*Pycnopygius ixoides*) Uncommon. Two individuals, probably a pair, were observed in trees along the entrance track to the forest on several occasions.
113. **Streak-headed Honeyeater** (*Pycnopygius stictocephalus*) Fairly common.
114. **Meyer's Friarbird** (*Philemon meyeri*) Fairly common. Most frequently seen in trees along the forest edge and the entrance track.
115. **Helmeted Friarbird** (*Philemon buceroides*) Common. Very vocal and heard and seen on almost all visits to the reserve.
116. **Streak-headed Mannikin** (*Lonchura tristissima*) Uncommon. Seen occasionally in the small trees along the edge of the entrance track and once carrying nesting material near a stream in the forest on 2 Sept.
117. **Grand Mannikin** (*Lonchura grandis*) Uncommon. Seen occasionally along the entrance track. On 23 August, 2 were seen by the museum collecting nesting material.
118. **Singing Starling** (*Aplonis cantoroides*) Uncommon. Only seen occasionally in trees along the edge of the forest, although very common around JAR/CRI.
119. **Metallic Starling** (*Aplonis metallica*) Common. Frequently seen in large flocks feeding in trees along the edge of the forest.
120. **Yellow-faced Myna** (*Mino dumontii*) Common. Groups of 5-10 seen and heard on almost every visit to the reserve.
121. **Brown Oriole** (*Oriolus szalayi*) Common. Very vocal with several individuals seen or heard on almost all visits to the reserve.
122. **Spangled Drongo** (*Dicrurus hottentottus*) Common. Frequently encountered accompanying feeding flocks of black and brown birds through the forest.

123. **Hooded Butcherbird** (*Cracticus cassicus*) Fairly common. Surprisingly not seen until 21 June when one took up residence at the entrance to the reserve and stayed there right through the remainder of the observation period, calling daily.
124. **Lowland Peltops** (*Peltops blainvillii*) Fairly common. Individuals or pairs seen sitting in exposed trees along the entrance track on most visits to the reserve.
125. **Glossy-mantled Manucode** (*Manucodia atra*) Fairly common. During June a pair frequently fed low down on the small fruits of a tree growing along the forest edge adjacent to the entrance track. The male also often called while perched on an exposed branch of a tree on the opposite side of the track. Individuals were also seen sometimes in mixed feeding flocks.
126. **Jobi Manucode** (*Manucodia jobiensis*) Uncommon. Manucodes identified as this species because of their size and shape were seen occasionally in mixed feeding flocks in the forest canopy or sub-canopy. On 22 July one was observed calling from a dead tree (a higher pitched electronic sound than the previous species).
127. **King Bird of Paradise** (*Cicinnurus regius*) Fairly common. One or more male birds were heard calling from tall display trees on almost every visit to the forest between May and early August, although from then on until mid-October they were much less vocal. Both males and females were seen feeding on fruit in the sub-canopy on a number of occasions and females sometimes joined mixed feeding flocks. On one occasion an immature-plumaged male was seen calling low down in the canopy.
128. **Lesser Bird of Paradise** (*Paradisaea minor*) Fairly common. One or more males heard calling on most visits to the forest and displaying or feeding full plumaged males were observed on a number of occasions. Females, somewhat surprisingly, were seen less frequently.
129. **Grey Crow** (*Corvus tristis*) Fairly common. Flocks of up to ten individuals were seen flying around the reserve on a number of occasions but at other times they appeared to be absent.
130. **Torresian Crow** (*Corvus orru*) Uncommon. Although common along the coastal strip, individuals or small groups only occasionally visited the reserve.

Additional species only recorded along the coastal strip adjacent to the Kau Wildlife Area

131. **Lesser Frigate Bird** (*Fregata ariel*) Seen occasionally from the foreshore.
132. **Little Black Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*) Small flocks often flew over the JAR/CRI grounds in the early morning or late afternoon.
133. **Little Pied Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*) Individuals occasionally visited the swamp.

134. **Intermediate Egret** (*Egretta intermedia*) Recorded once at the swamp.
135. **Eastern Reef Egret** (*Egretta sacra*) A pair of grey phase birds were seen flying along the JAR/CRI foreshore on 16 July.
136. **White-bellied Sea-Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) One seen soaring offshore on 24 August.
137. **Collared Sparrowhawk** (*Accipiter cirrhocephalus*) One seen along the entrance road on 21 June.
138. **Spotted Whistling Duck** (*Dendrocygna guttata*) Small numbers present at the swamp until it virtually dried up in July.
139. **Buff-banded Rail** (*Rallus philippensis*) One seen running across the entrance road near the junction with the main road on 28 Sept. Others were subsequently seen along the main north coast road.
140. **White-browed Crake** (*Porzana cinerea*) Present in small numbers at the swamp until it dried up in July.
141. **Bush-hen** (*Amaurornis olivaceus*) Seen occasionally and heard more frequently near the swamp and along the side track.
142. **Common Sandpiper** (*Tringa hypoleucos*) A pair took up residence along the JAR/CRI foreshore in July and frequently foraged on the lawn near the laboratory.
143. **Black Noddy** (*Anous minutus*) Occasionally seen from the foreshore, with a flock of 100+ feeding in the lagoon on 12 Oct.
144. **White-winged Black Tern** (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) Several, including a flock of 8, seen feeding close in to shore in early October.
145. **Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) Occasionally seen in the lagoon near enough to the foreshore for a positive identification.
146. **Crested Tern** (*Sterna bergii*) Seen near to the foreshore quite frequently.
147. **Lesser Black Coucal** (*Centropus bernsteini*) Heard frequently and seen occasionally along the side-track.
148. **Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*) At least 2 pairs frequented the JAR/CRI foreshore and one pair was observed digging a nest burrow on 6 July, which they subsequently occupied. However I am not sure if they raised offspring as I was away during the critical period.
149. **Little Kingfisher** (*Alcedo pusilla*) The sole record was of a bird which flew into a window at CRI on May 15, momentarily stunning itself

150. **Sacred Kingfisher** (*Halcyon sancta*) Common in the JAR/CRI grounds until late September. One pair that became vocal were still present in mid-November.
151. **Beach Kingfisher** (*Halcyon saurophaga*) Individuals or pairs visited the trees on the JAR/CRI foreshore at irregular intervals, usually only staying for a few hours but attracting attention by calling frequently.
152. **Golden-headed Cisticola** (*Cisticola exilis*) Heard and occasionally seen in long grass by the swamp.
153. **Island Monarch** (*Monarcha cinerascens*) One seen and heard calling in the trees where the side track crosses the stream on 11 July; an island species that is rarely recorded on shore.
154. **Grey Shrike Thrush** (*Colluricincla harmonica*) Fairly common and vocal in the JAR/CRI grounds.
155. **Brown-backed Honeyeater** (*Ramsayornis modestus*) Fairly common around the swamp. Active nests suspended over the water were found there on 26 May and 21 June.
156. **Varied Honeyeater** (*Lichenostomus versicolor*) Common in the JAR/CRI grounds.
157. **Chestnut-breasted Mannikin** (*Lonchura castaneothorax*) Frequently seen in small flocks in the gardens near the entrance to the JAR/CRI grounds.

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