

INTRODUCTION

Redwood Park is 197 hectares of bushland situated below the escarpment of the Great Dividing Range east of Toowoomba. It makes up one of Toowoomba's Escarpment Parks and as such is a declared Fauna Sanctuary. It consists of a diversity of habitats ranging from open forest to semi notophyll vine forest dissected by four walking tracks. These tracks are the Redwood Forest Walk (3.8 kilometres), the Ferny Gully Circuit (840 metres), the Grass Tree Track (1.7 kilometres) and the Bridle Trail (2.1 kilometres). This set of tracks takes the walker through all the variety of habitats in Redwood Park. See Figure 1.

The Redwood Forest Walk starts at Gatton Creek near the lower entrance to the park off the Warrego Highway. This track enters the vine forest and climbs quickly to the suspension bridge. The forest here contains the trees Holly Wood (*Pittosporum rhombifolium*), Tulipwood (*Harpullia pendula*), Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*), and Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*), to mention a few, with a vine understorey. The ground cover in many places being a thick layer of the introduced Coral Berry (*Rivina humilis*). Past the suspension bridge, the habitat starts to change to open forest. Prominent here is the Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*) with a shrub layer of White Sour-Bush (*Choretrum candollei*) and Lantana (*Lantana camara*), and in many places a grass ground cover. Once past the turn off to the Ferny Gully Circuit the habitat once again changes with the Narrow-leaved Ironbarks becoming less prominent being replaced by Sydney Blue Gum (*E. saligna*), Stringybark (*E. eugenoides*), Tallow-wood (*E. microcorys*) and in places dense stands of Broad-leaf Privet (*Ligustrum lacidum*). This track climbs quickly to the Bridge Street entrance.

The Ferny Gully Circuit leaves the Redwood Forest Walk about 1.6 kilometres from Bridge Street. It quickly passes from open forest to closed forest as it approaches a branch of Gatton Creek. Large areas of Broad-leaf Privet can be found here. River She Oak (*Allocasuarina cunningghamiana*), Pink Bloodwood (*E. intermedia*) and Brush Box are also present. This branch of Gatton Creek is rich in birdlife.

The Bridle Trail represents the western boundary of the park and is part of the National Bridle Trail. This is one of the more level walking tracks in Redwood Park and passes through open woodland for most of its length. Prominent here are Grey Gum, Brush Box, Tallow-wood, Narrow-leaved Ironbark and Forest Red Gum (*E. tereticornis*). Broad-leaf Privet is also prevalent here. The track runs from the Bridge Street entrance to the Warrego Highway near the site of the new safety ramp. Parking is available here, off the Warrego Highway, and for about two cars, off Bridge Street.

The Grass Tree Track starts approximately 200 metres from the Warrego Highway near the picnic area. Parking is available just off the Warrego Highway at the entrance to the park. This track starts off in an ecotone of open forest to the south and semi notophyll vine forest to the north but very soon leaves the vine forest behind as it climbs steeply to join the Bridle Trail. Much of the area to the south of this track was burnt twice in 1994 and it will be interesting to monitor the effects of this burn on the birdlife. As the name suggests Grass Trees can be seen along this track. Also common here are the wattle (*Acacia concurrens*), Narrow-leaved Ironbark, Grey Gum,

Carbeen (*E. tessellaris*) and Red Bloodwood (*E. grimifera*). The White Sour-Bush is common in the shrub layer. It is popular with the more open country birds.

More information on these walks can be obtained from the Toowoomba City Council.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

One hundred and forty-five species of bird are listed in this book. This was obtained from over 100 trips to Redwood Park by the author since the early 1980's. Other records are from the Toowoomba Bird Observers Club and individual birders. Included in this list are two historic records these are observations made before the Toowoomba Bird Observers inception in 1976. Where birds have not been seen by the author acknowledgment is given. Common and scientific names are taken from "*The Taxonomy and Species of Birds of Australia and its Territories. Royal Australian Ornithologists Union Monograph 2.*" Christidis and Boles (1994). The same order of species is also used.

Appendices 1 and 2 show lists of the mammals, reptiles and amphibians recorded in Redwood Park. Names are taken from the "*Encyclopedia of Australian Animals.*" The Australian Museum (1992). These lists are far from complete but can be used as a starting point for future work done in the park. They also illustrate, along with the birds, the diversity of vertebrate fauna present in Redwood Park and as such its importance as a natural resource to the people of Toowoomba.

This book is in no way trying to be a field guide to the Birds of Redwood Park. There are many excellent field guides to the birds of Australia and this book can be used in conjunction with them to enhance a walk through Toowoomba's most biologically important escarpment park. A box is placed before each bird's common name. This box can be ticked as each bird is seen. Space is left at the end of the species list to record additional species seen.

Some good field guides to refer to are:

1. Pizzey, G. 1980. *A Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*. Sydney: Collins.
2. Simpson, K. Day, N. 1996. *Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*. Ringwood: Penguin Books.
3. Slater, P. Slater, P. Slater, R. 1995. *The Slater Field Guide to Australian Birds*. Dee Why West: Rigby.

All species, whether they have been seen in the park, just flying over the park, or only recorded historically are included in the main text with the relevant details recorded beside them.

Where the terms endangered, vulnerable or potentially vulnerable are used they are taken from the book “*Australia’s Endangered Species.*” M. Kennedy (1990) and as such relate to the species’ status Australia wide. These definitions follow :

1. Endangered: In danger of extinction and survival is unlikely if threats continue to occur.
2. Vulnerable: Could become endangered in the near future if threats continue to occur.
3. Potentially Vulnerable: Are not currently endangered or vulnerable but need careful research and monitoring to ensure they do not end up in these other categories.

LIST OF BIRDS

Australian Brush-turkey (*Alectura lathami*)

Seen mainly in the vine forest areas this bird can however be seen anywhere in the park, including along the Warrego Highway at the park's edge. Here, it feeds on spilt grain and scraps. The nest consists of a large mound of dirt and leaf litter in which the eggs are laid. The ground nearby is cleared of leaves and fallen branches. This is often the first indication that brush-turkeys are present in the area. These large birds can also be seen roosting high up in trees. They are a common resident of the park.

Little Pied Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*)

Incidental. May be seen at any time of the year flying over the park. Individual birds are usually seen.

White-necked Heron (*Ardea pacifica*)

Incidental. May be seen at any time of the year flying over the park. Individual birds are usually seen.

Nankeen Night Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*)

Very rarely seen in the park, this bird mainly hunts along Gatton Creek. May be seen at any time of the year. There are only two reported sightings. Toowoomba Bird Observers Club.

Australian White Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*)

Incidental. May be seen at any time flying over the park. Usually seen in flocks flying in a V formation. Flocks will sometimes number more than 100 birds.

Straw-necked Ibis (*Threskiornis spinicollis*)

Incidental. May be seen at any time flying over the park. Usually seen in flocks flying in a V formation. Flocks will sometimes number more than 100 birds.

Royal Spoonbill (*Platalea regia*)

Incidental. May be seen at any time flying over the park. Usually seen singly or in pairs.

Australian Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*)

Incidental. Only one record, that being a road-killed female at the bottom entrance to the park.

Pacific Baza (*Aviceda subcristata*)

This species can often be found in the open forest and the edge of the vine forest where it hunts for insects and other small prey among the foliage of trees. It usually moves in small groups of up to five or six birds and its loud 'ee-chu' call make it easy to locate when it is in the park. It can be seen throughout the year. The distinctive crest and barred breast make it easily identified. It is one of Australia's most striking birds of prey and has elaborate courtship displays.

Square-tailed Kite (*Lophoictinia isura*)

A very rare visitor to the park, the Square-tailed Kite has only been recorded on two occasions, both in March 1978 (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). On one of these occasions a pair was seen. The upswept, fingered wings and square tail help the observer to identify it.

Black-breasted Buzzard (*Hamirostra melanosternon*)

There is only one record for the park and this was on 27 August 1991 (R. Hobson) when a single bird was seen flying over the park. A short tail and broad fingered wings with white circles in them make this species readily identifiable. It is one of Australia's largest birds of prey.

Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*)

This species is rarely seen in the park and most sightings date back to 1978 when there were many records for south-east Queensland. During this year small flocks of up to 16 birds were seen over the park. It may be seen throughout the year.

Brown Goshawk (*Accipiter fasciatus*)

Often seen in the park, the Brown Goshawk hunts in all habitats from open forest to closed forest. The alarm calls of other birds often bring it to the attention of the observer. It is a resident of the Escarpment Parks where it can sometimes be seen soaring at great heights.

Grey Goshawk (*Accipiter novaehollandiae*)

This uncommon species is a resident of the Escarpment Parks and has been recorded breeding near Redwood. It hunts in all of Redwood's habitats including the thickly foliated areas along Gatton Creek. Like most birds of prey, the alarm calls of other birds often betray its presence, although it is often very vocal itself as it calls from high vantage points. Grey and white colour forms exist. The grey form is much more likely to be seen in Redwood Park.

Collared Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter cirrhocephalus*)

Like the Brown and the Grey Goshawk, the Collared Sparrowhawk is a resident of Toowoomba's Escarpment Parks often being seen in Redwood. It hunts by stealth and is at home anywhere in the park. It is the smallest of the goshawks but can easily take prey up to the size of small pigeons.

Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Aquila audax*)

A pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles can often be seen circling high over Redwood Park where they can be observed throughout the year. They are Australia's largest bird of prey (104 cm. in length) being as large as the American Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). Look for upswept, fingered wings and a wedge-shaped tail.

Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*)

This species is rarely seen in Redwood Park (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). It is typically seen soaring at a great height, and may be present between the months of March and August. Look for the fingered wings, square tail and horizontal wing position when gliding. A dark leading edge to the underwings is also present.

Brown Falcon (*Falco berigora*)

The Brown Falcon has only been observed once in the park when it was seen near the Bridle Trail by M. Atzeni. It may turn up at any time.

Nankeen Kestrel (*Falco cenchroides*)

The Nankeen Kestrel is rarely recorded in, or over Redwood Park and then usually only on the periphery. On one occasion it was seen along the Bridle Trail (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). It may be observed throughout the year.

Painted Button-quail (*Turnix varia*)

This species is a resident of the park and is usually found in areas of thick lantana and nearby open areas such as the Redwood Forest Walk near where it joins the Ferny Gully Circuit. Though not often seen because it is shy, its presence is indicated by circular scrapes found in leaf litter. It is one of many species which makes use of the large areas of Lantana. Several groups are present in the park.

Black-breasted Button-quail (*Turnix melanogaster*) Endangered.

This endangered species is probably the rarest resident of Redwood Park. It inhabits the vine forest, and areas of lantana associated with vine forest. At least seven individual birds have been seen in Redwood Park (C. Dollery & P. McConnell). Groups often consist of three birds - a dominant female and two males. It is a shy bird, and

because of the dense habitat it occupies, is rarely seen. Like the Painted Button-quail its presence is indicated by circular scrapes in the leaf litter. Movements throughout the park are poorly understood with the time between sightings sometimes being years. Management of Toowoomba's Escarpment Parks has to be considered with this species in mind.

Banded Lapwing (*Vanellus tricolor*)

Incidental. May be seen at any time of the year flying over the park. One record on 13 July 1975 (B. Jolly).

Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) Introduced Species

The Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) is basically only seen at the edge of Redwood Park or flying over in large flocks. It can be seen in all months of the year. Many may be domestic birds.

White-headed Pigeon (*Columba leucomela*)

The White-headed Pigeon can be found in Redwood Park all year round. This large, striking pigeon is frequently seen in small flocks or pairs. Breeding pairs are often encountered in vine forest areas while small flocks of birds are often seen perched high in eucalypt trees along the Bridle Trail. It is more common in some years than others, its movements locally not being fully understood.

Spotted Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*) Introduced Species

This species is not frequently seen in the park. When it is seen, it is usually encountered at the edge of the park, as it rarely, if ever enters the park proper. It may be found in small numbers throughout the year.

Brown Cuckoo-Dove (*Macropygia amboinensis*)

A common resident of Redwood Park this species is most often encountered in pairs. It is found throughout the park in a variety of habitats but is most common in the ecotone between open woodland and vine forest where the 'woop-a-woop' call is often heard before the bird is seen. It is usually quite tame allowing the observer good views. The long, brown tail is a distinctive feature.

Emerald Dove (*Chalcophaps indica*)

The Emerald Dove is an uncommon resident and can be found throughout the park. In many other localities it is a very tame bird. This is not the case here and good views are rarely obtained except perhaps when the bird is drinking. It can be seen in most habitats in the park but is most often seen close to the creeks in the vine forest areas where it is usually observed on the ground.

Common Bronzewing (*Phaps chalcoptera*)

The Common Bronzewing has only been recorded once in the park. This was in the late 1970's.(B. Jolly).

Peaceful Dove (*Geopelia striata*)

The Peaceful Dove is a common resident. in the open forest usually avoiding all but the edge of the vine forest. It is often seen along the Grass Tree Track. The Peaceful Dove is usually seen on, or close to the ground in small groups. It is the smallest pigeon to be seen in the park.

Bar-shouldered Dove (*Geopelia humeralis*)

This species is a common resident of Redwood Park and can be found in all the park's habitats. It is just as common in the open forest as in the vine scrub and can frequently be seen along the Redwood Forest Walk. The Bar-shouldered Dove is often seen close to the ground where its 'cook-a-wok' call betrays its presence.

Wonga Pigeon (*Leucosarcia melanoleuca*)

The Wonga Pigeon is a common resident of Redwood Park. It can be found in most of the park's habitats but is far more common in the vine forest areas. Although quite tame at many other localities, this pigeon is usually very timid here. Its monotonous, repeated 'woo-woo' call gives away its location, but often the only views obtained are as the bird rises from the ground to be quickly lost from view as it flies into thicker vegetation. The Wonga Pigeon is a ground feeder and is often seen along the Redwood Forest Walk.

Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus regina*)

This small, beautifully coloured pigeon is probably more common in Redwood Park than sightings indicate. It is often silent for long periods of time and the fact that it usually feeds at the tops of the tallest trees make it near impossible to see. Even when it is calling the ventriloquial nature of its call still make it very difficult to observe in the green canopy. The Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove is not a resident of Redwood Park and visitors can only expect to see it between November and January. Sightings outside these months are rare. It is found in the vine forest areas and good places to start looking for it are where the Redwood Forest Walk crosses Gatton Creek and at the Suspension Bridge. When the large fig trees are in fruit, they are an ideal place for this and many other species.

Topknot Pigeon (*Lopholaimus antarcticus*)

The Topknot Pigeon is a regular visitor to Redwood Park although in some years it is not seen at all. It is usually seen in small to large flocks either in the tops of tall trees or flying quickly over the forest canopy. The best months to see it are between April and October, although it may be seen at any time throughout the year. The best places to look for it are the picnic area near Gatton Creek and the northern end of the Bridle Trail. Flocks of over 100 birds have been seen. Do not confuse this pigeon's name with the much smaller Crested Pigeon.

Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii*)

This large, black cockatoo is an uncommon visitor to Redwood Park and care should be taken not to confuse it with the smaller Glossy Black-Cockatoo which also has a red

tail panel. It possibly only visits the area when conditions are unfavourable further west. Flocks of up to forty birds have been seen, but flocks of less than ten are more the norm in and around the park where they are usually seen feeding on White Cedar (*Melia azedarach*). They may be seen at any time of the year. Sightings have become more frequent in recent years.

Glossy Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathamii*) Potentially Vulnerable

This rare species is a regular visitor to Redwood Park in small numbers. Small groups of up to five birds visit the park where they feed on casuarinas. When feeding they are easily approached. Often at this time it is the sound of their bills clacking which betrays their presence. They are often noisy in flight and can be heard as they fly low over the park. When feeding they practically always use their left foot to transfer food to the mouth.

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus funereus*)

The Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo is a rare visitor to Redwood Park where it breaks apart trees in search of food. They are noisy, both in flight and while feeding, and are easily found if present. They are often seen feeding in wattle trees from which they extract large grubs. When perched, the yellow cheek patch readily distinguishes them from the other black-cockatoos. They may be seen throughout the year.

Galah (*Cacatua roseicapilla*)

Galahs are frequently seen flying over Redwood Park in small flocks, sometimes landing in the taller trees. They can be seen throughout the year and are more likely to be found in the more open parts of the park such as along the Grass Tree Track.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua galerita*)

Sulphur-crested Cockatoos are more likely to be seen at the edges of the park where the habitat is more open. Here they gather in small, noisy flocks usually in large eucalypts where they are very conspicuous. They may be seen in all months.

Cockatiel (*Nymphicus hollandicus*)

Though only officially recorded once in the park (M. Atzeni), the Cockatiel is easily overlooked as it flies overhead. Small flocks could be expected to be seen throughout the year.

Rainbow Lorikeet (*Trichoglossus haematodus*)

When the large eucalypts are in flower, Rainbow Lorikeets can be seen in the park in large numbers. At other times they can be glimpsed as they fly at speed, usually just above tree level. Their raucous calls often are heard long before the birds are seen. They can be seen throughout the year and prefer the open country along the Grass Tree Track, in particular the area near the picnic area.

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (*Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*)

Scaly-breasted Lorikeets behave much like Rainbow Lorikeets and are often seen in association with them. Large, flowering eucalypts often draw them in large numbers. They are fast fliers and often a quick glimpse is all that is obtained as they hurtle overhead. They prefer the more open country and can be seen throughout the year. Eucalypts near the picnic area and along the Grass Tree Track are favoured spots.

Musk Lorikeet (*Glossopsitta concinna*)

Sometimes seen in association with Scaly-breasted and Rainbow Lorikeets, the Musk Lorikeet is a rare visitor to Redwood Park. In behaviour it is like the above mentioned lorikeets and will often go unnoticed when feeding with them. It is mainly seen between the months of March and October.

Little Lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*)

The smallest of our lorikeets, the Little Lorikeet is a common visitor to Redwood Park where it spends much of its time feeding high in the canopy where it is very hard to see. Like other lorikeets it is very vocal. The call is often the first indication of its presence. It prefers the more open country and can be seen throughout the year.

Australian King-Parrot (*Alisterus scapularis*)

The Australian King-Parrot is one of the more attractive birds to be seen in Redwood Park. It is usually seen in pairs or small groups of less than ten birds. In flight they are quite noisy, whereas when feeding they are often easily overlooked. This large parrot can be seen throughout the year and prefers the ecotone between the open woodland and the vine scrub along Gatton Creek. Along the Grass Tree Track it can be seen feeding on the introduced privet when in fruit.

Crimson Rosella (*Platycercus elegans*)

The Crimson Rosella is a rare visitor to Redwood Park. Within the park, it prefers the more open country like that found along the Grass Tree Track and could turn up at any time of the year. It has not been recorded recently, most sightings dating back to the early 1980's.

Pale-headed Rosella (*Platycercus adscitus*)

The Pale-headed Rosella is a common resident of Redwood Park. It prefers the more open country and rarely ventures far into the vine forest. It is often seen along the Grass Tree Track, the Bridle Trail and the Redwood Forest Walk where this walk leaves the vine forest. It is a noisy parrot, most often seen in pairs.

Oriental Cuckoo (*Cuculus saturatus*)

This large cuckoo is a rare visitor to Redwood Park there being only one record. This was an adult bird seen on 16 March 1995 in vine forest near where the Redwood Forest Walk meets the Ferny Gully Circuit (J. Harris & P. McConnell). It could possibly be seen between the months of October and April.

Pallid Cuckoo (*Cuculus pallidus*)

Not to be mistaken for the Oriental Cuckoo which has barring on the breast, this large cuckoo is an uncommon visitor to the park. A spring/summer migrant it returns to south-east Queensland in September, when because it is more vocal it is easier to see. It often calls from exposed branches in the tops of tall trees. The Pallid Cuckoo can be seen throughout the park and is present from September to April.

Brush Cuckoo (*Cacomantis variolosus*)

The Brush Cuckoo is a spring/summer migrant returning to Redwood in September and departing in March. It is extremely vocal for the first few months of its stay and can be seen throughout the park in a wide range of habitats. It is difficult to see when not calling. Like all cuckoos, except for the Pheasant Coucal, it lays its eggs in the nests of other birds. These host birds then raise the chick.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*)

This medium-sized cuckoo is a resident of Redwood Park and can be seen throughout the park. Like most of the cuckoos it is more often heard than seen. The repeated, descending, trilling call is quite distinctive. It is present in small numbers.

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx basalus*)

The Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo is a rare visitor to Redwood Park with there being only two confirmed sightings in the early to mid 1980's (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). On these occasions it was seen near the bottom entrance to the park just off the Warrego Highway.

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx lucidus*)

This small cuckoo is found in all habitats throughout the park and can be seen throughout the year. Most of the time it is extremely difficult to see. Even when calling, observation can be difficult as the call is ventriloquial, and being basically green, the bird is very well camouflaged. It also has the habit of calling from high in the trees and remaining motionless for long periods of time. In Redwood, the Brown Thornbill has been recorded as a host species.

Common Koel (*Eudynamys scolopacea*)

The 'coo-ee' call of this large cuckoo makes it obvious when it is present. An uncommon visitor it may be seen in all habitats during the months of September to March. The black male is quite distinct from the mottled brown and white female. Eggs are often laid in the nest of the Magpie-lark.

Channel-billed Cuckoo (*Scythrops novaehollandiae*)

The largest of our cuckoos, the Channel-bill is unmistakable in appearance. The raucous call is unforgettable as it flies above the forest, somewhat hornbill like, usually being pursued by several crows whose nests it lays its eggs in. It is commonly seen flying over the park between the months of September to March, usually in pairs.

Pheasant Coucal (*Centropus phasianinus*)

The only cuckoo in the world to raise its own young, the Pheasant Coucal is resident in Redwood Park in small numbers. It prefers the more open forest towards the edges of the park and can often be heard calling from the park's south-east corner. It is a common road-kill on the Warrego Highway which is the southern boundary to the park.

Powerful Owl (*Ninox strenua*) Vulnerable

The Powerful Owl is perhaps the most majestic bird to be found in Redwood Park. This owl has a large territory and only one pair is resident. Breeding occurs during the cooler months and has been recorded on several occasions. Usually only one young is raised. This, the largest of Australia's owls prefers to roost in the thickest parts of the vine forest and numerous roosts have been found. Most roosts not being occupied for long. Prey is killed at night and often held at the roost throughout the day to be eaten the next night. Prey items observed include, Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*), a half grown Australian Brush-turkey and Common Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*).

Barking Owl (*Ninox connivens*)

There has only been two reported records of Barking Owl in the park (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). These records date back to the mid and late 1970's. A pair of birds was seen on each occasion. These sightings were both in spring, with the birds observed in open forest near the picnic area.

Southern Boobook (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*)

The Southern Boobook is resident throughout the park in small numbers, usually being seen, or heard calling in the more open country, or in the ecotone between the open forest and the vine forest. Breeding has been recorded on several occasions. The Grass Tree Track near the picnic area and the Bridle Trail are good places to look for this small owl. Several have been found road-killed near the park. It is probably the most vocal of the park's night birds.

Sooty Owl (*Tyto tenebricosa*) Potentially Vulnerable

This owl is rarely seen anywhere let alone in Redwood Park. Its sparsity and unpredictable habits make it a very difficult bird to find and study. From November 1993 to January 1994 breeding was attempted but was unsuccessful. It appeared that the female bird died in the hollow during extremely hot and dry weather. This was the first and only record of this species in the park.

Masked Owl (*Tyto novaehollandiae*)

The Masked Owl is one of the rarer birds to be found in the park. Despite many trips into the park both during the day and at night it has been seen on less than ten occasions. Both male and female together, have only been seen twice. The male of this pair being a very pale bird resembling the smaller Barn Owl. Because of the large territories they occupy, it is probable that only one pair live in the park. This species has been seen along the Grass Tree Track, and roosting in vine forest along the Redwood Forest Walk. One large female was found road-killed near the bottom

entrance to the park. Very little is known of the movements of this owl in the park. It can be seen throughout the year.

Tawny Frogmouth (*Podargus strigoides*)

The Tawny Frogmouth is a common resident of Redwood Park. It is found in all of the habitats in the park but is more often seen in open country. It can be found near the picnic area where it often perches on exposed branches. Many are killed on the highway near the park each year.

White-throated Nightjar (*Eurostopodus mystacalis*)

The White-throated Nightjar prefers the more open country where it hawks for insects at night. It is present in the park from August to April where it is most often seen hunting for insects on dusk, above the picnic area and tracks nearby. Good views are hard to obtain but its bright eye-shine, when caught in the spotlight, is a good character to look for. It lacks the large, white spots under the wing which are present in the Spotted Nightjar (*Eurostopodus argus*).

Australian Owlet-nightjar (*Aegotheles cristatus*)

This is the smallest of Australia's nightjars and is a common resident of Redwood Park. It is however, not often seen. Becoming familiar with the call is the best way to find it. It is one of the more vocal of our night birds. The Australian Owlet-nightjar can be found throughout Redwood and is sometimes seen near the picnic area where a roost has been found.

White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)

Occasionally observed over Redwood Park the White-throated Needletail is most likely to be seen flying high and fast ahead of storm fronts or unstable weather. A spring/summer migrant it can be seen between the months of October to April, when it is sometimes observed in large mixed flocks with Fork-tailed swifts.

Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*)

Habits as for the White-throated Needletail with which it is sometimes seen. Sightings are less frequent than for the White-throated Needletail and it has only been recorded in the months of December to April. The Fork-tailed Swift often flies with the tail closed thus losing the tail's forked appearance. Swifts flying at height can be hard to identify and care should be taken not to confuse the two.

Azure Kingfisher (*Alcedo azurea*)

The Azure Kingfisher is rarely recorded in Redwood Park (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). It has been seen on several occasions along Gatton Creek near the picnic area. There have been no recorded sightings for several years. It may be seen in any month of the year.

Laughing Kookaburra (*Dacelo novaeguineae*)

This species is a common resident of the park and prefers the more open country where it sits on exposed branches to keep an eye out for its prey of insects and small

vertebrates. It is often seen near the picnic area and along the Grass Tree Track. This is a large, vocal species which nests in tree hollows. Hollows being critical for the survival of many of Redwood's bird, mammal and reptile species.

Sacred Kingfisher (*Todiramphus sanctus*)

The Sacred Kingfisher is a common summer visitor and can be seen between the months of August to May, but mainly between the months of September to April. When it arrives back in late August and early September, it is very vocal as it establishes its territory. Small holes in tree termite mounds are often the result of nesting Sacred Kingfishers. It prefers the more open country and is often seen on the short walk from the highway to the picnic area, and nearby along the Grass Tree Track.

Rainbow Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*)

The Rainbow Bee-eater can be found in Redwood throughout the year but is most often seen between the months of September to March. This species prefers the more open country where it hunts for insects on the wing. It is often seen at the parking bay at the south-east corner of the park and along the track from here to the picnic area. It is also often seen flying over the park in small flocks. The Rainbow Bee-eater is one of the most striking species to be seen in the park.

Dollarbird (*Eurystomus orientalis*)

A spring/summer migrant, the Dollarbird arrives in the park in late August to early September and leaves in April. It breeds in the park, usually in hollows high up in large trees. When it arrives it is very vocal, and this raucous call, associated with the aerobatic display flights, make it a conspicuous and welcome visitor. It prefers the more open country and can be seen near the picnic area, along the Grass Tree Track and the Bridle Trail. The name comes from the dollar shaped patches under the wings.

Noisy Pitta (*Pitta versicolor*)

Movements of the Noisy Pitta in the park are uncertain. Pittas in south-east Queensland are usually spring/summer migrants but there are records in Redwood Park for the winter months. It would also appear that the Noisy Pitta does not visit Redwood every year but this is not known for certain. Though often quite vocal, pittas have been seen in Redwood Park without having been heard to call all season. There is evidence in the presence of many broken Giant Land Snail (*Pedinogyra rotabilis*) shells that pittas may once have been fairly common in the park. They are ground dwellers.

White-throated Treecreeper (*Cormobates leucophaeus*)

This, the only treecreeper found in the park is a common resident in most of the park's habitats. The loud 'peet-peet-peet' call is often heard on entering Redwood Park from any direction. This call, not unlike that of a Lewin's Honeyeater, draws it to ones attention, and the habit of hopping up, and around the trunks and main branches of trees make it readily observable. It is often seen along the Redwood Forest Walk.

Superb Fairy-wren (*Malurus cyaneus*)

The Superb Fairy-wren is an uncommon resident of Redwood Park. In the park it prefers the more open country such as is found along the Grass Tree Track, the Bridle Trail and the open areas of the Redwood Forest Walk north-west of the Suspension Bridge. It is also sometimes seen in the picnic area.

Variegated Fairy-wren (*Malurus lamberti*)

The Variegated Fairy-wren is the most common fairy-wren in the park. It is found throughout the year and prefers the more open country and the ecotone between the open forest and the vine forest. It is often seen along the southern side of Gatton Creek, and in thick lantana along the Redwood Forest Walk between the Suspension Bridge and the start of the Ferny Gully Circuit. Like the Superb Fairy-wren, they are inquisitive birds and are not difficult to observe.

Red-backed Fairy-wren (*Malurus melanocephalus*)

The Red-backed Fairy-wren is rare in the park. There have been several records only, and most of these have come from the top of the park near the Bridle Trail (L. Beaton). It may turn up at any time of the year.

Spotted Pardalote (*Pardalotus punctatus*)

Found throughout the year, the Spotted Pardalote is one of two pardalotes found in Redwood Park. More often heard than seen, this beautiful, little bird usually feeds at the tops of large trees making observation difficult. The call is some-what like that of a Bellbird. When nesting however, it can be very easy to approach as it often nests alongside tracks where suitable cuttings exist. It can be seen along most tracks.

Striated Pardalote (*Pardalotus striatus*)

A common resident of Redwood Park, the Striated Pardalote, like the Spotted Pardalote, is found in a variety of habitats and is often seen high in the tree tops. It also nests in mounds of dirt, creek banks and cuttings alongside tracks where it can usually be approached quite closely. The 'chook-chook' call is its trademark. The Bridle Trail and the Grass Tree Track are favoured spots.

White-browed Scrubwren (*Sericornis frontalis*)

This species, a common resident, is found in all habitats of the park. Commonly seen near the picnic area and along the Redwood Forest Walk, it is often very inquisitive. It is regularly seen in association with other small birds in what is termed a 'feeding party'. The White-browed Scrubwren usually forages close to the ground.

Large-billed Scrubwren (*Sericornis magnirostris*)

The Large-billed Scrubwren is a common species in Redwood Park. It is found throughout the vine forest areas such as those along the Redwood Forest Walk where it is usually seen foraging close to the ground. One of the smaller birds in the park it is also non-descript, the large, dark bill being one of the few distinguishing features.

Speckled Warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*)

A small, boldly streaked bird of the ground and shrub layer, the Speckled Warbler is a common resident of Redwood Park in suitable habitat. It prefers the more open country and is often seen in lantana and other small shrubs near the bottom entrance to the park off the Warrego Highway and along the Bridle Trail. Its beautiful song often draws it to the observer's attention.

Weebill (*Smicrornis brevirostris*)

The smallest bird to be seen in Redwood Park, the Weebill can also be one of the hardest to view. It is common throughout the park, preferring the more open areas where it often hovers while looking for food amongst the outer foliage. Its 'wee-oo' call often being the first indication of its presence. The Weebill is often found in and around the picnic area and can be seen in all months.

Brown Gerygone (*Gerygone mouki*)

Another one of the small, brown birds which can be difficult to identify to those who are not experienced, the Brown Gerygone prefers the vine forest areas. Once familiar with the call, identification is made much easier. The repeated 'derit-derit' call is commonly heard along the Redwood Forest Track where this species is easily found. It is a permanent resident often seen with other small species.

White-throated Gerygone (*Gerygone olivacea*)

The word gerygone means 'born of song' and this is certainly true of the White-throated Gerygone. Its lovely, lifting, downward cadence can be heard from far away as it flitters about the treetops. It is fairly common in Redwood Park and prefers the more open country such as that found along the track between the Suspension Bridge and the Ferny Gully Circuit, the picnic area and the Grass Tree Track. The White-throated Gerygone can be found throughout the year but is most common in the spring and summer.

Brown Thornbill (*Acanthiza pusilla*)

The Brown Thornbill is often seen in association with the White-browed, and Large-billed Scrubwrens. It is a permanent resident found in all the park's habitats. Once again this small, brown bird is more easily found once one is familiar with the call. The quiet observer can often approach this species quite closely. It has been recorded in the park as a host of the Shining Bronze-Cuckoo.

Buff-rumped Thornbill (*Acanthiza reguloides*)

One of the more easily identified thornbills because of the buff-yellow rump and beautiful call, the Buff-rumped Thornbill is uncommon in the open forest areas of the park. It can be observed from near ground level to the tops of the trees and can be found throughout the entire year. This thornbill may be seen near the picnic area.

Yellow Thornbill (*Acanthiza nana*)

The Yellow Thornbill has only been officially recorded once in the park, and that was on 19 October 1975 (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). Care should be taken not to

confuse this species with the similar Striated Thornbill. It may turn up at any time of the year and would prefer the more open areas.

Striated Thornbill (*Acanthiza lineata*)

Many of the thornbills can be hard to identify, and without knowing the call, this one, which often feeds in the canopy of large eucalypts is one of the hardest. It is probably more common in the park than sightings indicate and prefers the more open country. The Striated Thornbill can be found throughout the year. The striations on the breast can at times be difficult to see and care should be taken not to confuse this species with the Yellow Thornbill.

Striped Honeyeater (*Plectorhyncha lanceolata*)

The Striped Honeyeater is an attractive, medium-sized honeyeater preferring the more open country such as is found along the Bridle Trail and the picnic area. It is uncommon in the park but may be seen at any time of the year. A small group foraging together is quite noisy.

Noisy Friarbird (*Philemon corniculatus*)

The park's largest honeyeater, the Noisy Friarbird is an uncommon visitor. It prefers the more open country such as that found between the Suspension Bridge and the Ferny Gully Circuit and the picnic area when suitable trees are flowering. This noisy and aggressive honeyeater may be seen throughout the year. The term friarbird comes from the fact that it has a bald head as was common amongst church friars.

Little Friarbird (*Philemon citreogularis*)

The Little Friarbird is uncommon in Redwood Park (Toowoomba Bird Observers Club). It is sometimes seen feeding in the tall Silky Oaks (*Grevillea robusta*) within the park. These trees attract a large number of species when they are in flower. The Little Friarbird may turn up at any time of the year and prefers the open forest areas.

Noisy Miner (*Manorina melanocephala*)

Though common in many places around Toowoomba, the Noisy Miner is not common in Redwood Park. It prefers the open forest and can be seen throughout the year. It is an aggressive bird and often betrays the presence of hawks and owls, as well as snakes and goannas which it harasses, often in the presence of butcherbirds. Look for it along the Grass Tree Track and the Bridle Trail.

Lewin's Honeyeater (*Meliphaga lewinii*)

The Lewin's Honeyeater is a permanent resident and one of the most common birds in the park, and can be seen in all the park's habitats. It is curious, noisy and aggressive and present throughout the year. Gatton Creek near the picnic area is a good place to observe this species. The large, yellow cheek patch and machine-gun like call are diagnostic.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater (*Lichenostomus chrysops*)

A resident of Redwood Park, the Yellow-faced Honeyeater is most common during the months of April to August. In late August large flocks have been seen flying in a southerly direction. Like most of the park's honeyeaters, it prefers the more open country and is often seen in the canopy of trees near the picnic area and along the Grass Tree Track. Like the Brown Honeyeater it is very vocal and has an attractive call.

White-naped Honeyeater (*Melithreptus lunatus*)

A common resident of the park, this small honeyeater is one of the park's prettiest birds. It is easily over-looked as small groups feed busily in the tree tops. However, the quiet and patient observer can often see this bird as it comes down to drink along Gatton Creek or any small waterhole throughout the park. It likes the more open country and the ecotone between the open forest and the vine forest. Look for the small, red patch above the eye.

Brown Honeyeater (*Lichmera indistincta*)

The Brown Honeyeater is uncommon in Redwood Park. It has been recorded along the Bridle Trail and in the picnic area near Gatton Creek and can be seen throughout the year. It can be found in much the same habitat as the Yellow-faced Honeyeater.

Eastern Spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*)

The Eastern Spinebill is an uncommon visitor to Redwood Park. It is a small, colourful honeyeater unlikely to be mistaken for anything else. It prefers the open forest areas and has been seen near the picnic area, along the Bridle Trail and occasionally along Gatton Creek. It may be seen between the months of March and December. However it is more common between April and October.

Scarlet Honeyeater (*Myzomela sanguinolenta*)

The Scarlet Honeyeater is a common resident of Redwood Park. It prefers the more open country where it is often seen high in the tree tops. It does though forage in the tree tops above the vine forest. A small bird which is easily overlooked, the Scarlet Honeyeater's presence is most often indicated by the call, which is a canary-like whistle. The male has a bright red breast, head and back, whereas the female is basically brown and can easily be mistaken for a Brown Honeyeater. Flashes of bright red are all that is often seen as the male moves quickly through the tree tops.

Rose Robin (*Petroica rosea*)

The Rose Robin is a common winter visitor to the park and is usually only seen between the months of April and September. It can quite easily go unnoticed but once the observer is familiar with the soft 'eek' call it can be easily found. It prefers the more open country such as along the Grass Tree Track but can be found in most of the park's habitats. Look for a small bird flicking its wings, often with tail cocked.

Eastern Yellow Robin (*Eopsaltria australis*)

The Eastern Yellow Robin is a common resident of Redwood Park and found in all habitats. It is quite tame and easily approached, sometimes being very inquisitive. It is usually easily observed near the picnic area. The yellow rump is clearly visible when the bird flies, often from one low perch to another. It often flicks its tail when perched.

Eastern Whipbird (*Psophodes olivaceus*)

The Eastern Whipbird is a common resident found throughout the park. A shy bird, it is more often heard than seen, though a quiet observer can sometimes get good looks at this bird as it forages low in the understorey. The loud 'ee-choo' call is unmistakable. The male will usually start the call and the female will often finish it. If she does not finish it, the male may do so himself.

Varied Sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*)

This small bird is an uncommon resident of Redwood Park. It may at times appear to be common because it frequents the picnic area near Gatton Creek where it can be seen in small flocks foraging in the mid to upper layer of the trees. It prefers the more open country and the ecotone between this and the denser vine forest, particularly near the picnic area and the start of the Ferny Gully Circuit where it leaves the Redwood Forest Walk.

Crested Shrike-tit (*Falcunculus frontatus*)

This beautiful, little bird with a black crest and thick set bill is an uncommon resident of Redwood Park. It can be found throughout the park though it is not often seen. Familiarity with the variety of calls make it easier to locate. It usually feeds in the mid to upper layers of the forest where it tears away the bark looking for food. This tearing noise can sometimes be heard from a long distance. They are one of the more enjoyable species to watch, with their amusing antics.

Golden Whistler (*Pachycephala pectoralis*)

One of the more beautiful residents of the park, the Golden Whistler can be found in all the Park's habitats. It is a common species and is often seen along the Grass Tree Track and the Redwood Forest Walk. The Golden Whistler has a beautiful 'we-wit' call. The male is the most strikingly marked of the pair. Females and juveniles are basically olive brown.

Rufous Whistler (*Pachycephala rufiventris*)

Like the Golden Whistler, the Rufous Whistler is a common resident of Redwood Park. It though, is a more open country species not often being seen in the thicker patches of vine forest. Males and females are quite distinct in coloration with the females being difficult to distinguish from the female Golden Whistler if the diagnostic streaking on the breast is not seen. They are common along the Grass Tree Track and the Bridle Trail.

Grey Shrike-thrush (*Colluricincla harmonica*)

The Grey Shrike-thrush is a common resident of Redwood Park and can be found throughout all of the park's habitats. It is a plain coloured, though attractive bird with a beautiful call. It is not shy and often lands within metres of the observer where it

forages often quite close to the ground. Females and immatures have fine streaking on the throat.

Black-faced Monarch (*Monarcha melanopsis*)

Another one of the park's beautiful, little birds, the Black-faced Monarch is common throughout the months of September to March though it can also be seen in small numbers in August and April. It is sometimes seen in the more open country but prefers the vine forest areas such as along the Redwood Forest Walk and the Ferny Gully Circuit.

Spectacled Monarch (*Monarcha trivirgatus*)

Not as common as the Black-faced Monarch, the Spectacled Monarch is also a spring/summer migrant seen between the months of September to May. Sightings though in May, are not common. It prefers the vine forest areas and can be seen along the Redwood Forest Walk and the Ferny Gully Circuit. A favoured place is where the Redwood Forest Walk crosses Gatton Creek.

White-eared Monarch (*Monarcha leucotis*)

The White-eared Monarch may be a regular spring/summer migrant to Redwood Park though sightings are not frequent enough to verify this. It is certainly uncommon to rare in the park. It has bred in the park and may be seen along the Redwood Forest Walk and the Ferny Gully Circuit in the thicker vegetation. The White-eared Monarch may be seen between the months of September to April.

Leaden Flycatcher (*Myiagra fubecula*)

The Leaden Flycatcher can be seen in Redwood Park from August to May though sightings in the cooler months are rarer. It would probably be regarded as common in the park, where it can be seen in most habitats, preferring the more open country. The Grass Tree Track is a good place to look for this flycatcher. Look for the characteristic flycatcher flicking of the tail.

Satin Flycatcher (*Myiagra cyanoleuca*)

This species is a rare visitor to Redwood Park where it probably prefers the more open forest. It has been seen along Gatton Creek, the Grass Tree Track and near the picnic area and would most likely be seen between September and March. Records suggest that it may have been more common in the park in the late 1970's than it is now.

Magpie-lark (*Grillina cyanoleuca*)

Now regarded by taxonomists as a flycatcher the Magpie-lark is only a peripheral visitor to Redwood Park. It is sometimes seen along the Warrego Highway adjacent to park but could not be regarded as a resident. It may be seen in any month of the year.

Rufous Fantail (*Rhipidura rufifrons*)

The Rufous Fantail is basically a spring/summer migrant to Redwood Park but has been sighted in every month except August. It is certainly less common in the winter months. It prefers the areas of thicker forest but can be found anywhere in the park.

The Redwood Forest Walk and the Ferny Gully Circuit are areas where it is commonly found. It is a curious bird, and will often land close to people.

Grey Fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*)

One of the most common birds in the park, the Grey Fantail is found in a variety of habitats from vine forest to open forest where it can be seen throughout the year. It is a very inquisitive bird and often appears to follow the walker for some distance. The squeaky, whistle call of this species is at times one of the most common noises heard in the park.

Willie Wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*)

A uncommon visitor to the park, the Willie Wagtail could only be regarded as a bird which sometimes ventures to the fringes. It may be seen in any month of the year and has been recorded at the bottom entrance to the park just above the picnic area, and nearby along the Grass Tree Track.

Spangled Drongo (*Dicrurus bracteatus*)

This medium sized all black bird is a common summer visitor to the park and can be seen from September to April. The Spangled Drongo is a noisy and aggressive bird which is easily observed. It can be seen throughout the park, though the Ferny Gully Circuit is a favoured place. Besides the black plumage, look for the deeply forked tail. The spangles are difficult to see.

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina novaehollandiae*)

One of three cuckoo-shrikes found in the park, the Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is by far the most common. It prefers the more open country where it is usually seen in small flocks. Sightings in the vine forest are not common. It can be seen throughout the year and the Grass Tree Track is a good place to find it. The Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is also often seen 'hawking' over the picnic area.

Barred Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina lineata*)

The Barred Cuckoo-shrike is an uncommon summer visitor to the park where it is usually seen in small flocks. It prefers tall trees in the vine forest such as can be found along Gatton Creek and the Ferny Gully Circuit. When the fig trees are in fruit between October and May is the best time to see them. High in the trees, the bars are not obvious and care should be taken not to confuse this species with the male Cicadabird.

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina papuensis*)

The White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike is a rare visitor to Redwood Park with there being only one recorded sighting on 4 August 1996 (P. McConnell & K. Watson). It was a dark phase bird seen in open forest near the Ferny Gully Circuit. It could possibly turn up at any time of the year.

Cicadabird (*Coracina tenuirostris*)

As the name suggests, the Cicadabird's call sounds just like a cicada but the experienced observer can tell the difference. Knowing the call comes in handy as it is more often heard than seen. It prefers the vine scrub forest and can be seen from September to April. The male is slate-grey in colour, while the female is basically brown with fine barring on the breast and belly.

White-winged Triller (*Lalage sueurii*)

There has only been one record of White-winged Triller in Redwood Park and this was on 23 November 1975 (B. Jolly). It could possibly turn up at any time of the year but would more likely be seen in the warmer months of October to March.

Varied Triller (*Lalage leucomela*)

The Varied Triller is a common resident of Redwood Park where it prefers the vine forest areas and the ecotone between this and the open forest. It is commonly encountered along the Redwood Forest Walk and the Ferny Gully Circuit. The Varied Triller can at times be difficult to see and familiarity with the call will make observation easier.

Olive-backed Oriole (*Oriolus sagittatus*)

This species is a common resident of Redwood Park and can be found throughout all of the park's habitats. Care should be taken not to confuse it with the female Figbird which is also found here. Unlike the Figbird, the oriole is usually seen singly or in pairs. The Olive-backed Oriole is an excellent mimic so be prepared for it to make a variety of calls.

Figbird (*Sphecotheres viridis*)

The Figbird is a common and noisy resident of Redwood Park and can be found throughout the year. It is more common in winter when large flocks can be seen. The picnic area is a good place to start looking for them. Its green colouration can make it hard to see and large flocks can quickly disappear into the foliage. The Figbird is one of many species in the park to eat privet berries and thus spread this pest species throughout the escarpment parks.

Masked Woodswallow (*Artamus leucorhynchus*)

Large flocks of woodswallows are sometimes seen flying over Redwood Park from September to December. These flocks are usually mixed flocks of Masked and White-browed Woodswallows which sometimes land in large trees in the park, but more often fly straight over, quickly disappearing from view. They are more common in some years than others. Flocks of over 100 birds can be seen.

White-browed Woodswallow (*Artamus superciliosus*)

Notes same as for Masked Woodswallow with which it is often seen. As woodswallows are most often seen in flight, familiarity with belly, underwing and tail colouration are helpful in identification.

Dusky Woodswallow (*Artamus cyanopterus*)

This woodswallow regularly visits Redwood Park in small numbers where it is most often observed around the picnic area and nearby along the Grass Tree Track. Although it can be seen throughout the year it can also be a long time between sightings. Look for the white bar on the leading edge of the wing (visible in flight and when perched) to help identify this species from the similar Little Woodswallow (*Artamus minor*).

Grey Butcherbird (*Cracticus torquatus*)

The Grey Butcherbird is rarely seen in Redwood Park and then is probably only a bird of the periphery. It may turn up at any time of the year and is more likely to be seen at the lower entrance to the park off the Warrego Highway. Most records date back to the late 1970's (B. Jolly) although there is a record on 29 December 1990 (L. Beaton).

Pied Butcherbird (*Cracticus nigrogularis*)

The Pied Butcherbird is basically a species found only around the periphery of Redwood Park. It is not often seen in the park but is occasionally observed in the south-east corner of the park near the Warrego Highway and along the Bridle Trail. It may be seen in any month of the year.

Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*)

Like the Pied Butcherbird the Australian Magpie is basically a bird found only on the park's edges. Several observations have been made near the bottom entrance off the Warrego Highway. It may turn up at any time of the year.

Pied Currawong (*Strepera graculina*)

The Pied Currawong is a common resident of Redwood Park favouring the more open country. However, it can at times be found anywhere in the park. It is found throughout the year and is particularly vocal in autumn and early winter. This species is one of many responsible for the spread of privet along the escarpment. It is often observed along the Grass Tree Track where it is usually seen in small flocks.

Paradise Riflebird (*Ptiloris paradiseus*) Potentially Vulnerable

There are only historical records of Paradise Riflebird in Redwood Park. To my knowledge there have been no verified sightings for at least the past 20 years. (Ann Shore personal communication).

Australian Raven (*Corvus coronoides*)

The vast majority of records of Australian Raven in Redwood Park are certainly incorrect. There have been no recent reported sightings. To my knowledge the only properly documented sightings relate back to the mid and late 1970's. May turn up at any time of the year (B. Jolly).

Torresian Crow (*Corvus orru*)

The Torresian Crow is a common resident of Redwood Park where it is more often seen in open country. It is frequently seen from the Grass Tree Track and feeding on

the roadside adjacent to the park where litter and spilt grain are found. The call can at times finish with a rattling note and care should be taken not to confuse it with the Australian Raven.

Green Catbird (*Ailuroedus crassirostris*)

There are only historical records of Green Catbird in Redwood Park. To my knowledge there have been no verified sightings for at least the past 20 years. (Ann Shore personal communication).

Regent Bowerbird (*Sericulus chrysocephalus*)

Perhaps the most striking bird to be seen in the park, the Regent Bowerbird can be found throughout the park in all months of the year. It is often seen flying across the Grass Tree Track near the picnic area, but is just as commonly seen along the Redwood Forest Walk where bowers are sometimes found. When the large fig trees are in fruit is a good time to look for them. Males are black and gold while the females and immatures are a mottled brown.

Satin Bowerbird (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*)

An uncommon species in the park, the Satin Bowerbird can be found throughout the year. Like the Regent Bowerbird there is sexual dimorphism with the male being the brighter of the two. This, the larger of the two bowerbirds being found in the park, is sometimes seen near the picnic area and along Gatton Creek near the junction of the Grass Tree Track and the Redwood Forest Walk.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) Introduced Species

There have only been several recorded sightings of the House Sparrow in Redwood Park, these all being near the southern end of the Bridle Trail (M. Atzeni). It is basically only a bird of the periphery with there being no recent sightings. It could possibly turn up at any time of the year.

Double-barred Finch (*Taeniopygia bichenovii*)

Moderately common in the upper section of the park especially along the Bridle Trail, the Double-barred Finch is present throughout the year. It is seen in small flocks usually close to the ground often in association with other small birds.

Red-browed Finch (*Neochmia temporalis*)

The Red-browed Finch is a common resident of the park and can be found in all the park's habitats. It feeds on, or near to the ground and some of its favourite spots in the park are along Gatton Creek and in the lantana thickets of the Ferny Gully Circuit. Like the Double-barred Finch it is often seen in association with other birds.

Mistletoebird (*Dicaeum hirundinaceum*)

This beautiful little bird is a common resident of Redwood Park. It is, however, often overlooked as it spends most of its time high up in the trees hidden from view. As the name suggests, it feeds on mistletoe. A good place to observe this species is along the Grass Tree Track. It has a loud, musical call.

White-backed Swallow (*Cheramoeca leucosternus*)

There has only been one recorded sighting of the White-backed Swallow in Redwood Park and this was in October 1979 (M. Atzeni). On this occasion it was seen near the southern end of the Bridle Trail. It could possibly be seen flying over the park at any time of the year.

Silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*)

The Silvereye is one of the more common species to be found in the park. It is found throughout the year and in a variety of habitats, preferring the ecotone between open forest and vine forest. It is commonly seen along the Grass Tree Track, the Bridle Trail, and near the junction of the Redwood Forest Walk and the Ferny Gully Circuit. A noisy bird it feeds in small flocks often associated with other small birds.

Bassian Thrush (*Zoothera lanulata*)

Little is known of the movements of the Bassian Thrush within the park. It may or may not be resident. Sightings to date have only occurred during the summer months. It is a very shy and rare bird within the park. Breeding has been recorded on several occasions. The bird can sometimes be seen where the Redwood Forest Walk crosses Gatton Creek and in the thick privet areas of the north-west section of the Redwood Forest Walk.

Common Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) Introduced Species

Incidental sightings only. Occasionally starlings are seen flying over the edges of the park. May be seen throughout the year.

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) Introduced Species

Incidental sightings only. Occasionally mynas are seen flying over the edges of the park. May be seen throughout the year.

Additional Bird Species

1. Pacific Black Duck – flying over _____
2. White-throated Honeyeater _____
3. Australian Pelican – flying over _____
4. White-bellied Sea-Eagle – immature flying over _____
5. Wompoo Fruit-Pigeon – one recorded in fig tree _____
6. Cattle Egret – flying over _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Appendix 1. Mammals of Redwood Park

Short-beaked Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*)
Yellow-footed Antechinus (*Antechinus flavipes*)
Northern Brown Bandicoot (*Isoodon macrourus*)
Long-nosed Bandicoot (*Perameles nasuta*)
Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)
Common Brushtail Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*)
Mountain Brushtail Possum (*Trichosurus caninus*) Potentially Vulnerable
Sugar Glider (*Petaurus breviceps*) R. Hobson.
Squirrel Glider (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) Potentially Vulnerable
Common Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*)
Red-necked Wallaby (*Macropus rufogriseus*)
Swamp Wallaby (*Wallabia bicolor*)
Fawn-footed Melomys (*Melomys cervinipes*) Potentially Vulnerable
House Mouse (*Mus musculus*)
Black Rat (*Rattus rattus*)
Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)
White-striped Mastiff-bat (*Nyctinomus australis*)
Gould's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus gouldi*) Nature Search
Dingo (*Canis familiaris*)
Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)
Domestic (Feral) Cat (*Felis catus*)
Brown Hare (*Lepus capensis*)

Appendix 2. Amphibians and Reptiles of Redwood Park.

Brown-striped Frog (*Limnodynastes peronii*)
Great Barred Frog (*Mixophyes fasciolatus*)
Cane Toad (*Bufo marinus*)

Common Scaly-foot (*Pygopus lepidopodus*) R. Hobson.
Eastern Water Dragon (*Physignathus lesueurii*)
Bearded Dragon (*Pogona barbata*)
Lace Monitor (*Varanus varius*)
Scute-snouted Calyptotis (*Calyptotis scutirostrum*)
Cunningham's Skink (*Egernia cunninghami*)
Eastern Water Skink (*Eulamprus quoyii*)
Major Skink (*Egernia frerei*)
Pink-tongued Skink (*Hemisphaeriodon gerrardii*)
Tree-base Litter-skink (*Lygisaurus foliorum*)
Eastern Striped Skink (*Ctenotus robustus*)
Eastern Blue-tongued Lizard (*Tiliqua scincoides*)

Blind Snake sp. (*Ramphotyphlops* sp.)
Carpet Python (*Morelia spilota*)
Common Tree Snake (*Dendrelaphis punctulata*)
Yellow-faced Whip Snake (*Demansia psammophis*)
Red-bellied Black Snake (*Pseudechis porphyriacus*)
Eastern Brown Snake (*Pseudonaja textilis*)
Eastern Small-eyed Snake (*Rhinoplocephalus nigrescens*)

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Cover drawing by Terry Reis.

**THE BIRDS OF REDWOOD PARK
TOOWOOMBA**

AN ANNOTATED CHECKLIST

BY PATRICK JOHN MCCONNELL