

# Massig Is. (Yorke) Bird Checklist

## Yorke Group

### Torres Strait Australia.

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#n	Common Name	Scientific Name	Ecol. Status	Abundance	References
1.	Superb Fruit-Dove	<i>Ptilinopus superbus</i>	Spr/Aut mig	Nocturnal passage,	1,
2.	Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove	<i>Ptilinopus regina</i>	Res bre	Rec of bre in Feb,	1,
3.	Bar-shouldered Dove	<i>Geopelia humeralis</i>	Res bre	P, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
4.	Pied Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula bicolor</i>	Sum mig	Br Sep – Jan. P 13 Jul 1974, 1 obs 1 km to Nth 16 Nov 2008,	1,5,6,
5.	Great Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>	Vag	UC,	1,
6.	Lesser Frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	Res	C, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
7.	Australian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	Res	Possibly breeding	1,
8.	White-faced Heron	<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>	Win mig	C,	1,
9.	Eastern Reef Egret	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	Res	P in white phase, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
10.	Rufous Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	Vag	UC nomad,	1,
11.	White-bellied Sea-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	Res	Regular visitor,	1,
12.	Australian Kestrel	<i>Falco cenchroides</i>	Vag	Recorded,	1,
13.	Beach Stone-curlew	<i>Esacus magnirostris</i>	Res bre	Recorded,	1,
14.	Pied Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>	Res bre	Poss bre in dry season, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
15.	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Spr/Aut Mig	UC,	1,
16.	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Sum Mig	C,	1,
17.	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	Sum mig	C in Sum UC in Winter,	1,
18.	Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Spr/Aut mig	UC passage migrant, R in Sum & Winter,	1,
19.	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Sum Mig	C Spr, Sum, & Aut.	1,
20.	Eastern Curlew	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Spr/Aut mig	UC,	1,
21.	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Sum Mig	C in Spr & Aut UC sum & Winter, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
22.	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	Spr/Aut Mig	UC throughout year,	1,
23.	Grey-tailed Tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	Sum Mig	C in Spr, Sum, Aut, UC in Winter,	1,
24.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Sum mig	UC in Spr, Aut, & Sum,	1,
25.	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Spr/Aut Mig	P in Spr & Aut,	1,
26.	Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	Spr/Aut mig	MC,	
27.	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Spr/Aut Mig	UC,	1,
28.	Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	Sum Mig	A in Spr & Aut, P Sum & Winter,	1,
29.	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Sum Mig	UC spr & Aut. R in Sum & Winter,	1,
30.	Australian Pratincole	<i>Stiltia Isabella</i>	Win mig	Recorded,	1,
31.	Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>	Res bre	C offshore, 8 obs 2 km NW 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2008,	1,6,
32.	Black Noddy	<i>Anous minutus</i>	Res	P, C offshore 13 Jul 1974, 6 obs 2.5 km off W coast 16 Nov 2008,	1,5,6,

33.	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Sum mig	UC,	1,
34.	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Sum mig	UC, 5 obs 2 km NW 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2008,	1,6,
35.	Roseate Tern	<i>Sterna dougalli</i>	Vag	UC,	1,
36.	Black-naped Tern	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>	Res	P, 3 obs 2 km NW 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2008,	1,6,
37.	Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	Res	P,	1,
38.	Silver Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>	Res	UC, 1 obs 2.2 km to NW 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2008,	1,6,
39.	Oriental Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus saturatus</i>	Sum mig	P in woodland and mangroves,	1,
40.	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>	Spr/Aut mig	UC,	1,
41.	Channel-billed Cuckoo	<i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	Spr/Aut mig	more in Mar than Aug – Sep,	1,
42.	Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher	<i>Tanysiptera sylvia</i>	Win mig	P,	1,
43.	Sacred Kingfisher	<i>Todirhamphus sancta</i>	Spr/Aut mig	C in Spr & Aut, but also in Winter, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
44.	Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	Spr/Aut mig	Flies diurnally and will roost at night,	1,
45.	Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	Spr/Aut mig	Moves N Mar-May & S Oct-Nov,	1,
46.	Noisy Pitta	<i>Pitta versicolor</i>	Win mig	P. P in dense woodland & mangroves.	1,2,
47.	Red-headed Myzomela	<i>Myzomela erythrocephala</i>	Res bre	Lives in mangroves, LMC	1,2,
48.	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Win mig	Nomadic,	1,
49.	Mangrove Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala melanura</i>	Res bre	LC in mangroves, forest and scrub.	1,2,
50.	White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	Res bre	Breeds Nov-Dec, P.	1,2,
51.	Shining Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra alecto</i>	Res bre	UC-C in Lowland Swamp forest, littoral & riparian scrub	2,
52.	Black-faced Monarch	<i>Monarcha m. melanopsis</i>	Spr/Aut mig	P, MC in most forests and regrowth.	1,2,
53.	Spectacled Monarch	<i>Monarcha trivirgatus albiventris</i>	Sum mig	Br in wet, Inhabits lower portions of Woodland,	1,2,4,
54.	Golden-headed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis diminutus</i>	Res bre	Bre in grasslands & woodlands. C in grasslands,	1,2,4,
55.	Pale White-eye	<i>Zosterops citrinellus</i>	Res bre	P, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,5,
56.	Metallic Starling	<i>Aplornis metallica</i>	Vag	Nomadic, P,	1,2,
57.	Yellow-bellied Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia jugularis</i>	Res bre	C, MC-C mostly outside of forests, P 13 Jul 1974,	1,2,5,
58.	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Intro	1 <sup>st</sup> obs in nest in palm Oct 1978, now established!	1,

## KEY

### Ecological status

**End** = Endemic to Island unless otherwise stated, **Res bre** = Resident breeder, **Res** = resident ie breeding not proven or not likely. For seabirds it means they have or should be found in that area: note other refs. **Vag** = Vagrant, **Res/mig** = Part of population migratory, **Sum mig** = Summer migrant, **Win mig** = Winter migrant, **Spr/Aut mig** = Passage migrant in Spring and Autumn, **Intro** = Introduced.

### Abundance

**R** = rare, **S** = scarce, **UC** = uncommon, **MC** = moderately common, **LC** = locally common, **C** = common, **VC** = very common, **A** = abundant **P** = present.

**Colour coding** applies only to one species on a particular list. eg. An abundance comment in red for the Brown Booby refers to the Ref # in Red for that species only.

**Alternate Island Names & alternate common Bird Names are recorded in two separate spreadsheet files.**

## REFERENCES

1. Draffan, R.D.W., S.T. Garnett, G.J. Malone. 1983. Birds of the Torres Strait: An annotated list and biogeographic analysis. *Emu* 83, 207-234.
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3. Coates, B.J. 1985. **The Birds of Papua New Guinea Vol. 1. Non-Passerines** Dove Pub. Aldersley, Qld.
4. Coates, B.J., G.C.L. Dutton, & C.E. Filardi. 2006. Monarch-Flycatchers. In Hoyo, J. A. Elliott, & D Christie. 2006. **Handbook of the Birds of the World Vol 11**. Lynx Edicions. Barcelona.
5. Ingram, G. 1976. Birds from some islands of the Torres Strait. *Sunbird* 7, 67-76.

6. Tarburton, M. 2008. Field Notes from Torres Strait bird trip with Richard Baxter, Mike Carter *et al* Nov 9-19, 2008.