

Vella Lavella Island Bird Checklist

(New Georgia Group) Solomon Islands

07 44 00s 156 38 00e

Compiled by Michael K. Tarburton, Pacific Adventist University, PNG.

swiftlet@optusnet.com.au

[To communicate please re-type above address into your e-mail program]

#.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Ecol. Status	Abundance	References
1.	Black-browed Albatross.	<i>Thakassarche melanophrys</i>	Vag	1 obs from Cruise ship in the Slot 10 Mar 2012.	37.
2.	Lesser Frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	Res	MC, Offshore Sep 2009,	6,36,
3.	Australian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	Vag	Rare	2,
4.	Eastern Reef Egret	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	Res bre	P, 3 spec. AMNH, M coll Mar 1908 Tring Mus,	1,2,7,14,33,
5.	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus solomonensis</i>	Res bre	UC, F coll Feb 1908, Obs Sep 2009,	2,7,33,36,
6.	Rufous Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus mandibularis</i>	Res bre	P, 1+ spec. AMNH, F & juv coll Mar 1908 Tring,	1,7,16,33,
7.	Black Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis woodfordi</i>	Res bre	P, Rare ? Pr coll Mar 1908,	1,2,7,33,
8.	Pacific Black Duck	<i>Anas superciliosa pelewensis</i>	Res bre	P,	1,2,
9.	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliaeetus indus flavirostris</i>	Res bre	P, M&F coll Tring,	1,2,7,33,
10.	Pied Goshawk	<i>Accipiter albogularis gilvus</i>	Res bre	P, Imm Coll 1927,	1,2,4,25,
11.	Pacific Baza	<i>Aviceda subcristata proxima</i>	Res bre	P, Heard freq. Jun – Dec, F coll Mar 1908 Tring,	2,7,23,33,
12.	Meyer's Goshawk	<i>Accipiter meyerianus</i>	Res bre	P, 1 obs Feb 1998,	2,19,
13.	Variable Goshawk	<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae rubianae</i>	Res bre	P, Imm & Ad Coll & descr 1927, 2 nests being built Jun 1992, F Ad & juv coll Feb 1908,	2,4,7,23,33,
14.	Solomon Sea-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus sanfordi</i>	End Bis-Sol	P, MC. M coll Sep 1927, Courtship flights Jun 1992	1,2,3,4,23,
15.	Eastern Osprey	<i>Pandion cristatus melvillensis</i>	Bre res	P,	2,
16.	Melanesian Scrubfowl	<i>Megapodius eremita</i>	End Bis-Sol	P, 3M2F1pull coll Feb/Mar 1908,	1,2,7,33,
17.	Rufous-tailed Bush-hen	<i>Amaurornis moluccanus negrifrons</i>	Res bre	P,	2,21,
18.	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio samoensis</i>	Res bre	P,	1,2,
19.	Beach Thick-knee	<i>Esacus magnirostris</i>	Res bre	P,	2,
20.	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Sum mig	1 spec mar, F coll 9 Mar 1908 Tring- now at AMNH,	7,12,33,35,
	[Grey-tailed Tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	Sum mig	3 spec Mar.	12,]
21.	Wandering Tattler	<i>Tringa incanus</i>	Sum mig	M2F coll Tring (Stickney reported these as <i>brevipes</i>),	33,
22.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Sum mig	M 4F coll Mar 1908 Tring & Nov 1927,	26,33,
23.	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sum mig	M coll Nov 1927 AMNH,	27,
24.	Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Vag	Alaskan bird radio-tracked a kilometre off W coast Dec 06,	30,
25.	Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii cristatus</i>	Res bre	Mod common	6,21,
26.	Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus pileatus</i>	Res	Offshore	6,21,
27.	Superb Fruit-Dove	<i>Ptilinopus s. superbus</i>	Res bre	C, 1M coll Feb 1908- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
28.	Yellow-bibbed Fruit-Dove	<i>Ptilinopus solomonensis vulcanorum</i>	Res bre	C, 1 Coll, 2M2F2juv coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,13,33,35,
29.	Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove	<i>Ptilinopus viridis lewisi</i>	End Bis-Sol	MC, 3M coll Tring- 1M2F now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
30.	Red-knobbed Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula rubricera rufigula</i>	Res	C, 4M2F coll Tring Mus- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
31.	Island Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula p. pistrinaria</i>	Res bre	C, 4M 1Juv coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
32.	White-throated Pigeon	<i>Columba vitiensishalmaheira</i>	Res bre	UC, F coll Mar 1908- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,

33.	Yellow-legged Pigeon	<i>Columba pallidiceps</i>	End Bis-Sol	P, F coll Feb 1908 Tring- Now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
34.	Mackinlay's Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia mackinlayi arossi</i>	Res bre	Common	1,2,
35.	Crested Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Reinwardtoena crassirostris</i>	End Sol	Rare	2,
36.	Stephan's Dove	<i>Chalcophaps stephani mortoni</i>	Res bre	C, 5M coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
37.	White-bibbed Ground-Dove	<i>Gallicolumba jobiensis chalconata</i>	Res bre	Rare, M Coll 1927,	1,8,18,35,
38.	Nicobar Pigeon	<i>Caloenas n. nicobarica</i>	Res bre	UC, 2F coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,7,33,35,
39.	Cardinal Lory,	<i>Chalcopsitta cardinalis</i>	Res bre	C, 4M1F coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,7,33,35,
40.	Coconut Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus massena</i>	Res bre	C, 3F 3M coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,7,33,35,
41.	Finsch's Pygmy Parrot	<i>Micropsitta finschii tristrami</i>	Res bre	MC, 3M3F coll Tring- 5M1F now at AMNH,	2,7,33,35,
42.	Ducorp's Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua ducorpsi</i>	End Bis-Sol	Common	1,2,
43.	Eclectus Parrot	<i>Eclectus roratus solomonensis</i>	Res bre	LC, 2M2F coll Tring Mus- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
44.	Song (Singing) Parrot	<i>Geoffroyus h. heteroclitus</i>	Res bre	MC, 4M2F coll Tring- 3M1F now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
45.	Shining Bronze-cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus lucidus</i>	Win Mig	UC 1 F. spec. coll 16 Mar 1908 Tring- now at AMNH,	5,7,33,35,
46.	Eastern Koel	<i>Eudynamys orientalis alberti</i>	Win Mig	UC, widespread, 2M2F 1juv coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
47.	Buff-headed Coucal	<i>Centropus milo albidiventris</i>	End Bis-Sol	MC, 2M2F 1juv 1pull coll Tring- now at AMNH, 3 obs Sep 2009,	1,2,7,33,35, 36,
48.	Eastern Barn Owl	<i>Tyto javanica crassirostris</i>	Res bre	Rare	1,2,
49.	White-throated Nightjar	<i>Eurostopodus mystacalis nigripennis</i>	Res bre	P,	2,
50.	Uniform Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus vanikorensis lugubris</i>	Res bre	C, 1M skin AMNH,	1,2,31,
51.	Glossy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta becki</i>	Res bre	Abundant	1,2,10,
52.	Moustached Tree-Swift	<i>Hemiprocne mystacea woodfordiana</i>	Res bre	MC, 2 Ad skins in Mus coll, M coll 1908 Tring-now at AMNH,	1,2,7,31,33,35,
53.	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis salomonensis</i>	Res bre	MC, 2M4F coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
54.	Little Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo pusilla richardsi</i>	Res bre	UC, M&F coll Tring- now at AMNH, 1 obs Sep 2009,	2,7,33,35,36,
55.	Variable Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx lepidus meeki</i>	Res bre	MC, 2M2F 2juv coll Tring- 2M&4F now at AMNH,	2,7,33,35,
56.	Sacred Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus s. sancta</i>	Res	MC, F coll 26 Feb 1908 Tring- now at AMNH,	2,7,33,35,
57.	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris alberti</i>	Res bre	C, 2M2F 2juvF coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,33,35,
58.	Beach Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus s. saurophaga</i>	Res bre	C. Jun 92 nest c 4 nestlings in soil atoll Coral stack 200m offshore from Sambora Village, M coll 1908 Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,7,23,33,35,
59.	Dollar Bird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis solomonensis</i>	Res bre	C. 2 nest c young Jun.	1,2,23,
60.	Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica subfusca</i>	Res bre	Common. Rec. 1920's	1,2,26,
61.	Barred Cuckoo-Shrike	<i>Coracina lineata ombriosa</i>	Res bre	P, M3F coll Tring- 2M2F now at AMNH,	2,7,33,35,
62.	Solomon's Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina holopolia</i>	Res bre	P, 2M3F 1juvF coll Tring,	3,7,33,
63.	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina papuensis elegans</i>	Res bre	2M coll Tring- now at AMNH, Descr of ssp,	33,34,35,
64.	Willie Wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys melaleuca</i>	Res bre	A, 3M3F coll Tring, M Coll 1908,	1,2,7,17,33,35,
65.	White-winged Fantail	<i>Rhipidura cockerelli lavellae</i>	End Sol	MC, 29 spec. AMNH, 2M3F coll Tring- now at AMNH, obs Sep 2009,	2,3,7,17,33,35, 36,
66.	Rufous Fantail	<i>Rhipidura rufifrons granti</i>	Res bre	MC ? spec. AMNH, 6M coll Tring- now at AMNH,	2,7,17,33,35,
67.	Kulambangra Monarch	<i>Monarcha brownii nigrotectus</i>	Res bre	P, MC, Type coll Mar 1908 at Tring Mus, 2M2F 2juvM Tring, - now at AMNH,	2,7,18,29,32,33, 35,
68.	White-capped Monarch	<i>Monarcha richardsii</i>	End N Georgia	MC, 3M2F 1Fjuv coll Tring- now at AMNH, Obs Sep 2009,	2,7,18,33,35,36,
69.	Steel-blue Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra ferrocyanea feminina</i>	End Sol	C, 3M2F 2juv coll Tring- now at AMNH,	2,7,33,35,
70.	Common Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis melanonota</i>	Res bre	C, 2M coll 1927, 13 spec taken 1928. Type coll Feb 1908 Tring Mus, 4M2F 1juv coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,4,7,11,28, 32,33,35,
71.	Yellow-bellied Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia jugularis flavigaster</i>	Res bre	C, 2M coll Tring- now at AMNH,	1,2,33,35,
72.	Banded White-eye	<i>Zosterops vellalavella</i>	End VL & Bagga	C. C in forest edge & scrub. 21M9F Coll. 1927, type col Feb	2,3,4,7,18,22,

73.	Yellow-vented Myzomela	<i>Myzomela eichhorni atrata</i>	Res bre	1908, 4M2F coll Tring- now at AMNH 3M Coll 1927, Obs Sep 2009, M&F coll 1927, 6 Coll c 1908. 11 spec. AMNH, 4M2F coll 1908 Tring- now at AMNH, MC Sep 2009,	24,32,33,35,36, 2,4,7,15,32, 33,35,36,
74.	Singing Starling	<i>Aplornis cantoroides</i>	Res bre	Common	1,2,
75.	Brown-winged Starling	<i>Aplornis g. grandis</i>	Res bre	C, 7 coll. 3M3F coll Tring, 3M3F Coll 1908,	2,7,13,33,35,
76.	Metallic Starling	<i>Aplornis metallicus nitida</i>	Res bre	C, 3M2juvM1imF coll Tring,	1,2,7,33,
77.	Melanesian Myna	<i>Mino kreffii</i>	Res bre	Coll, Abundant, 3M3F coll Tring- 2M4F now at AMNH,	2,4,7,33,35,

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

- Mayr, E. 1945. **Birds of the South-West Pacific**. Wheldon Pub. reprint.
- Mayr, E. & J. Diamond. 2001. **The Birds of Northern Melanesia**. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Hornbuckle, J. 2000. http://worldtwitch.virtualave.net/solomons_jh.htm
- Hartert, E. 1929. Birds collected during the Whitney South Seas Expedition. 8. Notes on birds from the Solomon Islands. *Amer Mus. Novit.* **364**.
- Mayr, E. 1932. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 19: Notes on the Bronze Cuckoo *Chalcites lucidus* & its subspecies. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **520**: 1-9.
- Greensmith, A. 1975. Some notes on Melanesian seabirds. *Sunbird* **6**: 77-89.
- Rothschild, W. & E. Hartert. 1908. The birds of Vella Lavella, Solomon Islands. *Novit. Zoo.* **15**: 351-358.
- Mayr, E. 1935. Birds Collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 30. Descriptions of twenty-five New Species and subspecies. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **820**: 1-6.
- Mayr, E. 1931b. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 13. A systematic list of the birds of Rennell Island with descriptions of new species and subspecies. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **486**: 1-29.
- Mayr, E. 1932. . Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 20. Notes on Thickheads (Pachycephala) from the Solomon Islands. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **522**: 1-22.
- Stickney, E. H. 1943. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 53. Northern Shore birds in the Pacific. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **1248**: 1-9.
- Mayr, E. 1931. Birds Collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 17. The birds of Malaita Island (British Solomon Islands). *Am. Mus. Novit.* **504**: 1-26.
- Mayr, E. & D. Amadon. 1941. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 46. Geographical variation in *Demigretta sacra* (Gmelin). *Am. Mus. Novit.* **1144**: 1-11.
- Mayr, E. 1932. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 18. Notes on Meliphagidae from Polynesia and the Solomon Islands. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **516**: 1-30.
- Amadon, D. 1942a. Birds Collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 49. Notes on some non-passerine genera, 1. *American Museum Novitates* **1175**.
- Mayr, E. 1931. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 16. Notes on fantails of the genus Rhipidura. *Am. Mus. Novit.* **502**: 1-21.
- Doughty, C., N. Day & A. Plant. 1999. **Birds of The Solomons, Vanuatu & New Caledonia**. Christopher Helm, London.
- Dutson, G. 2001. New distributional ranges for Melanesian birds. *Emu* **101**: 237-248.
- Hoyo, J del., A. Elliott & J Sargatal. 1992. **Handbook of the Birds of the World** Vol. 1. Lynx Edicions / Birdlife International.
- Hoyo, J del., A. Elliott & J Sargatal. 1996. **Handbook of the Birds of the World** Vol. 3. Lynx Edicions / Birdlife International.
- Gibbs, D. 1996. Notes on Solomon Island birds. *Bull. B.O.C.* **116**(1): 18-25.
- Webb, H.P. 1997. Nesting and other observations of Solomon Island Birds. *Australian Bird Watcher* **17**(1): 34-41.
- Murphy, R.C. 1929. Birds collected during the Whitney South Sea Expedition. 9. Zosteropidae from the Solomon Islands. *Amer. Mus. Novit.* **365**, 1-11.

25. Mayr, E. 1957. Notes on the birds of Northern Melanesia. 4. The Genus *Accipiter*. *Amer. Mus. Novit.* **1823**, 1-14.
26. Mayr, E. 1955. Notes on the birds of Northern Melanesia. 3. Passeres. *Amer. Mus. Novitates* **1707**: 1-46.
27. Mayr, E. 1949. Notes on the birds of Northern Melanesia. 2. *Amer. Mus. Novitates* **1417**: 1-38.
28. Boles, W.E. 2007. Whistlers. In Hoyo, J. A. Elliott, & D Christie. 2007. **Handbook of the Birds of the World Vol 12**. Lynx Edicions. Barcelona.
29. 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.
30. Troy, D. 2008. Tracking Records of Troy Ecological Research Associates, Anchorage, Alaska.
31. Salomonsen, F. 1983. Revision of the Melanesian Swiftlets (*Apodes, Aves*) & their Conspecific Forms in the Indo-Australian and Polynesian Region. Noona Dan Papers No. 141.
32. Hartert, E. 1909. Dr Hartert exhibited and described examples of the following new forms from the Solomon Islands. *Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club* **21**, 105-107.
33. Rothschild, W. & Hartert, E. 1908. The birds of Vella Lavella, Solomon Islands. *Novitates Zoologicae* 15, 351-358,
34. Rothschild, W. & E. Hartert. 1916a. On some forms of *Coracina Graucalus* Auct.) from the Solomon Islands. *Novit. Zool.* 23: 289-291.
35. AMNH. American Museum Natural History. <http://entheros.amnh.org/db/emuwebamnh/logon.php> accessed 9.10.2009.
36. Van Biers, M. 2009. www.birdquest.co.uk/pdfs/report/SOLOMONS%20REP%2009.pdf accessed 2.2.2011.
37. Cooper, B. & G. Mackiernan. 2012. www.surfbirds.com/trip_report.php?id=2136 accessed 15.4.2012.