

BOPPAS (Bird Observers of Pumicestone Passage & Surrounds)

Visit Stirlings Crossing!

At the end of April 2014, the BOPPAS (Bird Observers of Pumicestone Passage and Surrounds) enjoyed five days of birding in the Mary Valley region of South East Queensland. We were based near Imbil and each day we went off birding and exploring, from Amamoor in the north to Conondale N. P. in the south. On Monday, 28th April 2014, we had the pleasure of joining Kelvin and Amelia Nielsen, local birders from Gympie, at one of their favourite birding sites, the Stirling's Crossing area in Imbil State Forest.



Paradise Riflebird (Male) (Ross Monks)

We met up in Derrier Road, at the intersection with Yabba Creek Road (the road that goes from Imbil to Borumba Dam), at 7:30 am and set off for a leisurely drive down Derrier Road, with multiple birding stops along the way. It was a lovely morning and after about four hours we had recorded sixty seven bird species including White-headed Pigeon, Little Lorikeet, Shining Bronze-Cuckoo, Fantailed-Cuckoo, New Holland Honeyeater, White-naped Honeyeater and White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike. We saw several Rose Robins, our first sightings of this species for the year. We heard but did not see a Noisy Pitta. It was some distance away but Kelvin imitated its call and we were treated to a duet between him and the bird. We do not often get to see New Holland Honeyeaters in the Bribie Island area so we were quite taken by a flock of these birds foraging close by in flowering bushes.

There are certainly plenty of birds to see along Derrier Road. This is a good gravel road suitable for all types of vehicles. The whole area is flat and there are lots of side tracks waiting to be explored. There are no facilities but Imbil is not far away. For a group such as ours (21 people), a group activity permit is required for entry into Imbil State Forest.

Thank you to Kelvin and Amelia for taking us to Stirling's Crossing and for obtaining the access permit for us.

boppasbirds@gmail.com

Birds Species Recorded at Stirlings Crossing (67 Species) (BOPPAS 28/4/14)

Little Pied Cormorant	Rainbow Bee-eater	Little Shrike-thrush
White-faced Heron	Noisy Pitta	Grey Shrike-thrush
White-necked Heron	Variiegated Fairy-wren	Restless Flycatcher
Cattle Egret	Red-backed Fairy-wren	Grey Fantail
Straw-necked Ibis	Spotted Pardalote	Willie Wagtail
Wedge-tailed Eagle	Striated Pardalote	Spangled Drongo
Masked Lapwing	White-browed Scrubwren	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
White-headed Pigeon	White-throated Gerygone	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Noisy Friarbird	Varied Triller
Peaceful Dove	Bell Miner	Olive-backed Oriole
Bar-shouldered Dove	Noisy Miner	Australasian Figbird
Wonga Pigeon	Lewin's Honeyeater	Grey Butcherbird
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Pied Butcherbird
Little Corella	White-throated Honeyeater	Australian Magpie
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	White-naped Honeyeater	Pied Currawong
Rainbow Lorikeet	New Holland Honeyeater	Torresian Crow
Scaley-breasted Lorikeet	Scarlet Honeyeater	Green Catbird
Little Lorikeet	Rose Robin	Red-browed Finch
Australian King-Parrot	Eastern Yellow Robin	Mistletoebird
Pale-headed Rosella	Eastern Whipbird	Welcome Swallow
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Crested Shriketit	Tawny Grassbird
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Golden Whistler	
Laughing Kookaburra	Rufous Whistler	

