

Phillip Island
**NATURE
PARKS**

PHILLIP ISLAND
(MILAWUL)

NESTING SHOREBIRD
BREEDING REPORT 2025/26



*We acknowledge the
Traditional Custodians
of the land on which we
live, work and learn, the
Bunurong people. We pay our
respects to their Elders past
and present.*

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Summary	4
Hooded plovers	5
Other shorebirds.....	5
Methods	5
Hooded plover breeding season 2025/26 results	7
Nesting Success.....	8
Fledging Success.....	10
Breeding Success	11
Egg Flotation	12
Banding and Flagging	13
Population count.....	14
Volunteer Activities	15
Internships and Camera trap study.....	17
Other Shorebirds.....	19
Greater crested terns	20
Fairy terns.....	20
Far eastern curlews.....	20
Discussion.....	21
Hooded plovers	21
Other shorebirds.....	22
Recommendations.....	22
Hooded plovers	23
Other Shorebirds	23
Acknowledgements.....	24
References.....	25
Appendices	25

Authors: Morris, V. Fallaw J.

Publisher: Phillip Island Nature Parks

Date: June 2026

Cover Photo credit: Harriet Fallaw

All other photos taken by Phillip Island Nature Parks staff unless captioned otherwise

Introduction

Phillip Island Nature Parks nesting shorebird program aims to monitor breeding sites for shorebirds who nest on Phillip Island (Milawul) and improve breeding success through management practices and research. Hooded plovers (*Thinornis cucullatus cucullatus*) are the focus of this report as one of the priority species listed in the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) 2022, *Threatened Species Strategy Action Plan 2022–2032*. They are categorised as Vulnerable under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* Threatened List. Since active management of the hooded plover population on Phillip Island (Milawul) began in 1998 the population, estimated from November surveys, increased from around 20 individuals to a stable plateau of 40-47 between 2012 and 2021, it then declined to 33 individuals in 2022 where it has been every year except in 2024 where 38 were recorded.

Hooded plovers are monitored year-round through four Coastal Bird Surveys, while active management with a higher allocation of staffing and resources occurs over the breeding season between August and April. Active management includes the installation of wildlife refuges, nest cameras, egg floating, banding of chicks, and beach patrols. Complementing the active management is the habitat management which is done throughout the year, this involves pest plant and animal control, revegetation and dune stabilisation. This report focuses on the active management and research aspects of shorebird management.

Disturbance by potential threats often result in hooded plovers leaving the nest and is thought to lead to lower breeding success on beaches used extensively for recreation (Weston 2000). Phillips Island (Milawul) is a high tourism area and therefore shorebirds are exposed to additional disturbances as people visit beaches, especially around school holidays, weekends and public holidays. Temporary site protection in the form of signed, roped off wildlife refuges are installed around nests to inform visitors of their presence and ensure the camouflaged nests are protected from accidental trampling.

All the other species of shorebirds included in this report are monitored through the four Coastal Bird Surveys at a minimum. Pied oystercatchers (*Haematopus longirostris*), sooty oystercatchers (*Haematopus fuliginosus*) and red-capped plovers (*Charadrius ruficapillus*) are all listed as 'Least Concern' on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN Red List) and monitored via the MyBeachBird portal, but to a lesser extent due to limited resources and their tendency to nest on more isolated beaches. Fairy terns (*Sternula nereis*) are listed as Critically Endangered under the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* Threatened List and are closely monitored and managed for when and if they breed on Phillip Island (Milawul). Far eastern curlews (*Numenius madagascariensis*) are listed as Critically Endangered under the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* Threatened List and are one of the priority species listed in the DCCEEW 2022, *Threatened Species Strategy Action Plan 2022–2032*. While they don't nest on Phillip Island (Milawul) they are a migratory shorebird which winters here from around August to March. Greater crested terns (*Thalasseus bergii*) are listed as Least Concern' on the IUCN Red List, they nest in a large colony often around The Nobbies.

Summary

Hooded plovers

- A total of 10 hooded plover chicks fledged this season from 15 breeding pairs.
 - The number of nests (38) and eggs (88) are similar to the (2015-2025) 10-year average number of nests (36) and eggs (85), yet the number of chicks (20) is lower than the 10-year average of 30.
 - Egg hatching success was 23%, lower than the 10-year average of 36%.
 - Chick fledging success was 50%, lower than 68% in 2024/25 but above the 10-year average of 41%. A fledged per pair rate of 0.67 again exceeding the benchmark of 0.5 provided by BirdLife Australia, and is consistent with the Nature Parks 10-year average of 0.66
 - The number of breeding pairs recorded (15) was lower than the 10-year average of 18. Early in the season a four-egg nest was found for only the second time in recorded history on Phillip Island.
- Nest failures with unknown causes remains high making up 38% of failed eggs. Severe weather or high tides (27%) and suspect severe weather/high tides (10%) also made up a large percentage. Predation related causes led to 16% of failed eggs,
- Ten cameras were installed over nests and were able to provide evidence for four of the five nests that failed as eggs, which included one nest being predated on by ravens.
- The November 2025 count recorded a total of 33 hooded plovers, a reduction of the previous years which both saw 38

Other shorebirds

- Pied oystercatchers, sooty oystercatchers and red-capped plovers were monitored less actively than hooded plovers using the MyBeachBird portal, with active monitoring occurring and site protection installed for one pair of red-capped plovers.
- Fairy terns were sighted at Observation Point early in the season but did not successfully nest
- Ten Far eastern curlews were sighted at Observation point during the February Coastal Bird Survey as well as 93 during one visit to the site
- Crested terns nested on Seal Rocks this season instead of Point Grant (The Nobbies) like last year, due to the proximity to the breeding seal colony they were not monitored regularly this season.



Figure 1: Hooded plover chicks at Anchorage Road. Photo credit: Quentin Mattiske

Methods

Hooded plovers are monitored according to the 'BirdLife Australia's guidelines for monitoring nesting success of Hooded Plovers' (2017) using the MyBeachBird portal to share data, with staffing and resources increasing over the peak of the breeding season which starts around September and ends around April. Volunteers also contribute to monitoring through the Hooded Plover Watch using the MyBeachBird portal. The MyBeachBird portal also acts as a communication tool between everyone monitoring these birds increasing efficiencies in time management and collaboration. Through the breeding season staff and volunteers are given weekly email updates on nest and chick locations which informs both monitoring efforts and beach patrols.

Four Coastal Bird Surveys are conducted by staff and volunteers around the same time each year (February, April, July and November) beaches on Phillip Island (*Milawul*) are surveyed and observations of all bird species are recorded. Following fixed routes, the coastline is surveyed in sections undertaken at the same time to minimise movement of birds impacting results. The February survey is when the hooded plover breeding season is well underway and all the migratory shorebirds should be settled into their nonbreeding sites. The April survey captures the end of the hooded plover breeding season as well as the end of the migration as many migratory shorebirds prepare to leave Australia. The July survey provides data on winter flocking behaviour of hooded plovers as well as overwintering migratory shorebirds. The November survey is used to provide the most accurate number of hooded plovers on Phillip Island (Milawul) as that is when most birds should be on territory. Monthly bird surveys are also conducted at Observation Point to better monitor which bird species are using this internationally significant site.

Site protection, also known as refuges, are made of temporary rope fences, signage and sometimes chick shelters. They are used to protect hooded plover nesting sites in accordance with BirdLife Australia's 'Important reminders about Hooded Plover site protection' 2021, see Figure 2 for an example from Surf Beach. When nests are located on Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC) managed land, Nature Parks staff and volunteers will monitor the birds while the BCSC Natural Resources Manager will implement site protection. Figure 3 shows which beaches are managed by Nature Parks and by BCSC. Site protection is also considered on a case-by-case basis for red-capped plovers, sooty oystercatchers and pied oystercatchers depending on the location and potential threats to the nest.



Figure 2: Photo of a refuge at Surf Beach demonstrates signage in the foreground and temporary rope fencing in the background

Nest cameras are installed, and eggs are floated according to the 'Protocols for use of motion-sensing infra-red cameras at Hooded Plover, Pied Oystercatcher and Red-capped Plover nests' (BirdLife Australia 2020). Cameras are installed on up to ten nests each season to investigate the cause of nest failures. When the age of eggs cannot be accurately determined, eggs are floated to provide an age estimate, allowing for more efficient management (for example readying refuges and chick shelters in preparation for chicks hatching). Flotation of eggs is a common method for estimating embryo development. Knowing when chicks will hatch allows for timely management, such as extending refuges, chick shelters, and increased monitoring and patrols. This is particularly critical when chicks are at their youngest and most vulnerable.

Chicks are banded with a metal band on their tarsus (lower leg) engraved with a unique number as part of the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme (ABBBS), as well as a leg flag engraved with a combination of two letters and/or numbers on their tibia (upper leg). These provide each bird with unique identification and the engraved leg flags enable these birds to be identified from a distance. Being able to identify individual birds provides insight on hooded plover movements, ages and changes in breeding pairs. The Nature Parks are the only organisation to use yellow engraved leg flags on hooded plovers which allows for easy observation of bird movements on and off Phillip Island (Milawul). Other flag colours on hooded plovers in Victoria are orange, white and more recently green.

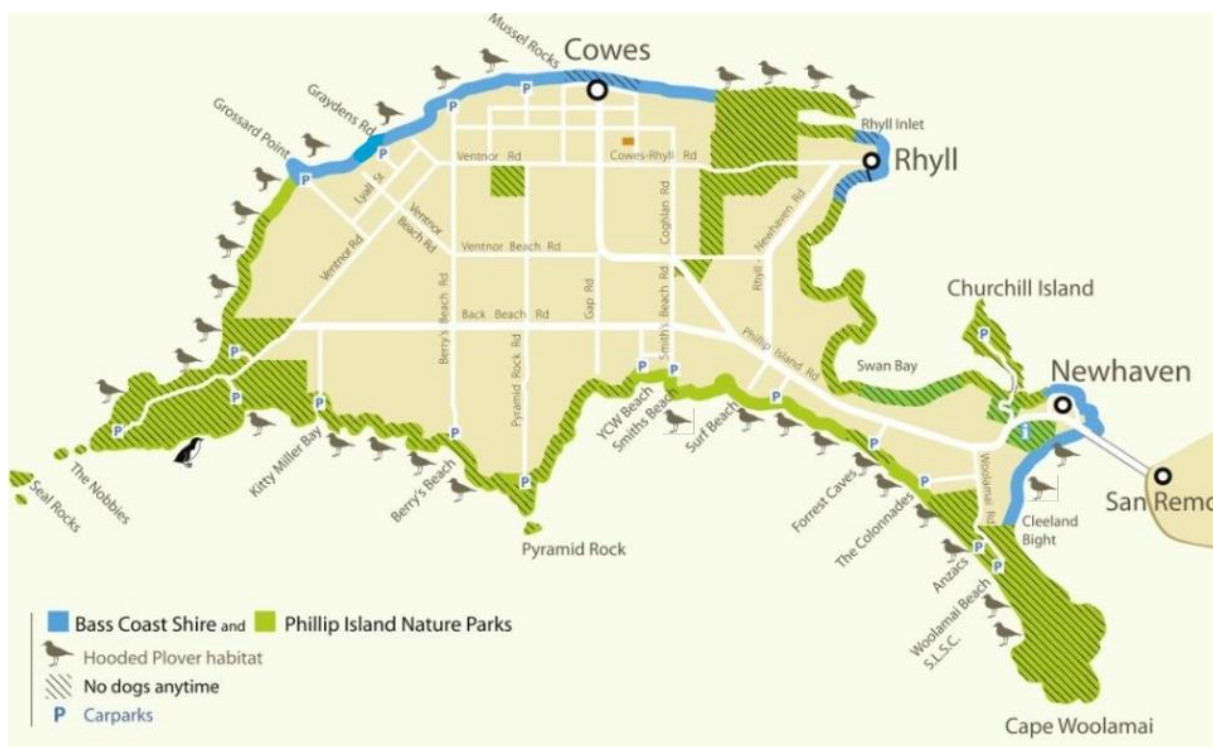


Figure 3: Map of Phillip Island (Milawul) showing Phillip Island Nature Parks and Bass Coast Shire Council managed beaches, and identified hooded plover habitat.

Hooded plover breeding season 2025/26 results

Table 1: Breeding metrics from this season, last season, the previous 10-year averages and historic averages. *Number of breeding pairs recorded from 2002/03 onwards

	Historic average (1992/93- 2024/25)	10-year average (2015/16-2024/25)	2024/25	2025/26
Population	37	40	38	33
Breeding pairs	17*	18	17	15
Nests	30	36	32	38
Eggs	69	85	72	88
Chicks	20	30	19	20
Fledglings	8	12	13	10
Fledged per pair	0.55*	0.66	0.76	0.67
Clutch size	2.35	2.33	2.25	2.32
Survivorship (Egg to chick)	29%	36%	26%	23%
Survivorship (Chicks to fledge)	40%	41%	68%	50%
Survivorship (Egg to fledge)	11%	15%	18%	11%

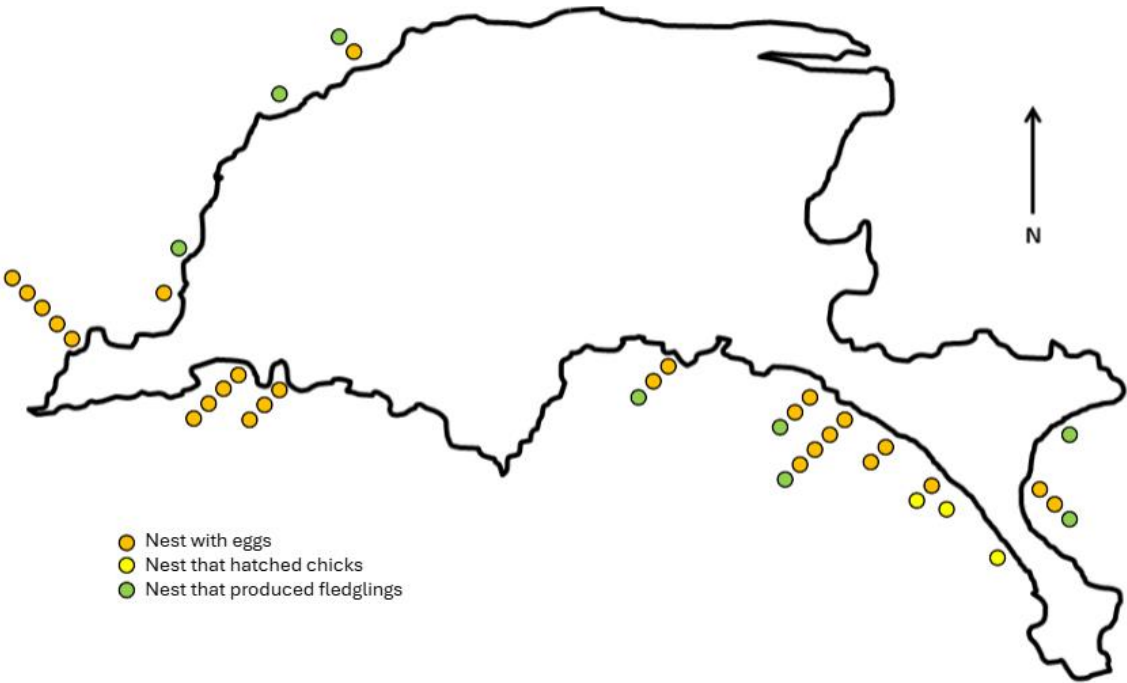


Figure 4: Summary map of hooded plover sites distributed on Phillip Island (Milawul) during the 2025/26 breeding season, the breeding outcome of each nest as represented by a coloured circle

Nesting Success

The 2025/26 hooded plover breeding season resulted in 10 fledglings from 15 pairs. Across 16 breeding sites, 38 nests were recorded, eight of which successfully produced fledglings (Figure 4).

The average number of eggs per nest was 2.32 which is right around both the long term average of 2.35 and average over the last 10 years of 2.33. This season recorded a 4 egg nest which has only been seen once since 1992, it is estimated that 4 eggs nests occur once in every 1000 nests (unpublished data from BirdLife Australia)

Hooded plovers at Colonnades West laid two clutches in the exact same scrape. The Colonnades West territory backs onto cliffs where the birds typically nest at the base, however this scrape was positioned on a small ledge higher off the ground. While the first clutch was lost to the tide, the second successfully hatched. The photo below (Figure 5) of the location of the nest which also shows the wrack at the base of the cliff indicating a recent tide height. For the second year in a row the surf beach pair have laid their eggs in an unstable part of the dune instead of on the beach resulting in eggs rolling out.



Figure 5: Photo of the second Colonnades West nest (Nest 30) with an arrow highlighting the exact location.

Hatching success

This season's egg to chick survivorship was 23% which is lower than the average over the previous 10 years of 36%, and the lowest result since 19% in 2009/10. A total of 68 eggs failed to hatch, 38% (n=26) of these were due to unknown causes. Weather was another major cause of failure with 38% (n=26) having evidence of or suspected severe weather. The eggs lost from the dune collapse may also have been weather-related, as well as being laid in a generally unstable location. Predation related causes made up a total of 16% of the failures. Three eggs had evidence of predation, two eggs were confirmed as raven, the other egg had physical signs of predation, but the type of predator could not be confirmed. Eggs were determined to be added and not abandoned if the adults were known to be incubating them within a week of their expected hatch date, or when the other egg/s hatched (Figure 6). The Surf beach pair laid both their nests in the unstable dune, which resulted in their first nest having the eggs placed back into the scrape once by Nature Parks staff before that section of the dune ended up collapsing again later and the eggs were gone, presumably having rolled out again (Appendix A).

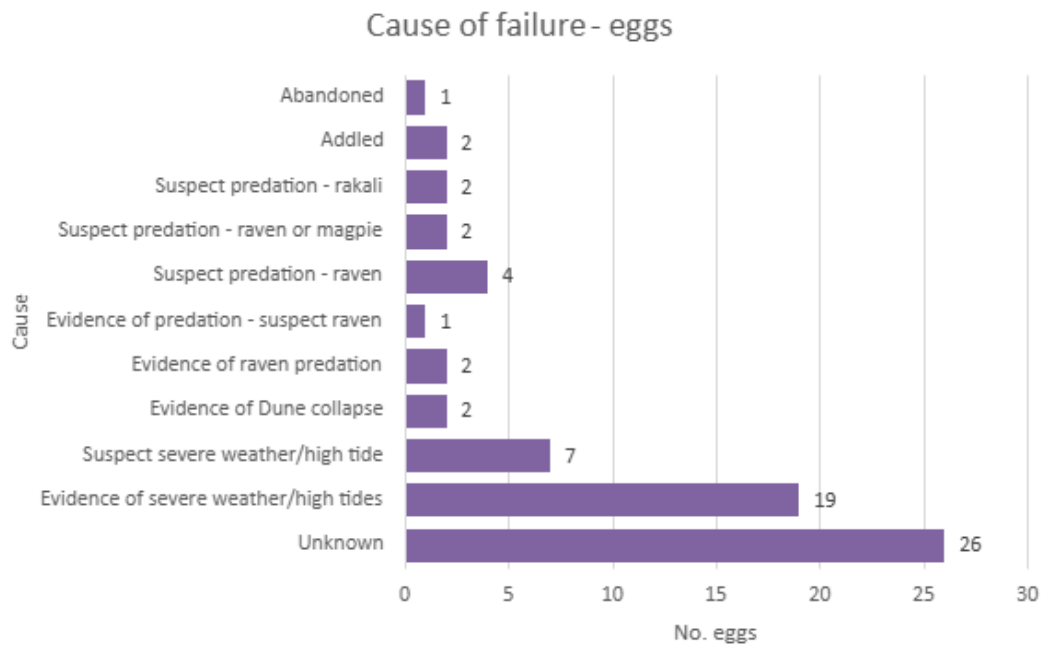


Figure 6: Causes of hooded plover egg failures during the 2025/26 breeding season.

Fledging Success

The 2025/26 breeding season produced 10 hooded plover fledglings from 20 chicks over eight nests (appendix). The egg to fledge survivorship was 11% which is lower than 15% from the previous 10 year period, and the chick to fledge survivorship was 50% compared to 41% for over that same 10-year period (Table 1). Despite regular monitoring of chicks eight (80%) of the 10 failed chicks died from an unknown cause (Figure 7). One of the chicks failed to thrive which was evidenced by their small size and weight during banding at 4 weeks of age (Appendix B). The deceased body of the chick from Magiclands was found next to quadbike tracks (Appendix A).

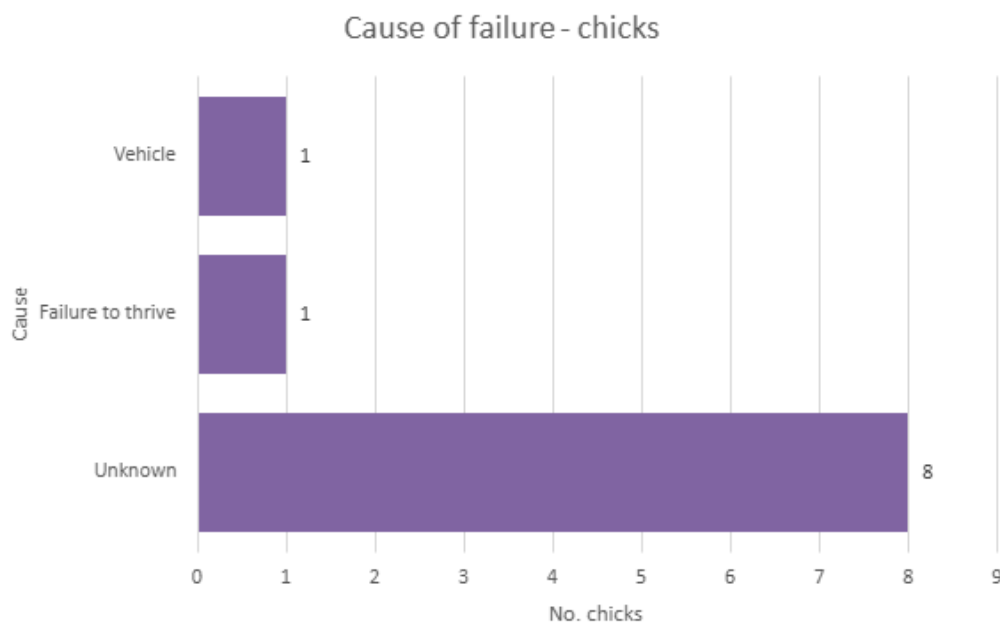


Figure 7: Causes of hooded plover egg and chick failures during the 2025/26 breeding season.

Breeding Success

Breeding success, defined as the average number of fledglings produced per breeding pair, was 0.67 this season which while not as high as last year's 0.76 is still higher than the historical average of 0.55 and consistent with the last 10-year periods average of 0.66. BirdLife Australia's benchmark (0.5 fledglings per pair) for fledgling production to evaluate success and maintain population numbers over time has been reached again this season and continues to trend upwards overall (Figure 8). The Number of breeding pairs is lower than average at 15 compared to the average of 18 over the last 10-year period.

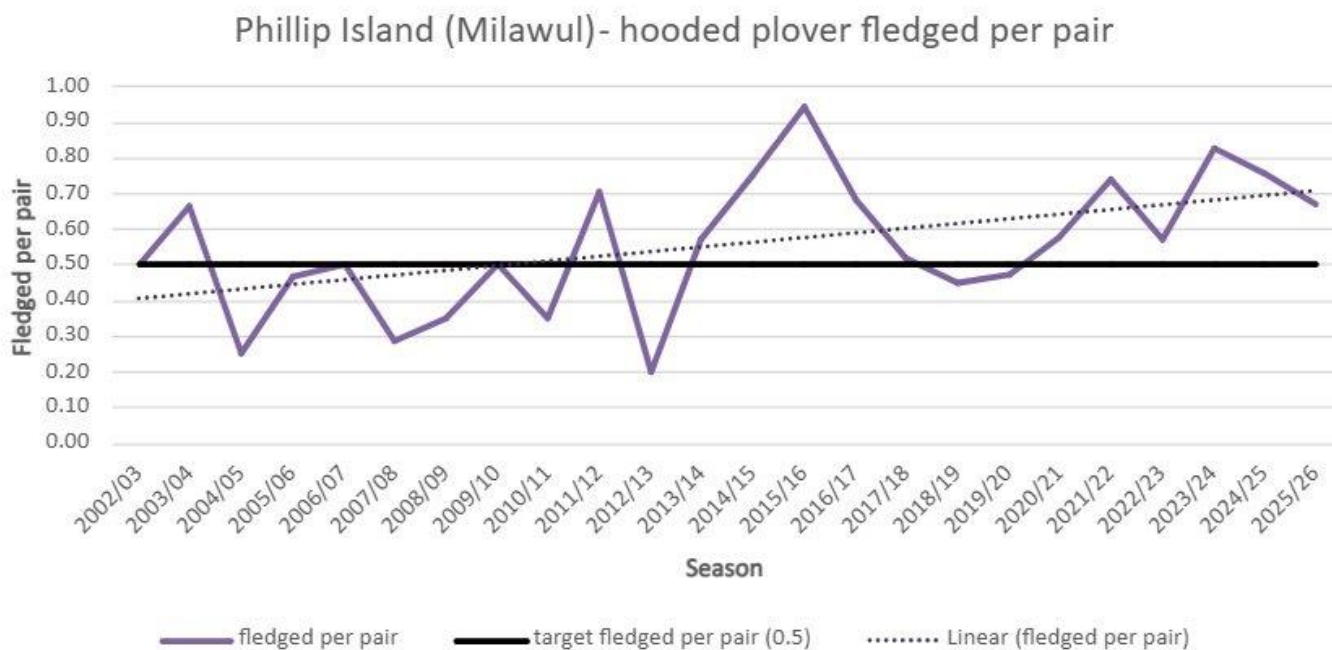


Figure 8: The fledged per pair for each breeding season since 2002/03 with a linear trendline against the target fledged per pair rate of 0.5 suggested by BirdLife Australia.

Egg Flotation

Only three nests (four eggs) were floated (Table 2), as in most instances there was confidence the hatch date could be determined from field observation due to the frequency of monitoring.

The Colonnades nest was found as a one egg nest which due to the busy Christmas period and a missed site check could have been up to two weeks old. This allowed staff to adjust the roped off refuges ahead of chicks hatching without having more equipment out there for longer than necessary.

Table 2: 2024/25 Breeding season egg float summary

Location	Date nest found	Number of eggs floated	Date eggs floated	Eggs days old	Expected hatch date	Actual hatch date
Colonnades	06/01/2026	1	20/01/2026	21	27/01/2026	27/01/2026
Summerland Beach East	23/01/2026	2	29/01/2026	11	15/02/2026	Did not hatch
Forrest Caves Centre	06/02/2026	1	09/02/2026	8	01/03/2026	Did not hatch

Banding and Flagging

This season 12 chicks were banded, given a unique leg flag, had morphometric features measured, and had feather samples taken for sexing. Of this 12 two did not survive to fledge, one failed to thrive as evidenced by its low weight during banding and the other was cause unknown. See Appendix B below for a summary of banding details.

A total of 35 banded adults and sub adults were recorded during the Coastal Bird Surveys and via the MyBeachBird portal over the season, 27 (77%) of those were originally flagged and banded on Phillip Island, with four (11%) banded in the 2024/25 season. Weston (2000) estimated that 55% of hooded plover fledglings survive for nine months after their first flight which is their potential first age to breed. Of the 12 chicks flagged and fledged in 2024/25, four (33%) have been recorded in the 2025/26 breeding season around Victoria at over nine months of age, lower than published survival estimates (Appendix C).

Sometimes an unbanded adult can be identified as the same bird over time. This was the case for the unbanded partner of Yellow 03 at Colonnades, affectionately known as 'limpy' due to its obvious limp. Limpy was first recorded in the 2020/21 season and was observed scraping with Yellow 03 at the start of the 2025/26 season, when it was noted to be potentially injured then unfortunately not seen again. Yellow 03 then paired with another unbanded bird which likely came from the neighbouring territory at Anzacs West as the unbanded partner of an adult with only a metal band wasn't seen there again during the breeding season.

Population count

The November 2025 Coastal Bird Survey recorded 33 hooded plovers (excluding chicks) which is lower than last years 38 and the same as the two years before that (Figure 9).

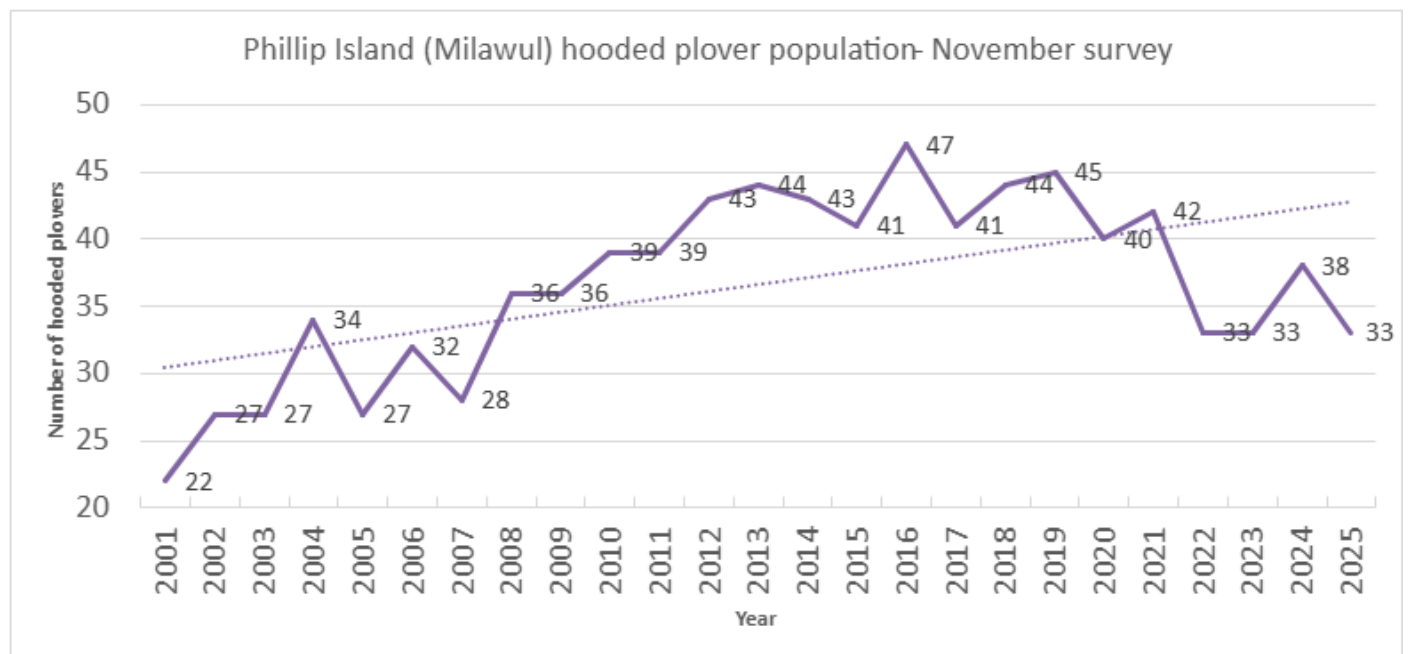


Figure 9: The number of hooded plovers (excluding chicks) counted during Novembers Coastal Bird Survey from 2001-2025 with trendline showing overall increase in the population over time.

Volunteer Activities

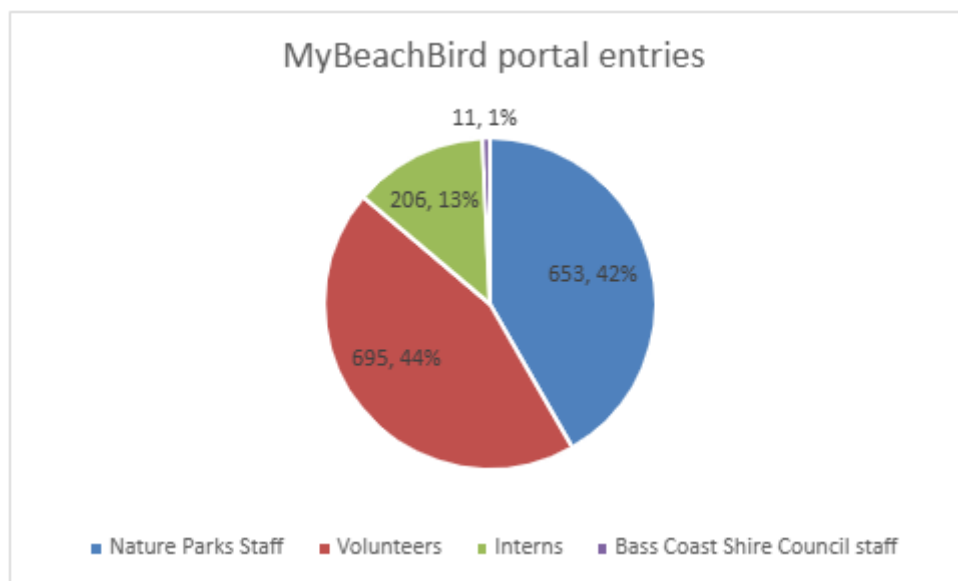


Figure 10: Number of MyBeachBird portal entries by contributors

Volunteers collect important data throughout the breeding season each year by monitoring hooded plover pairs, habitat and threats and putting that data into the BirdLife Australia MyBeachBird portal, as well as contributing to the Coastal Bird Surveys. The MyBeachBird portal data is visible to all users and works as a communication tool that helps direct staff from both Nature Parks and Bass Coast Shire Council in where to install refuges and what beaches need monitoring. The total number of portal entries increased this season to 1565 from 1400 last season. Volunteers put in a massive 507 hours over the course of the 2025/26 season (Table 3) and made up 44% of all MyBeachBird portal entries on Phillip Island (Milawul) (Figure 10).

Table 3: Summary of hooded plover related volunteer activities for the 2020/21 - 2025/26 breeding seasons.

Activity	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
General Monitoring/Citizen Scientist hours	75.81	154.84	143.77	238.01	409.13	507.82
Coastal Bird Survey hours	6.5	45.20	61.83	82.46	58.84	45.53
Total Volunteer hours	82.31	172.84	205.6	320.47	467.97	553.35
Internship hours	205.25	228.90	301.6	357.92	336.74	218.81
Number of General Monitoring/Citizen Scientist Volunteers	3	10	11	9	12	13
Number of Coastal Bird Survey Volunteers	2	9	16	15	12	8

More than 500 people attended pop-up information stalls at Cape Woolamai and Smiths Beach through the Woolamai Beach Surf Lifesaving Club's Nippers program, and further sessions were held at My Community Library in Cowes and Inverloch. These pop ups give staff and volunteers the chance to engage with members of the community about shorebirds and the 'Sharing our Shores' campaign, which focuses on how people can enjoy their time at the beach while keeping wildlife safe



Figure 11: Jon Fallaw (Ranger) and Kim Dunstan (Community Engagement Officer) at the 'Sharing our Shores' Pop-up stall.

Internships and Camera trap study

A camera trapping study commenced in the 2020/21 season to provide insights into the causes of hooded plover nest failures. In the 2025/26 season ten cameras were deployed with the help of the Nature Parks interns, Harriet Fallaw and Jacqueline Long, over hooded plover nests around Phillip Island (Milawul). Harriet joined the Nature Parks team after years of volunteering with the Hooded Plover Watch Program and proved to be an asset to the team. Additionally, they assisted in monitoring beaches and installing wildlife refuges for hooded plovers during their internships. Between them they contributed 219 hours to supporting the beach nesting birds program (Table 2). These hours are lower compared to previous years as Jacqueline was redeployed to another project midway through her internship.

Of the five nests that failed when eggs were present, the cameras were able to confirm the cause of failure being from raven predation for one nest, high tides for 2 nests and one egg from a third nest, the failure of the other two eggs were suspected to be predated on by rakali as they were seen on camera multiple times in the nights before the eggs were confirmed to have gone.



Figure 12: Camera trap image of a raven looking at a hooded plover egg on the ground outside of the nest, while both hooded plovers perform their distraction display to a pacific gull in the background.

The Forrest Caves nest had 3 eggs the day before a camera was installed, then only one on the day of installation 09/02/2026. The pair were at the refuge before the camera was installed, however, while waiting for the birds to return to the nest a raven began searching the dunes heading towards the nest. The hooded plovers flew to Crazy Birds beach and did not return and the camera was left on site as the raven was still searching the dunes. The hooded plovers were not seen again at Forrest Caves and the last egg remained in the nest. The egg was seen whole on the 27/2/2026 however was found crushed next to the nest on the 20/3/2026.

Cameras also provided an opportunity to see how sand can build up over time. Hooded plovers at Cleeland Road North made their nest next to some native spinifex which collected sand in the wind. The nest became buried over six days until the hoodies ended up kicking the eggs out where they incubated the eggs for a few more days before they hatched in the new location a metre away. (Figure 13).



Figure 13: Images from the Cleeland Road Camera dated the 9th, 10th and 15th of January 2026 respectively showing the sand building up until the hooded plover kicked the egg out of the buried scrape on the 15th.

Table 4: Summary of cameras placed on hooded plover nests in the 2025/26 breeding season and the nests fate

Location	Hooded plover pair details	Nest Fate	Camera deployed date	Camera retrieved date
Anchorage Rd	85 YLF & 8A YLF	3 chicks fledged	28/10/2025	04/12/2025
Kitty Miller Bay	YU OLF & UB	3 eggs failed – 1 high tide, 2 suspect rakali	04/12/2025	23/12/2025
Cowries East	99 YLF & UB	Evidence of high tide in camera	04/12/2025	09/12/2025
Colonnades West	31 YLF & 49 YLF	Evidence of high tide in camera	22/12/2025	29/12/2025
Cleeland Rd North	6A YLF & UB	1 chick fledged and 1 chick failed. Camera showed nest filling with sand due to wind and hoodies moving the eggs.	06/01/2026	29/01/2026
Smiths Beach far east	1B YLF & UB	1 chick fledged and 1 chick failed	13/01/2026	21/03/2026
Magiclands	RL WLF & JL WLF	1 chick failed	09/01/2026	18/03/2026
Colonnades	03 YLF & UB	1 chick failed	13/01/2026	18/03/2026
Summerland Beach East	39 YLF & 7C YLF	2 eggs predated on by raven, evidence in camera	29/01/2026	18/02/2026
Forrest caves centre	BR OLF & TS WLF	Abandoned	09/02/2026	20/03/2026

Other Shorebirds

Red-capped plovers and Oystercatchers

Red-capped plovers, pied oystercatchers and sooty oystercatchers had 60, 88 and 38 entries into the MyBeachBird portal respectively, compared to 1379 hooded plover entries highlighting the difference in monitoring efforts. A combined total of 186 entries is higher than 115 in 2024/25. More sites are being added to the portal for all three species when they are nesting on beaches that are being regularly monitored which is improving monitoring at these sites.

Site protection was installed by Bass Coast Shire Council for three red capped plover nests, one in Silverleaves, and two at Anchorage Road. The Silverleaves nest failed with the suspected cause being tide. The first Anchorage Road nest failed with the two eggs suspected to be addled as the eggs appeared abandoned the day after they were expected to hatch, then were seen incubated again for two more days before the eggs were gone and no evidence of chicks. Until then they were seen incubating regularly. Their next clutch hatched two chicks who went on to fledge, they were banded and flagged by the Nature Parks staff with the Victorian Wader Study Group (Appendix B).

Nests, chicks and fledglings were found for both oystercatcher species, but most pairs were not monitored regularly enough to get accurate nesting outcomes. One pair of sooty oystercatchers nested quite close to hooded plovers so signage was extended to include their nest, which did go on to fledge 1 chick.



Figure 14: Red capped plover chick just after being banded

Greater crested terns

Greater crested terns nested at Seal Rocks this season. Due to the proximity to the breeding colony of Australian fur seals, crested terns were not monitored in person. Drone images are used by the Nature Parks staff to count Australia fur seals and these images were able to provide a count of 1195 greater crested terns on nests on Seal Rocks – South Plateau and three adult terns, totalling 1198 terns on 14/11/2025.

Fairy terns

Up to 14 fairy terns were recorded visiting Observation point between mid-October and mid-December, with prospecting, roosting, flying and courtship recorded. There was one suspected nest also recorded which was not confirmed, and no other breeding activity was recorded despite regular monitoring. One of the fairy terns banded as a chick in the 2024/25 season with the engraved leg flag Orange CUP, was photographed at Point Clinton on the Yorke Peninsula in August 2025, which is 800km from Observation Point, and then again in January 2026 at Bald Hill Beach also in the Yorke Peninsula.



Figure 15: Photographed by Paul Taylor

Far eastern curlews

Nine Far eastern curlews were seen at Observation point and one at Churchill Island during the February 2026 Coastal Bird Survey, but 93 were seen on the 27/2/2026 and between one and 11 seen on other visits during the season. During the February survey it was noted that the 9 far eastern curlew seen at Observation point flew off toward Tortoise Head on French Island.

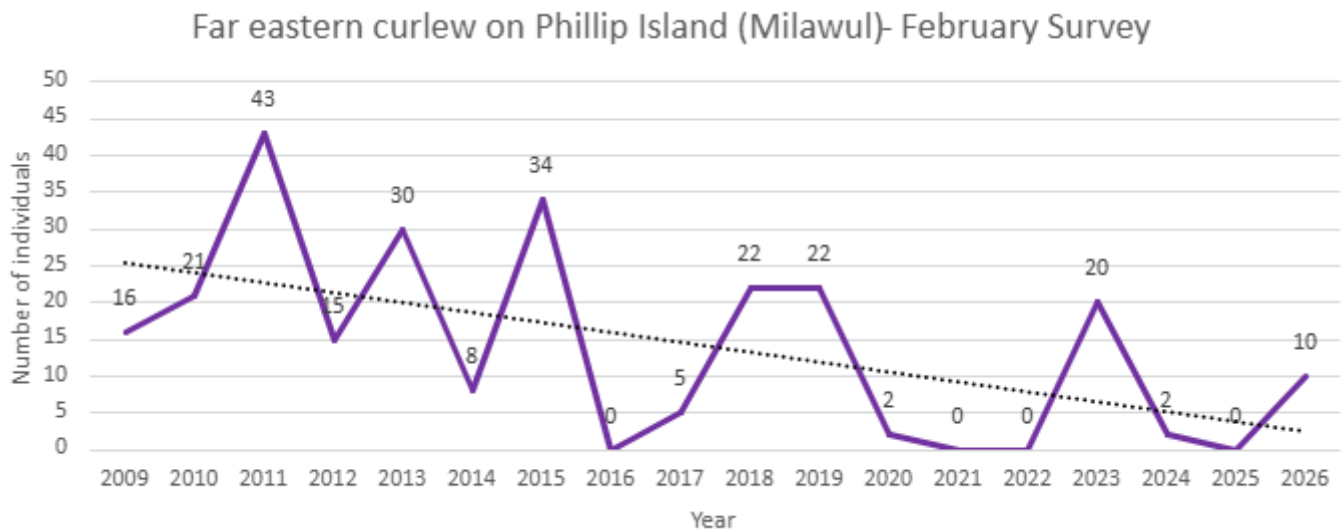


Figure 16: Far eastern curlews recorded during the February Coastal Bird Surveys since 2009 with a trendline showing a decrease over time

Discussion

Hooded plovers

The 2025/26 hooded plover breeding season again saw a reduction in the number of breeding pairs and total population to similar numbers seen in 2022/23 and 2023/24 after last season increased closer to the last 10-year average. The lower number of breeding pairs (15 compared to the 2015/16-2024/25 average of 18 pairs) is explained by the lower population counts. However, it cannot yet be determined if the change away from the plateau in 2010-20 (Figure 9) is a trend to be concerned about or natural population fluctuations, as seen in Bass Coast due to localised mortality detected from flagged bird monitoring (BirdLife Australia's Biennial Hooded Plover Count 2020). Phillip Island (Milawul) supports a small percentage of the Victorian hooded plover population which has seen an overall increase over time in BirdLife Australia's Biennial Hooded Plover Count. Overall hooded plovers on Phillip Island (Milawul) recorded a successful breeding season by exceeding BirdLife Australia's target of 0.5 fledged per pair as the standardised way of measuring breeding success.

Hooded plovers mostly nested where expected, with a couple of pairs nesting further in the dunes or higher off that ground than usual. Colonnades west nested twice in the same scrape approximately 1m off the ground on a small ledge instead of at the base of the cliff like they usually do. The Surf Beach pair nested three times in the dune this season and eggs were returned to their scrape once and one egg was suspected to have rolled out for another nest. Last season both of their nests had eggs roll out that were returned to the scrape, one of these was on a rocky headland and another 4m up the dune (Phillip Island (Milawul) Nesting Shorebird Breeding Report 2024/25). These nests are reminders of the risks of climate

change causing rising sea levels and higher high tides and when in conjunction with cliffing caused by invasive grasses could drastically reduce the amount of ideal nesting habitat for hooded plovers.

Cause of egg and chick failures continue to remain largely unknown with nest cameras helping provide evidence to the cause of some losses. Not all nests are suited to having a camera installed as correct placement is essential to avoid drawing a potential predator's attention to the nest. Labelling the cause of failure can be difficult when there are potentially multiple contributions to the failure. For example, the nest at Summerland's that the raven was seen on camera preying on, while a pacific gull was in the background with both adult hooded plovers performing distraction display, the gulls disturbance may have contributed to the raven being able to get to the eggs.

This season saw an increase in volunteer hours in the Hooded Plover Watch program by 85 hours, this was achieved through the recruitment of more dedicated volunteers, as well as continuing to provide support and training to ongoing volunteers. Volunteer hours have been steadily increasing each year since 2020/21 when many volunteer activities were suspended due to the COVID19 pandemic while the number of volunteers has been consistent over the last 4 seasons. The Nature Parks are successfully recruiting and inspiring deeply passionate volunteers who are well suited for the role.

Other shorebirds

While the fairy terns did not return to nest at Observation Point this season, they did visit, inspect and appear to attempt to nest which is a positive indication that if the Nature Parks continues to maintain and improve the habitat that there will be more successful breeding attempts in the future. Observation Point remains critical habitat for many species which has been highlighted by the successful fairy tern breeding in 2024/25 as well as observations of far eastern curlews.

The February Coastal Bird Survey resulting in 10 far eastern curlew when 93 had been observed on several other occasions highlights the importance of the monthly bird surveys at Observation Point, and the flaws in using just the February Coastal Bird Survey as a representation of total far eastern curlew each year.



Figure 17: Sooty oystercatcher egg pipping

Recommendations

Hooded plovers

- It is recommended that Nature Parks continue to monitor the hooded plover population of Phillip Island (Milawul) through the Coastal Bird Surveys to investigate whether the population is in decline or not.
- It is recommended site assessment is undertaken at all current and historic breeding sites to investigate habitat suitability (for example abundance of food source, pest plants, dune profile, presence of predators etc) to try and identify why some breeding sites are no longer being used by hooded plovers and inform targeted management strategies.
- The BirdLife Australia's MyBeachBird portal remains a vital tool in the management of Phillip Island's (Milawul) hooded plover population. Threat related data are vital to the tailoring of management strategies implemented for Phillip Island's hooded plover population. It is recommended that training days are organised by Nature Parks or BirdLife staff for staff and volunteers who use the Birdlife portal, to reiterate the importance of collecting these data and what to record.
- Data from the nest camera trap study over the past six years demonstrated the efficacy and validity of remote camera traps at nesting sites to capture evidence of nest failure causes. This evidence supports proactive predator management, which has been noted as a useful management strategy in the past. It is recommended that this study continues along with opportunities for interns to participate.
- Identifying the causes of hooded plover chick failure remains an important yet challenging task (Lees et al. 2019). Despite the difficulties in definitively determining chick failure causes, it should remain a high priority for staff and volunteers into the future to be extra attentive whilst chicks are around. Frequent checking of nest sites where chicks are active is imperative, and where it is suspected a chick has failed, extra attention to details/evidence/tracks should be exercised around the area and any/all data recorded in the Birdlife portal.
 - Additionally investigating the cause of chicks failing to thrive and being a smaller size could assist in better understanding the causes of failures and inform management practices.
- Volunteers and the community make important contributions through identifying nests, informing resource allocation, and protection by minimising disturbance when using beaches. It is recommended that the volunteering program continues alongside community engagement events.

Other Shorebirds

- It is unknown if or how the effects of climate change are impacting pied oystercatcher, sooty oystercatcher and red-capped plover nesting behaviours or recruitment on Phillip Island (Milawul). Furthermore, the current extent and status of their populations on the Island largely remains unknown as well. It is, therefore, recommended that active and continued monitoring of these species' nesting sites be continued for subsequent breeding seasons.
- Continue adding nesting sites to the portal for more efficient monitoring of red-capped plovers and oystercatchers.
- Continue monthly bird surveys at Observation Point to ensure accurate representation of habitat use as birds move between sites around Westernport.
- Continued monitoring of far eastern curlews through the Coastal Bird Surveys is recommended alongside consideration of targeted management strategies.
- Observation point remains important habitat and management efforts should continue including pest plant and animal control.

Acknowledgements

We would like to firstly acknowledge and thank Phillip Island Nature Parks' volunteers for their dedication which contributed to the successful outcomes of the 2025/26 breeding season on Phillip Island (Milawul).

Harriet Fallaw and Jacqueline Long for conducting the nest camera trap study for this season as interns for the Nature Parks and for assisting with all facets of the hooded plover monitoring program.

David Martin (Bass Coast Shire Council) for his help in managing the hooded plovers nesting activities and supporting the camera trap study on Bass Coast Shire beaches

The Beach Nesting Bird team at BirdLife Australia for their support and expertise, and for access to the MyBeachBird portal

Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation for their contributions to the Coastal Bird Surveys and many hours of habitat restoration, thank you for your partnership as we work together on Bunurong country.

Phillip Island Nature Parks' staff for their contributions towards logistics, banding, research, marketing and communications and Coastal Bird Surveys as well as the Nature Parks Board of Management for their continuing support of threatened species conservation on Phillip Island (Milawul).

The Victorian Wader Study Group for their expertise and time in monitoring of birds at Observation Point, and assistance in banding the red-capped plover chicks.

References

Baird, B., & Dann, P. (2003). The breeding biology of hooded plovers, *Thinornis rubricollis*, on Phillip Island, Victoria. *Emu*, 103(4), 323-328.

BirdLife Australia (2020) Protocols for use of motion-sensing infra-red cameras at Hooded Plover, Pied Oystercatcher and Red-capped Plover nests

BirdLife Australia (2023). Report on the 2022 Biennial Hooded Plover Population Count

BirdLife Australia (2021). Report on the 2020 Biennial Hooded Plover Population Count

Lees D, Schmidt T, Sherman CDH, Maguire GS, Dann P, Ehmke G, Weston MA (2019) An assessment of radio telemetry for monitoring shorebird chick survival and causes of mortality. *Wildlife Research*, 46 (7), 622-627.

Maguire GS, Cullen M, Mead R (2013) Managing the Hooded Plover in Victoria: a site by site assessment of threats and prioritisation of management investment on Parks Victoria managed land. Parks Victoria Technical Report, Melbourne.

Phillip Island Nature Parks (2023). PHILLIP ISLAND (MILLOWL) AN ISLAND HAVEN FOR THREATENED SPECIES

Phillip Island Nature Parks (2025) Phillip Island (Milawul) Nesting Shorebird Breeding Report 2024/25

Weston, M. A. (2000). The effect of disturbance on the breeding biology of Hooded Plover

Appendices

Appendix A: Hooded plover nesting site summary table

Nest	Location	Find Date	Adult 1 Band	Adult 2 Band	Clutch No.	Eggs	Chicks	Fledged	Chick flags	Comment
1	Crazy Birds	8/09/2025	86 YLF	1A YLF	1	1				1 egg nest found by HF 8/9/2025 gone 12/9
2	Anchorage Rd	17/09/2025	85 YLF	8A YLF	1	4				1 egg nest found by QM, 2 eggs 18/9/2025 3 eggs 20/9/2025, 4 eggs 22/9. 11/10/2025 eggs gone, no sign of them, high tide has clearly gone through the area
3	Crazy Birds	19/09/2025	86 YLF	1A YLF	2	3				3 egg nest found by BH , eggs gone 8/10 nest area buried in sand, but eggs could have been missing before that
4	Cowries (east)	1/10/2025	99 YLF	UB	1	3				3 egg nest found by KM, eggs gone 8/10 no evidence of tide/weather or footprints
5	Broadwater Ave	5/10/2025	66 YLF	ZT WLF	1	2				2 egg nest found by BH, 3 eggs 11/10 when MF found the eggs washed out by the tide and placed them in a new scrape under guidance. They were seen incubating on 12/10
6	Surf Beach (Park St)	18/10/2025	CU WLF	UB	1	3				3 egg nest in dunes found by BZ. 24/10, nest gone. Hoodie footprints still visible so looks to have happened in the last 24h, some raven prints looking a similar age to the hoodie ones leading towards the nest.
7	Anchorage Rd	27/10/2025	85 YLF	8A YLF	2	3	3	3	YLF 6D, 7D, 8D	3 egg nest found by QM 27/10/2025. 3 chicks 24/11
8	Forrest caves centre	28/10/2025	BR OLF	TS WLF	1	1				Nest was gone when Bec visited 4/11/2025
9	Broadwater Ave	31/10/2025	66 YLF	ZT WLF	2	2				Nest found by DM and gone on 1/11
10	Smiths Beach far east	11/11/2025	1B YLF	UB	1	2				1 egg nest found by MF. 2 eggs 13/11 still 2 eggs 16/11. Birds not incubating during the survey on the 17/11. Eggs confirm gone on the 18/11, raven prints within 2m from nest, brown falcon hovering over refuge.

11	Crazy Birds centre	12/11/2025	86 YLF	1A YLF	3	1				1 egg nest found by VM, egg gone 14/11 raven prints 3m away, nest on cobbles makes it hard to know if any were closer
12	Flynns Centre	12/11/2025	12 YLF	UB	1	3				2 egg nest found by KM, 3 eggs during CBS 17/11. Nest gone on 2//12, raven prints within 1m from nest
13	Broadwater Ave	13/11/2025	66 YLF	ZT WLF	3	2	2	1	YLF 9D	2 egg nest found by MoP 13/11, 20/11 still 2 eggs, 2nd chick last seen 27/12, flight seen 16/1
14	Kitty Miller Bay	26/11/2025	YU OLF	UB	1	3				2 egg nest found by MF 26/11 3 eggs and incubating 27/11, 11/12 refuge found damaged and two eggs found displaced. Hoodies appeared to be incubating one egg, MT & HF create and put both eggs into a scrape. Hoodies continued to incubate after they left. Camera shows tide hit the camera 7/12 at 2am, eggs appear to have been incubated until 18-19/12. Rakali seen in area 16/12 but no predation visible. no eggs 23/12
15	Smiths Beach far east	28/11/2025	1B YLF	UB	2	2				1 egg nest found by MF 28/11, still one egg 30/11 possible abandoned, 2 eggs 1/12 and incubation seen. this pair seem to be slow and flighty in general. eggs gone 8/12 evidence of tide above nest and eggs still there 3 days prior
16	Surf Beach (Park St)	2/12/2025	CU WLF	UB	2	2				1 egg nest found on edge of dune, not stable looking by MT, 3/12 egg had rolled out and placed back in scrape by VM and HF. 4/12 2 eggs. 15/12 the dune has collapsed further and the eggs are gone or buried
17	Crazy Birds centre	3/12/2025	86 YLF	1A YLF	4	1				1 egg nest found by HF, egg predated on. pair unconfirmed but very likely the usual as in the same area and there have been no other pairs on that beach.
18	Cowries (east)	4/12/2025	99 YLF	UB	2	3				3 egg nest found by MT. Nest gone when checked 9/12
19	Summerland Beach East	5/12/2025	39 YLF	7C YLF	1	2				2 egg nest found by MT. Too close to KMB for a camera. Eggs gone when checked by HF 11/12 evidence of tides but eggs last seen 5/12
20	Elizabeth Cove	18/12/2025	7B YLF	UB	1	3	3	1	YLF 0D	1 egg nest found by QM 18/12/2025. 2 eggs 22/12/2025. 3 eggs 31/12/2026 and 14/01/2026. 1 chick seen 19/1/2026 no eggs in nest. 2 chicks seen 20/1/2026 (confirmed by MT 21/1/2026). Very likely that all eggs hatched and one failed immediately. Banded 17/02/2026, chick seen confidently flying 26/2

21	Colonnades (west)	22/12/2025	31 YLF	49YLF	1	3				3 egg nest found by HF 22/12, on a ledge approx 1m off ground instead of at base of cliff like usual. eggs failed 24/12 5am as shown on camera, refuge vandalised
22	Summerland Beach East	23/12/2025	39YLF	7C YLF	2	2				2 egg nest found by MT, possible failed 27/12, wrack in nest location 2/1 but hard to be sure due eggs last being seen 23/12 and human footprints in area
23	Cowries (east)	23/12/2025	99 YLF	UB	3	1				1 egg nest found by KM, egg gone 31/12 penguin prints disguising any potential predator prints
24	Crazy Birds	24/12/2025	86 YLF	1A YLF	5	2	2	1	YLF 3E	2 egg nest found by VM 24/12/2026. 2 chicks 20/01/2026. 1 chick 24/01/26. Banded 17/02/26, fledged 21/2
25	Cleeland Rd North	24/12/2025	6A YLF	UB	1	2	2	1	YLF 1E, 2E	2 egg nest found by PW still 2 eggs 29/12/2025, 19/1 eggs moved approx. 5m towards ocean still being incubated 2 chicks 20/1. Banded 17/02/2026 Y1E=53g, Y2E=39g. Yellow 1E seen flying 26/2, a little hesitant but still fledged.
26	Kitty Miller Bay	28/12/2025	YU OLF	UB	2	3				2 egg nest found by HF 28/12 , 3 eggs 31/12. 23/1 eggs gone, no evidence of failure but refuge was partially knocked over so may have been the tide.
27	Surf Beach (Park St)	29/12/2025	CU WLF	UB	3	2	1	1	YLF 4E	1 egg nest found by BH 29/12/2025, 2 eggs 31/12/2025. 1 chick seen by MT and JF 27/1/2026. Eggs not seen a while, could have rolled out or been predated on, likely that only one egg hatched. Chick banded 25/2. chick seen flying 9/3/2026
28	Smiths Beach far east	1/01/2026	1B YLF	UB	3	2	2	1	YLF 5E	1 egg nest found by BH 01/01/2026, 2 eggs 06/01 /26. 2 eggs checked by VM 30/1, no eggs and suspect chicks by BH 2/2, 2 chicks confirmed by MT 3/2. Only one chick from the 6/2. Chick banded 3/3.
29	Magiclands	2/01/2026	JL WLF	RL WLF	1	2	1			1 egg nest found by HF 02/01/2026, 2 eggs 04/01/2026, 1 egg 1 chick 1/2, still 1 egg 1 chick 2/2. Chick found deceased by JF, run over by vehicle and likely cause 2/3.
30	Colonnades (west)	6/01/2026	31 YLF	49 YLF	2	2	1			2 eggs found by MT 6/01/2026 in exact same scrape as nest 21. Still 2 eggs 13/1 1 egg 1 chick 2/2, egg still in nest 18/2, chick failed, not seen since 9/2. adult behaviour on 17 indicated maybe chick, but behaviour did not on 18th

31	Colonnades	6/01/2026	03 YLF	UB	1	1	1			1 egg found by MT 6/01/2026. Still 1 egg 13/1/2026. Egg floated 20/1/2026 and 21-22 days old. 1 chick 1-2 days old 28/01/2026, MoP saw adult behaviour change on 27/01/2026 and said chick was east of Aussie Tk. No chick or behaviour indicating chick on 22/2 confirmed no chick 23/2. Tide didn't get to the cliff base so cause unknown.
32	Summerlands centre	6/01/2026	39YLF	7C YLF	3	3				2 eggs found by KM 6/01/2026. 3 eggs on 8/01/2026. Nest gone 12/01/26 evidence of high tide in wrack
33	Cowries (east)	6/01/2026	99 YLF	UB	4	3				3 eggs found by KM 6/01/2026. Nest gone 12/01/2026 evidence of high tide in wrack and eggs last seen 8/1
34	Summerland Beach east	23/01/2026	39YLF	7C YLF	4	2				2 egg nest found by MT 23/1, raven predation 4/2 seen in camera 10am
35	Cowries (east)	23/01/2026	99 YLF	UB	5	3				3 egg nest found by MT 23/1. Incubation start date could be anywhere between 15/1-23/1, estimated to be similar to Summerlands. Nest gone 9/02/2026. Unknown cause.
36	Kitty Miller Bay	2/02/2026	YU OLF	UB	3	3				3 egg nest found by MT 2/2. Eggs gone 26/2, no evidence of failure
37	Forrest caves centre	6/02/2026	BR OLF	TS WLF	2	3				3 egg nest found by BH 6/2, 1 egg 9/2 Raven didn't immediately target the nest after installing the camera so it either knew the nest was there or was searching randomly. 1 egg still in nest 12/2 but no sign of adults, and adults not seen at all on camera. Magpie on camera looked at egg but didn't take.
38	Farm beach	11/02/2026	12 YLF	UB	2	3	2	1	YLF 6E, 7E	3 egg nest found by MT. Only 2 eggs 26/2. 2 chicks seen suspect a few days old 4/3, confirmed one fledged 7/4 believe it was 6E, since confirmed. Suspect 7E could have fledged and left, but not yet spotted.

Appendix B: Summary of hooded plover chick band and flag details 2024/25

Species	Date banded	Nesting site	Band no.	Band location	Leg flag details	Flag location	Bird status	Weight (g)	Notes
Hooded plover	23/12/2025	ANCHORAGE RD	05278624	Left tarsus	Yellow 6D	Left tibia	Chick	56	
Hooded plover	23/12/2025	ANCHORAGE RD	05278625	Left tarsus	Yellow 7D	Left tibia	Chick	56	
Hooded plover	23/12/2025	ANCHORAGE RD	05278626	Left tarsus	Yellow 8D	Left tibia	Chick	55	
Hooded plover	7/01/2026	BROADWATER AVE	05278627	Left tarsus	Yellow 9D	Left tibia	Chick	60	
Hooded plover	17/02/2026	ELIZABETH COVE	05278628	Left tarsus	Yellow 0D	Left tibia	Chick	61	
Hooded plover	17/02/2026	CLEELAND BIGHT	05278629	Left tarsus	Yellow 1E	Left tibia	Chick	53	
Hooded plover	17/02/2026	CLEELAND BIGHT	05278630	Left tarsus	Yellow 2E	Left tibia	Chick	39	Did not survive to fledge
Hooded plover	17/02/2026	CRAZY BIRDS	05278631	Left tarsus	Yellow 3E	Left tibia	Chick	69	
Hooded plover	25/02/2026	SURF BEACH	05278632	Left tarsus	Yellow 4E	Left tibia	Chick	44	
Hooded plover	3/03/2026	SMITHS BEACH	05278633	Left tarsus	Yellow 5E	Left tibia	Chick	53	
Hooded plover	2/04/2026	FARM BEACH	05278634	Left tarsus	Yellow 6E	Left tibia	Chick	62	

Hooded plover	2/04/2026	FARM BEACH	05278635	Left tarsus	Yellow 7E	Left tibia	Chick	59	Did not survive to fledge
Red-capped plover	19/03/2026	ANCHORAGE RD	03699401	Left Tarsus	Blue FA	Left Tibia	Chick	26	
Red-capped plover	19/03/2026	ANCHORAGE RD	03699402	Left Tarsus	Blue FB	Left Tibia	Chick	23	

Appendix C: Band details of birds recorded in MyBeachBird portal and in Coastal Bird Survey in the 2025/26 season on Phillip Island (Milawul) as well as fledglings from 2024/25 who have been sighted elsewhere. Incomplete data for hooded plovers banded elsewhere

Date banded	Band number	Colour combination	Location banded	Age at banding	Sex	2024/25 fledglings sighted at 9 months of age (yes/no)	Comments
13/02/2013	05248057	03 Left (Yellow)	Silverleaves (PI)	Juvenile	Unknown		
5/01/2015	05268605	12 Left (Yellow)	Anchorage Rd (PI)	Juvenile	Female		
29/07/2015	05268612	19 Left (Yellow)	Surf Beach (PI)	Adult	Male		
02/02/2022	05268691	1A Left (Yellow)	Ventnor, Devon Av (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
04/03/2022	05268692	1B Left (Yellow)	Kitty Miller Bay (PI)	Juvenile	Unknown		
1/03/2024	05278610	1C Left (Yellow)	Colonnades (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
16/02/2023	05278601	2B Left (yellow)	Summerland Beach (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
23/01/2017	05268623	31 Left (Yellow)	Surf Beach (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
24/02/2017	05268631	39 Left (Yellow)	Elizabeth Cove (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
05/03/2025	05278622	3D Left (Yellow)	Anchorage road (PI)	Juvenile	Male	yes	
27/12/2017	05268636	44 Left (Yellow)	Smiths Beach (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
24/01/2018	05268641	49 Left (Yellow)	Woolshed Bight (PI)	Juvenile	Female		
02/03/2023	05278603	4B Left (Yellow)	Crazy Birds (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
18/03/2025	05278621	4D Left (Yellow)	Broadwater Ave (PI)	Juvenile	Female	yes	

17/12/2024	05278614	5C Left (Yellow)	Anchorage Road (PI)	Juvenile	Male	yes	
22/02/2019	05268658	66 Left (Yellow)	Surf Beach (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
06/01/2023	05268697	6A Left (Yellow)	Anchorage Rd (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
27/10/2020	05268670	78 Left (Yellow)	Anchorage Rd (PI)	Juvenile	Female		
19/01/2024	05278606	7B Left (Yellow)	Crazy Birds (PI)	Juvenile	Female		
05/02/2025	05278700	7C Right (yellow)	Crazy Birds (PI)	Juvenile	Female	yes	
29/12/2020	05268677	85 Left (Yellow)	Cape Woolamai (PI)	Juvenile	Female		
14/01/2021	05268678	86 Left (Yellow)	Crazy Birds (PI)	Adult	Female		
06/01/2023	05268698	8A Left (Yellow)	Anchorage rd (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
18/01/2022	05268685	93 Left (Yellow)	Anchorage Rd (PI)	Juvenile	Female		
02/02/2022	05268690	99 Left (Yellow)	Ventnor, Devon Av (PI)	Juvenile	Male		
4/04/2014	05306135	BR Right (Orange)	Boags Rocks (Mornington)	Juvenile	Male		
20/03/2017	05280592	CU Right (White)	Cape Patterson (Bass Coast)	Juvenile	Male		
18/02/2011	05248036	Gm/YR (m/_ _) (Metal band only remains)	Crazy Birds (PI)	Juvenile	Unknown		Coloured bands missing, now metal only (confirmed through photo of the band)

13/02/2019	05287997	JL Right (White)	Gunnamatta Fingal Track (Mornington)	Juvenile	Female		
26/07/2010	05245490	PX Right (Orange)	Forrest Caves (PI)	Sub Adult	Unknown		
7/02/2018	05306191	RL Left (White)	Twin Reefs (Bass Coast)	Juvenile	Male		
31/1/2023		TS Left (White)	San Remo (Bass Coast)	Juvenile	Female		
		UJ (White)					
8/01/2016	05280577	YU Right (Orange)	Sandy Waterhole (Bass Coast)	Juvenile	Male		
31/01/2023		ZT Left (White)	San Remo (Bass Coast)	Adult	Female		
18/03/2025	05278623	5D	Broadwater Ave	Juv	Female	No	Seen only off island at Williamsons (Bass Coast) 29/9/2025