

# BirdLife Australia Rarities Committee

## Unusual Record Report Form

This form is intended to aid observers in the preparation of a submission for a major rarity in Australia. (It is not a mandatory requirement) Please complete all sections ensuring that you attach all relevant information including any digital images (email to [tonyp@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tonyp@bigpond.net.au) or [andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au](mailto:andrew.silcocks@birdlife.org.au)). Submissions to BARC should be submitted electronically wherever possible.

<b>Full Name: Robyn Elizabeth Pickering</b>	Office Use
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<b>Address: 5 Beresford Place Leeming WA 6149</b>	
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<b>Species Name:</b> Eurasian Hobby	<b>Scientific Name:</b>
Date(s) and time(s) of observation:	
How long did you watch the bird(s)?	Approximately 20 minutes
First and last date of occurrence:	10 December 2018 – 4 March 2019
Distance to bird:	

<b>Site Location</b> North Lake Reserve and small reserve to southwest with playground
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<b>Habitat</b> (describe habitat in which the bird was seen): Partially disturbed wetland reserve with wetland (water nearly full), intact remnant Banksia/Eucalyptus woodland and grassy eucalyptus lined parkland
<b>Sighting conditions</b> (weather, visibility, light conditions etc.): Initially seen at 11 am in good light and low to medium wind conditions.

<b>To your knowledge, is the species seen frequently at this site?</b> It has been seen at this same location the past 2 summers. This is the third summer at this location. 4 summers ago an adult was seen to the south of this at South Lake Reserve. This to my knowledge is the 4 <sup>th</sup> summer that this species has been seen in a relatively small area of the Perth Metropolitan Area.
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<b>Were other observers present Do any of the other observers disagree with your identification, if so, who?</b> (please give names, addresses and phone numbers)? Morgan Pickering. Also seen by Simon Pickering who was visiting from the UK with us on 10 December 2018. Since the initial sighting it has been seen and photographed several times. Images have been posted on Facebook sites: Australian Twitchers and Western Australian Birders with everyone happy that this is a Eurasian Hobby. Morgan Pickering: address as above. Clive Nealon: 35 Hilarion Road, Duncraig WA 6023
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**How confident are you of your identification?**, e.g. 70%, 100%. If not 100%, why not?

100%

**Please confirm that you are willing for BARC to display your images** (fully credited with your name) electronically  
YES

**Other details:** e.g. Do you have historical and or anecdotal information/comments relating to the prior occurrence/status of the species within or near this location?

It has been seen at this same location the past 2 summers. This is the third summer at this location. 4 summers ago an adult was seen to the south of this at South Lake Reserve. This to my knowledge is the 4<sup>th</sup> summer that this species has been seen in a relatively small area of the Perth Metropolitan Area.

**Physical Description of Bird - Please describe only what you saw:** (1) No. of individuals present (living or dead); (2) age (adult, juvenile, immature) and sex; (3) size and shape; (4) plumage colour and pattern (including any details of moult); (5) colour of bill, eyes and legs/feet; (6) calls; (7) behaviour, movements, flight pattern, and anything else that might help to identify the bird e.g. feeding, interactions with other birds, describe where the bird was – on ground, in canopy, flying etc. Were comparisons made with other species?

- 1) 1 living individuals seen
- 2) Immature but not sure of this. Sex unknown.
- 3) Similar size to Australian Hobby
- 4) Initially seen flying over North Lake reserve jizz was a hobby falcon but flight and black colour of back gave an unusual jizz for Australian Hobby. It then perched near us in a lemon scented gum where we could see the black and white breast markings and facial patterns.
- 5) Bill colour yellow and black, feet yellow
- 6) No calls noted
- 7) See 4) above. No interactions with other birds noted

These notes are from the initial sighting on 10 December 2018.

"Please insert extra page(s) for this section"

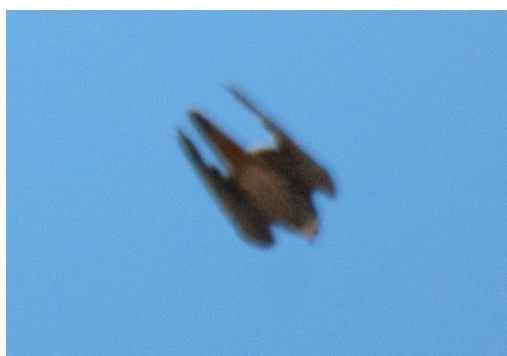
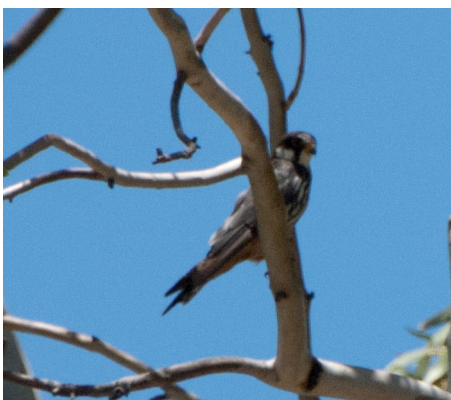
**Please indicate other species with which you think it might be confused and how these were eliminated?**

Australian Hobby – black and white breast ruled out Australian Hobby

Peregrine Falcon – ruled out by smaller size and markings on head and breast and less feathers on legs

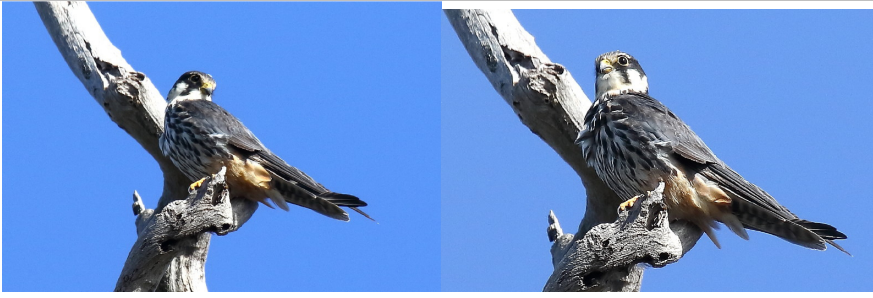
**Was the description written from memory?** Memory & images

**Were photographs taken? (please include where possible)**



by Morgan Pickering 10 December 2018

Figure 1 & 2 Eurasian Hobby Reserve adjacent to North Lake Reserve



**Figure 2 Eurasian Hobby North Lake Reserve 2 Jan 2019 by Clive Nealon**

**What experience have you had with the species in question?** (Did you know it was a Rare bird when you first saw it?)

Morgan and I knew it was a rare bird when we saw it. We had seen one at South Lake Reserve in Summer 2015/16 and North Lake Reserve in summer 2016/17. We never saw the one in summer 2017/18.

**Name:** Robyn Pickering

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Please email all material