

A Ten Year Survey of Waterfowl (Aves) of Patisar Lake at Bahawalpur, Pakistan (1996-2005)

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Abstract: Patisar Lake was surveyed for waterfowl population from 1996 through 2005 during mid-winter (January) each year. Ten thousand one hundred forty two waterfowls belonging to six orders viz., (1) Podicipediformes (Family: Podicipedidae; *Tachybaptus ruficollis*), (2) Pelecaniformes (Family: Phalacrocoracidae; *Phalacrocorax niger*; *P. carbo*; Family: Anhingidae, *Anhinga melanogaster*), (3) Ciconiiformes (Family: Ardeidae, *Ardea cinerea*, *A. purpurea*, *Ardeola grayii*, *Bubulcus ibis*, *Egretta alba*, *E. garzetta*, *E. intermedia*), (4) Anseriformes (Family: Anatidae; *Anas acuta*, *A. crecca*, *A. platyrhynchos*, *A. strepera*, *A. penelope*, *A. clypeata*, *Aythya ferina*, *A. fuligula*, *A. nyroca*), (5) Gruiformes (Family: Rallidae: *Fulica atra*, *Porphyrio porphyrio*, *Gallinula chloropus*) and (6) Charadriiformes (Family: Recurvirostridae, *Himantopus himantopus*; Family: Charadriidae, *Vanellus indicus*, *V. vanellus*, *V. leucurus*, *Charadrius dubius*; Family: Scolopacidae, *Tringa tetanus*, *T. nebularia*, *Actitis hypoleucos*; Family: Laridae, *Sterna aurantia*) were recorded. A decreasing trend in waterfowl population, ranging from 2744 (during 1996) to 159 (during 2005), was observed.

Key words: waterfowl population, Podicipediformes, Pelecaniformes, Ciconiiformes, Anseriformes, Gruiformes, Charadriiformes