

# Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 1)



## Crested Tern (*Sterna bergii*)



Second largest of the terns with yellow bill, shaggy black crest on crown and nape, and black legs.

**Bird Size** - 43- 48cm.

**Food** - Almost exclusively on fish.

**Nest style** - Sand scrape.

**Nest Site** - In colonies on offshore vegetated islands, nest sites 1m apart.

**Breeding Season & Details** - September - December in east, March - June in north. Lays one (rarely two) red brown streaked glossy grey eggs.

**Habits** - Can float for hours on water, roosting on the ground at night on ocean beaches, reefs, harbours and offshore islands. Feeds in large flocks, taking food on or near the ocean surface, diving and partly immersing themselves. Useful indicator to fishermen to pinpoint schools of fish. Known for spectacular paired mating flights.

### Local Status - Common

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk  
(Photography by Amelia Nielsen)

For further information, email [cooloolanature@spiderweb.com.au](mailto:cooloolanature@spiderweb.com.au)