

Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

Bird Walk (Site 7)



Tawny Frogmouth (*Podargus strigoides*)



Local Status – Uncommon

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk

(Photography by Amelia Nielsen)

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A master of disguise, with a continual resonating call of "oom - oom", this nocturnal bird roosts during the day in a tree. Often in pairs and close together, its stance and colouring blend so perfectly that it resembles another projection of the branch it already occupies. The other common name of "Mopoke" more rightly refers to the call of the Boobook Owl.

Bird Size - 32-46cm

Food - Insects and mice.

Nest style - A flimsy, slightly saucer-shaped, open platform.

Material used - Dry sticks, twigs, and lined with dry and green leaves.

Nest Site - Usually in an open situation in the forked branch of a tree up to twenty metres from the ground.

Breeding Season & Details - August to December, laying two to three eggs.

Habits - Pairs or small family groups, occupying a wide range of habitats, though avoids rainforests. Hunts prey by night usually from an open perch. Suffers a high mortality rate, due to the frequent choice of using roadways as a hunting ground for moths and other insects.