

Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

Bird Walk (Site 8)



Nankeen Kestrel (*Falco cenchroides*)



Local Status – Rare

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

For further information, email cooloolanature@spiderweb.com.au

Common name often used is "Sparrowhawk". This small pale rufous coloured kestrel with whitish underparts is often persecuted, in the most part quite wrongly, for taking domestic chickens.

Bird Size - Male 31cm, Female 35cm.

Food - Insects, rodents, small reptiles, and occasionally small birds.

Nest style - Saucer-shaped.

Material used - Dry sticks.

Nest Site - Sites vary, may either use the abandoned nest of another bird of prey, crow or magpie, a tree hollow, bare ground of a cliff, rock ledge, and sometimes ledges of tall office towers.

Breeding Season & Details - August to November generally, but may nest in any month of the year throughout it's range. Four to five eggs are laid once to twice a year.

Habits - The most widely recorded Australian bird and found in all habitats. Singly or in pairs, it is often seen skimming over paddocks and grasslands or hovering with fast wing beats before dropping to take prey. Chooses perches in the open such as dead trees or power poles.