

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



## Caspian Tern (*Hydropogne caspia*)



Largest and an aggressive tern, massive red beak with a black capped crown when breeding. When non-breeding, forehead and crown white, eye and ear coverts black with streaks to nape. Often seen resting on sandflats.

**Bird Size** - 50-60cms.

**Food** - Small to medium size fish and eggs of other birds.

**Nest style** - Ground scrape sometimes scooping hollow in centre of plants.

**Material used** - Lined with seaweed, grass and sticks.

**Nest Site** - Sand spits or offshore islands in Aust., NZ and Eurasia.

**Breeding Season & Details** - September to December laying one - two eggs.

**Habits** - Pairs or colonies, part migratory, from coastal waters to mudflats and estuaries to inland lakes and dams. Patrols 10-15m high, swoops, hovers and dives for food.

### Local Status - Common

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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