## Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 3)

## **Welcome Swallow**

(Hirundo neoxena)



**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

Familiar house swallow with tan head, face, and throat, with upperparts glossy blue black. Forked tail with row of white spots near tip. Endemic to Australia, but has spread to New Zealand and New Guinea. Numbers have increased since white settlement.

Bird Size - 15cm.

Food - Catches insects on the wing.

Nest style - Open cup.

**Material used** - Mud pellets glued together with grass, and lined with feathers, fur and hair.

**Nest Site** - Plastered to buildings, bridges, mine shafts, tree hollows or cave walls.

**Breeding Season & Details** - August to December. Lays 4-6 eggs, several broods often raised in a season, with both birds participating in incubation and rearing the young.

**Habits** - Small colonies. In some areas groups may migrate. Graceful, swift flight, swooping low and then rising. Many perch together on overhead wires.