## Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 5)

## **Pheasant Coucal**

(Centropus phasianinus)



## **Local Status - Uncommon**

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

Is Australia's only Cuckoo to build it's own nest and raise it's own young. The resounding "book book" call, repeated a number of times, is a feature of our summer grass & swamplands. In summer the plumage is black, in winter it is brown, as is the juveniles.

**Bird Size** - 60-80cm.

**Food** - Frogs, small reptiles, & aquatic insects, in addition to eggs & young of other birds.

**Nest style** - Large & cup shaped, often with a canopy constructed from the vegetation on-site.

**Material used** - Dry vegetation, often broad-leaved grasses & leaves, the nest cup lined with dry or green leaves.

**Nest Site** - Long & frequently rank grass, or in low grass entangled shrubbery within a metre off the ground.

**Breeding Season & Details** - September to March, with three to five eggs laid once to twice a year.

**Habits** - Generally in pairs and more common in wetter coastal areas. Able to fly, though laboured, usually runs or moves secretly through dense undergrowth. After rain often seen drying it feathers on low bush or post.