## Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 6)

## **Black-winged Stilt**

(Himantopus himantopus)



Black-winged Stilt

## **Local Status - Rare**

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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Giving an impression of cleanliness with it's black and white plumage and red legs, this handsome bird gives a call that is very much like the yapping of a small dog.

**Bird Size** - 35-38cm.

**Food** - Aquatic animals and plants.

**Nest style** - Slight hollow in wet ground or mud, or in a raised mound of vegetation.

**Material used** - Green or dry vegetation, particularly samphire, grasses or aquatic plants.

**Nest Site** - On or by small islands, mud banks, claypans or in swamps.

**Breeding Season & Details** - August to December, though in any month in the inland or northern regions depending on rainfall and water levels in shallow lakes and claypans. Three to four eggs are laid once or twice a year.

**Habits** - In pairs or flocks frequenting fresh or saltwater swamps, estuaries, and tidal flats, also having adapted to Sewerage Treatment Works. Usually breeds in loose colonies.