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

Lewin's Honeyeater (Meliphaga lewinii)



Local Status - Uncommon

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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Common honeyeater in our region, at times straying into urban areas. It's staccato call is a feature of our heavier forests.

Another common name of "White Lug" refers to its' yellowish-white cheek patch. Migrates from highlands to lowlands in autumn and winter.

Bird Size - 19-21cm.

Food - Insects, nectar, native & cultivated fruits.

Nest style - A deep cup.

Material used - Strips of bark, dried leaves & moss, bound by spider webbing, & lined with fine dry grasses and plant down.

Nest Site - Suspended by the rim in the thin fork of a tree among thicker outer foliage, at heights from five to ten metres.

Breeding Season & Details - August to January once or twice a year, with two to three eggs laid.

Habits - An aggressive bird, often noted chasing other species and each other through the forest, and one of the easiest to observe. Prefers denser forests and vegetation, even in urban situations.