Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 7)

Grey-tailed Tattler

(Heteroscelus brevipes)



Local Status – Common (Summer Migrant)

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

A light grey and white wading bird similar to the less common Wandering Tattler, a distinguishing feature being the white eyebrow which extends behind the eye in the Grey-tailed, and only extends just to the eye in the Wandering.

Bird Size - 27cm.

Food - Small aquatic life.

Nest style - Hollow, amidst stones.

Material used - Stones and dry grass.

Nest Site - Breeds in Siberia.

Breeding Season & Details - June and July. Little is known of it's breeding behaviour, the first nest being discovered in 1959.

Habits - A summer migrant from Siberia, frequenting mangroves, rocky seashores & mud-flats with many overwintering in Australia. Active and very wary, seen alone or in small parties. At high tide, often roosts in trees and on sand spits at the tide's edge.