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

## White-faced Heron

(Ardea novaehollandiae)



## **Local Status – Very 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

Commonly known as the "Blue Crane", this peaceful grey bird with it's white face and yellow legs often frequents quite heavily populated urban areas foraging for food.

**Bird Size** - 65-70cm.

**Food** - Yabbies, frogs, freshwater snails, and insects.

**Nest style** - A thin, flat platform.

Material used - Dry sticks and twigs

**Nest Site** - In a tree growing in, close to, or at times well away from the water, between five and twenty metres from the ground.

**Breeding Season & Details** - September to February, though may vary, with two to seven eggs laid usually only once a year. Usually a solitary nester, it may, in times of flood, form small inland breeding colonies.

**Habits** - Found in pairs or small flocks throughout Australia wherever surface water occurs, including tidal reaches, mangroves, and mud-flats, usually feeding in shallow water. It wanders often into urban backyards, and gives a loud croaking call when disturbed before taking flight.