Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 9)

Little Corella (Cacatua sanguinea)



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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Only in recent times has this small white cockatoo moved into our region, possibly being established from aviary escapees. Distinguishing features include an erect cap-like crest, whitish bill, blue-grey skin around eye, and pinkish stain between bill and eye.

Bird Size - 38cm

Food - Seeds of grasses, other plants, bulbs and roots. Also been observed feeding on cones of cultivated Book-leaf Pines.

Nest style - A tree hollow.

Material used - Nil.

Nest Site - Uses various sites including a tree hollow from between three to twenty metres, a high termite mound, and occasionally a cliff hollow. Sites are used over a number of seasons, not always by the same pair.

Breeding Season & Details - Variable, depending on seasonal conditions, but generally July to November in the South and March to August in the North. Two to four eggs laid once or twice a year.

Habits - In pairs or flocks, inhabiting open and lightly timbered country. Early records from North-western Queensland noted up to 20,00 birds in a flock. Noisy and gregarious. Establishes communal roosting sites.