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

## **Pied Currawong**

(Strepera graculina)



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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An altitudinal migrant, arriving in the lowlands early autumn. Its spirited calls of "Curra-wa, curra-wong" ring out in the early morning, with colder weather seeming to determine the number of birds present in this area. Two common names used are "Mountain Magpie" and "Scrub Magpie".

Bird Size - 41-51cm

**Food** - Insects, small birds and nestlings, berries, plus native and exotic fruit. Also known to take small snakes.

Nest style - Large open bowl.

**Material used** - Twigs and sticks, with grasses, bark, and rootlets used as a lining.

**Nest Site** - Placed amongst foliage in the higher outer branches of a tall tree, generally growing among others. Nest sites are often used over a number of seasons.

**Breeding Season & Details** - August to January, with two to five eggs laid once a year.

**Habits** - Inhabiting forests and woodlands, it migrates to lowland urban and rural areas in the cooler months. Usually in flocks, which sometimes are quite large.