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

White-breasted Woodswallow

(Artamus leucorhynchus)



Local Status - Uncommon

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 clean looking, stoutly built swallow-like bird with long wings. Frequently soaring, this is the only woodswallow species without a white tail-tip.

Bird Size - 17cm.

Food - Insects, mostly caught on the wing.

Nest style - A shallow bowl.

Material used - Fine dry grasses, plant stems, rootlets, and sometimes twigs, lined with soft grass.

Nest Site - Either, a broken off spout or knot hole of a tree, usually at a considerable height, or the fork of a small tree or mangrove. It has also been known to build in palms and in knots of mistletoe.

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

Habits - Usually in small groups, inhabiting mangroves and woodlands, always close to water. Flocks give an animated chirping or chattering when foraging. They look quite cute, especially in cold weather, when they roost by clustering together on the sides of trees or on tree branches.