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Natural Solutions Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd ABN 38 103 13 716 Phone 07 3124 9400 Fax 07 3124 9499

Our Ref: J08-069/_DR_TOT_Avifauna

Wednesday, 11 June 2008

Kelly Lynch Hyder Consulting Lvl 7, 199 Grey Street Locked Bag 2017 SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101

Via Email: kelly.lynch@hyderconsulting.com

Dear Ms Lynch,

RE: TOWNSVILLE OCEAN TERMINAL PROJECT - AVIFAUNA

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In order to respond to the comments submitted by the Townsville Region Bird Observers Club (TRBOC) (25/01/08) in response to the Townsville Ocean Terminal Project (TOT) Environmental Impact Statement, I have been requested to investigate the proposed project and consider potential impacts on avifauna. The TOT site is located on and adjacent to the Townsville foreshore, immediately north of the Convention Centre and Casino on the western side of Ross Creek (Townsville Port) (Figure 1 & Photo Plates).

I have a PhD in ecology and have completed many years research in ornithology including shorebird biology and management. I am familiar with the birds of Queensland and Townsville. I have completed (since 1999) a number of ecological studies in the Townsville region and am familiar with the local habitats, including Magnetic Island, Ross River and Cape Pallarenda. I have been observing birds professionally for more than 20 years and recreationally for 10 years prior to that.

2.0 TRBOC CORRESPONDENCE

It is apparent that TRBOC is concerned that no specific study has considered impacts on avifauna and/or potential habitat, as per their correspondence *"It would appear that the consultant has not conducted a field study of the area as required by the EIS terms of reference. This is highlighted in the fact that the Consultant has concluded that sections of the existing infrastructure are a constructed marine site and therefore does not hold terrestrial fauna. In fact Sooty Oystercatchers, listed as rare under State legislation reside in this area." (TRBOC 2008a).*

The EIS Terms of Reference (ToR) (Queensland Government 2007) states: *"The terrestrial fauna occurring within the Project area and in areas affected by material extraction should be described noting the broad distribution patterns in relation to vegetation, topography and substrate. A field investigation should be undertaken and a description of the fauna present or likely to be present in the area should be provided.*

This field investigation should cover a range of issues including "existence of any rare, threatened or otherwise noteworthy species communities in the study area, including discussion of range, habitat, breeding, recruitment, feeding and movement requirements, and current level of protection (e.g. any requirements of Protected Area Management Plans); and use of the area by migratory birds, nomadic birds, fish and terrestrial fauna."

TRBOC have requested the following:

- The Consultant should be made to withdraw the statement "The site is a constructed marine site. No terrestrial fauna is associated in the area."
- Conduct a field investigation as specified in the EIS terms of reference. Any such study will confirm the true situation of this area in respect of terrestrial fauna and we believe will demonstrate the need for compensatory structures to be included in the final design of the project.

3.0 SCOPE OF WORKS

Statutory requirements (Commonwealth, State and local) have been addressed in detail by others in the EIS documentation (including C&R Consulting 2007a, b; EIS 2007). In order to address the EIS ToR, the concerns raised by TRBOC and to ensure the potential impact on avifauna is considered, the following assessment objectives (within context of the site origin, history and size) were identified:

- Site inspection to identify potential habitat;
- Survey of site to determine bird populations;
- Assessment / consideration of similar habitat in locality; and
- Liaison / meeting with TRBOC representatives.

In summary the key aims of the assessment were to:

- Assess site value for avifauna;
- Identify potential project impacts on avifauna; and
- Recommend mitigation measures.



4.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4.1 Current Site

The site is located on the Townsville foreshore within Cleveland Bay and includes the Port western and northern breakwater and the southern breakwater along the Casino and Convention Centre land. The site and immediate locality consists of anthropogenically modified landforms and man-made (artificial) habitats (Figure 1 & Photo Plates). The site is located outside the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. These modified landforms include:

- Reclaimed land for the convention centre and casino;
- Rip rap breakwater in the south, north of the casino / convention centre;
- Marina and constructed breakwaters;
- Rip rap (constructed by placed irregular shaped rocks together to form a wall) northern breakwater;
- "Sealed" western breakwater (extending beyond the northern breakwater with a "rocky headland");
- Shallow (approx. 0.5-1.5m) waters within the breakwaters;
- Deep water (approx. 11m) within the Port Channel (Ross Creek);
- Extensive Port activities to the east;
- Port channel marker / beacons; and
- Small area of sand predominantly exposed at low tide in the northeast portion of the site.

The site (all three breakwaters) is accessible by pedestrians (primarily walkers and fishermen). The Port western breakwater is most accessible as the surface is smooth, whereas the southern and northern breakwaters are both constructed of rip rap and not easily accessible (i.e. boulder hopping is necessary) (refer Photo Plates).

4.2 Proposed Project

It is understood that the TOT Project (Figure 2) includes:

- Ocean Terminal along the current Port western breakwater;
- Residential & Commercial waterfront community in land reclaimed between the northern, western and southern breakwater;
- Private recreational marina / mooring; and
- Open space areas along the northern breakwater.

It is understood that the majority of the southern breakwater, part of the eastern side of the Port western breakwater and the northern side of the northern breakwater will be retained in their current state. Following completion of the project, approximately 3km (i.e. the same amount that currently exists) of rocky shore (rip-rap) habitat will be provided.

The project is currently proposed in 25 stages (or steps) (i.e. the preferred construction method - EIS 2007), starting with the construction of the access haul road and hardstand area. The Strand (i.e. western / perimeter breakwater) is proposed in the 2nd step.



5.0 METHODOLOGY

In order to appreciate the site as avifauna habitat and obtain an understanding of the proposed project and potential impacts, the following methodology was implemented:

- Review background information (Sections of the EIS, Specialist Reports, Commonwealth, State & Bird Databases);
- Liaison Project Consultants and Engineers (Hyder Consulting & Flanagan Consulting Group);
- Liaison George Baker (TRBOC); and
- Site Inspection and Inspection of Cleveland Bay.

Seven site inspections were completed from 11th May to 14th May 2008 and included, surveys during:

- Low & high tide;
- Early morning, late afternoon & midday;
- Weekdays & weekends; and
- 1 survey with G.Baker (TRBOC).

Localities in Cleveland Bay were also inspected between 12th & 14th May 2008 to determine the occurrence of "rocky substrate" habitat

It should be noted that any study requiring an understanding of fauna populations and use of an area often requires long term observations. Migratory species, by definition, are also not encountered in an area all year. Nevertheless, even with these limitations, a relatively accurate assessment of the habitat available and likely occurring species can be obtained through a limited number of site inspections, habitat assessment, interrogation of databases and local information. In this instance, and with recognition of the study objectives, the survey methodology used is considered sufficient to assess and provide comment on avifauna and project impacts.

6.0 SITE ASSESSMENT

6.1 Habitat

Both the northern and southern breakwaters contain rip rap structures (irregular rocks). The Port western breakwater is also comprised of rip rap, however this breakwater has been constructed with more regular shaped rocks and has a flat concrete surface (**Photo Plates**). A small area of sand is exposed at low tide in the northeast corner of the site.

Bird habitat is provided in the form of:

- Forage perches (rocks, pipes);
- Shelter/Roosting (rocks, crevices, holes, breakwater);
- Nesting (possible amongst rocks not confirmed); and
- Food resources (intertidal rocks).



6.2 Species

Although referring to existing databases has limited value (as they are often at a broader scale) they do provide an indication of potentially occurring species (including threatened species) for a specific location, particularly if there is no long term site-specific data.

The *Commonwealth* EPBC Act Protected Matter database (DEWHA 2008), *State* Wildlife Online database (EPA 2008) and *Birds Australia Atlas* data (Birds Australia 2008) are included in **Appendix A**. Although C&R Consulting (2007a) did not conduct detailed bird surveys they did consider the potential occurrence of certain species, including threatened birds, within the study area.

Members of TRBOC have kept irregular data of the birds of the Port area for approximately 12 years and report sightings of threatened species (G. Baker, TRBOC *pers. com.*). TRBOC report 30 species (**Table 1**) from the Port breakwater (it is believed these sightings are from the general Port locality) over the past 12 years, as at May 2008.

SPECIES	COMMON NAME
Puffinus tenuirostris	Short-tailed Shearwater
Puffinus pacificus	Wedge-tailed Shearwater
Puffinus huttoni	Hutton's Shearwater
Anhinga melanogaster	Darter
Phalacrocorax varius	Pied Cormorant
Phalacrocorax melanoleucos	Little Pied Cormorant
Phalacrocorax sulcirostris	Little Black Cormorant
Egretta sacra	Eastern Reef Egret
Butorides striatus	Striated Heron
Haematopus fuliginosus	Sooty Oystercatcher
Elanus axillaris	Black Kite
Haliastur indus	Brahminy Kite
Pandion haliaetus	Osprey
Falco cenchroides	Nankeen Kestrel
Sula leucogaster	Brown Booby.
Larus novaehollandiae	Silver Gull
Sterna caspia	Caspian Tern
Sterna bergii	Gull-billed Tern
Falco cenchroides	Lesser Crested Tern
Sterna hirundo	Common Tern
Sterna bergii	Crested Tern
Sterna albifrons	Little Tern

TABLE 1 SIGHTINGS FROM PORT BREAKWATER (TRBOC, APPROX. 1996-2008)



SPECIES	COMMON NAME
Heteroscelus incanus	Wandering Tattler
Vanellus miles novaehollandiae	Masked Lapwing
Threskiornis molucca	White Ibis
Todiramphus sanctus	Sacred Kingfisher
Hirundo neoxena	Welcome Swallow
Grallina cyanoleuca	Magpie Lark
Taeniopygia guttata	Zebra Finch
Corvus (assume coronoides)	Raven

During May 2008 site inspections completed as part of this review a total of 21 species were recorded in the "site locality" (**Table 2**). This represents 70% of the total species recorded by TRBOC overt he past 12 years and includes five species not recorded by TRBOC. The total list for the site (locality) would stand at 35 (as at May 2008) collected over the past 12 years.

SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME
Puffinus tenuirostris	Short-tailed Shearwater
Anhinga melanogaster	Darter
Phalacrocorax varius	Pied Cormorant
Egretta sacra	Eastern Reef Egret
Butorides striatus	Striated Heron
Elanus axillaris	Black Kite
Haliastur indus	Brahminy Kite
Pandion haliaetus	Osprey
Sula leucogaster	Brown Booby.
Larus novaehollandiae	Silver Gull
Sterna caspia	Caspian Tern
Sterna nilotica	Gull-billed Tern
Sterna bergii	Crested Tern
Vanellus miles novaehollandiae	Masked Lapwing
Hirundo neoxena	Welcome Swallow
Grallina cyanoleuca	Magpie Lark
Acridotheres tristis	Common Mynah
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow
Corvus orru	Torresian Crow
Artamus leucorynchus	White-breasted Woodswallow
Entomyzon cyanotis	Blue-faced Honey-eater

TABLE 2

SPECIES RECORDED AT PORT BREAKWATER (WATSON, 11TH-14TH MAY 2008)



Most of the species (from the Watson and the TRBOC list) would be considered transient and not resident or reliant on the site as preferred habitat occurs within adjacent areas. However, the habitat provided by the site could be considered "preferred" by a number of species, including Eastern Reef Egret and Striated Heron. The site provides shelter, forage resources and perches for these species. Other shorebird / coastal species such as cormorants, gulls and terns would use the constructed part of site occasionally for roosting while foraging in the local waters.

6.3 Threatened Species

Databases (Annexure A), EIS documents (e.g. C&R Consulting 2007a, b) and information from TRBOC (Table 1 & TRBOC 2008) suggest that a number of threatened (listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and Queensland *Nature Conservation Act 1992*) species occur or have the potential to occur within the project locality/site. Due to the size of the "site", proximity to adjacent varied habitats and the nature of broad ranging databases caution is required when analysing database information. Data collected on site (e.g. by local birders - TRBOC) is preferred in this instance as a record of threatened species.

C&R Consulting (2007a) dealt in detail with six threatened bird species (i.e. Red Goshawk, Whitebellied Sea-eagle, White-throated Needletail, Barn Swallow, Black-faced Monarch and Australian Painted Snipe) and mentioned that both Little Tern and Sooty Oystercatcher have been *"observed feeding inside the Development site"*. They also conclude that it is unlikely that *"this area is their primary food source"*.

Although some of the species considered as potentially occurring may occasionally utilise the site (or locality) (e.g. White-bellied Sea-eagle, White-throated Needletail, migratory wader species) it is believed that the site does not form significant habitat critical to their survival.

Little Tern (listed as *endangered* in Queensland) and Sooty Oystercatcher (listed as *rare* in Queensland) have been recorded in the site, both roosting and foraging (G. Baker, TRBOC *pers. com.*; TRBOC 2008). Atlas data (Birds Australia 2008) indicates 4 and 18 records for Sooty Oystercatcher and Little Tern respectively in the greater Townsville region. Little Tern would utilise the rip-rap habitat for roosting while foraging on the intertidal rip-rap (rocky) habitat. There are no breeding records for these (or any other) species within the site (G. Baker, TRBOC *pers. com*). J.Weineke (Weineke 2000) reports both Little Terns and Sooty Oystercatchers in Cleveland Bay. Wiereke (2000) acknowledges that the terns shelter near the breakwater in rough weather while the oystercatcher prefers exposed reefs and rocky shores on islands.

Brief species profiles for Little Tern and Sooty Oystercatcher (**Appendix B**) are provided to assist in understanding species life cycles and critical habitat requirements.

7.0 CLEVELAND BAY HABITAT

Intertidal habitats within Cleveland Bay are described in the EIS documents (including C&R Consulting 2007b) and include mangroves, sandy shores, mudflats and rocky shores. The site artificial "rip rap" habitat is considered synonymous with natural "rocky shore". Rocky Shore habitat occurs on Magnetic Island (<10km from site), Cape Pallarenda (<10km from site) and Kissing Point (<3km from site) (refer



Photo Plates). This natural habitat is considered greater quality that that provided by the artificial structures. Similar artificial "rip-rap" habitat occurs around the marina (<1km from the site), along the Strand (three small groynes 1-2km from the site), Cleveland Point (approx. 20km from site) and extensive breakwater areas near Ross River (Port land <2km east of the site) (refer Figure 3 & Photo Plates).

A crude estimation (based on area approximations and site inspections) of rocky shore habitat (linear strips) in Cleveland Bay (within 20-25km from the site) suggests:

- 40 km of natural habitat
- 9 km artificial habitat

The site provides approximately 3km (33%) of the artificial habitat and <6% of the "rocky shore habitat in Cleveland Bay.

8.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

A number of avifauna -related impacts (potentially temporary) associated with the proposed project (operational phase) are likely to occur. These changes to the site are summarised below with specific potential impacts for avifauna **Table 3**.

TABLE 3 POTENTIAL PROJECT-RELATED IMPACTS ON AVIFAUNA

CHANGE TO CURRENT SITE	POTENTIAL IMPACT
Loss of internal portion of the northern breakwater	Loss of roosting & foraging
Loss of the internal & external Port western breakwater	Loss of roosting & foraging
Pedestrian access to northern breakwater	Disturbance – loss of foraging opportunities, energy expenditure
Reclamation of shallow open water	Loss of shallow feeding resources

The implications of this loss need to be reviewed in context with the amount of "similar" natural rocky shore and artificial "rip-rap" habitat in Cleveland Bay (within 20km of the project site), the numbers (richness and abundance) of common species that utilise the site, the numbers of threatened species that are known to or are likely to use the site and the relative value (how critical the site is to the species survival) the site provides for these species.

Impacts such as dredging, oil/chemical spills, release of contaminants, stormwater run-off, algal blooms, noise, increased vibration, harmful marine debris and introduced pests have been dealt with in detail in the EIS (including C&R Consulting 2007a, b). It should be noted that these matters may impact the avifauna of the site. A number of measures have been proposed to manage these potential impacts (EIS 2007, C&R Consulting 2007a, b).



9.0 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The site is a constructed marine site. Although the habitat is artificial, it does support a small number of species, with even fewer utilising or likely to utilise the site regularly.

In order to provide similar habitat in the locality a number of management measures are recommended for the i) design, ii) construction and iii) operational phase of the project.

Design:

- Creation of appropriately designed compensatory habitat (e.g. Strand breakwater refer discussion below); and
- Where possible, utilise rip-rap design (i.e. large irregular boulders) for breakwaters.
- Liaison with appropriately qualified scientists to assist in design

Construction Phase:

- Staged construction (only disturb habitat when necessary);
- No dogs allowed on the construction site;
- Areas that provide bird habitat and do not require construction access to be protected (fenced or signposted); and
- Site / project environmental officer to be aware of bird habitat, manage and monitor accordingly.

Operational Phase:

- Restrict access to compensatory habitat (e.g. Strand breakwater refer discussion below)
- Restrict access to parts of the northern breakwater (e.g. limit pedestrians to the eastern part of the northern breakwater).
- Ongoing monitoring of Compensatory Bird Habitat and project area

It is recommended that the proposed northern breakwater extension and some or all of the proposed Strand breakwater (the western most proposed breakwater) be managed as "*Compensatory Bird Habitat*". The design of the breakwater should consider rip rap groynes to the west that allow for the creation of "sheltered bays". Baffles could be used (K. O'Neil, Flanagan Consulting Group *pers. com.*) as part of the groynes to maintain natural hydrological flow. Depending on design, sand / sediment accretion may occur at the intersection between the groyne and breakwater creating small sheltered areas for roosting and foraging. Pedestrian (and domestic / feral animal) access to these ('Compensatory Bird Habitat') areas should be prohibited (access restricted to maintenance and conservation purposes) to ensure a "protected and conserved" environment that provides a range of resources (roosting, foraging and potentially nesting) for both common and threatened species.

10.0 SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

The site is a constructed marine site. Nevertheless, it does provide habitat for birds. Habitat resources include foraging platforms and prey material and roosting sites.

Cleveland Bay provides a range of intertidal habitats, including rocky shores. Habitat considered of greater quality than that of the site occurs within Cleveland Bay and on Magnetic Island (within 20km of the project site). Approximately 40km of natural and 9km of artificial "rocky shore" habitat exists within



Cleveland Bay. The site comprises entirely artificial rip-rap habitat and provides approximately 3km (<6%) of the total rocky habitat in Cleveland Bay. Following completion of the project, approximately 3km (i.e. the same amount that currently exists) of rocky shore (rip-rap) habitat will be provided.

Impacts on avifauna associated with the project include loss of forage and roost habitat for some common (resident) species. Following the implementation of "mitigation measures" it is likely that these impacts will be temporary. Threatened species (e.g. Little Tern & Sooty Oystercatcher) are known to occasionally utilise the site, however it is not considered that the site forms part of their critical habitat.

Recommendations to minimise impacts on both common and threatened avifauna include design considerations to the breakwater (e.g. rip rap), restricted access and monitoring. The key measure to compensate for habitat loss involves the management of the proposed northern breakwater extension and some or all of the proposed Strand breakwater as a "*Compensatory Bird Habitat*" area.

11.0 REFERENCES

- Birds Australia & Wildlife Link (2006) Birdata (Database). Birds Australia URL www.birdata.com.au, as at June 2006.
- C&R Consultants (2007a) Nature Conservation Report Baseline Study of Impacts of the Townsville Ocean Terminal on Ecological Characteristics of Cleveland Bay. C & R Consulting, Thuringowa.
- C&R Consultants (2007b) *Report for Potential Impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance (EPBC Act) Townsville Ocean Terminal.* C&R Consulting Thuringowa.
- Department of Infrastructure (2007) *Terms of Reference for an Environmental Impact Statement Townsville Ocean Terminal Project*. Queensland Government
- EIS (2007). Environmental Impact Statement Townsville Ocean Terminal (TOT) Project. City Pacific Limited.
- Environmental Protection Agency (2007b) *Wildlife Online Extract.* (Database). Compiled 25 May Environmental Protection Agency / Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. Brisbane, Australia. URL http://www.epa.gld.gov.au/nature_conservation/wildlife/wildlife_online/
- EPBC (2005) *EPBC Act Protected Matters Report.* Department of Environment and Heritage, Canberra. 24 May 2005.

TRBOC (2008) TRBOC sightings from Port Breakwater as of May 2008 (provided by G.Baker).

Wieneke, J. (2000) Where to find birds in North Eastern Queensland. (3rd Edition).



We trust this information is sufficient for your purpose; however should you require further information or clarification please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 3124 9400.

Yours faithfully Natural Solutions Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd

DR-JUSTIN WATSON Director

Enc: Figure 1: Project Locality - (Hyder Consulting) Figure 2: Project Description - (Hyder Consulting) Figure 3: Cleveland Bay Rocky Shore Habitats - (Google Earth Professional) Photo Plates Annexure A: Databases (EPBC, Wildlife Online, Birds Australia) Annexure B: Species Profiles (Sooty Oystercatcher, Little Tern)





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once of this plan. Aerial photography and mapping has been overlaid as a best fit on the boundaries shown and position is approximate only. The dimensions, area, size and location of improvements shown on this plan are approximate only and may vary. Scale shown is correct for the original plan and any copies of this plan should be verified by checking against the bar scale. This plan may not be photocopied unless this note is included.







EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Protected Matters Search Tool

You are here: Environment Home > EPBC Act > Search

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Information on the coverage of this report and qualifications on data supporting this report are contained in the <u>caveat</u> at the end of the report.

You may wish to print this report for reference before moving to other pages or websites.

The Australian Natural Resources Atlas at http://www.environment.gov.au/atlas may provide further environmental information relevant to your selected area. Information about the EPBC Act including significance guidelines, forms and application process details can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/atlas may provide further environmental information relevant to your selected area. Information about the EPBC Act including significance guidelines, forms and application process details can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/atlas may provide further environmental information about the EPBC Act including significance guidelines, forms and application process details can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/atlas the EPBC Act including significance guidelines, forms and application process details can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/atlas the found at http://www.environment.gov the found at <a href="http://www.environment.gov"

http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/assessmentsapprovals/index.html



Summary

Matters of National Environmental Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance - see

1 1

http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/assessmentsapprovals/guidelines/index.html.

World Heritage Properties:	
National Heritage Places:	

http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/erin/ert/epbc/epbc_report.pl

22 May 2008 10:41

Wetlands of International Significance: (Ramsar Sites)	1
Commonwealth Marine Areas:	None
Threatened Ecological Communities:	None
Threatened Species:	23
Migratory Species:	36

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place and the heritage values of a place on the Register of the National Estate. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/index.html.

Please note that the current dataset on Commonwealth land is not complete. Further information on Commonwealth land would need to be obtained from relevant sources including Commonwealth agencies, local agencies, and land tenure maps.

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species. Information on EPBC Act permit requirements and application forms can be found at http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/permits/index.html.

Commonwealth Lands:	1
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Places on the RNE:	29
Listed Marine Species:	76
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	12
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves:	None

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have nominated.

State and Territory Reserves:	1
Other Commonwealth Reserves:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	None

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

World Heritage Properties [<u>Dataset Information</u>] <u>Great Barrier Reef QLD</u> National Heritage Places [<u>Dataset Information</u>]

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report		Page 3 of 12
Great Barrier Reef QLD		
Wetlands of International Significance [Dataset Informa (Ramsar Sites)	ation]	
BOWLING GREEN BAY		Within 10 km of Ramsar site
Threatened Species [Dataset Information]	Status	Type of Presence
Birds		
<u>Erythrotriorchis radiatus</u> * Red Goshawk	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Geophaps scripta scripta</u> * Squatter Pigeon (southern)	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Neochmia ruficauda ruficauda</u> * Star Finch (eastern), Star Finch (southern)	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Poephila cincta cincta</u> * Black-throated Finch (southern)	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Rostratula australis</u> * Australian Painted Snipe	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mammals		
<u>Balaenoptera musculus</u> * Blue Whale	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Dasyurus hallucatus</u> * Northern Quoll	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hipposideros semoni.</u> * Semon's Leaf-nosed Bat, Greater Wart-nosed Horseshoe-bat	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Megaptera novaeangliae</u> * Humpback Whale	Vulnerable	Breeding known to occur within area
<u>Pteropus conspicillatus</u> * Spectacled Flying-fox	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Rhinolophus philippinensis (large form)</u> * Greater Large-eared Horseshoe Bat	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Xeromys myoides</u> * Water Mouse, False Water Rat	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Reptiles		
<u>Caretta caretta</u> * Loggerhead Turtle	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Chelonia mydas</u> * Green Turtle	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Dermochelys coriacea</u> * Leathery Turtle, Leatherback Turtle, Luth	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Egernia rugosa</u> * Yakka Skink	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u> * Hawksbill Turtle	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Lepidochelys olivacea</u> * Pacific Ridley, Olive Ridley	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Natator depressus</u> * Flatback Turtle	Vulnerable	Breeding likely to occur within area
Sharks		
<u>Pristis zijsron</u> * Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Rhincodon typus *	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report		Page 4 of 12
Whale Shark		area
Plants		
<u>Hydrocharis dubia</u> * Frogbit	Vulnerable	Community likely to occur within area
<u>Taeniophyllum muelleri</u> * Minute Orchid, Ribbon-root Orchid	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Species [Dataset Information]	Status	Type of Presence
Migratory Terrestrial Species		
Birds		
<u>Haliaeetus leucogaster</u> White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Hirundapus caudacutus</u> White-throated Needletail	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hirundo rustica</u> Barn Swallow	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Merops ornatus</u> * Rainbow Bee-eater	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Monarcha melanopsis</u> Black-faced Monarch	Migratory	Breeding may occur within area
<u>Monarcha trivirgatus</u> Spectacled Monarch	Migratory	Breeding likely to occur within area
<u>Myiagra cyanoleuca</u> Satin Flycatcher	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Rhipidura rufifrons</u> Rufous Fantail	Migratory	Breeding may occur within area
Migratory Wetland Species		
Birds		
<u>Ardea alba</u> Great Egret, White Egret	Migratory	Breeding likely to occur within area
<u>Ardea ibis</u> Cattle Egret	Migratory	Breeding likely to occur within area
<u>Charadrius mongolus</u> Lesser Sand Plover, Mongolian Plover	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Gallinago hardwickii</u> * Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Nettapus coromandelianus albipennis</u> Australian Cotton Pygmy-goose	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Numenius madagascariensis</u> Eastern Curlew	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Numenius minutus</u> Little Curlew, Little Whimbrel	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Numenius phaeopus</u> Whimbrel	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Rostratula benghalensis s. lat.</u> Painted Snipe	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Marine Birds		
<u>Apus pacificus</u> Fork-tailed Swift	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Ardea alba</u> Great Egret, White Egret	Migratory	Breeding likely to occur within area

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report		Page 5 of 12
<u>Ardea ibis</u> Cattle Egret	Migratory	Breeding likely to occur within area
<u>Sterna albifrons</u> Little Tern	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Migratory Marine Species		
Mammals		
<u>Balaenoptera edeni</u> Bryde's Whale	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Balaenoptera musculus</u> * Blue Whale	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Dugong dugon</u> Dugong	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Megaptera novaeangliae</u> * Humpback Whale	Migratory	Breeding known to occur within area
<u>Orcaella brevirostris</u> Irrawaddy Dolphin	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Orcinus orca</u> Killer Whale, Orca	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Sousa chinensis</u> Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphin	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptiles		
<u>Caretta caretta</u> * Loggerhead Turtle	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Chelonia mydas</u> * Green Turtle	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Crocodylus porosus</u> Estuarine Crocodile, Salt-water Crocodile	Migratory	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<u>Dermochelys coriacea</u> * Leathery Turtle, Leatherback Turtle, Luth	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u> * Hawksbill Turtle	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Lepidochelys olivacea</u> * Pacific Ridley, Olive Ridley	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Natator depressus</u> * Flatback Turtle	Migratory	Breeding likely to occur within area
Sharks		
<u>Rhincodon typus</u> Whale Shark	Migratory	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Other Matters Protected by the EPE	BC Act	
Listed Marine Species [Dataset Information]	Status	Type of Presence
Birds		
<u>Anseranas semipalmata</u> Magpie Goose	Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Apus pacificus</u> Fork-tailed Swift	Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Ardea alba</u> Great Egret, White Egret	Listed - overfly marine	Breeding likely to occur within area

Ardea ibis Cattle Egret

<u>Charadrius mongolus</u> Lesser Sand Plover, Mongolian Plover

<u>Gallinago hardwickii</u> * Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe

<u>Haliaeetus leucogaster</u> White-bellied Sea-Eagle

<u>Hirundapus caudacutus</u> White-throated Needletail

Hirundo rustica Barn Swallow

<u>Merops ornatus</u> * Rainbow Bee-eater

Monarcha melanopsis Black-faced Monarch

Monarcha trivirgatus Spectacled Monarch

Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher

<u>Nettapus coromandelianus albipennis</u> Australian Cotton Pygmy-goose

<u>Numenius madagascariensis</u> Eastern Curlew

<u>Numenius minutus</u> Little Curlew, Little Whimbrel

<u>Numenius phaeopus</u> Whimbrel <u>Rhipidura rufifrons</u> Rufous Fantail

<u>Rostratula benghalensis s. lat.</u> Painted Snipe

area	
Listed - overfly marine area	Breeding likely to occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Breeding may occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Breeding likely to occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Breeding may occur within area
Listed - overfly marine area	Species or species habitat may occur within area

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report		Page 7 of 12
<u>Sterna albifrons</u> Little Tern	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Mammals		
<u>Dugong dugon</u> Dugong	Listed	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Ray-finned fishes		
<u>Acentronura tentaculata</u> Hairy Pygmy Pipehorse	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Campichthys tryoni</u> Tryon's Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Choeroichthys brachysoma</u> Pacific Short-bodied Pipefish, Short-bodied Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Choeroichthys suillus</u> Pig-snouted Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Corythoichthys amplexus</u> Fijian Banded Pipefish, Brown-banded Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Corythoichthys flavofasciatus Yellow-banded Pipefish, Network Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Corythoichthys intestinalis</u> Australian Messmate Pipefish, Banded Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Corythoichthys ocellatus Orange-spotted Pipefish, Ocellated Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Corythoichthys paxtoni</u> Paxton's Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Corythoichthys schultzi</u> Schultz's Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Cosmocampus darrosanus</u> D'Arros Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Doryrhamphus excisus</u> Indian Blue-stripe Pipefish, Blue-stripe Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Festucalex cinctus</u> Girdled Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Halicampus dunckeri</u> Red-hair Pipefish, Duncker's Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Halicampus grayi</u> Mud Pipefish, Gray's Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Halicampus nitidus</u> Glittering Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Halicampus spinirostris</u> Spiny-snout Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hippichthys cyanospilos</u> Blue-speckled Pipefish, Blue-spotted Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hippichthys heptagonus</u> Madura Pipefish, Reticulated Freshwater Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hippichthys penicillus</u> Beady Pipefish, Steep-nosed Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hippocampus bargibanti</u> Pygmy Seahorse	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hippocampus kuda</u> Spotted Seahorse, Yellow Seahorse	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hippocampus planifrons</u> Flat-face Seahorse	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report		Page 8 of 12
<u>Hippocampus zebra</u> Zebra Seahorse	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Micrognathus andersonii</u> Anderson's Pipefish, Shortnose Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Micrognathus brevirostris</u> Thorn-tailed Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Nannocampus pictus</u> Painted Pipefish, Reef Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Solegnathus hardwickii</u> Pipehorse	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Solenostomus cyanopterus</u> Blue-finned Ghost Pipefish, Robust Ghost Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Solenostomus paradoxus</u> Harlequin Ghost Pipefish, Ornate Ghost Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Syngnathoides biaculeatus</u> Double-ended Pipehorse, Alligator Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Trachyrhamphus bicoarctatus</u> Bend Stick Pipefish, Short-tailed Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Trachyrhamphus longirostris</u> Long-nosed Pipefish, Straight Stick Pipefish	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Reptiles		
<u>Acalyptophis peronii</u> Horned Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Aipysurus duboisii</u> Dubois' Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Aipysurus eydouxii</u> Spine-tailed Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Aipysurus laevis</u> Olive Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Astrotia stokesii</u> Stokes' Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Caretta caretta</u> * Loggerhead Turtle	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Chelonia mydas</u> * Green Turtle	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Crocodylus porosus</u> Estuarine Crocodile, Salt-water Crocodile	Listed	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Dermochelys coriacea * Leathery Turtle, Leatherback Turtle, Luth	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Disteira kingii</u> Spectacled Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Disteira major</u> Olive-headed Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Enhydrina schistosa</u> Beaked Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Eretmochelys imbricata</u> * Hawksbill Turtle	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hydrophis elegans</u> Elegant Seasnake	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hydrophis mcdowelli</u>	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
<u>Hydrophis ornatus</u>	Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within

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Lapemis hardwickii Spine-bellied Seasnake

Laticauda colubrina a sea krait

a seasnake

Laticauda laticaudata a sea krait

<u>Lepidochelys olivacea</u> * Pacific Ridley, Olive Ridley

<u>Natator depressus</u> * Flatback Turtle

<u>Pelamis platurus</u> Yellow-bellied Seasnake

Whales and Other Cetaceans [Dataset Information]

<u>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</u> Minke Whale

<u>Balaenoptera edeni</u> Bryde's Whale

<u>Balaenoptera musculus</u> * Blue Whale

<u>Delphinus delphis</u> Common Dolphin

<u>Grampus griseus</u> Risso's Dolphin, Grampus

<u>Megaptera novaeangliae</u>* Humpback Whale

Orcaella brevirostris Irrawaddy Dolphin

Orcinus orca Killer Whale, Orca

<u>Sousa chinensis</u> Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphin

Stenella attenuata Spotted Dolphin, Pantropical Spotted Dolphin

<u>Tursiops aduncus</u> Indian Ocean Bottlenose Dolphin, Spotted Bottlenose Dolphin

Tursiops truncatus s. str. Bottlenose Dolphin

Commonwealth Lands [Dataset Information]

Defence

Places on the RNE [<u>Dataset Information</u>] Note that not all Indigenous sites may be listed.

Historic

AMP Building QLD ANZ Bank (former) QLD Anzac Park Bandstand QLD Australian Bank of Commerce (former) QLD Australian Institute of Tropical Medicine (former) QLD Burns Philp Offices (former) QLD

	area
Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Listed	Breeding likely to occur within area
Listed	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Status	Type of Presence
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Breeding known to occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
Cetacean	Species or species habitat may occur within area

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Castle Hill QLD Commonwealth Offices (former) QLD Magistrates Court Building (former) QLD Magnetic House QLD Matthew Rooney House (former) QLD National Bank of Australia (former) QLD Queens Hotel (former) QLD Queensland Building QLD Sacred Heart Cathedral QLD Samuel Allen & Sons Ltd Building (former) QLD St James Anglican Cathedral QLD State Government Offices QLD State Government Offices QLD Tattersalls Hotel (former) QLD **Tobruk Memorial Baths QLD Townsville Customs House QLD** Townsville General Hospital Block A QLD Townsville Post Office (former) QLD **Townsville Railway Station QLD Townsville War Memorial QLD** Victoria Bridge QLD Warringa QLD Natural Great Barrier Reef Region QLD Extra Information State and Territory Reserves [Dataset Information] Cleveland Bay Dugong Protection Area, QLD

Caveat

The information presented in this report has been provided by a range of data sources as <u>acknowledged</u> at the end of the report.

This report is designed to assist in identifying the locations of places which may be relevant in determining obligations under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. It holds mapped locations of World Heritage and Register of National Estate properties, Wetlands of International Importance, Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves, listed threatened, migratory and marine species and listed threatened ecological communities. Mapping of Commonwealth land is not complete at this stage. Maps have been collated from a range of sources at various resolutions.

Not all species listed under the EPBC Act have been mapped (see below) and therefore a report is a general guide only. Where available data supports mapping, the type of presence that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. People using this information in making a referral may need to consider the qualifications below and may need to seek and consider other information sources.

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

For species where the distributions are well known, maps are digitised from sources such as recovery plans and detailed habitat studies. Where appropriate, core breeding, foraging and roosting areas are indicated under "type of presence". For species whose distributions are less well known, point locations are collated from government wildlife authorities, museums, and non-government organisations; bioclimatic distribution models are generated and these validated by experts. In some cases, the distribution maps are based solely on expert knowledge.

Only selected species covered by the migratory and marine provisions of the Act have been mapped.

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in reports produced from this database:

- threatened species listed as <u>extinct or considered as vagrants</u>
- some species and ecological communities that have only recently been listed
- some terrestrial species that overfly the Commonwealth marine area
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in small numbers.

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- non-threatened seabirds which have only been mapped for recorded breeding sites;
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent.

Such breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Acknowledgments

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The Department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

- New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria
- Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Tasmania
- Department of Environment and Heritage, South Australia Planning SA
- Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory
- Environmental Protection Agency, Queensland
- Birds Australia
- Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme
- Australian National Wildlife Collection
- Natural history museums of Australia
- Queensland Herbarium
- National Herbarium of NSW
- Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria
- Tasmanian Herbarium
- State Herbarium of South Australia
- Northern Territory Herbarium
- Western Australian Herbarium
- <u>Australian National Herbarium, Atherton and Canberra</u>
- University of New England
- Other groups and individuals

<u>ANUCliM Version 1.8, Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Australian National University</u> was used extensively for the production of draft maps of species distribution. Environment Australia is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Last updated:

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Wildlife Online Extract

Search Criteria:	Species List for a Specified Point
	Species: All
	Type: All
	Status: All
	Records: All
	Date: All
	Latitude: 19.4
	Longitude: 146.13
	Distance: 10
	Email: amber.nethercott@naturalsolutions.com.au
	Date submitted: Friday 09 May 2008 11:20:58
	Date extracted: Friday 09 May 2008 11:31:06
	sends as the second 50

The number of records retrieved = 58

Disclaimer

As the EPA is still in a process of collating and vetting data, it is possible the information given is not complete. The information provided should only be used for the project for which it was requested and it should be appropriately acknowledged as being derived from Wildlife Online when it is used.

The State of Queensland does not invite reliance upon, nor accept responsibility for this information. Persons should satisfy themselves through independent means as to the accuracy and completeness of this information.

No statements, representations or warranties are made about the accuracy or completeness of this information. The State of Queensland disclaims all responsibility for this information and all liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damages and costs you may incur as a result of the information being inaccurate or incomplete in any way for any reason.

Kingdom	Class	Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	I	Q	А	Records
animals	birds	Accipitridae	Aquila audax	wedge-tailed eagle		С		1
animals	birds	Accipitridae	Haliastur indus	brahminy kite		С		1
animals	birds	Ardeidae	Ixobrychus flavicollis	black bittern		С		1
animals	birds	Artamidae	Artamus cinereus	black-faced woodswallow		С		2
animals	birds	Artamidae	Artamus leucorynchus	white-breasted woodswallow		С		1
animals	birds	Cacatuidae	Nymphicus hollandicus	cockatiel		С		1
animals	birds	Campephagidae	Coracina maxima	ground cuckoo-shrike		С		1
animals	birds	Campephagidae	Lalage leucomela	varied triller		С		1
animals	birds	Campephagidae	Coracina novaehollandiae	black-faced cuckoo-shrike		С		1
animals	birds	Climacteridae	Climacteris picumnus	brown treecreeper		С		1
animals	birds	Columbidae	Geopelia striata	peaceful dove		С		1
animals	birds	Columbidae	Geopelia humeralis	bar-shouldered dove		С		1
animals	birds	Corcoracidae	Struthidea cinerea	apostlebird		С		1
animals	birds	Corvidae	Corvus orru	Torresian crow		С		1
animals	birds	Megaluridae	Cincloramphus mathewsi	rufous songlark		С		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Meliphaga notata	yellow-spotted honeyeater		Ċ		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Ramsayornis modestus	brown-backed honeyeater		Č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Myzomela sanguinolenta	scarlet honeyeater		Č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Melithreptus albogularis	white-throated honeyeater		č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Philemon citreogularis	little friarbird		č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Philemon corniculatus	noisy friarbird		Č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Lichmera indistincta	brown honeyeater		č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Entomyzon cyanotis	blue-faced honeyeater		č		1
animals	birds	Meliphagidae	Meliphaga gracilis	graceful honeyeater		č		1
animals	birds	Meropidae	Merops ornatus	rainbow bee-eater		č		1
animals	birds	Monarchidae	Myiagra alecto	shining flycatcher		č		1
animals	birds	Nectariniidae	Nectarinia jugularis	yellow-bellied sunbird		č		1
animals	birds	Pachycephalidae	Pachycephala rufiventris	rufous whistler		č		1
animals	birds	Petroicidae	Microeca flavigaster	lemon-bellied flycatcher		č		1
animals	birds	Phalacrocoracidae	Microcarbo melanoleucos	little pied cormorant		č		1
animals	birds	Psittacidae	Platycercus adscitus	pale-headed rosella		č		1
animals	birds	Rhipiduridae	Rhipidura leucophrys	willie wagtail		č		1
animals	bony fish	Ambassidae	Ambassis agassizii	Agassiz's glassfish		0		3
animals	bony fish	Anguillidae	Anguilla reinhardtii	longfin eel				1
animals	bony fish	Atherinidae	Craterocephalus stercusmuscarum	flyspecked hardyhead				3
animals	bony fish	Clupeidae	Nematalosa erebi	bony bream				3
animals	bony fish	Eleotridae	Hypseleotris compressa	empire gudgeon				3
animals	bony fish	Eleotrididae	Mogurnda adspersa	southern purplespotted gudgeon				3
animals	bony fish	Melanotaeniidae	Melanotaenia splendida splendida	eastern rainbowfish				4
animals	bony fish	Plotosidae	Neosilurus hyrtlii	Hyrtl's catfish				2
animals animals	bony fish bony fish	Terapontidae Terapontidae	Amniataba percoides Hephaestus fuliginosus	barred grunter				3 2
animals	bony fish	Terapontidae	Leiopotherapon unicolor	sooty grunter				2 3
		•		spangled perch	Y			3 1/1
plants	higher dicots	Asteraceae	Parthenium hysterophorus	parthenium weed	r	C		
plants	higher dicots	Boraginaceae	Heliotropium collinum			C C		1/1 1/1
plants	higher dicots	Boraginaceae	Trichodesma zeylanicum var. zeylanicum			C		1/ 1

Kingdom	Class	Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	1	Q	А	Records
plants	higher dicots	Fabaceae	Crotalaria novae-hollandiae subsp. novae-hollandiae	,		С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Mimosaceae	Acacia julifera			С		1/1
, plants	higher dicots	Mimosaceae	Acacia umbellata			С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Mimosaceae	Acacia hammondii			С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Mimosaceae	Acacia hyaloneura			С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Mimosaceae	Acacia disparrima subsp. calidestris			С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Proteaceae	Grevillea parallela			С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Tamaricaceae	Tamarix aphylla	athel tree	Y			1/1
plants	higher dicots	Vitaceae	Cayratia clematidea	slender grape		С		1/1
plants	higher dicots	Vitaceae	Cissus cardiophylla	0		С		1/1
plants	monocots	Laxmanniaceae	Cordyline cannifolia			С		1/1
plants	monocots	Poaceae	Sporobolus jacquemontii		Y			1/1

CODES

- I Y indicates that the taxon is introduced to Queensland and has naturalised.
- Q Indicates the Queensland conservation status of each taxon under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. The codes are Presumed Extinct (PE), Endangered (E), Vulnerable (V), Rare (R), Common (C) or Not Protected ().
- A Indicates the Australian conservation status of each taxon under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.* The values of EPBC are Conservation Dependent (CD), Critically Endangered (CE), Endangered (E), Extinct (EX), Extinct in the Wild (XW) and Vulnerable (V).

Records – The first number indicates the total number of records of the taxon for the record option selected (i.e. All, Confirmed or Specimens).

This number is output as 99999 if it equals or exceeds this value. The second number located after the / indicates the number of specimen records for the taxon. This number is output as 999 if it equals or exceeds this value.

Birdata Custom Species List			
	•		
Invoice Number: 1000241			
Polygon coordinates:			
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(146.76374, -19.21986, NaN)	1		
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Month: All Months	1		
	1		
Species count: 262	1		
	1		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Survey Count	
Australian Brush-turkey	Alectura lathami	28	
Brown Quail	Coturnix ypsilophora	85	
Magpie Goose	Anseranas semipalmata	177	
Plumed Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna eytoni	42	
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna arcuata	36	
Black Swan	Cygnus atratus	3	
Radjah Shelduck	Tadorna radjah	1	
Australian Wood Duck	Chenonetta jubata	5	
Cotton Pygmy-goose	Nettapus coromandelianus	9	
Green Pygmy-goose	Nettapus pulchellus	2	
Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa	156	
Grey Teal	Anas gracilis	11	
Hardhead	Aythya australis	14	
Australasian Grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae	7	
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	Puffinus pacificus	1	
Short-tailed Shearwater	Puffinus tenuirostris	1	
Masked Booby	Sula dactylatra	1	
Red-footed Booby	Sula sula	1	
Brown Booby	Sula leucogaster	5	
Darter	Anhinga melanogaster	212	
Little Pied Cormorant	Phalacrocorax melanoleucos	244	
Pied Cormorant	Phalacrocorax varius	74	
Little Black Cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris	296	
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	26	
Australian Pelican	Pelecanus conspicillatus	171	
Great Frigatebird	Fregata minor	1	
White-faced Heron	Egretta novaehollandiae	175	
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	257	
Eastern Reef Egret	Egretta sacra	77	
White-necked Heron	Ardea pacifica	10	
Great Egret	Ardea alba	305	
Intermediate Egret	Ardea intermedia	176	
Cattle Egret	Ardea ibis	112	
Striated Heron	Butorides striatus	249	
Nankeen Night Heron	Nycticorax caledonicus	76	
Black Bittern	Ixobrychus flavicollis	4	
Australasian Bittern	Botaurus poiciloptilus	1	
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	11	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Survey Count
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis molucca	527
Straw-necked Ibis	Threskiornis spinicollis	299
Royal Spoonbill	Platalea regia	225
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	Platalea flavipes	13
Black-necked Stork	Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus	77
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	54
Pacific Baza	Aviceda subcristata	70
Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus axillaris	39
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	479
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus	311
Brahminy Kite	Haliastur indus	337
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Haliaeetus leucogaster	121
Spotted Harrier	Circus assimilis	7
Swamp Harrier	Circus approximans	11
Brown Goshawk	Accipiter fasciatus	117
Grey Goshawk	Accipiter novaehollandiae	9
Collared Sparrowhawk	Accipiter cirrhocephalus	32
Wedge-tailed Eagle	Aquila audax	29
Little Eagle	Hieraaetus morphnoides	1
Brown Falcon	Falco berigora	36
Australian Hobby	Falco longipennis	163
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	19
Nankeen Kestrel	Falco cenchroides	124
Brolga	Grus rubicunda	76
Buff-banded Rail	Gallirallus philippensis	13
Bush-hen	Amaurornis olivaceus	3
White-browed Crake	Porzana cinerea	19
Purple Swamphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	11
Dusky Moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa	10
Australian Bustard	Ardeotis australis	14
Red-backed Button-quail	Turnix maculosa	4
Red-chested Button-quail	Turnix pyrrhothorax	2
Latham's Snipe	Gallinago hardwickii	9
Black-tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa	7
Bar-tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	29
Little Curlew	Numenius minutus	3
Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	158
Eastern Curlew	Numenius madagascariensis	115
Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis	12
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	19
Terek Sandpiper	Xenus cinereus	3
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	50
Grey-tailed Tattler	Heteroscelus brevipes	94
Great Knot	Calidris tenuirostris	17
Red Knot	Calidris canutus	6
Sanderling	Calidris alba	2
Red-necked Stint	Calidris ruficollis	11
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Calidris acuminata	15
Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea	2
Comb-crested Jacana	Irediparra gallinacea	26
Bush Stone-curlew	Burhinus grallarius	230
Beach Stone-curlew	Esacus neglectus	21
Pied Oystercatcher	Haematopus longirostris	25
Sooty Oystercatcher	Haematopus fuliginosus	4
Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus	92

Common Name	Scientific Name	Survey Count
Pacific Golden Plover	Pluvialis fulva	10
Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	2
Red-capped Plover	Charadrius ruficapillus	20
Lesser Sand Plover	Charadrius mongolus	6
Greater Sand Plover	Charadrius leschenaultii	2
Oriental Plover	Charadrius veredus	2
Black-fronted Dotterel	Elseyornis melanops	112
Red-kneed Dotterel	Erythrogonys cinctus	2
Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles	467
Australian Pratincole	Stiltia isabella	4
Black-tailed Gull	Larus crassirostris	1
Silver Gull	Larus novaehollandiae	371
Gull-billed Tern	Sterna nilotica	114
Caspian Tern	Sterna caspia	184
Lesser Crested Tern	Sterna bengalensis	9
Crested Tern	Sterna bergii	75
Black-naped Tern	Sterna sumatrana	1
Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	1
Little Tern	Sterna albifrons	18
Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybridus	3
Common Noddy	Anous stolidus	1
Rock Dove	Columba livia	298
Spotted Turtle-Dove	Streptopelia chinensis	49
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia amboinensis	1
Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	1
Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes	109
Diamond Dove	Geopelia cuneata	2
Peaceful Dove	Geopelia striata	531
Bar-shouldered Dove	Geopelia humeralis	119
Wompoo Fruit-Dove	Ptilinopus magnificus	3
Superb Fruit-Dove	Ptilinopus superbus	6
Pied Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula bicolor	164
Topknot Pigeon	Lopholaimus antarcticus	1
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus banksii	370
Galah	Cacatua roseicapilla	62
Long-billed Corella	Cacatua tenuirostris	3
Little Corella	Cacatua sanguinea	336
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Cacatua galerita	406
Cockatiel	Nymphicus hollandicus	5
Rainbow Lorikeet	Trichoglossus haematodus	536
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus	158
Little Lorikeet	Glossopsitta pusilla	2
Red-winged Parrot	Aprosmictus erythropterus	3
Pale-headed Rosella	Platycercus adscitus	91
Budgerigar	Melopsittacus undulatus	1
Oriental Cuckoo	Cuculus saturatus	4
Pallid Cuckoo	Cuculus pallidus	12
Brush Cuckoo	Cacomantis variolosus	216
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Cacomantis flabelliformis	25
Black-eared Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx osculans	2
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx basalis	28
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx lucidus	7
Little Bronze-Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx minutillus	28
Gould's Bronze-Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx russatus	29
Common Koel	Eudynamys scolopacea	223

Common Name	Scientific Name	Survey Count
Channel-billed Cuckoo	Scythrops novaehollandiae	152
Pheasant Coucal	Centropus phasianinus	291
Barking Owl	Ninox connivens	118
Southern Boobook	Ninox novaeseelandiae	7
Barn Owl	Tyto alba	3
Tawny Frogmouth	Podargus strigoides	25
White-throated Nightjar	Eurostopodus mystacalis	1
Spotted Nightjar	Eurostopodus argus	1
Large-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus macrurus	6
Australian Owlet-nightjar	Aegotheles cristatus	2
White-rumped Swiftlet	Collocalia spodiopygius	1
White-throated Needletail	Hirundapus caudacutus	1
Fork-tailed Swift	Apus pacificus	16
Azure Kingfisher	Alcedo azurea	15
Little Kingfisher	Alcedo pusilla	25
Laughing Kookaburra	Dacelo novaeguineae	81
Blue-winged Kookaburra	Dacelo leachii	204
Forest Kingfisher	Todirhamphus macleayii	102
Red-backed Kingfisher	Todirhamphus pyrrhopygia	7
Sacred Kingfisher	Todirhamphus sanctus	228
Collared Kingfisher	Todirhamphus chloris	4
Rainbow Bee-eater	Merops ornatus	458
Dollarbird	Eurystomus orientalis	114
Noisy Pitta	Pitta versicolor	1
Red-backed Fairy-wren	Malurus melanocephalus	183
Striated Pardalote	Pardalotus striatus	56
Yellow-throated Scrubwren	Sericornis citreogularis	1
Brown Gerygone	Gerygone mouki	1
Mangrove Gerygone	Gerygone levigaster	83
Large-billed Gerygone	Gerygone magnirostris	21
Fairy Gerygone	Gerygone palpebrosa	4
White-throated Gerygone	Gerygone olivacea	3
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	Acanthagenys rufogularis	1
Helmeted Friarbird	Philemon buceroides	437
Noisy Friarbird	Philemon corniculatus	48
Little Friarbird	Philemon citreogularis	161
Blue-faced Honeyeater	Entomyzon cyanotis	422
Noisy Miner	Manorina melanocephala	3
Yellow-throated Miner	Manorina flavigula	44
Lewin's Honeyeater	Meliphaga lewinii	2
Yellow-spotted Honeyeater	Meliphaga notata	5
Graceful Honeyeater	Meliphaga gracilis	1
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Lichenostomus chrysops	1
Singing Honeyeater	Lichenostomus virescens	3
Varied Honeyeater	Lichenostomus versicolor	190
Mangrove Honeyeater	Lichenostomus fasciogularis	4
White-gaped Honeyeater	Lichenostomus unicolor	405
Yellow Honeyeater	Lichenostomus flavus	402
White-throated Honeyeater	Melithreptus albogularis	358
Brown Honeyeater	Lichmera indistincta	481
Brown-backed Honeyeater	Ramsayornis modestus	166
Rufous-throated Honeyeater	Conopophila rufogularis	115
Black Honeyeater	Certhionyx niger	1
Dusky Honeyeater	Myzomela obscura	48
Scarlet Honeyeater	Myzomela sanguinolenta	2

Common Name	Scientific Name	Survey Count	
Mangrove Robin	Peneoenanthe pulverulenta	2	
Rufous Whistler	Pachycephala rufiventris	60	
Little Shrike-thrush	Colluricincla megarhyncha	32	
Black-faced Monarch	Monarcha melanopsis	6	
Spectacled Monarch	Monarcha trivirgatus	9	
Leaden Flycatcher	Myiagra rubecula	188	
Satin Flycatcher	Myiagra cyanoleuca	1	
Shining Flycatcher	Myiagra alecto	8	
Restless Flycatcher	Myiagra inquieta	1	
Magpie-lark	Grallina cyanoleuca	559	
Rufous Fantail	Rhipidura rufifrons	17	
Grey Fantail	Rhipidura albiscapa	104	
Willie Wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys	117	
Spangled Drongo	Dicrurus bracteatus	426	
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae	406	
Barred Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina lineata	1	
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina papuensis	347	
Cicadabird	Coracina tenuirostris	1	
White-winged Triller	Lalage sueurii	31	
Varied Triller	Lalage leucomela	151	
Yellow Oriole	Oriolus flavocinctus	2	
Olive-backed Oriole	Oriolus sagittatus	46	
Figbird	Sphecotheres viridis	430	
White-breasted Woodswallow	Artamus leucorhynchus	477	
Masked Woodswallow	Artamus personatus	4	
White-browed Woodswallow	Artamus superciliosus	12	
Black-faced Woodswallow	Artamus cinereus	3	
Black Butcherbird	Cracticus quoyi	47	
Grey Butcherbird	Cracticus torquatus	1	
Pied Butcherbird	Cracticus nigrogularis	117	
Australian Magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen	388	
Pied Currawong	Strepera graculina	1	
Australian Raven	Corvus coronoides	166	
Torresian Crow	Corvus orru	288	
Apostlebird	Struthidea cinerea	1	
Spotted Bowerbird	Chlamydera maculata	3	
Great Bowerbird	Chlamydera nuchalis	454	
Singing Bushlark	Mirafra javanica	156	
Richard's Pipit	Anthus novaeseelandiae	201	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	393	
Zebra Finch	Taeniopygia guttata	263	
Double-barred Finch	Taeniopygia bichenovii	78	
Red-browed Finch	Neochmia temporalis	2	
Nutmeg Mannikin	Lonchura punctulata	325	
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	Lonchura castaneothorax	84	
Yellow-bellied Sunbird	Nectarinia jugularis	379	
Mistletoebird	Dicaeum hirundinaceum	366	
Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena	441	
Tree Martin	Hirundo nigricans	10	
Fairy Martin	Hirundo ariel	241	
Clamorous Reed-Warbler	Acrocephalus stentoreus	25	
Tawny Grassbird	Megalurus timoriensis	36	
Little Grassbird	Megalurus gramineus	4	
Rufous Songlark	Cinclorhamphus mathewsi	1	
Golden-headed Cisticola	Cisticola exilis	309	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Survey Count	
Silvereye	Zosterops lateralis	1	
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	1	
Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	481	
Corvid species		31	

SOOTY OYSTERCATCHER (Haematopus fuliginosus)

Distribution

The Sooty oystercatcher is a strictly coastal species endemic to Australia. It occurs around the Australian coast on rocky shores, estuaries and, more rarely, on beaches (Reader's Digest 1997). It is found singly, in pairs or in small flocks (Geering et al 2007).

Status

The world population is estimated at 11 500. The Australian population is estimated at 4000 (subsp. *fuliginosis*) and 7500 (subsp. *ophthalmicus*). This species is classified as 'Rare' in Queensland under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Description

The Sooty oystercatcher is a large, powerful black shorebird with a long, heavy bill and stout legs. It is dusky black all over with a bright orange-red bill and eyes. The legs and feet are pink. Head and body length is about 48-52 cm.

Habitat

Entirely coastal in NSW, it favours intertidal rock ledges and reefs but may also occur on ocean beaches and occasionally estuarine mudflats (Smith 1990).

Life Cycle Requirements

Foraging: Feeds vigorously, using powerful pecking, stabbing or hammering to open heavily armoured prey (Geering et al 2007). Has been observed to take a wide range of prey including; various molluscs, crustaceans, marine worms, sea-squirts and even washed-up dead fish (Smith 1990). Prey is usually picked off rocks; some shells are hammered against a stone (Reader's Digest 1997).

Breeding: The nest is a scrape in sand or shingle, sometimes in a small cave, under grass tussocks or on top of a rock. Clutch size is two, rarely three. Breeding season is spring-summer (Geering *et al* 2007).

Movements: Indications are that, after breeding on islands in spring and early summer, numbers increase on mainland rocky shores through summer and then on ocean beaches in winter (Smith 1990).

Threatening Processes

- Disturbance to coastal feeding, nesting and roosting areas through beach-combing, fishing, dog-walking, horse-riding and 4WD vehicles.;
- Predation of eggs and chicks by foxes, dogs, cats, rats and raptors;
- Habitat destruction as a result of residential, agricultural and tourism developments; and
- Hydrological changes to estuaries and similar water bodies causing modification or removal of important areas of suitable habitat (Department Environment & Conservation, 2007).

References

Geering, A. Agnew, L. & Harding, S. (Eds.) Shorebirds of Australia (pp 35-49). Victoria: CSIRO.Reader's Digest (1997) Complete Book of Australian Birds. Reader's Digest, Sydney.Smith, P. (1990) The Biology and Management of Waders (Suborder Charadrii) in NSW. NPWS.EnvironmentalProtectionAgency(2006)www.epa.qld.gov.au/nature_conservation/wildlife/threatened_plants_and_animals/shorebirds/

LITTLE TERN (Sterna albifrons)

Distribution

The Little Tern is found on the north, east and south-east Australian coasts, from Shark Bay in Western Australia to the Gulf of St Vincent in South Australia. Much of the population migrates from eastern Asia. It breeds in spring and summer along the entire east coast from Tasmania to northern Queensland, and is seen until May, with only occasional birds seen in winter months.

Status

A survey of eastern Australia in 1989 recorded a total breeding population of 310-319 pairs with 3178 birds, including 56 breeding pairs, occurring in Queensland (Higgins & Davies 1996). This species is classified as 'Endangered' in Queensland under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Description

The Little Tern is small and slender. At less than 25 cm long it is two- thirds to half the size of any other southeastern tern. The pale grey upperparts contrast with the white chest, underbelly and the moderately long, deeply forked tail. The Little Tern has a black cap and black outer wing-edges. During breeding the bill and legs change from black to yellow, and a black wedge appears from the bill to the eye. During non-breeding, the Little Tern's black cap shrinks to a black nape and its bill becomes black.

Habitat

The Little tern is almost exclusively coastal, preferring beaches, sheltered inlets, estuaries, lakes, bays and harbours, especially where exposed sandbanks or sand spits occur (EPA 2006). It may occur several kilometres from the sea in harbours, inlets and rivers and is occasionally found on offshore islands or coral cays.

The Little tern is gregarious, usually occurring in small groups though often in large flocks. It often roosts or feeds with other terns, especially the Fairy tern (Higgins & Davies 1996).

Life cycle requirements

Foraging: Often seen feeding in flocks, foraging for small fish, crustaceans, insects, annelids and molluscs by plunging in the shallow water of channels and estuaries, and in the surf on beaches, or skipping over the water surface with a swallow-like flight.

Breeding: Nests in small, scattered colonies in low dunes or on sandy beaches just above high tide mark near estuary mouths or adjacent to coastal lakes and islands. The nest is a scrape in the sand, which may be lined with shell grit, seaweed or small pebbles. Both parents incubate up to three well-camouflaged eggs for up to 22 days, aggressively defending the nest against intruders until the young fledge at 17 - 19 days.

The little tern breeds from May to July in the Gulf of Carpentaria, and mostly from September to January along the eastern Queensland coast. This species lays eggs directly on the sand. Laying does not occur at the same time, even within individual breeding colonies. Clutch size is one to three, incubation period is 17–25 days. Chicks are mobile very soon after hatching and leave the nest almost at once. The fledging period (hatching to maturity) is 17–19 days (EPA 2006).

Threatening processes

- Predation of eggs and chicks by foxes, dogs, cats, black rats, silver gulls, ravens and raptors.
- Disturbance to coastal feeding, nesting and roosting areas through beach-combing, fishing, dog-walking, horse-riding and 4WD vehicles; parents often leave the nest when approached, resulting in exposure of

chicks or eggs.

- Coastal and inland habitat areas are being impacted by land clearing for residential, agricultural and tourism developments, by sand and rutile mining, and by waste disposal dumps.
- Hydrological changes to estuaries and similar waterbodies may modify or remove important areas of suitable habitat, or affect the availability of food.
- Potentially susceptible to pesticides and contamination of estuaries by oil-spills and heavy metals.
- Well-camouflaged eggs are at risk of accidental destruction. (Department Environment & Conservation, 2007).
- Nesting at flood-prone locations.

References

Environmental	Protection	Agency	(2006)	Little	tern.
http://www.epa	qld.gov.au/nature_cc	nservation/wildlife/native	<u>_animals/little_tern/</u>		

Department of Environment & Conservation (2007) *Little tern – profile.* www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au

NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (2003) *Little Tern (Sterna albifrons) Recovery Plan.* NSW NPWS, Hurstville NSW

Higgins, P.J. & Davies, S. (1996) *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic Birds.* Volume 3. Snipe-Pigeons. Melb. Oxf.Univ.Pr.