



### Noosa North Shore restricted area

Area patrolled and fines of \$266 apply



### 4WDs can destroy nesting habitat



4WDs can inadvertently destroy the nesting habitat of resident shorebirds on the Noosa North Shore, near the river mouth. Please observe the restricted area to protect this important habitat.

### Spotted an unusual bird?

Take a photo and let us know at [admin@noosariver.com.au](mailto:admin@noosariver.com.au) or via NICA's social media.

### Want to learn more?

Visit the NICA ([www.noosariver.com.au](http://www.noosariver.com.au)) or Noosa Council ([www.noosa.qld.gov.au](http://www.noosa.qld.gov.au)) websites.

### Did you know?

The vulnerable Bar-tailed Godwit migrates over 11,000 kilometres without stopping – the longest known non-stop flight of migratory land birds.

### Did you know?

Pied Oystercatchers can live up to 22 years and have low breeding rates. One dead individual can have a significant impact on the population. Protect Noosa's resident pair of Pied Oystercatchers.



## MIGRATORY AND RESIDENT SHOREBIRDS AND TERNS

### Noosa River Estuary



Information about migratory and resident shorebirds and terns that frequent the Noosa River estuary

### Help protect Noosa's unique wildlife



### Significance

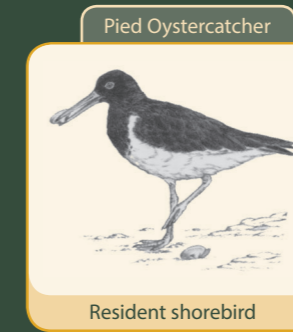
A long running survey of the shorebirds of the Noosa River conducted since 2005 has revealed the rich but threatened biodiversity of the estuary.

A total of 59 species of water birds were identified in the survey including 18 species of migratory shorebirds. A total of 8 shorebird species are *threatened* including 3 listed as *critically endangered*.

### Which birds come here?

Every spring / summer, the Noosa River estuary hosts numerous species of rare migratory shorebirds including the Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel and Pacific Golden Plover, along with migratory terns including the Little Tern, Common Tern and White Winged Tern.

Numbers can swell to several thousand individuals in the summer when migratory shorebirds and terns join resident species including the Red Capped Plover, Australian Pied Oystercatcher and our local waterbirds.



### The need for rest and food

Migratory shorebirds must have space, food and protection from predators and disturbances to recuperate from their long flights and to prepare for the next stage of the journey. When they are not feeding or transiting, shorebirds roost, generally at or above the high tide mark. To conserve energy these roosting sites are normally close to feeding areas.

**Human activities including releasing dogs on sandbanks can impact upon shorebirds up to 200m away.**

When shorebirds take flight because a person, dog, drone, 4WD or beached vessel disturbs them, they use up critical energy. If disturbed repeatedly, the birds might not gain the necessary condition to attempt their return migration or breeding.

### Where do they come from?

Upwards of eight million shorebirds migrate annually to Australia via the East-Asian/Australasian Flyway from their breeding grounds in arctic Asia, Siberia, Alaska and the North Pacific.

Some species fly as far as 12,000km each way annually. They generally stay in Australia between October and April, building up their strength to undertake their journey back to the breeding grounds. On reaching their destination, they breed and subsequently return to Australia.



**Domestic animals, especially uncontrolled dogs, are a major source of disturbance to shorebirds.**

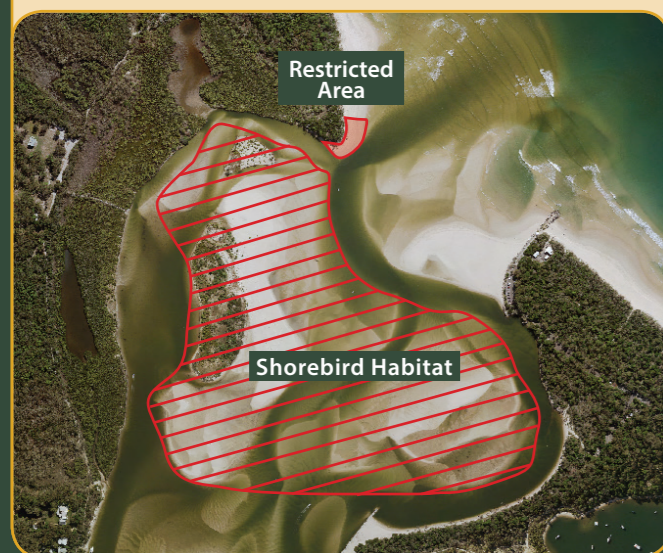
### You can help by:

- Observing birds quietly from a distance
- Keeping dogs from chasing or disturbing birds
- Avoid driving on beach areas where resident shorebirds nest
- Observing the Noosa North Shore restricted area and seasonal restrictions in the Noosa River estuary



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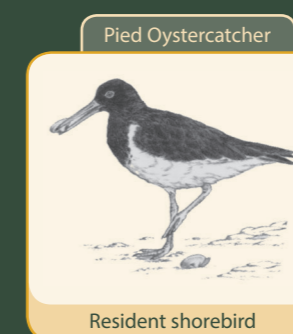
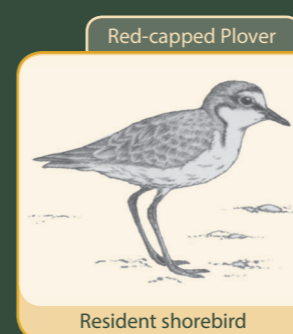
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