

# The Belongil Estuary Bird and Field Report – Jan Olley

Report No 1  
Date 17/9/04  
Time of Visit 10am to 1300

Dear Bird Buddies

To day I spent my first watch at Belongil, but not as Sarah rostered me. Twice a day is too far for me to travel. So I'm going to do my share randomly for 4 hours at least once a week. WOW lots of different birds, but no Little Terns yet.

I arrived at about 10.30am and the first thing I saw was a flock of seagulls, which included three Crested Terns and a dog getting ready to attack. Oh, no, and I haven't even had my Non-Violent Communication training, yet. The very pregnant owner of the dog was off in the distant, but she must have seen my Bird Buddies T shirt as she called the dog to heel and off they went down the beach and the birds were left in peace. I left three hours later and I did not see another dog. Lots of dog tracks in the sand though, but mostly outside the fence. There were a couple of tracks crossing the area. Here's my list of birds.

## **Beach**

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Seagulls x 12  
Crested Terns x 5

## **Mouth of Creek**

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Pacific Golden Plovers x 6  
Red-capped Plovers x 6  
Welcome Swallows x 2  
Masked Plovers x 2 (nesting) observed the ritual of exchanging nest-sitting responsibilities  
Rainbow Bee-eaters x 2 (building nests ie holes in the side of the dunes)

## **Flying Over**

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Whistling Kites x 2

## **Inner Creek**

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Pied Oyster x 1 (no babies or partner observed)  
Jabiru x 1 (such a beautiful sight)  
White Ibis x 3 (male, 2 females. Interesting courting display.)  
White-faced Heron x 1  
Little Egret x 1

## **Surrounding Bush**

Little Wattle Bird, Lewin's Honeyeater, Eastern Whipbird

Regards Jan