

Red-capped Plover

Charadrius ruficapillus
Charadriidae

Distribution

The Red-capped Plover is widespread in coastal areas throughout Australia. In summer of 2016 Orford sand spit supported 5 breeding pairs of red-capped plovers



Diet

Red-capped Plovers eat molluscs, small crustations and worms on mudflats, sandy beaches and salt-marsh.

General Information

The red-capped plover is about 140-160mm long, with white underparts, a red forehead and light sandy brown upper parts. An elder male has a crown and incomplete band running to the sides of the chest. The female is paler and does not have the dark patches like the males. Juveniles are similar but paler than the adults.



Conservation Status

Although they are considered to be secure, this is under question as their population in some areas are showing signs of decline.



Life Cycle

In breeding season the males let out a call to the females. This call is hard to hear.



The mother lays an egg in her nest after breeding the egg incubates for about 30 days.



When the egg hatch's the chick stays in the nest for 1-2 weeks.



As the chick gets older their feathers start to brighten up.





Breeding

Habitat

The red-capped plover is found in coastal areas and inland areas around water. The species prefers calm waters.

The red-capped plovers nests are a shallow scrape in the ground. They like sandy areas for their breeding and are nearly always close to water. Sometimes the nest is covered by a small plant or a piece of rubbish. Nesting season is commonly between September and March.



Red-capped plover



Male in breeding plumage



Female in breeding plumage

Conservation status



Least Concern (IUCN 3.1)^[1]



Threats

Some of their threats are cars on beaches, people, feral cats and dogs.

Binomial name

Charadrius ruficapillus

If you want more information go to:

click here



parks and
wildlife



BirdLife

