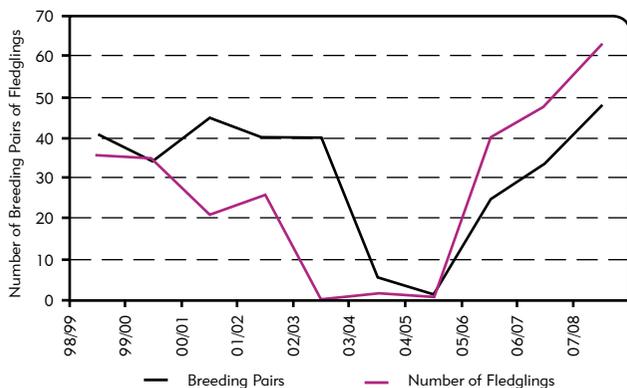


## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ASSIST?

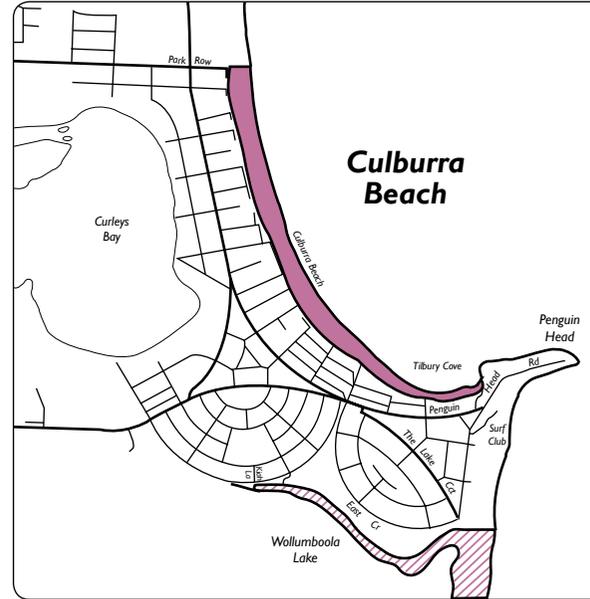
The past assistance and support of the Culburra Beach community has been appreciated. You can continue to help by:

- informing your neighbours, friends and visitors of the shorebird protection program
- minimising disturbance by staying clear of the fenced nesting areas
- observing the dog exclusion zone signs and the shorebird protection signs
- observing all signage regarding pest trapping and baiting operations and keeping domestic pets away as advised.
- becoming a South Coast Shorebird Volunteer by calling NPWS
- supporting pest and weed control through the Council's Bushcare Program.

## LITTLE TERN BREEDING SUCCESS AT LAKE WOLLUMBOOLA



## DOG ACCESS AREAS, CULBURRA BEACH AND LAKE WOLLUMBOOLA



Dogs are required to be on leash at all times in public places, except for the following:

-  Dogs are allowed off leash on Culburra Beach and foreshore reserve between Park Row and Tilbury Cove, from 4.00 pm to 8.00 am each day.
-  Dogs are prohibited at all times from Wollumboola Lake Foreshore, from the southern end of The Lake Circuit to Kiah Lane. They are also prohibited from the adjoining Jervis Bay National Park.

For more information please contact

Jodie Dunn, NPWS, 0427 012 960

Greg Thompson, SCC, 043 1133 000

## PROTECTING SHOREBIRDS AT CULBURRA BEACH



Efforts during 2008 to protect the Endangered Little Terns nesting on Warrain Beach produced a record result. The threats to the nesting shorebirds from foxes, dogs and unaware visitors were reduced. We seek your continued cooperation during the coming season.



## 2008 THE BEST SEASON YET!

2008 was the best season yet for the Little Tern shorebird nesting program. 102 chicks hatched and 62 matured to the stage they could fly north at the end of summer. This is the highest number of fledglings ever recorded at Lake Wollumboola, and the best ever result of any site on the NSW South Coast. In fact, the last 3 years have been good for Little Terns (with 40, 48 and 62 fledglings), but these breeding successes followed three disastrous years (0, 2 and 1 fledglings).



The great recent results have been boosted by the working partnership between the Culburra Beach Shorebird Volunteers, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Shoalhaven City Council and the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority.

Key elements of the partnership are:

- control of weeds, rabbits and foxes in areas adjoining the nesting sites to halt foxes preying on the eggs and chicks
- effective temporary fencing around nesting sites to keep predators away and reduce disturbance

- good communication and clear signage indicating where dogs are allowed and prohibited
- dedicated volunteers on site each day of the season to monitor nesting activities.

## NATIONAL TRUST AWARD

The Lake Wollumboola Little Tern Conservation Program was awarded the NSW National Trust's prestigious Conservation Landscape Heritage Award for 2008.

The National Trust praised this as an example of how a state-wide program could successfully conserve species at a local level.

## FENCES ON THE BEACH

Some residents and visitors have questioned the need for the electric fence and surrounding wood and string fence that encircles the nesting areas.

However, the fencing is crucial to breeding success, as it protects the eggs and chicks from foxes and disturbance. The ground nests, eggs and chicks are perfectly camouflaged, difficult to see and easy to accidentally disturb.

Peak chick numbers coincide with the peak Christmas tourist season. Unaware visitors can do significant damage even before they know the chicks are there.

Because the Little Terns can nest in different locations each year, the fence size and location will vary from season to season.

## WEED AND PEST CONTROL

Work has continued throughout the year to reduce weed and pest populations.

Trapping and baiting of foxes conducted in both autumn and spring should reduce the populations and the need for ongoing trapping during the tourist season.

Food sources available to foxes have been reduced with regular rabbit baiting and shooting during winter. Continuing weed control has reduced the harbour available to these pests.



## CONTROL OF DOGS

Dogs can be exercised in the designated off-leash area at Culburra Beach (see over for map).

Dogs are prohibited on the Lake Wollumboola Foreshore Reserve, within the Jervis Bay National Park and within 200m of any Little Tern breeding site. Both NPWS and Council rangers patrol this area. Penalties exceed \$330 for any breaches.