

# Robbins Passage Wetlands



*Shorebird Capital of Tasmania*



Illustration: Pied Oystercatcher by Grade 5/6 Smithton Primary School

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The Robbins Passage wetlands in NW Tasmania are the largest wetlands in the state and support more shorebirds than the rest of Tassie put together. Resident shorebirds, like Pied Oystercatchers and Hooded Plovers, live here all year, and breed between September and April.

In the summer, 1000's of migratory shorebirds travel here from their breeding grounds in the Northern Hemisphere, from sites such as Alaska, Russia and China. They travel up to 13,000km to escape the northern winter and spend their summers here, so when they arrive they are pretty tired.

### **Threats to Shorebirds**

- Dogs running on beaches and trail bikes can scare the birds and stop them feeding.
- Resident shorebirds make their nests on the beach, and they can be very hard to see.  
Dogs and 4WDs can squash eggs and chicks that live on the beaches.

*You can still enjoy the wetlands and beaches, but by keeping your dog on a leash when near birds and driving your 4WD below the high tide mark you can help protect our shorebirds too.*

