

# SEABIRD ISLANDS

No. 33

## Korffs Islet, New South Wales

**Location:** 30°19' S., 153°09' E.; 650 m south-east from the southern breakwater at Coffs Harbour, N.S.W.

**Status:** Crown Land.

**Other Names:** Pig Island; South-east Islet.

**Description:** c. 1 ha; roughly circular, about 150 m in diameter and rising to 16.4 m. This island is rocky with little soil which supports limited vegetation. The more common species are *Carpobrotus glaucescens*, *Digitaria cilidris*, *Enchylaena tomentosa*, *Sesuvium portulacastrum* and *Zoisia macrantha*.

**Landing:** Onto rocks and difficult except in calm conditions.

**Ornithological History:** Visited briefly on 30 November 1969 by H. Battam, B. Jones, S. G. Lane and N. M. Swanson, then by NPWS Rangers J. Winter and M. Dodkin on 2 December 1973. There are no other recorded visits. In November 1969, no birds were found breeding; a few attempts have been made by shearwaters to dig burrows but the shallow, rocky soil prevented any success. Silver Gulls were breeding at the time of the 1973 visit and two Sooty Oystercatchers were present. P. E. Roberts (pers. comm.) reported "gulls and terns nesting" in November 1971.

### Breeding Seabirds and Status

*Larus novaehollandiae* Silver Gull — Breeds irregularly on the island. In December 1971, about 100 pairs nested and some 50 pairs in December 1973.

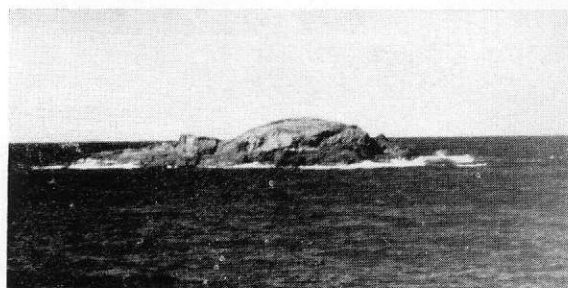
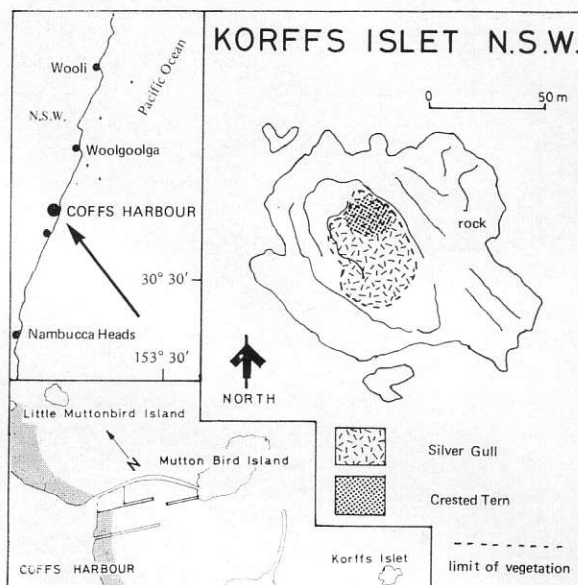
*Sterna bergii* Crested Tern — Breeds on the island occasionally. About 100 pairs nested in December 1971.

### Factors Affecting Status

Because of its size, it is exposed to severe weather conditions; however, few people land on the island because of the surge even in calm weather. The White-breasted Sea-eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* has been observed taking prey from the nesting colony.

### OTHER VERTEBRATES

None recorded.



● Korffs Islet (looking south-east).

### Other Seabirds Recorded

*Puffinus pacificus* Wedge-tailed Shearwater  
*Haematopus fuliginosus* Sooty Oystercatcher

### Banding

Nil.

### Acknowledgements

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