

**POPULATION OF THE SILVER GULL  
*Larus novaehollandiae* ON THE CAPRICORN AND  
BUNKER ISLANDS, GREAT BARRIER REEF**

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*Received 29 September, 1985 Revised 6 May, 1987*

Silver Gulls were censused from January 1983 to March 1985 on the Capricorn and Bunker Islands. Gulls moved between the islands, congregating at sites where food scraps and people were most abundant. Such sites were permanent, as at Heron Island, or temporary when campers and fishermen were present at other islands. On winter days up to 75% of gulls in the area sought food scraps at the Heron Island resort. In summer the number present was reduced to less than 25% when secluded islands were sought for nesting. Gulls are an important predator at tern and booby colonies and this predation is increasing as a result of human activities.