

CONTROL OF SILVER GULLS IN TASMANIA

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A large increase in the number of Silver Gulls around Tasmania in the last thirty years has resulted in problems of motor and air traffic hazards. Discouraging breeding has been inadequate. Removal of eggs has been successful in reducing the problem at one site. Culling using alpha-chloralose baits, has provided an immediate but not long-term remedy; it has been used successfully however, to protect a long-term study area of the Short-tailed Shearwater from invasion by Silver Gulls. The elimination of additional food sources, such as garbage dumps, will probably be the only effective method of reducing gull numbers.