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The Distribution and Abundance of Seabirds at Sea and on Islands near the Mid- and North-Western Coasts of Australia

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During a 47-day voyage along the mid- and north-western coasts of Australia I landed on five mainland sites and 22 islands, and spent 55 hours counting seabirds at sea. An annotated list of the 24 species of seabirds seen is provided. Previously unrecorded nesting sites of the Wedge-tailed Shearwater and Caspian, Bridled and Crested Terns were found. The distribution and relative abundance at sea of the four most frequently met species (Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Brown Booby, Silver Gull, Crested Tern) are mapped. Explanations of these distributions and abundances are considered in terms of distance from land, state of the sea, and surface temperature of the sea.