

## >> BIRDS OF THE SERPENTINE LAGOONS

Serpentine Lagoon is a 'near-threatened' environment that lies 45km south of Townsville and is a bird 'hot-spot'. It is a wetland ecosystem that is an important daytime roosting site and feeding area for many species of birds.



The Brolga (*Grus rubicunda*) is a stately, long-legged, grey crane. They are usually found in pairs or larger groups. They have elaborate dancing displays with bows, steps and leaps.



The forest kingfisher (*Todiramphus macleayi*) often sits on branches above the water swooping down to catch small fish and insects.



The Cotton Pygmy Goose (*Nettapus coromandelianus*) is a rare bird that is now confined to Queensland and is often seen at the lagoon, although the dry season triggers the dispersal of these birds.



Pacific Black Ducks (*Anas superciliosa*) are mainly vegetarian, feeding on the seeds of aquatic plants supplemented with small crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic insects.

All photos courtesy of Ian Montgomery  
([www.birdway.com.au](http://www.birdway.com.au))