

WESTERN REEF HERON

Egretta gularis



This bird comes in two colour phases: a dark blue-grey and almost pure white. This large (55 to 65cm) water bird feeds during the day, but also at night depending on the tides.

Their diet consists mainly of fish, crustaceans and molluscs. Breeding is from April to July, when thousands of young birds can be viewed in Mangrove National Park.

EAD has been monitoring the resident and migratory bird populations for many years. Designation of protected areas ensuring the safety of this species is having a positive impact on the breeding population.

Western reef heron range from East Africa, through Arabia and across to India.

