

Chandeleur Islands

Island: South Gosier Date: 9 June 1998 Time: 1520-1800 hrs.

Observers: D. L. Dittmann, Steven W. Cardiff, Jim Graham

Weather: clear, breeze, seas fairly calm

Tide: tide dropping to low comments: large Brown Pelican, Laughing Gull, and Black Skimmer colonies; shorebird habitat on inner lagoon (island shape of comma with large shallow central lagoon and southward spit

Number of large gulls: 11 (including only two breeding pairs of pure Herrings)

+1000 ads.:+ sm-med chicks	Brown Pelican	5 (mostly alt.)	Dunlin
1	Magnificent Frigatebird		Stilt Sandpiper
	Great Blue Heron	1	Short-billed Dowitcher
	Great Egret		Long-billed Dowitcher
2	Tricolored Heron	ca 2000 (most w/ eggs)	Laughing Gull
2	Reddish Egret		Ring-billed Gull
	Cattle Egret	9	Herring Gull
1	Black-crowned N-Heron	1 (coll.)	Kelp Gull
	White Ibis	1	Kelp X Herring Gull (F1)
	Glossy Ibis		hybrid backcross (F2) dark
2 (pair)	Mottled Duck		hybrid backcross (F2) light
	Clapper Rail		hybrid other (see below)
	Black-bellied Plover	2	Gull-billed Tern
	Wilson's Plover	4	Caspian Tern
3	Semipalmated Plover	15 (flybys, few alt. plu.)	Royal Tern
2 (pair)	American Oystercatcher	10	Sandwich Tern
2	Willet	1 (1st. alt.)	Common Tern
2 (alt. plumage)	Ruddy Turnstone		Forster's Tern
	Red Knot		Least Tern
5 (basic plumage)	Sanderling	1 (nesting?, vic. LAGU colony)	Sooty Tern
4 (alternate plumage)	Semipalmated Sandpiper	7 (alt. & basic plum.)	Black Tern
75 (alt. & basic pl.)	Western Sandpiper	500	Black Skimmer
	Least Sandpiper		Seaside Sparrow
2 (alt. plumage)	White-rumped Sandpiper	2	Red-winged Blackbird

Summary of large gulls:

Pair: 3rd year female Herring Gull paired to male adult Herring Gull; nest with 2 eggs (nest photo 1, 2)

Pair: adult female Herring Gull paired with male Herring Gull; nest with 2 eggs, one rolled out (nest photo 3, 4)

Unpaired individuals:

adult male Kelp Gull (collected, soft part colors photo 5, 6)

5 sub-adult Herring Gulls (1-1st alternate, 3-2nd alternate, 1-3rd alternate, 1 fourth alternate)

1 2nd-alternate "F1" hybrid (bi-colored bill, medium gray mantle, pinkish-gray legs, wings brownish with gray/lighter inner primaries; a large heavy billed/headed (probably male) individual) - no photos obtained

