



DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15282

Department of Biological Sciences

Dr. Douglas Mullen
Refuge Manager
Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge
Box X
Calais, Maine 04619

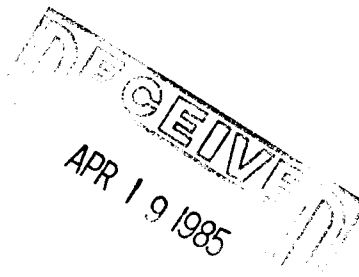
12 April 1985

Dear Dr. Mullen,

I am writing to inquire about the gull control project undertaken on Petite Manan last summer. I have worked in the MDI area on marine bird research for the past 8 years, although my time during the past three years has been spent largely in Newfoundland colonies. Most of my work in Maine has been concerned with the breeding ecology of Leach's Storm-petrels and Great Black-backed Gulls. With respect to the latter species, I have been conducting a long-term study of colony dynamics of the species. One of the islands that I had visited in the past was Green Island. In that regard, it would be helpful to me if you could provide me with information concerning the number of Black-backed Gulls actually poisoned on the island in 1984, the band numbers of any birds poisoned there last year, and especially the number and band numbers of any Black-backed Gulls poisoned on the island during the next several years (if you find any banded birds). I have included my summer itinerary (I will be conducting research all summer in 1985 on Little Duck Island). I would greatly appreciate any information you can forward to me concerning the above. If I can be of any service to you during the coming field season, please feel free to contact me at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (288-3605).

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Butler
Assoc. Professor



1985 ITINERARY

Dr. Ronald G. Butler

Prior to April 30	Dept. of Biological Sciences Duquesne University Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15282 (phone - 412-434-6332 or 5042)
April 30 - May 3	IN TRANSIT
May 3 - August 20	Mount Desert Island Biolog. Lab. Old Bar Harbor Road Salsbury Cove, Maine 04672 (phone - 207-288-3605)
Aug. 20 - Aug. 24	IN TRANSIT
After August 25	Department of Biological Sciences Duquesne University Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15282 (phone - 412-434-6332 or 5042)

Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge
Box X, Calais, Maine 04619

April 26, 1985

Dr. Ronald G. Butler
Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory
Old Bar Harbor Road
Salsburg Cove, ME 04672

Dear Dr. Butler:

During the 1984 gull/tern management program on Petit Manan and Green Islands, we picked up 551 dead herring gulls and 117 dead great black-backed gulls. The probability that any gulls died off the islands is very slim. However, we also searched the nearby mainland shores, fresh-water ponds, and landfills; no additional birds were found. None of the birds had been banded.

Approximately 1,100 pairs of arctic and roseate terns, 200 pairs of laughing gulls, and nine puffins reclaimed the island after the gulls were removed. Incidentally, the nesting of Leach's storm-petrels also was confirmed last year.

We will be applying the toxicant again this year if any gulls nest and will make certain that you receive any band numbers.

If you would like to visit the island this year, please give me a call at 207-546-2757.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas A. Goettel
Assistant Refuge Manager



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge
P. O. Box 279
Milbridge, Maine 04658

19 May 1987

Ronald G. Butler, Associate Professor
Department of Biological Sciences
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Dear Dr. Butler:

Two years ago you requested information on our gull control activities on Petit Manan Island; this is just a short note to bring you up to date.

We continued the program in 1986 on Petit Manan and Green Islands in Milbridge, and began a new program on Matinicus Rock and Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge at the request of the National Audubon Society. A total of 29 great black-backed gulls and 28 herring gulls were collected from Green Island; none were banded. No gulls nested on Petit Manan. We had approximately 1500 pairs of common and arctic terns (1:1), 30 pairs of roseate terns, 300 pairs of laughing gulls, one pair of puffins, 60 pairs of guillemots, and one black-headed gull nesting on Petit Manan, and 500 eider nests on Green Island. The black-headed gull eventually deserted its nest.

Seventy-five herring gulls were collected from Matinicus Rock; none were banded. A total of 1,476 great black-backed gulls and 964 herring gulls were collected on Seal Island. Two were banded. I finally received the returns from the Bird Banding Lab yesterday and am enclosing copies for your information.

We will be continuing our seabird work this summer on both Seal Island and Petit Manan, and will keep you informed if we pick up any more banded birds. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to write or call at 207-546-2124.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Goettel

Thomas A. Goettel
Refuge Manager