

THOM -

ON PT COUNTS I'M NOT QUITE SURE HOW
YOU WILL LABEL UNIT, COMPARTMENT, I'VE ASSUMED
WAS THE OLDSVI & 14 MI. IF I'M WRONG
YOU'LL WANT TO CHANGE MY SHEETS.

FEEL FREE TO CHANGE THE SLOPE, ASPECT
HABITAT, HABITAT TYPE, & HABITAT QUALITY, ON
BOTH THE SHEETS ON ANY PTS. I DIDN'T BRING
ANY INSTRUMENTS FOR MEASURING SLOPE SO I
USED "BEST GUESS" METHOD. YOU MAY HAVE A LIST
OF CODE ABBREVIATIONS YOU ARE SUPPOSE TO USE
FOR THE HABITATS BUT I DON'T HAVE A COPY.
CHANGE THOSE AS WELL IF SO.

I talked with Chuck Hunter about edge
changes, etc. & effect it would have on ~~habitat~~
habitat change. He said the individual refuge
people would make decisions on any changes that
would be made. It sounds to me like ~~he~~ he has
given up on uniform habitat & everything is fine
with plot locations unless you want to make any
changes.

I am using a range finder now for the
bulleye's distances. You should hear the complaints
coming from people trying to do that extra 50m
in dense forest & steep slopes. At least we don't have
that ~~problem~~ problem.

T Horn

18 May '03

I checked boat house & swallows around it for more than an hour, found 12 BARS nests but no CLSW. I had checked 2 other days as well but saw one cliff's. On walk to pt at west end shorebird closed areas found 2 SNPL holding territory at 100M E of closed area signs, also 2 SNPL holding territory & fighting oyster catchers in closed area about midway. I couldn't find nests for either pair & saw no young after watching over an hour. I did see some X rated behavior from the sandwich & royal terns.

There were 335+ royal terns. See field card for 18th for other info. I do not flush the large group of birds there & it makes my day to see that your staff isn't driving tame that area now on turtle patrol.

The water level is much higher in oysters and this year than last & it is not a good level for shorebirds. Mosquito Rd area was also high water when I checked it. I saw no wood storks there yet. I did see 2 FL Boat tail Grackles there. There seem to be about a dozen pairs w/ of Mosquito Rd near G but water has dried up in the nest area.

5-18-03 SV NWR - ~~Rattle snake~~ Rattlesnake Slough Rd

Philadelphia Vireo. sounded like a odd Red-eyed
Vireo singing but higher pitched. I called bird in.
was Philadelphia. I've seen them in similar habitat
in mid-May at St George Is & St Joe Spit. I have also
banded them in fall in Tennessee.

Slightly smaller than Red-eyed, smaller bill
yellow wash on throat & sides. greenish back with
gray cap on head. white line above eye. dark streaks
thru eye from bill. no obvious wing bars. was in
live oaks near oyster pond.

8X40 feet Binoc's for several minutes at
about 10m.

Barbara Stedman

Boat-tailed Grackles

5/17/03 aft 4p. jet Rd 6 & G + Rd 6 Between G & H. saw at least 15 adults & 2 FL. just w of Rd 6 COGR were moving around also. I think the COGR were foraging because they are usually wandering by now with their young all fledged. 1 BTGR ♂ carried a 2" fish into 1 FL. the water has almost completely dried up in that nest area. I saw 2 more BTGR holding territory in saw grass area on N side of G Rd at 6/1.

5-18 at dam between lakes 3 & 4 are a pair of Starlings they are probably nesting just w of dam. Boat tails in that area also. The land clearing there will make the area more attractive to EAST, BHCO, COGR

at Lake 5 74SP-830P. see card.

there is a great cgrt with damaged or broken wing near boat launch area. saw an imm. wood stork come in, lots of BTGR. lake is at a good water level. BTGR also in strip N of I Rd or Dry Bar.

at Mallard Slough area about $\frac{1}{2}$ way across on Tahiti Beach rd. Least Terns are sitting on eggs. I estimated 80-100 birds in two areas close together. If anyone drives that way it would be good to go at low tide & drive close to water's edge. They are nesting partly in regular road