

BT Grackles

20 May 05. 2 pairs doing some odd courtship "business" ab .5 mi W of water control structure on Rd A at oysterpond outlet. No place to nest where behavior was ~~occurring~~ taking place.

additional ♂ singing at oysterpond water control area.

Rd 6, South end. (more mosquitoes than I ever seen there even in Everglades). 6 singing ♂ & ♀ seen with most. 1 more singing ♂ W of Taylor Lake, fewer RWBL than most years. very high water.

21 May 05. singing ♂ E of D rd where Rd 5 goes into Lake

singing ♂ at E side of water control structure at oysterpond. near Rattlesnake Slough Rd

singing ♂ in oysterpond ^{near} where Rattlesnake Slough Rd enters A Rd.

note: cat tails are sparse along ~~E~~ Rattlesnake Rd & water level is at maximum.

singing ♂ & ♀ at Back Slough. bird seen foraging on canal near cabin sometimes - same?

21 May 05 Lake 5 for Colonial nesters 545p-645p
method checked all locations adults were bringing food
by species, could actually see 8 nests because wind
was blowing willows, 1 nest next to edge was empty,
most nest averaged 2, some had 3 young & a few 1 young
all seemed ab 1/2 grown.

By dividing total adults by two I would
guess it a close approx to total active nests now.

total adults: ~~total~~ Little Blue Heron - 35

Great Egret - 18

Tricolored Heron - 6

Snowy Egret - 8

Cattle Egret (Breeding Plumage) - 1

Green Herons 2 (not usually a
colonial nester but on the edge
& very agitated so I would include)

Glossy Ibis 5

Least Bittern - 3 clg

[Cucking in area but didn't
see come in]

I could have missed some activity at back of lake but
I drove to different access pts & didn't see herons coming in.

BTGR - Lake 5 - continued. 5-21-05
more using in an active role than any other
area, all around heron nesting area & paths
in est 25-30.

Lake 4 - several near water control
structure, also 2 purple gallinule & 1 PROW singing

BTGR - 5-22-05 along BBS rte in addition to previous mentions
several dg between 31 & 32? where culvert area is in big
juncus(?) marsh coming off west of Big Bayou.

on N end of Rd 6 maybe 6 prs? you can hear them
thru the clouds of mosquitoes & deer flies.

on the N end of Sora pond (~~last~~ stop in Mallard Slough
on beach before entering palms) several pairs

where I road enters marsh from Tahiti Beach road
& then off & on the N side of I rd thru marsh
especially around pond areas until last N/S rd at Dry Bar.
estimate 20-30 pairs along I rd thinly dispersed. I
think they are re establishing territories because of the very
high water levels. all the time I've been here I've only
seen 1 bird carrying food (at oyster pond) & none carrying nesting
material & we've had several periods of 30 mph+ that lasted for hrs.

I drove about 1 mile past (w) last noticed activity
& ~~see~~ didn't see any additional birds. water level has started
to slowly drop now.

I suspect SESP have had a delay in nesting also because
I'm seeing singing birds perched on grass tops regularly.

WOC are using a lot of new found ponding areas may be
looking for more cavities nearby.

Snowy Plover 21 May 05

7 adults, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ grown young, 3 $\frac{1}{3}$ grown young
on both sides of P Rd.

none found near Indian Pass

birds trying to nest near Indian Pass Pt: 1 am oystercatcher
& several Least Terns.

at Mallard Slough about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile after leaving
wooded area there is a sand & gravel area that extends
into marsh. Birds trying to nest there include
1 pair AMOY, 3 pairs Black-necked Stilts, & at least
20 Least Terns.