



EDITOR'S PAGE

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#### OSPREY REBOUND CONTINUES

According to the New York Times, a bumper crop of Ospreys was fledged this year from eastern Long Island, New York, and nearby areas. The 130 young birds represented the best reproduction success in 20 years, according to Paul Spitzer of Cornell University. For many years he has been instrumental in increasing Osprey reproduction, by transplanting pesticide-free eggs into nests of foster parents who could not lay viable eggs themselves.

In Massachusetts, the Ospreys also did well, with 25 young fledged from 22 nests. The output of young per nest was 1.24 in New York and 1.14 in Massachusetts. The U.S. Migratory Bird Station has cited 1.2 young per nest as the minimum necessary for a stable population (Bird Observer, 2, 2, 59).

#### MASSACHUSETTS BREEDING BIRD ATLAS UPDATE

According to Richard Forster, director of the atlas project, as of mid-summer 1976, "The most exciting discovery [in 1976] has been the confirmation of Willets breeding on Monomoy Island ... The most recent nesting of the Willet in Massachusetts was in the last century (date uncertain but prior to 1868)."

Though Common Eiders bred at Penikese Island in 1976, for the first state record, the nesting stemmed from introduced birds. A more natural first was the breeding of Louisiana Herons at House Island, Manchester. Finally, the first inland breeding of Common Terns occurred in the vicinity of Quabbin Reservoir.

During 1974 and 1975, the first two years of the breeding bird survey, 70 per cent of the nearly 200 blocks into which the state is divided had received "some" coverage. Massachusetts Audubon Society still needs workers statewide for this most worthwhile project, especially in western regions.

#### BRANT FUTURES

In a release dated August 13th the Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, proposed for the Atlantic flyway "the closure of brant hunting because of poor production and marginal population levels."

#### MAINE'S BALD EAGLES

According to the New York Times for September 14th, Maine's 39 active Bald Eagle nests produced 21 fledglings in 1976. Placed in three nests were eggs from Minnesota and Wisconsin; two young were successfully incubated by the foster parents.

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