

SLOAN, N. F. 1973. Status of breeding colonies of White Pelicans in the United States through 1972. *Inland Bird Banding News* 45: 83-96.

STEVENSON, H. M. 1957. Florida region. *Aud. Field Notes* 11: 257-263.

JAMES A. KUSHLAN, *U. S. National Park Service, Everglades National Park, Homestead, Florida 33030.*

Green Heron Nest site tenacity. — On 22 May 1977, in Gulf Breeze, Santa Rosa County, Florida, we found three newly hatched Green Heron chicks (*Butorides striatus*) in a nest about 3 m high in a 6 m laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*). The immediate area had been overgrown with live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*) and laurel oaks 1.75-8 m tall and so dense that it was impossible to walk through, but clearing began during incubation and eventually the nest tree was completely exposed, with only scattered small trees left in the immediate area. When we discovered the nest, workmen were continually cutting trees using chain saws and passing by the nest dragging brush. Human activity was confined to a few hours in the late afternoon during 23-27 May, but increased on 28 and 29 May when the parents were seen in the vicinity but not at the nest. Despite a large brush fire started about 9 m from the nest on 28 and 30 May, nestlings remained in the nest. Human activity diminished after that time and three young Green Herons were observed away from the nest on 17 June, having fledged successfully.

Feeding habits of the Green Heron and their young as described in Bent (1963, *Life histories of North American marsh birds*, New York, Dover, p. 188), indicate that they are fed only in early morning and late afternoon. Kushlan (1976, *Wilson Bull.* 88: 656-658), has found that in another ciconiiform, the White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*), nestlings exhibit an internal hunger rhythm coinciding with the peak of parental feeding activities at 0900 and 2100. At our Green Heron nest disturbance occurred between 0800 and 2000, and weekdays between 1700 and 2000. These periods of human disturbance apparently did not coincide with peak feeding periods of the nestlings, thus allowing the parents to approach the nest undisturbed. — ROBERT A. DUNCAN AND LUCY R. DUNCAN, 614 Fairpoint Drive, Gulf Breeze, Florida 32561.

Sandhill Cranes in Florida flying with their legs drawn up. — During cold weather, Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) have been observed in Saskatchewan and Indiana flying with their legs folded up under their bellies (Walkinshaw 1953, *Auk* 70: 204-205; Bard and Lohrman 1965, *Blue Jay* 23: 121; Skinner 1966, *Blue Jay* 24: 47). The same posture has been reported for Whooping Cranes (*G. americana*) (Epp 1970, *Canad. Field Nat.* 84: 307-308), Common Cranes (*G. grus*) and Japanese Cranes (*G. japonensis*) (Walkinshaw 1973, *Cranes of the World*, New York, Winchester Press, p. 6).

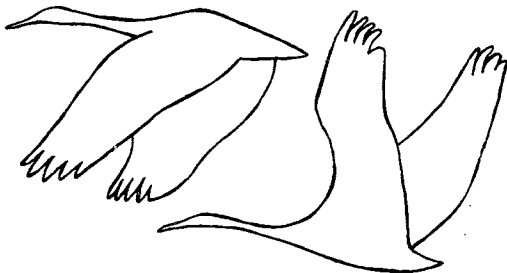


Fig. 1. Sandhill Cranes flying with their legs drawn up.