

and began circling lower over a 2 m scrub holly (*Ilex opaca arenicola*) containing an active Mockingbird nest with 2 eggs. Although no adult Mockingbird was near to harass the kite, it left the area. On 10 July, Charlotte Lohrer, from her kitchen window, observed a kite flying very low and directly to the same holly tree where it flushed an incubating Mockingbird, fluttered momentarily at the nest site and then flew off. This direct flight to the mockingbird nest-tree and the fact that kites are uncommon in the local area suggests that this could have been the same bird that was observed inspecting the nest on 2 July. On 12 July the nest was empty but not disturbed.

These events illustrate the ease with which Swallow-tailed Kites can rob nests of small birds nesting in bushes and trees. In some areas, Swallow-tailed Kite predation on birds' nests may be more frequent than the relatively few records indicate.

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- FRED E. LOHRER AND CHESTER E. WINEGARNER, *Archbold Biological Station, Rt. 2, Box 180, Lake Placid, Florida 33852.*

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**A Forster's Tern while in flight obtaining insects from the ground.**—On 6 April 1974 at Cape Canaveral, Brevard County, Florida, I watched five Forster's Terns (*Sterna forsteri*) swooping towards a large, shallow pool to take items from the surface. Sometimes, bill-snapping was faintly heard when the terns captured flying insects above the pool. The wide sandy perimeter of the pool was smooth and damp and in some places I noticed dense clusters of very small flies on the surface. One of the Forster's Terns was attracted to these clusters for a time. It hovered a short distance above them, with bill pointing well downward and wings rapidly rotating above its body. The tern was able to obtain some of the insects without alighting on the sand. This ground-feeding performance was repeated 14 times during the 10 minutes I watched the bird. It then joined its companions and the behavior was not repeated.

Bent (1921, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 113) mentions Forster's Terns catching flying insects and floating insects but not catching insects from a smooth beach. Perhaps this occurs only occasionally as I can find no other account of similar behavior by Forster's Terns.—BERNARD KING, *Gull Cry*, 9 Park Road, Newlyn, Penzance, Cornwall, England.