

**An unusual location for a Clapper Rail.**—In August 1962, an injured Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris*) was found by my daughter, Daral, on the Margate City, New Jersey beach. The bird had taken refuge in a rock pile that extended into the ocean. The bird had been there no longer than 12 hours since the high water mark would have reached far beyond the bird's point of refuge. We removed the bird and found it to have a right shoulder separation with some fragmentation of the humeral bone. The useless right wing seriously impeded the bird's ability to walk, so Tony Cincotta and I removed it. Blood vessels were tied off and the bird was observed for post-operative bleeding. Later it was transported to the bay region, behind Margate, and released in the tall grass near the bay water. The bird did not hesitate to take cover and was observed to be in complete command of its balance.

This is the first Clapper Rail I have observed on the Margate beach, which is a popular bathing and swimming area. The distance from its natural habitat, the bay, to the ocean beach is about 2 miles.—BRUCE GLICK, *Box 185, State College, Mississippi, 27 September 1962.*

**Population density of Sparrow Hawks in eastern Pennsylvania.**—The summer of 1961 produced a record number of Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) in an area of one-half square mile on farmland at the foot of Hawk Mountain in the northeast corner of Berks County, Pennsylvania.

In the past eight years one to two pairs of Sparrow Hawks used boxes in this area, despite the fact that six or seven boxes were available. During the 1961 season nine nest boxes were available, of which six were occupied. One pair nested in the eaves of a building. These seven pairs produced a total of 31 young: 15 males and 16 females from 32 eggs—(one infertile egg was found). The nearest distance between two of the nests was 110 feet! The average height of the boxes is 18 feet above the ground.

This high nesting success is interestingly reflected in the record count of 470 Sparrow Hawks observed at Hawk Mountain during the 1961 Fall migration of hawks. This might indicate a highly successful nesting season throughout the east.—ALEXANDER C. NAGY, *Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Route 2, Gempston, Pennsylvania, 26 April 1962.*

**The Lesser Black-backed Gull in Indiana.**—On 7 April 1962, Kenn Able, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Chandik, Scott Rea, and Richard Rosche observed a Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) at the Willow Slough State Fish and Game Area, near Morocco, Newton County, Indiana. Dozens of observers studied the bird at length the following day, during a field-trip portion of the annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society at Purdue University. Rowe collected this wary bird on 9 April 1962 with a .222 rifle, after we had pursued it for nearly four hours. It rested and flew with Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*). We wish to thank Eugene Eisenmann and Charles Vaurie for verifying its identification as *L. f. graellsii*. The specimen has been deposited in the Purdue University Wildlife Laboratory Collection.

The bird was a moderately fat, adult female weighing 1,093 grams. The wing (arc) measured 409 mm and the largest ovum 4 mm. The feet, tarsi, irides, and gape were yellow; the eye ring and gape border were orange-salmon. A gizzard shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*) measuring 170 mm in length was in the gullet.

Jehl (1958. *Auk*. 75:349-350) has summarized previous records of this gull for North America. Our specimen is evidently the fourth for the United States and the first for Indiana.—RUSSELL E. MUMFORD, *Department of Forestry and Conservation, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana*, and WARREN S. ROWE, *Indiana Department of Conservation, Morocco, Indiana, 13 July 1962.*