

A SABINE'S GULL AT REGINA BEACH, SASKATCHEWAN

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chewan.

The first sighting of the Sabine's Gull at Regina Beach on 28 October, 1979, by Bob Luterbach and myself is a good example of the teamwork so essential in birding. We had arrived at the Regina Beach Yacht Club shortly after 1100 hours. The weather was cold, windy and overcast. Bob was scanning for birds far out on the lake and, since I couldn't see past him in the car, I decided to check down in front near the shore. A small dark gull suddenly flew in from the west and landed near the docks at the yacht club. It was confirmed as a Sabine's when the wing pattern was observed. The forked, black-banded tail identified the bird as an immature. We left to notify Doug Gilroy but upon our return, the bird had disappeared. Later, about 1300 hours, the gull was spotted in the dock area again, where it remained for some time. The bird was seen on subsequent days, affording good opportunities for photographs. A Bonaparte's Gull was also seen in the yacht club area at the same time.

Godfrey states that the Sabine's Gull is a "rare migrant in the Canadian interior but recorded in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec."³ Previous sightings for Saskatchewan are as follows:

- (1) 9 June, 1914; Sandy Lake, Churchill River, 3 birds.¹
- (2) 11 June, 1960; Black Bay, Lake Athabasca, 11 birds, 2 specimens taken.⁶
- (3) 20 June, 1969; Madge Lake,

Duck Mountain Provincial Park, 1 bird.²

- (4) 21 Sept., 1969; Prince Albert, 1 imm.⁵
- (5) 24 Oct., 1971; Old Wives Lake, 1 bird.⁴
- (6) 8-16 Oct., 1977; Saskatoon, Max. of 7 (J. B. Gollop).⁷

¹BUCHANAN, A. 1920. Wildlife in Canada. McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto. 264 pp. (See P. 224.)

²COPLAND, H. W. R. 1969. A Sabine's Gull in southern Saskatchewan. Blue Jay 27(3):146-7.

³GODFREY, W. E. 1966. The birds of Canada. Nat. Mus. Can. Bull. 203. 428 pp.

⁴HOUSTON, C. S. Northern Great Plains (Fall migration, 1971). Am. Birds 26:78-80.

⁵HOUSTON, M. I. 1974. Interesting Prince Albert records by E. Derek Beacham. Blue Jay 32(2):110-112.

⁶NERO, R. W. 1963. Birds of the Lake Athabasca region, Saskatchewan. Spec. Publ. 5, Sask. Nat. Hist. Soc., Regina.

⁷SERR, E. M. 1978. Northern Great Plains (Fall migration, 1977). Am. Birds 32:220-223.

LARGE CLUTCHES OF RING-BILLED GULLS IN MANITOBA

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On 11 June 1979, Bachelor's Island (51° 45' N, 99° 53' W) in Lake Winnipegosis was surveyed for colonial nesting birds. Nests numbered 1,596 Ring-billed Gulls, eight Herring Gulls and 170 Double-crested Cormorants.