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Persistent predation by American Swallow-tailed Kites on Eastern Kingbirds.—Recently, Lohrer and Winegarner (1980, Fla. Field Nat. 8: 47-48) summarized the records of American Swallow-tailed Kites (*Elanoides forficatus*) preying on nestling birds and suggested that such predation may be relatively frequent. Since then, Skutch (1981, Publ. Nuttall Ornithol. Club No. 19, pp. 180 and 227) reported predation on the Clay-colored Robin (*Turdus grayi*) and the Golden Masked Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) in Costa Rica. In this note we add to the list the Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) in Florida, and present observations that indicate Swallow-tailed Kites can be persistent predators at the nests of small birds.

On 12 July 1981 at 1200, 5 km south of Lake Placid, Highlands County, Florida, in a sparsely-populated subdivision, we noticed two American Swallow-tailed Kites being chased from the vicinity of a kingbird nest by an Eastern Kingbird. At a distance of 100 m, we could easily see an object in the talons

of the adult kite and that the following kite was a short-tailed juvenile. About 100 m from the nest the kingbird ceased calling and diving on the lead kite, and the kite began soaring upward while plucking feathers from its prey. With binoculars, we identified the prey as a well-feathered nestling Eastern Kingbird with a short tail, because it had a distinct bicolored appearance with no trace of wing patches or any distinctive markings elsewhere on the body. As we watched the high-soaring adult kite, it made a steep stoop almost to the ground, and at the bottom of the stoop another kite flashed by from the opposite direction. This pattern was repeated twice, but we did not see the kites transfer prey. The kites eventually drifted out of sight. About 15 min after the initial sighting and soon after we lost sight of the kites, two kites appeared from the direction in which the first two departed. They flew close to the ground in flapping flight directly to the kingbird nest tree, a 13 m slash pine (*Pinus elliotti*) about 8 m from a house. When one of the kites approached the nest tree it swooped high over the tree and dove straight down among the branches to pause briefly at the kingbird nest on the lowest branch. The kite flew away rapidly carrying a nestling with only a brief chase and little scolding by the kingbird. The other kite (age undetermined) followed closely almost as if it were trying to steal the prey. About 1 min later a juvenile kite flew to the kingbird nest and then flew toward the other kites.

About 30 min later an adult kite flew leisurely toward the kingbird nest where it was met by a scolding kingbird. The kite swerved off and spent the next 15 min slowly gliding back and forth below the canopy in a nearby grove of slash pines and cabbage palms (*Sabal palmetto*) among some houses, as if it was searching for birds' nests. The next day no kingbirds were seen in the area, suggesting that the kites took all the nestlings. For several days thereafter we saw one or two kites within 1-2 km of the area and once we saw a juvenile kite perched in a snag while an adult kite flew low over the nearby trees.

These observations suggest the following: adult kites with fledglings carefully hunt over the same area probably searching for birds' nests; once they find a nest the kites return until it is emptied; close proximity to residential areas is no deterrent to kite predation. Kermott (1981, Raptor Res. 15:94-95) described a similar situation of persistent predation by Merlins (*Falco columbarius*) on nestling American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) in suburban Big Sky, Montana.—Charlotte E. Lohrer and Fred E. Lohrer, Archbold Biological Station, Route 2, Box 180, Lake Placid, Florida 33852.

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Revision of flock movement rate table.—In a recent paper (Gaddis 1983, Fla. Field Nat. 11:25-34) Table 3 was found to be incorrectly presented. I have revised the table and present it here (Table 1).

The revised table shows the overall daily trend (a reduced flock movement rate at midday) to be more consistently manifested in the monthly categories than they were in the unrevised table. Only in the month of February do the movement rates depart from this pattern to show the slowest rate in the morning. The sample sizes for the individual time periods in March, however, are probably not large enough for reliable comparison. The seasonal increase