

1 inactive ratio in each of the three experiments, indicating that active mice were the more conspicuous type of prey.

Differential predation on active and inactive mice was probably due to visual cues as indicated by the owls' ability to capture readily inactive prey presented individually. Hearing, which is acute in Barn Owls (Payne 1971), was probably not important in these experiments as there was little vegetation or litter on the ground to make sound as the active mice moved. In certain habitats differential sound production by two or more prey would probably cause differential raptor predation by hearing only.

These results lend support to Metzgar's hypothesis (1967) that differential predation by Screech Owls in his experiment was due to activity differences of prey. Metzgar's experimental situation probably did not represent the field conditions of the resident-transient concept, but rather the increased activity of "transients" was most likely an artifact of their introduction into a novel laboratory environment.

Research was supported by Contract AT(38-1)-310 between the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and the University of Georgia.

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Black-legged Kittiwakes breeding in Labrador.¹—The breeding distribution of the Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) in Canada has long interested ornithologists because the birds are concentrated at both the northern (Lancaster Sound region) and southern (Newfoundland and Gulf of St. Lawrence) extremities of the range (Godfrey 1966). Except for relatively small numbers nesting on the east coast of Baffin Island and in eastern Hudson Strait (Resolution Island, Loks Land, Button Islands), a large hiatus exists between these two breeding groups (Nettleship 1972). The heart of this gap is the 750-mile long Labrador coast where they are common in summer but heretofore not known to breed (Godfrey 1966).

On 29 July 1972 during a boat census of breeding seabirds in Labrador, Lock identified 16 kittiwake nests, at least two of which contained young, on the cliffs on the southwestern side of Outer Gannet Island (54° 00' N, 56° 32' W). Contents

¹ An investigation associated with the program "Studies on northern seabirds," Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada (Report No. 10).

of most nests were not visible from the water, but adults were associated with all nests, suggesting that each nest represented an active breeding pair.

The kittiwake has been known in Labrador only as an abundant summer resident in the past. Bigelow (1902) and Townsend and Allen (1907) found them numerous on the coast, as did Hantzsch (1928) and Austin (1932), but no breeding was reported (Todd 1963). All the available evidence indicates that this colony on Outer Gannet Island is of recent origin, especially as neither Austin (1932) nor Tuck (pers. comm.) found it nesting there during their seabird censuses. Its presence also suggests that where suitable habitat exists on the Labrador coast, kittiwakes may attempt to breed and that they may already occur as a sparsely distributed and marginal breeding population between the two major breeding groups. It also seems quite likely that this northern expansion is a consequence of the rapid increase in kittiwake numbers noted throughout its extensive breeding range, apparently the main cause of the expansion already recorded at the southern periphery of its range in eastern North America (Lock 1972, Tuck and Borotra 1972).

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Ross' Goose-Snow Goose hybrid in south Texas.—On 4 November 1972, I shot an immature female Ross' Goose (*Chen rossii*) × Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*) hybrid at the S. L. Frye Ranch 2 miles northeast of Mathis, San Patricio County, Texas. This bird was identified as a Ross' Goose-Snow Goose hybrid by Clarence Cottam, Director, Welder Wildlife Foundation, and Roxie C. Laybourne of the U. S. National Museum. This bird is believed to be the first Ross' Goose-Snow Goose hybrid taken in Texas. The specimen has been donated to the U. S. National Museum (No. 566278).—DON DELNICKI, *Welder Wildlife Foundation, Sinton, Texas 78387*. Accepted 3 Apr. 73.