

of fishing operations, eagerly accepting refuse. Herring Gulls, in particular, feed on exposed earthworms and grubs in newly ploughed fields. The natural diet of both species consists of some plant material, invertebrates, fish and occasionally larger prey. By utilizing garbage sites during periods when their natural diet is scarce they likely increase their chances for survival and are able to winter in areas further north. While gulls have been common on Prince Edward Island for many years, breeding has only occurred since the mid 1950's and 1960's. Presently there are large breeding colonies of each of these species around the Island. To what extent garbage sites have influenced this is an interesting question, but if results found elsewhere can be applied here then their impact may be important.

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CROWS HARASS HERRING GULL by Daryl Guignion

The following observations were made by myself and the U.P.E.I. wildlife biology class on Feb. 11, 1982 about 200 yards upstream from the Hillsborough Bridge. Peculiar crow behaviour attracted our attention so we watched the following scene for about 15 minutes. Two crows (later joined by two others) were attempting to pluck a rather resistant but flightless herring gull. The crows were vigorously attacking - pouncing on the gull and dragging him struggling along the ice. These observations were made at 2:00 p.m. At 4:45 p.m., upon our return, the gull was lying on its side apparently dead but not eaten.



BIRD REPORT (CONTINUED)

- Song Sparrow - 1 at a feeder in East Royalty on Jan. 10, 14 and 24 (MW).
- Snow Bunting - 1 in Cornwall on Jan. 18 (ALv); 12 in Naufrage, 3 in North Lake and 25 in East Point sitting on the roof of a house on Jan. 30 (WC); 30-40 in North Tryon sitting on the roof of a house and flying down to food scattered on the ground, 75 in Summerfield and 15 in Hunter River on Jan. 30 (GH, TB, SS); 30 in Summerville on Feb. 6 (WC); 12 in Bedeque and 12 in Ellerslie on Feb. 7 (GH, TB); 15 in Cherry Valley on Feb. 12 (WC).

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