

1965 HERONRY SURVEY

In the Spring of 1965, as in 1964, the Bird Clubs of the State were asked to check any Great Blue Heron nesting sites in their respective areas and report to the author on the location, number of nests and breeding success. Reports were received from sixteen Clubs and from a number of interested individuals. Harold Mitchell of Buffalo commented that Great Blue Herons are much less common in Region 1 than formerly, and that a former colony of over 100 nests on Grand Island is now completely abandoned.

The purpose of the survey is to determine the breeding status of the Great Blue Heron in New York State and to learn whether it is declining as a breeding bird in the State. To do this will require a continuing survey over several years. We thank those who have cooperated in this effort and ask that they continue their reports in the coming season. We also solicit reports from any Club or individuals who may have any information on heronries in the State. Because the use of DDT and other chemicals is suspected of unfavorably affecting the breeding success of some birds, particularly the fish eating species such as the Great Blue Heron, it becomes important to establish the actual direction in which the breeding status of the species heading.

<i>Location</i>	<i>1965 nests young</i>	<i>1964 nests young</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>Region 1</i>			
1. Farrington Hollow Rd. North of Town's Corners Town of Arkright Chautauqua County	23	43	1949— 4 nests 1950— 6 nests 1963—42 nests
2. Coes Rd. Chautauqua Co....	25	25	
3. Oak Orchard—Genesee Co...	10-12		Over 100 a few years ago
4. Hood Hill, Belmont..... Alleghany County	5 9		Observed 7-9-65
5. 4 mi. NW of Vandalia..... Cattaraugus County	no report	19	
<i>Region 2</i>			
1. Marengo Swamp S of Clyde, Wayne County	50	40 1-3 per nest	Observed 6-5-65
<i>Region 3</i>			
Keuka Park Conservation Club, Penn Yan, Yates Co.	No known heronries in the area		
Cayuga Bird Club..... Ithaca, Tompkins County	No known heronries in the area		

<i>Location</i>	<i>1965 nests young</i>	<i>1964 nests young</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>Region 4</i>			
1. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile SW of Candor..... Tioga County	15	15	Observed 5-31-65
2. Owego, Tioga County.....	Heronry reported but no data given		
3. 3 mi. E of Whitney Point, Broome County	15	60-70	3 locations 1000 ft. apart
4. German, Chenango Co.....	Heronry reported but no data given		
5. Cold Brook Rd..... Scott, Cortland County	7	17	Located in beech grove which was cut in Fall 1965 but nest trees spared.
6. Charlottesville near Otsego- Schoharie Co. line	Active but no numbers given	Reported but no data given	

Region 5

1. Cross Lake, Onondaga Co. . .	35	65-75	Observed 4-24-65
2. Scott Swamp, Phoenix..... Oswego County	20	15	
3. Bridgeport, Madison Co.....	4		Observed 4-8-65
4. North Victory..... Cayuga County	Heronry reported but no data given		
5. Skaneateles, Onondaga Co...	Heronry reported but no data given		
6. East Freetown..... Cortland County	Heronry reported but no data given		

Region 6

1. Ironsides Island..... Alexandria Bay Jefferson County	Over 100 "about as last year"	130-140	
2. Perch River Game..... Management Area	25	no data	
3. Camp Drum.....	Reported but no data given		

Region 7

Agnes Amstutz reports no heronries in the Tupper Lake area

Region 8

Peter Wickham reports no known heronries in Region 8
Sassafras Bird Club, Amsterdam, N.Y. reports no known heronries

Region 9

1. Bontecue Farm, Town of Washington, Dutchess Co.	9 2 per nest	7 2-4 per nest	Observed 3-23-65 to 6-26-65
Sullivan Audubon Society reports no known heronries			
Rockland Audubon Society reports no known heronries			

Walter E. Benning, Clyde, N. Y.