

1966 GREAT BLUE HERONRY REPORT

With the completion of the third year of the Upstate New York Great Blue Heronry Survey, the data obtained begins to take on some significance.

Table I summarizes the information gathered over the three years. It includes reports on 17 heronries. On eight of these heronries, reports were received for each of the three years, on four for two years and on five for but one. Nine other heronries have been reported without any data on them.

Table I

	1964	1965	1966
No. of heronries on which data was received	11	14	11
Approximate no. of active nests	450	350	250

While it would appear that the number of active nests in the state is declining, some individual heronries are growing. The Marengo Swamp heronry near Clyde in Wayne County has increased in 3 years from 40 to 100 active nests.

Only a few reports give an indication of the number of young birds actually raised. From these few reports it would appear that about two birds per nest have been raised in each of the three years.

Geographically we find there is a narrow belt North and South across the State from Binghamton to Watertown in which one half of the heronries reported are located. East of this belt only 4 active heronries have been reported, all in the Catskill-Hudson Valley area. In the Western part of the State all the heronries are concentrated in the Southwestern corner except for one each in Genesee, Wayne and Steuben counties.

Table II gives a more detailed report of the records received for the 1966 season.

For details on the years 1964 and 1965 see the *Kingbird* XV No. 2 page 92 and XVI No. 2 page 79.

Table II

Location	Nests	Young	Dates Visited 1966
Region 1			
1 — Farrington Hollow Rd	no report		
2 — Coes Rd.	17	32	5/1, 5/24, 6/8
3 — Oak Orchard	no report		
4 — Hood Hill	15	25	
5 — 4 mi. NW of Vandalia	no report		
6 — 5 mi. N Olean	25		5/19
Region 2			
1 — Marengo Swamp	100	250	6/15, 6/19, 7/4
Region 3			
1 — S of Corning, Steuben Co.	15	23	
Keuka Park Conservation Club, Penn Yan, Yates Co. reports no known heronries			
Schuyler County Bird Club reports no known heronries			

Location	Nests	Young	Dates Visited 1966
Region 4			
1 — ½ mi. SW Candor, Tioga Co.	Colony smaller this year		
2 — Owego, Tioga Co.	no report		
3 — 3 mi. E of Whitney Point Broome Co.	no report		
4 — German, Chenango Co.	no report		
5 — Cold Brook Rd. Scott, Cortland Co.	3		9/9
6 — Charlottesville near Otsego- Schoharie Co. line	no report		
7 — Andes, Delaware Co.	Reported but no data given		
8 — Southern Colchester Town- ship Delaware Co.	Reported but no data given		
Region 5			
1 — Cross Lake, Onondaga Co.	35		6/2
2 — Scott Swamp, Phoenix Oswego Co.	8-10		Late May
3 — Bridgeport, Madison Co.	No sign of activity		
4 — North Victory, Cayuga Co.	Heronry abandoned, logging operations		
5 — Skaneateles, Onondaga Co.	no report		
6 — East Freetown, Cortland Co.	no report		
Region 6			
1 — Ironsides Island, Alexandria Bay Jefferson County	80-85	1-4 per nest	
2 — Perch River Game Management Area	37	1-5 per nest	
3 — Camp Drum Jefferson Co.	No details available as it is in restricted "im- pact" area of Camp Drum Military Reser- vation 40-50 nests 2 yrs. ago		
Region 7			
No reports received in 1966			
Region 8			
Sassafras Bird Club, Amsterdam reports no known heronries			
Region 9			
1 — Bontecue Farm, Town of Washington, Dutchess Co.	6	2 per nest	5/15, 6/8
Rockland Audubon Society reports no known heronries			

We wish to thank all those individuals and clubs who have sent us reports. Great Blue Herons often nest in rather inaccessible places and it takes a real effort to get accurate information on the number of active nests and the number of young raised. We ask your cooperation in sending us reports on the 1967 season.

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