

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Black Tern chases Northern Harrier: On 26 July 1987 Linda Paradowski and I were birding the Tonawanda Management Area and the adjacent Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. While driving on Owen Road, between Meadville and Ditch Roads, we observed a Northern Harrier cross in front of us. We stopped the car and followed the hawk for a few seconds before it dropped behind tall reeds which blocked our view. Less than a minute later we again observed the harrier flying over the reeds. This time, however, the harrier was being followed and harassed by a Black Tern. A third bird, an unidentified blackbird, was seen following the first two birds. The tern was seen flying extremely close to the tail and rump of the harrier although we could not be sure if contact was made. The harrier flew away from the area with the tern in pursuit. We were able to follow the three birds for about thirty seconds before they flew out of sight.

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