

RECORD LATE TUFTED TITMOUSE NESTLINGS

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While Atlasing block 2080D in the Township of Somerset in Niagara County on 27 Jun 2001, local birder Neal Gordon showed me a Peterson nest box in his father's backyard at 8509 West Somerset Road containing young Tufted Titmice. I pointed out to Neal that since the nestlings were sparsely feathered and the late nestling date for unfledged Tufted Titmouse in *The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State* is 30 Jun, these nestlings would probably exceed the current late date for unfledged juveniles.

Daily observations of the adults were made as they entered the nest box to feed the nestlings. 3 Jul was last day that feeding activity was observed. We opened the nest box on 5 Jul, and confirmed that the nestlings had fledged. Based on this evidence, it is recommended that the late unfledged juvenile date of 30 Jun be extended to 3 Jul, and that downstate observers (where the Tufted Titmouse is a much more common breeder) note early and late nestlings of this species.