

about 20' (emergent vegetation - solid <sup>pure</sup> & green) have been trampled by animals. Shore heavily used as if people might have dropped food. Some trails in vegetation made by nutria, 2 rose 3 spoonbills over head and alighted, 10 others followed and alighted. From tower can see at least 12 common egret & 2 great blue herons and the usual <sup>usual birds</sup> snowy egret in area. Photo 830331-3 of open channels and side vegetation with cattails at edge. Photo 830331-4 of nutria in trail in water and 30' from nest platform of 3 young. It remained in one position for 30 minutes then swam away from nest and invaded <sup>short</sup> green emergent vegetation to feed. The nest of 3 young was photographed <sup>830331-5, 830331-6</sup> showing 3 young on platform, one upper left in bulrush for protection and the third not visible but among rush at edge of platform. In the 30 minutes the young alternated 6 times between open sun protection and bulrush overhead protection. An informant said that 3 weeks ago the young were 3 inches long & 5 in number. One week later 4 remained & today there are 3 left. <sup>now 9" long (head & body)</sup> As water rose more sedges were placed on platform to elevate young above water. He reported 3 water moccasins, 2 water snakes & one black with yellow patches. 3 years ago he counted 300 alligators on trail <sup>immediately</sup> this side of tower and all left for water. We observed one 9" diameter red-eared turtle. The tree on W side tower has 21 buds 1/2" in diameter & 5' higher than tower. A myrtle warbler fed in this tree. 2 Louisiana heron flew over tower. Common tern flies by <sup>approx</sup> every 10 minutes. Can see 12 nutria to N in marsh some on platforms others sunning on vegetation. From tower can see to S beyond area which is overgrazed, short and devoid of birds. This must be a special fresh water section of the reserve and not typical but made to show the public. At parking area and not seen elsewhere were herring gull, ring-bill gull <sup>Photos 830331-7, 8 and 9 of killdeer at nest in parking lot. Stands up on nest to defend other birds or man. ♂ & ♀ changed incubation at 2:35 P.M.</sup>

Left nature trail and to S. 790.1 Holly Beach & Belaire

here and nature trail were 2 nutria road kills, also 1 King rail and 2 coot. Redwing, 5 redwings, snowy egret, snowy egret, redwing, meadowlark, redwing, redwing, barn swallow, meadowlark, 2 swallows, (census 100' each side of road), redwing, 2 snowy egret, meadowlark, snowy egret, b.t. grackle, snowy egret, Louisiana heron, redwing, snowy egret, swallow, snowy egret,