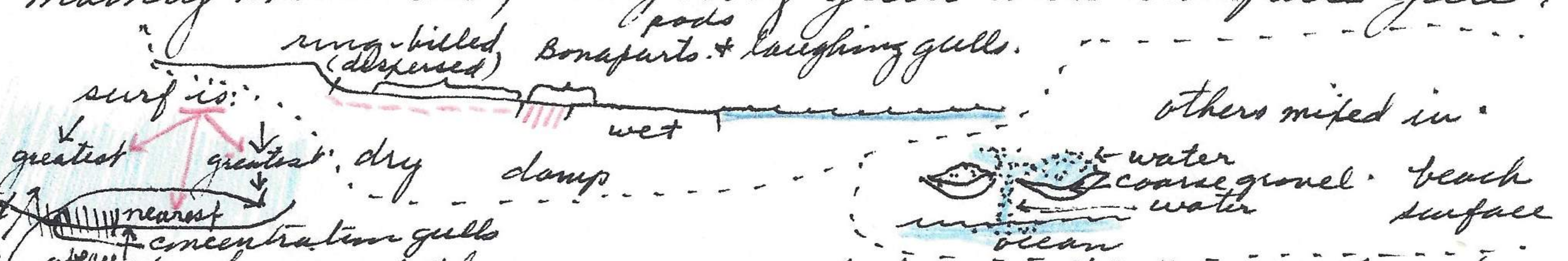


or so from shipping channel which is fresh water & am told. The drop was about 6 inches. Entire road is about water level. Returned and continued W from Saline Pass. at 1/10 mi before D. Roy Harrington Beach Unit of the Sea Rim State Park observed an armadillo road kill. Set up camp and then checked nature trail. Only 3 redwings on entire walk. Visitors should be told that the marsh is seasonal and after firing area and keeping the marsh in early successional stages that there will not be the numbers of wildlife the leaflets represent. To me it was almost sterile except some trails of the nutria. On coast beach east of the pole fence on beach east of camping and parking area to 2 miles east were aggregations of shore birds on the beach, mostly settling down for the night and not for feeding activity this was at a time when lights were fading in the evening. Periodic rain. In one section of 100 linear feet of shoreline counted 50 aquatic birds of which 75% Bonaparte gulls, 15% ring-billed gulls, 5% laughing gulls, 1% Royal tern, 2% common tern. ^{20% herring gull} This did not include other smaller shore-birds like, willet, sandering, etc. On this beach the Bonaparte gull occurred in aggregates of approx 150 birds, other individually dispersed throughout. Ring-billed gulls mainly shoreward, laughing gulls with Bonaparte gull.

surf ends farthest from beach



On the basis of the overage count in 100 ft would estimate in the two miles of shoreline (this was the limit of visibility and I could not determine if they went beyond, there would be 7,500 birds or 5625 Bonapartes, 1125 ring-billed gulls, 375 laughing gulls, 75% Royal tern, 150 common tern, 150 herring gull. Also in area are 2 scissor-tail flycatchers, 21 cattle egrets flew E over surf about 200' out from shore for at least 2/10 mile, then landward at 90° angle.

Group 25 sandering on beach. Uniform synchronized running most when incoming wave rolled up on sand, second desynchronized run when wave left and birds followed. However other synchronized movements were random. One sandering with hunched-backed profile, head held low. Fed 10-15' up beach (parallel with water) and about every 15 seconds would disperse close group of sandering and chase any one that was closest to his