

Holes in drier part of beach (of crabs) range in size from $1/4$ to 2 inches in diameter. Spotted ground squirrel reexcavated a hole in sloping sand by rapidly using front feet and almost without a pause kicked the dirt further with hind feet. At one time it entered inner hole and returned covered with sand. It used this hole as a retreat for a particular area it was investigating but when out of area did not return to it. (9:00 AM). Both ruddy turnstone and sanderling fed $1/10$ mile from water and seemed to be picking up material on new wind blown sands at camp. Their feeding activity was about same as on wet shore.

Left Padre Island national seashore at 01:13 at 12:00 A.M. As we left we estimated number of tree & barn swallows, all flying NE between sand dunes & $2/10$ mi NW as 1 per 5 seconds of which 90% are barn swallows and 10% tree sparrows. These birds have been moving to NE for at least the last week. Earlier in the morning there are more ^(3x) than later in the day. Turkey vulture circling over Grassland nature Trail area. Another turkey vulture sitting on fence post. 26.7 badger road kill, measured 280 mm body only. No tail present. In same area and at pond to NW were 5 Wilson phalarope, 2 willet, 2 black ducks. Across area to here have seen approx. 15 saw buds along road in pairs or singles. Turkey vulture, 28.5. Have not kept complete record. Counted ^(12:50 P.M.) great blue heron on both side of highway to 100' from shore between the N end of Intracoastal Waterway bridge to where road meet mainland, as 9 birds. Also 1 Louisiana heron, 2 reddish egrets. The great blue herons are highly adaptive to man. Another instance of great blue heron becoming fearless of man was a fish cleaning site where 30 laughing gulls feed on parts of fish to the gulls. In background 3 great blue heron advanced slowly and cautiously to 30' and retreated several times but finally were able to compete with the gulls in acquiring the offal. On return in the same area as was used to census at 12:50 this afternoon, now 6:30 P.M. counted 19 great blue herons. Two laughing gull roadkills across this causeway. Sopher digging 3' from Mcadam road. Continued to Mustang Island State Park.

Mustang Island State Park, San Patricio Co., Texas
April 26, 1983

Between 7:05 A.M. and 7:15 A.M. in an area of outer ridge of