

# **Survey of Mammalian Predator Observation on Barrier Islands**

## **From VCR Field Notes and Colonial Bird Surveys**

**1999**

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### **ASSAWOMAN ISLAND**

-1977-06-18; Hennessey. "Deer, fox, otter, and raccoon sign observed".

-1988; Bill Williams. "Fox tracks in colony and length of entire island. One tern nest apparently destroyed by fox."

-1990; Bill Williams. "Fox tracks were found on Assawoman Island for at least the third year in a row."

-1996; Bill Williams. "Numerous raccoon tracks and tracks of a canine (non-fox) not associated with human tracks."

-1997; Bill Williams. "Fox tracks evident along dunes."

### **CEDAR ISLAND**

-1988; Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) Piping Plover Survey.

"Predator populations are high as landowners report nuisance raccoons."

-1995; Ruth Beck. "Raccoon tracks on west side."

-1996; Bill Akers. "Raccoon and fox tracks very evident."

-1997; Bill Akers. "Raccoon tracks."

-1997; Barry Truitt. "Fox predation caused colony abandonment on Cedar Island."

### **CLUB HOUSE POINT**

-1994; Ruth Beck. "Small mammal- raccoon tracks seen."

## **COBB ISLAND**

-1990; VDGIF Piping Plover Survey. "Fox predation documented."

## **HOG ISLAND**

-1974-09-17; Donna Goodwin; "Two foxes (red?) Observed".

-1988; VDGIF Piping Plover Survey. "Hog supports healthy mammalian predator populations of raccoon and fox."

-1996; Michael Beck. "Raccoon tracks all over southern end of island."

## **METOMPKIN ISLAND**

-1988; VDGIF Piping Plover Survey. "Occasional mammal tracks are seen, but no associated nest loss has been observed."

-1990; Bill Williams. "Fox tracks were evident on this southern isolated portion of the island, and the presence of this mammal may account for lack of colonial birds."

-1996; Bill Akers. "Numerous fox tracks and large canine tracks. Numerous raccoon tracks north of this site (Metompkin Island I)."

-1996; Bob Cross, Piping Plover Survey. "Fox tracks near plover nest" at two locations.

-1998; Bob Cross, Piping Plover Survey. "Red foxes frequent middle of Metompkin, and at least one nest lost to foxes."

## **MYRTLE ISLAND**

-1994; Ruth Beck. "Raccoon tracks everywhere on north end of island, some on south end near colony."

## **PARRAMORE ISLAND**

- 1974-07-10; Bedford and Wass. "Dense raccoon population".
- 1977-11-04; Hennessey et al. "Raccoon tracks on beach indicate large population".
- 1975-01-26; Hennessey. "Raccoon skull retrieved".
- 1975-04-28; Louis Cullipher (SCS). "Yellow raccoon observed".
- 1975-05-01; Albert Pepler (PI caretaker) related that he had poisoned raccoons and foxes in 1970 by spreading out beef tails with strychnine poison".
- 1975-06-01; Hennessey. Black Skimmer colony on south Parramore overwash.
- 1976-07-27; Hennessey. "Found 3 dead raccoons".
- 1977-02-04; Truitt. "Found active fox den in dune of Little Beach".
- 1977-02-19; Truitt. "Beach covered with fox and coon tracks".
- 1977-02-26; Truitt and Charles Potter(NMNH). "Tremendous numbers of fox tracks on beach".
- 1977-06-14; Truitt and Tom Rice. "Observed dead squirrel in mouth of fox den on Little Beach. Numerous coon tracks".
- 1978-10-13; Truitt and Dr Marshall. One dead raccoon on beach".
- 1979-03-04; Truitt. "One black feral house cat observed in the dunes north of the clubhouse".
- 1988; VDGIF Piping Plover Survey. "This island is heavily forested and supports a tremendous fox and raccoon population."

## **SANDY ISLAND**

- 1995; Jerry Via. "Broken eggs and possible fox tracks."
- 1996; Jerry Via. "Raccoon tracks."

-1997; Bill Akers. "A mammal, possible Rattus sp seen at colony site."

### **SHIP SHOAL ISLAND**

-1995; Jerry Via and Bill Williams. "Possible fox and rat tracks."

-1997; Barry Truitt. "Raccoons were the likely cause of colony abandonment on Ship Shoal Island."

### **SMITH ISLAND**

-1986; Bill Akers. "Predation potential- coyote on island."

-1988; VDGIF Piping Plover Survey. "Mammalian predators maintain stable population."

### **WRECK ISLAND**

-1995; Bill Williams. "Apparent rat burrows and paths."

### **LITTLE COBB**

-1977-06-05; Truitt and Dueser. "Raccoon tracks observed while setting up small mammal trap line."

-1977-06-08; Truitt and Dueser. "Norway rat trapped behind cottage on Little Cobb".

### **REVEL'S ISLAND**

-1976-01-24; Hennessey. "Coon tracks observed"

-1977-03-08; Hennessy. "Plenty of coon sign".

**-1978-08-13**; Hennessey. "Red fox observed in salt marsh".

**-1980-10-22**; Hennessey & Truitt. "Red fox observed".