

At the time of the crossbill nesting, a pair of American Goldfinches (*Carduelis tristis*) nested in the same tree, about 3 m away. On several occasions, the female goldfinch harassed the female crossbill while the crossbill was nestbuilding. Once, I saw the male crossbill chase the male goldfinch from the crossbill's main perch. However, these minor conflicts did not deter either species from nesting. The male crossbill frequently sang prior to and during nest construction, but singing soon declined afterwards.

Until now, the Red Crossbill was classified as a casual visitor during the breeding season in northwestern South Carolina (Post and Gauthreaux, Contrib. Charleston Mus. 18, 1988), and has bred near Boone, N.C. in 1981 (Haggerty, Chat 46:83-86, 1982). This breeding record at Caesar's Head State Park is the first for South Carolina.

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### **First Sighting Of The Little Gull From South Carolina Waters**

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On 14 March 1987 on pelegic trip aboard the Carolina Clipper I sighted an adult winter-plumage Little Gull (*Larus minutus*). The boat was headed to the Gulf Stream from Charleston and we were about 40 km offshore when I saw the bird. The weather was clear and the seas were calm. The Little Gull was flying with two Bonaparte's Gulls (*L. philadelphia*). The three birds were sighted off the starboard quarter and crossed astern about 100 m. The bird was easily identified as it had dark wing linings, rounded wing tips, and was obviously smaller than the Bonaparte's Gulls accompanying it. There is no possibility of confusing *Larus minutus* in adult plumage with any other bird. Robin Carter and Sidney Gauthreaux also saw the bird. I might add that I have seen several Little Gulls in Massachusetts and on the south shore of Lake Erie, so it is a bird with which I have had some experience.

S.C. Editor's Note: The Little Gull was added to the North Carolina hypothetical list with the publication of the sighting of an individual at Roanoke Rapids in 1971 (Chat 36:30, 1972). With the publication of this record, the species may now be placed on the South Carolina Provisional list (1-4 published sightings, but no material documentation).