

mouth, but there was no audible sound. The bat made no attempt to escape, not even when I touched it with a stick.

Realizing that it would not be safe to pick up the injured bat with our bare hands, we returned to the house to obtain implements for collecting the specimen. When I again reached the place where the bat had been lying, I was unable to find it. I do not know whether it flew away, crawled under some leaves, or was carried off by the Blue Jay or some other predator.

Ms. Potter and I immediately compared our impressions of the animal's size and coloration with the bat accounts and photographs in *Mammals of the Carolinas, Virginia, and Maryland* (Webster, Parnell, and Biggs, University of North Carolina Press, 1985). We tentatively identified it as an adult female Red Bat (*Lasiurus borealis*).

Ms. Potter discussed the observation with Mary Kay Clark, curator of mammals at the N. S. State Museum of Natural Sciences. Ms. Clark indicated that the above description does not completely eliminate similar species, though the furred tail and inconspicuous ears, the woodland habitat, and the coastal locality are consistent with the general appearance, the tree-roosting behavior, and the statewide distribution of *L. borealis*. After examining specimens of Red Bats in the museum's mammal collection, Potter was confident that we had seen a female of that species.

A. C. Bent's *Life Histories of North American Jays, Crows and Titmice, Part I* (U. S. National Museum Bulletin 191, 1946), indicates that jays sometimes consume small mammals such as mice and shrews, but it does not mention bats. However, Webster et al. (1985) list "opossums, cats, and various species of hawks and owls" as predators of the Red Bat and add that Blue Jays "are known to consume this bat, especially young individuals."

My observation gives some idea of the struggle that ensues when a jay captures a bat large enough to resist the attack.

Specimen records of the Great Cormorant from North Carolina

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On 1 June 1990 I found an injured Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) near the high tide line on North Topsail Beach (formerly West Onslow Beach), Onslow County, North Carolina. The bird was about 50 m S of the remains of the New River Inlet Pier, ca. 2 km S of New River Inlet. The bird died two hours later and was salvaged as a study skin (USNM # 596863).

The cormorant was an immature female with an ovary 37 x 10 mm, and she was undergoing feather molt. On both wings, primaries #1-6 were new, #7 was one-third grown, and #8-11 were old. Right rectrices #2,4,5, and 6 were

one-half grown; #1,3, and 7 were new. Left rectrices #2 and 4 were three-fourths grown; #5 and 6 were breaking sheaths; #1,3, and 7 were new. She was undergoing light to moderate body and neck molt.

Great Cormorants have been sighted with increasing frequency in North Carolina since first discovered here in 1970 (Teulings, Am. Birds 25:562-567, 1971). Photographic verification of the presence of this species in North Carolina was first provided in 1973 by Grant and Grant (Chat 39:39-40, 1975).

I frequently observed Great Cormorants and Double-crested Cormorants (*P. auritus*) perching on the pilings of the New River Inlet Pier during the winter, spring, and summer of 1990. Up to seven Great Cormorants were present here on 8 May 1990 and two were present as late as 4 July 1990.

Three additional Great Cormorant specimens from North Carolina were collected on 28 March 1986 near Southport, Brunswick County, N. C., by James F. Parnell and David S. Lee. A female (NCSM 11811) with heavy body fat and undergoing molt weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces. A 9-pound male (NCSM 11812) with testes measuring 41 x 11 mm (left) and 31 x 12 mm (right), had heavy body fat and was undergoing molt at the time of collection. The third specimen was an adult male that was deposited in the University of North Carolina at Wilmington collection (UNCW B951).

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Inland Records of Brant in the Carolinas and Observations of Kleptoparasitic Behavior

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On seven dates from 1-29 December 1989, I watched a light-bellied Brant (*Branta bernicla hrota*) feed among a flock of American Coots (*Fulica americana*) at Lake Paul Wallace, Bennettsville, Marlboro County, South Carolina. The blackish head, neck, and breast, fairly evenly barred sides, and evenly barred mantle and wing coverts with grayish or grayish-buff margins indicated the bird was in basic plumage (see Palmer, 1976, illus., pp. 247). The small incomplete whitish necklace on each side of the neck below the throat was present though not overly distinct. The bird swam and flew well and was apparently uninjured. I discovered the Brant on 1 December when I did not observe any visible migration in the area; the Brant probably arrived between 17 and 30 November when a series of cold fronts passed through the region. On 29 December, the Brant was present at Lake Wallace which was almost frozen over with only one small open area where all the waterbirds congregated. Two days later, the entire lake had frozen over, and the Brant was gone, though a flock of 40 feral Canada Geese (*B. canadensis*) remained.