

SAND DOLLAR SHOAL (TIGERTAIL) BIRD CHECKLIST

Updated by T. H. Below; 3/5/07

The emergent part of the sand shoal system off the northwest corner of Marco Island, Florida, has been named Sand Dollar Island by the local residents. Over the last 34 years that the coastal waterbirds in the area have been studied, this site has been open water, a sandbar, and now a sand spit enclosing a large lagoon.

Through the years as the lagoon expanded and matured, more and more birds used it and it has become one of the best coastal waterbird locations on the west coast of Florida. This valuable coastal waterbird feeding, resting and nesting area has been designated a Critical Wildlife Area by the State of Florida and a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service protected wintering site for the endangered Piping Plover.

The lagoon and sand spit can be accessed from Tiger Tail Beach, a Collier County Park (for directions and a map, see www.collieraudubon.org/birding/spots.html and click on Local Birding spot #7).

KEYS TO CODES

Breeding	*	Breeds on Sand Dollar Island	<i>EXAMPLES:</i>
	B	Breeds in Collier County (CC)	
Resident	R	In CC all year; not known to breed	Snowy Plover.....BR-3 *
Visitor	V	Spends part of the year in CC	(Breeds on S.D.Island, Resident, Uncommon)
Transient	T	Migrates through CC either spring, fall or both	Western Sandpiper.....R-2
Straggler	St	Unexpected occurrence, not easily interpretable	(Resident, Common)
			Ring-billed Gull.....V-W-2
Spring	Sp		(Visitor, Winter, Common)
Summer	S		Dunlin.....V-FWSp-2
Fall	F		(Visitor, Fall-Winter-Spring, Common)
Winter	W		Avocet.....T-FSp-3
			(Transient, Fall-Spring, Uncommon)
Abundant	1	Easily observed	Lesser Scaup.....V-W-4
Common	2	Often seen	(Visitor, Winter, Occasional)
Uncommon	3	Not frequently seen	Common Eider.....St-W-5
Occasional	4	Not every year	(Straggler, Winter, Accidental)
Accidental	5	Less than 5 records	Shiny Cowbird.....BR?-3
Introduced	6	Introduced by man into the continent	(Breeding, Resident??, Uncommon)

