

Table C-3. Estimated Number (or Percentage) of Adult California Gulls Nesting at Mono Lake Since 1976

Date of Visit	Lake Level in July (feet) (USGS Datum)	Mono Lake Total	Negit Island	Paoha Island	Negit Islets	Paoha Islets	Estimated Number of Fledglings per Adult	Comments	Source
July 4, 1976	6,378.4	51,162	-65%	0	-35%	0	0.52	First attempted survey of the entire breeding population	Winkler et al. 1977, Winkler 1987
1977-1978	6,376.6-6,375.8	40,000-50,000 ^a	P	0	P	0	No data	Gull population monitored but not censused; channel blasted	Winkler 1987
July 5, 1979	6,374.4	40,000-50,000 ^a	0	0	-75%	-25%	0.22-0.27 ^b	Invading coyotes caused a major nesting failure on Negit Island; predator fence erected	Winkler 1987
July 7, 1980	6,374.2	40,000-50,000 ^a	<5%	0	-70%	-30%	0.40-0.51 ^b	A few gulls nested on the eastern half of Negit Island	Winkler 1987
July 6, 1981	6,373.4	40,000-50,000 ^a	<5%	0	-65%	-35%	0.03-0.04 ^b	The number of nesting gulls on Negit Island increased	Winkler 1987, Jehl and Jehl 1981
July 6, 1982	6,372.4	40,000-50,000 ^a	0	0	-50%	-50%	0.08-0.10 ^b	Mainland predators caused the abandonment of Java and Twain Islets	Winkler 1987
May 29-June 21, 1983	6,377.6	45,116	0	0	29,114	16,002	0.32	Extremely high runoff caused the lake elevation to increase by more than 5 feet; Negit Island was separated from the mainland	Shuford 1985, Jehl 1983
May 24-31 and June 12, 1984	6,380.4	44,836	0	0	37,744	7,092	0.14	Erosion of Paoha Islets occurred because of rising lake levels; coyotes removed from Negit Island	Shuford 1985, Jehl 1984
May 23-27, 1985	6,379.5	44,570	184	4	38,080	6,302	0.40-0.42 ^c	Negit and Paoha Islands recolonized by nesting gulls; some coyotes removed from Paoha Island	Shuford 1985, Jehl 1985
May 20-29, 1986	6,380.9	49,556	1,272	204	40,888	7,192	0.67-0.67 ^c	Expanded use of Negit Island and Negit Islets	Shuford 1986, Jehl pers. comm.
May 21-25, April-August 1987	6,379.9	47,616	3,004	0	38,196	6,416	0.56-0.57 ^c		Strauss 1987, Jehl and Stewart 1988
May 20-24, April-August 1988	6,378.2	45,002	4,074	0	35,262	5,666	0.51-0.54 ^c		Dierks 1988, Jehl 1989
May 20-25, 1989	6,376.8	44,176	5,530	0	33,282	5,364	0.57-0.60 ^c	Coyotes entered colonies on Negit Island and Pancake Islet	Dierks 1990, Jehl 1989
May 19-24, 1990	6,375.8	61,474	5,654	0	45,530	10,290	0.71-0.47 ^c	Mainland predators entered colonies on Negit and Pancake Islets	Dierks 1991, Jehl 1991b
May 18-22, 1991	6,375.0	43,520	1,576	0	33,060	8,884	0.47-0.51 ^c	Three small colonies attempted nesting on Negit Island but all failed; coyotes living on Negit Island; no nesting on Pancake Islet	Jehl 1991b, Dierks and Shuford 1992

Table C-3. Continued

Date of Visit	Lake Level in July (feet) (USGS Datum)	Mono Lake Total	Negit Island	Paoha Island	Negit Islets	Paoha Islets	Estimated Number of Fledglings per Adult	Comments	Source
May 20-24, 1992	6,374.5	64,976	8	2	46,400	18,566	0.66-0.68 ^c	Coyotes entered Java Islet in late nesting season and fledglings there had much higher mortality than on other islets	Jehl and Shuford pers. comms.

Note: P = present but no population estimate available.

^a Rough estimates because no censuses were conducted during 1977 and 1978 and incomplete censuses were conducted from 1979 until 1982 (Shuford and Winkler pers. comms.).

^b From 1979 until 1982, fledging success values varied, depending on whether 40,000 or 50,000 adults were used for the calculations (Shuford pers. comm.).

^c From 1985 until 1992, the first fledging success value was based on the islet-by-islet method and the second value was based on the fenced plot method (see text).