

## **STOW LAKE GREAT BLUE HERON COLONY CHRONOLOGY: 1993-2010**

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All nests at Heron Island unless indicated Strawberry Island.

- 1993** Nest # 1: 2 hatched, 2 fledged
- 1994** Nest # 1: 3 hatched, 3 fledged
- 1995** Nest # 1: 0 hatched  
(Parents sat on eggs for six months before giving up.)  
Nest # 2: 3 hatched, 3 fledged
- 1996:** Nest # 1 2 hatched , 2 fledged  
Nest # 2 2 hatched, 2 fledged  
Nest # 3 2 hatched, 1 fledged  
Nest # 4 3 hatched, 0 fledged
- 1997:** Nest # 1: 4 hatched, 4 fledged  
Nest # 2: 4 hatched, 4 fledged
- 1998:** Nest # 1 3 hatched, 3 fledged
- 1999:** Nest # 1: 4 hatched, 4 fledged  
LATE NEST # 2: 4 hatched, 4 fledged (July-August 1999)  
  
LATE NEST # 3: 3 hatched, 0 fledged (July-August 1999)  
(Parents abandoned chicks in August)
- 2000** -Nest # 1  
(Heron island) 3 hatched 3 fledged (April-June, 1999)  
Nest # 2  
**(Strawberry Isl.)** 3 hatched, 3 fledged (April-June, 1999)  
Nest # 3  
(Heron Island) 3 hatched, 3 fledged (July-Aug. 1999)  
Nest no. 4  
(Heron Island) 3 hatched, 3 fledged (July-August 1999)  
Nest no. 5  
(Heron Island) 2 hatched, 0 fledged (July -Aug. 2000)  
(Parents abandoned chicks in August)
- 2001** -Nest #1 0 hatched (Parents incubated eggs for six months)
- 2002** -Nest # 1

(Heron island) 3 hatched, 3 fledged (hatch date: March-fledged May, 2002)  
Nest # 2  
(Heron Island) 4 hatched, 4 fledged (hatch date: April )  
Nest # 3  
**(Strawberry Isl.)** 2 hatched, 2 fledged (hatch date: May)

**2003 - all nests on Heron Island**

Nest #1 2 hatched, two fledged  
Nest # 2 2 hatched, two fledged  
Nest # 3 4 hatched, four fledged

**2004 Season-10 chicks fledged from all four nests**

Nest #1  
Nest #2  
Nest #3  
Nest #4

**Total chicks fledged as of 2004: 71 chicks in 11 seasons**

**2005- 10 chicks from 4 nests**

Nest no. 1 3hatched 2fledged  
Nest no. 2 3 hatched 3fledged  
Nest no. 3 3 hatched 3 fledged

Late Nest 4 2 hatched-June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2 fledged August 2005  
Arrived at Stow May 10, 2005-constructed new nest  
Sitting on eggs May 20, 2005

**Total chicks fledged: 10**

**2006- total 16 chicks from 6 nests**

Nest no. 1 -2 chicks- 2 fledged  
Nest no. 2- 2 cks-2 fledged  
Nest no. 3 – 2cks-2 fledged  
Nest no. 4-4 cks hatched-4 fledged

Late nests: left side of tree: July 8, 2006  
Nest no. 5 -3 cks hatched –3 fledged (left side of tree)  
Nest no. 6- 3 cks hatched- 3 fledged (right side of tree)

Best season ever.

**2007 – 14 chicks from 6 nests**

**2008 – 3 nests 8 chicks**

**2009 – 3 nests 10 chicks**

**2010 – 6 nests 10 chicks**

**TOTAL FLEDGLINGS TO DATE: 139**

**Notes:**

- a. Original, nest from 1993 - fell into Stow Lake and sunk on Jan. 24, 2000 (This nest appears in Heron Island video by IDG Films)
- b. Nest from 1996 fell into peddle boat on December 31, 1997-now on display at Audubon Canyon Ranch, Exhibit Hall.
- c. Heron Island at Stow Lake-opposite Stow Lake Boathouse
- d. Great Blue Herons began nesting in 1993 at Stow Lake. The colony was discovered by field ornithologist Nancy DeStefanis.

**For more information:** Please contact Nancy DeStefanis, Executive Director, San Francisco Nature Education: [info@sfnature.org](mailto:info@sfnature.org)

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