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## BIZARRE PROOIEN: VREEMD VOEDSEL OPGEPIKT DOOR ZILVERMEEUWEN EN KLEINE MANTELMEEUWEN OP TEXEL

### BIZARRE PREY ITEMS: ODD FOOD CHOICES IN HERRING GULLS AND LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS AT TEXEL

Camphuysen C.J., S. Boekhout, A. Gronert, V. Hunt, T. van Nus & J. Ouwehand 2008. Bizarre prooien: vreemd voedsel opgepikt door Zilvermeeuwen en Kleine Mantelmeeuwen. *Sula* 21(2): 49-61. In this note, the unusual or even bizarre prey is described as found in the course of an ecological study of Herring Gulls and Lesser Black-backed Gulls nesting at Texel. The diet of these omnivorous species is at least potentially spectacularly varied, but most individuals simply feed on energy rich, natural prey such as bivalves, fish and crustaceans. Bizarre prey and junk food are the exception rather than the rule. We have examined all prey in considerable detail, because it may point at foraging locations that were either unexpected or otherwise unknown. A rare (aquarium) fish, rather disgusting insect larvae, tiny snails, berries and grapes, plastic dolls and soldiers, a mobile phone and a medal are listed and depicted as bizarre or at least unusual prey. Some of the junkfood was accompanied with plastics, foils and paper indicating hasty meals. Some individual gulls produced pellets that primarily consisted of glass, plastic, aluminum foil, and other rubbish. Grass-pellets were mostly produced to remove earth worm setae and Nereis jaws from the proventriculus.

EERSTE ZOMERKLEED VORKSTAARTMEEUW *LARUS SABINI* TE  
SCHEVENINGEN  
OP 22 EN 23 JULI 2008  
*FIRST SUMMER SABINE'S GULL AT SCHEVENINGEN,  
22-23 JULY 2008*

Vliet R. van der 2008. Eerste zomerkleed Vorkstaartmeeuw *Larus sabini* te Scheveningen op 22 en 23 juli 2008. *Sula* 21(2): 62-65. *In this note, the occurrence of an immature Sabine's Gull in summer in The Netherlands is reported. In an attempt to find out how unusual a record of a first summer Sabine's Gull is, in Europe and particularly within the Netherlands, a variety of published and unpublished sources were used. This bird constitutes the second record of a first summer Sabine's Gull in the Netherlands. Furthermore it is the first documented record of suspended moult in this species.*

DE OVERLEVING VAN VISDIEFJES *STERNA HIRUNDO*: TUSSENTIJDSE  
RESULTATEN VAN EEN GRONINGS KLEURRINGPROGRAMMA

*ANNUAL SURVIVAL OF COMMON TERNS: PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF A COLOUR RING PROGRAMME IN  
GRONINGEN*

Hiemstra D. 2008. De overleving van Visdiefjes *Sterna hirundo*: tussentijdse resultaten van een Gronings kleurringprogramma. *21(2)*: 66-71. *In this note the preliminary results of a RAS-project (Retrapping Adults for Survival) on Common Terns are presented. Common Terns were colour-ringed in three colonies in Groningen Province, in 2007 and 2008. In 2008, 50 of the 77 previously ringed adults were resighted in the colonies in Delfzijl and Eemshaven.*

ROZE PELIKAAN *PELECANUS ONOCROTALUS* OVERNACHT OP  
OLIEPLATFORMS OP DE NOORDZEE  
*GREAT WHITE PELICAN SLEEPS ON OIL PLATFORMS  
ON THE NORTH SEA*

Verdaat H. 2008. Roze Pelikaan *Pelecanus onocrotalus* overnacht op olieplatforms op de Noordzee. *Sula* 21(2): 72-73. *A Great White Pelican Pelecanus onocrotalus has been captured on an oil platform on the Dutch Continental Shelf on 28 may 2001. Recently new pictures have surfaced, which show that the same bird slept on another oil platform the night before.*

BRUINVIS *PHOCOENA PHOCOENA* IN HET GREVELINGENMEER: EEN  
BIJZONDER GEVAL MET AFWIJKEND GEDRAG

*HARBOUR PORPOISE IN LAKE GREVELINGEN: A CASE OF ABNORMAL BEHAVIOUR*

Camphuysen C.J. & K. Heijboer 2008. Bruinvis *Phocoena phocoena* in het Grevelingenmeer: een bijzonder geval met afwijkend gedrag. *Sula* 21(2): 74-85. *Harbour Porpoises in Dutch coastal waters have dramatically increased in abundance since the mid 1980s and early 1990s. In the Zeeland Delta area, however, an increase in sightings occurred not before 2001. Another difference between coastal sightings north of Hook of Holland and sightings in the Delta area is the seasonal pattern: primarily winter/spring visitors in the north, year-round in Zeeland. One particular case in Zeeland is described in detail, incidentally representing the first case of a Harbour Porpoise that could be individually recognized from developing scratches on the skin and notches in the dorsal fin. This animal, found in the salt water lake Grevelingenmeer in August 2006, is a fanatic bowriding porpoise, following sailing and motoring yachts and even surfboards for prolonged periods of time. From this case, we know for sure that individual porpoises can stay for over a year in the same general area, as resident dolphins. The behaviour of this particular animal is unprecedented, at least within The Netherlands.*

BOEGSURFENDE BRUINVIS *PHOCOENA PHOCOENA* IN DE  
OOSTERSCHELDE

*BOW-RIDING HARBOUR PORPOISE IN THE OOSTERSCHELDE*

Camphuysen C.J. & D. van der Avoirt 2008. Boegsurfende Bruinvis *Phocoena phocoena* in de Oosterschelde. *Sula* 21(2): 86-87. *A second bow-riding Harbour Porpoise was detected in the Oosterschelde, Zeeland (Delta area), distinctly different from the animal in Grevelingen, but with a very similar behaviour. A characteristic spot on the flanks is described to facilitate individual identification during future sightings. As with the Grevelingen porpoise in the first months of bowriding, this new animal is completely intact, with no visible scars. The close approaches to the sailing vessel it was reported from suggest that scars are likely to develop that can further characterize this individual.*

# VERSTRIKKINGEN VAN ZEEVOGELS IN ZWERFVUIL EN VISTUIG, 1970-2007

## *ENTANGLEMENTS OF SEABIRDS IN MARINE LITTER AND FISHING GEAR, 1970-2007*

Camphuysen C.J. 2008. Verstrikkingen van zeevogels in zwerfvuil en vistuig, 1970-2007. *Sula* 21(2): 88-92. *The effects of marine litter, debris and fishing gear on marine wildlife has been described before and so has the percentage of entangled specimens of the total number of birds and marine mammals found dead during beached bird surveys received attention in previous publications. The present analysis should be seen as an update. Since 1970, 215,347 more or less complete carcasses of birds were checked (85% of the total number of birds found dead), and 513 of these were entangled in litter or fishing gear (0.2%). Half these birds were Northern Gannets and Herring Gulls (Tabel 1). Ranked after the proportion of entangled casualties of the total number of birds found (Tabel 2), two coastal species (Great Black-backed Gull, Red-throated Diver, Great Cormorant, and Herring Gull) and one pelagic seabird (Northern Gannet) formed the top-5. Since 1979, the period with best data, the level was roughly stable at  $0.31 \pm 0.13\%$  per annum (mean  $\pm$  SD; 405 casualties out of a total of 142,030 birds found, only including the 12 species listed in Table 1), followed by a rather higher level of  $0.75 \pm 0.10\%$  per annum during 2004-2007 (same selection of species, 74 casualties out of 10,181 birds recorded during beached bird surveys). For the analysis we did not (again) check the types of materials responsible for most cases of entanglement, but it is certain that nylon fish lines, pieces of fishing nets and all other kinds of ropes and lines, often from fisheries activities, were mostly to blame. The recent increase is both remarkable and unexplained and certainly would deserve future attention and further research.*