

Peresbarbaosa Rojas, E. 1995. Spatial and temporal fluctuations of nesting birds in Isla Montague, Gulf of California, Mexico. M.S. thesis. Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y Educacion Superior de Ensenada.

The main interest of this work was to know the situation of reproductive colonies of seabirds and coastal bird in Montague Island. WE ratified the nesting of five species: *Ardea herodias*, *Egretta thula*, *Larus atricilla*, *Sterna antillarum* y *Sterna nilotic*, and confirmed the nesting of other two: *Rynchops niger* y *Nycticorax nycticorax*. The two areas for nesting birds in the island were the Estero del Chayo and the sandbars around the lighthouse. Each species had a preferred site for nesting reflected by their nest and eggs numbers. *Egretta thula*, *N. nycticorax* y *Larus atricilla* preferred the estuary, *S. antillarum* y *R. niger* the sandbars around the lighthouse, and *S. nilotica* nested in the same numbers in both places. *Larus atricilla* had the biggest number of reproductive pairs and *R. niger* had the highest number of individuals, but also the smallest proportion of reproductive pairs. The birds changed continuously the ubication of their colonies. The first cause of the change was the flooding of the island and the presence of certain species like *N. nycticorax*, *L. atricilla* y *S. nilotica*. The species that had the highest index of change were

S. nilotica, *S. antillarum* y *R. niger*. The most adapted to Montague were *E. thula* y *L. atricilla*. Montague Island is an important area for the distribution and dispersion of *L. atricilla*, *S. nilotica* y *R. niger* because the closest colonies towards their distribution centers are at 700-1200 km and Montague could be a help for the colonization to Pacific coast, while for *A. herodias*, *N. nycticorax*, *E. thula* y *S. antillarum* the island could be an optional site for nesting because they nest widely in Valle de Mexicali, Ciénega del doctor and Sonora coast.