

Seabird Island News

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Seabirds

As our season rolls into the hot month of August, researchers and recreational boaters alike find themselves entertained by young terns comically bumbling through the skies with their newfound gift of flight. The islands are still bustling with life, especially with Ruddy Turnstones and other shorebirds appearing in large numbers

Puffins

Matinicus Rock has banded over 100 puffin chicks this season. On Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge, many of the puffin chicks are fledging. Meanwhile, hundreds of



A puffin fledgling exercises before heading to sea. Photo: @easterneggrock Instagram

adults were seen staging before migration at Eastern Egg Rock. One morning count produced an astonishing 407 puffins, a high count for the island!

Terns

Our terns are clearing out quickly, now that the chicks are fledged. On Pond Island National Wildlife Refuge, all surviving tern chicks have officially left their nests! While independent of their parents, these young birds still have a lot to learn, continuously improving their flying skills before the long migration ahead of them.

Other Bird News

- Jenny Island had a plethora of migrating shorebirds this week, including Greater and

Lesser Yellowlegs, Semipalmated Sandpipers, and even 169 Ruddy Turnstones!

- New arrivals at Egg Rock include Lesser Yellowlegs and a Parasitic Jaeger.
- On Matinicus Rock, the Razorbill colony has left for the season, both adults and juveniles ready for their new season out at sea.



Leach's Storm-Petrels have hatched on the seabird islands! Petrel chick photo: @matinicus_rockstars Instagram

Island Life



Eastern Egg Rock researchers sending-off Andreinna Moran, Herz International Seabird Fellow from Equador.

Eastern Egg Rock and Project Puffin were featured this week on Maine Public Radio. Click [HERE](#) to listen!