



# PROJECT OCEANOLOGY

## Facebook Live: Hatching Chicks

There are several different birds nesting on South Dumpling Island, in part because of the variety of habitat for nests. Each bird has a selected location, clutch size, and behavior to increase chick survival. Review the video to help you map out nest locations. Use the letter assigned to each bird to label the diagram (**Example**: Oystercatcher nests **(A)** would be found in sandy/rocky areas just beyond the high tide line). NOTE: some birds may nest in more than one habitat type.

A. American Oystercatcher: sandy, rocky, shelly beach. Minimal nest structure.



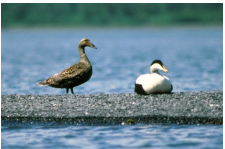
B. Great Black-Backed Gull: Ground, ridge, slope. Small hole, lined with plant matter.



C. Double-Crested Cormorant: Ridge, atop vegetation. Nest constructed of finger-sized twigs, grass, debris.



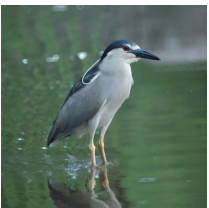
D. Common Eider: Crevice, dense brush on lower island. Grassy nest lined with down feathers.

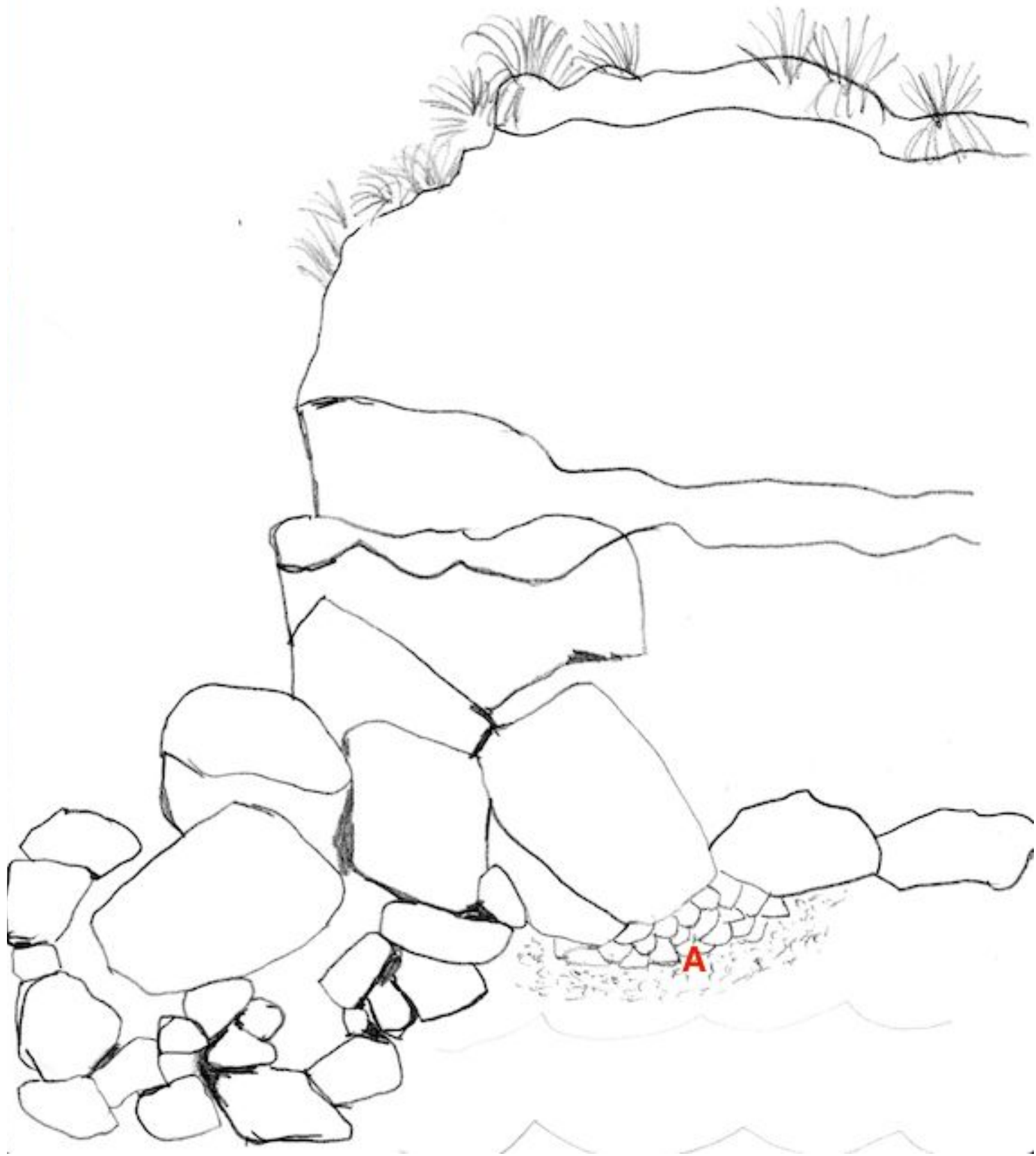


E. Great Egret: Upper island, Level ground. Twiggy nest, lined with grass. Sometimes atop vegetation.



F. Black-Crowned Night Heron: Rocks, driftwood, mid-island, sometimes exposed. Twiggy, woody nest.





1. What are some advantages of breeding colonies?
2. What are some disadvantages of breeding colonies?
3. What does the distribution of Black-Backed Gull nests indicate about their reproductive success comparative to the other species on the island?