This resource is based on the following source:

Kale, H. W., II, B. Pranty, B. M. Stith, and C. W. Biggs. 1992. The atlas of the breeding birds of Florida. Final Report. Florida Game at Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida.

This resource can be cited as:

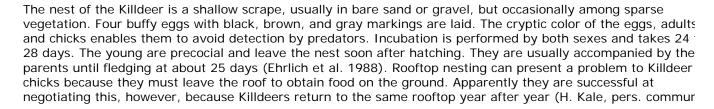
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. 2003, January 6. Florida's breeding bird atlas: A collaborative study of Florida's birdlife. http://www.myfwc.com/bba/ (Date accessed mm/dd/yyyy).

Killdeer Charadrius vociferus

When not on the nest Killdeers are conspicuous and noisy, hence, the specific name, *vociferus*. Like the Wilson's Plover, the broken-wing distraction display is highly developed in Killdeers and readily confirms breeding. The Killdeer breeds from Newfoundland, the south rim of Hudson Bay, and the southern Yukon and Northwest Territories south to central Mexico and the Gulf coast.

Habitat. The Killdeer inhabits both brackish and freshwater habitats and is perfectly at home in upland situations far from water. It prefers open areas with short or sparse vegetation, such as pastures, golf courses, airports, and extensive lawns. Killdeers will also nest on gravel parking lots and on rooftops (Fisk 1978).

Food of the Killdeer consists of beetles and other insects and invertebrates, including arachnids, worms, snails, and Illustration © 1995 Diane Pierce, All Rights Reserved. crustaceans (Howell 1932).



Seasonal Occurrence. Most breeding occurs March through July. Fall migrants swell the Florida population Ju through November, and spring migration occurs primarily in March and April.

Status. The Killdeer is the most common and widely distributed shorebird in Florida. The absence of the specie from most of mainland Monroe County is to be expected, as mangroves and saw grass are not preferred breed habitats. Causes of the patchy distribution in the Panhandle are less obvious, although some of the blank spots on the map may be due to the presence of extensively forested areas.

Robert W. Loftin

Sponsored by John H. Bygrave

Killdeer

