A FIELD GUIDE TO PLUMAGE PROGRESSION IN CASPIAN TERN YOUNG

Photo documentation by Lorraine Margeson

One- to two-day old chick: (small downy chick in center of photo, surrounded by adults)



5- to 6-day old chicks:



2-week old chick with parent:



Nearly 3-week old chick with parent:



2-week old chick (in foreground) and nearly 4-week old chick (background):



4-week old chick (in background):



Caspian Tern fledgling (on right; note bright orange bill):



One-year old (a.k.a., second-year or SY) Caspian Tern (note brown-tipped beak):



Adult in non-breeding plumage:



More photos comparing plumage stages:



