

# Great Egret (GREG) Nesting Stage Guide

**Stage 0** - Pre-nesting: **birds at or near colony**, courtship, mating, **roosting**, nest construction.



**Stage 0** - Pre-nesting: birds at or near colony, **courtship**, mating, roosting, nest construction.





**Stage 0** - Pre-nesting: birds at or near colony, **courtship (display)**, mating, roosting, nest construction.



**Stage 0** - Pre-nesting: birds at or near colony, courtship, **mating**, roosting, nest construction.





**Stage 0** - Pre-nesting: birds at or near colony, courtship, **mating**, roosting, nest construction.



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# Stage 0 - Pre-nesting: birds at or near colony, courtship, mating, roosting, nest construction.

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**Stage 1 - egg laying** or incubation, adult on nest for long periods, standing to turn eggs.





**Stage 1** - egg laying or **incubation**, adult on nest for long periods, standing to turn eggs.





**Stage 1** - egg laying or incubation, **adult on nest for long periods**, standing to turn eggs.



**Stage 1** - egg laying or incubation, adult on nest for long periods, **standing to turn eggs**.





**Stage 1** - egg laying or incubation, adult on nest for long periods, **standing to turn eggs**.

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**Stage 2 - hatching, small downy chicks,** feeding low in nest, watch carefully when adults move.



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Chuanxiao Li



## Stage 2 - hatching, small downy chicks, feeding low in nest, watch carefully when adults move.

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**Stage 3 - chicks (usually) standing; most/all down replaced by juvenile plumage, parents continuously at nest.**



**Stage 3 - chicks (usually) standing; most/all down replaced by juvenile plumage, parents continuously at nest.**





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**Stage 4 - adults not continuously at nest (may remain after feeding); chicks (usually) on nest platform.**





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**Stage 4 - adults not continuously at nest (may remain after feeding); chicks (usually) on nest platform.**





## Stage 4 - adults not continuously at nest (may remain after feeding); chicks (usually) on nest platform.

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**Stage 5 - young often off nest**, on nearby branches;  
record number of chicks and time off nest.





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