

Southeast Florida Shorebird Partnership
2015 Spring Meeting - *minutes*

Location: South Florida Wildlife Center (3200 SW 4 Avenue, Fort Lauderdale 33315)

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2015

Time: 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Meeting Participants:

- Amber Collins – South Florida Water Management District
- Brian Garrett – South Florida Water Management District
- Carol Rizkalla – FWC
- David Kerstetter – NSU
- Diane Alford – volunteer
- Doug Young – South Florida Audubon Society
- Grant Campbell – South Florida Audubon Society
- Hans Gonzembach – South Florida Wildlife Center
- Kim Hill – South Florida Wildlife Center
- Kirt Rusenko - Gumbo Limbo Nature Center
- Mary Truglio – FWC
- Melanie Stadler – Gumbo Limbo Nature Center
- Michelle Metcalf – Tropical Audubon Society
- Naomi Avissar – FWC/FSA
- Paul Davis – Palm Beach County
- Rangel Diaz – Miami-Dade Parks & Recreation
- Renata Schneider- South Florida Wildlife Center
- Ricardo Zambrano – FWC
- Robert Musser – Port Everglades
- Scott Tedford – FDEP
- Shelby Proie – South Florida Wildlife Center

Minutes:

1:00 – 1:15 Welcome, Meeting Goals, and Introductions – Renata Schneider (SFWC)

1:15 – 1:45 Tour of South Florida Wildlife Center

1:45 – 2:00 Update on pelican entanglement issue & signage – Renata

- Signs have been created and posted at area fishing piers.

- Renata is looking for training materials for volunteers for pelican rescues. Naomi will find contact information for Pelican rescue in Pinellas Co. Other possible contacts for training materials are Pelican Harbor and Lee Fox.

2:00 – 2:15 Results of *Winter Shorebird Survey* – Round-robin (all participants)

- Brian Garrett surveyed the STAs and reported data
- Ricardo surveyed Lake Worth Lagoon and reported data
- Carol surveyed Biscayne Bay and reported data
- Melanie and Kirt surveyed Boca Raton and reported data
- Scott surveyed John D. Macarthur Beach State Park, Bill Baggs, and the Village of Key Biscayne and reported data
- Paul Davis surveyed Lake Worth to Lantana and reported data
- Robin Diaz surveyed Crandon Park and reported data. Rangel surveyed area outside of Winter count window and saw the usual Piping Plovers.
- Other folks (not at the meeting) participated in the winter survey and reported data in Broward, Palm Beach, and Miami-Dade Counties. Great job everyone!
- **Next year:** stay tuned for the 2016 *Winter Shorebird Survey* – usually starts the first Friday in February.

2:15 – 2:45 Monitoring routes and rooftops (sign-up sheets)

- Attendees signed up for nearly all rooftops. If you'd like to see the online sign-up sheet, go to: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Bz1pNJ4pydRL4BT4XYZDbEhBYR6yI3fD-igxudJ0Ofg/edit#gid=3> then scroll down to your county then city.
- If you can volunteer for an additional rooftop, need a backup for one of the count windows, or need assistance with chick-checking, please let Naomi.Avissar@myfwc.com know.
- Recordings of the training webinars for conducting beach route surveys and rooftop visits are below:
 - Webinar for route surveyors (people who survey routes regularly): <http://fwc.adobeconnect.com/p2lzagnswd/>
 - Webinar for site monitors (people who check rooftops or individual sites such as stewarded colonies, etc.): <http://fwc.adobeconnect.com/p3423kimomb/>
- All data should be entered at www.FLShorebirdDatabase.org. The *Breeding Bird Protocol* is available on the RESOURCES tab.

2:45 – 3:20 Any issues/needs/challenges for the upcoming season – all participants

- Reminder to check on new construction areas this time of year (especially inland sites) because they can draw in Least Terns. If you get reports of nesting birds, please contact Carol or Ricardo ASAP ((561) 882-5719 or (561) 882-5712).
- If you're surveying a rooftop, please approach the rooftop management (property owner or building manager) about doing preventative maintenance (e.g., AC repair, roof repair) on

roof *before the birds arrive* (i.e., ASAP!). If birds are up there and they need to do repairs, please let them know to call Ricardo or Carol at FWC: **(561) 882-5719** or **(561) 882-5712**.

- Ground colonies:
 - Doug reports that Ann Wiley is surveying Mayan Beach and will notify FWC if birds nest.
 - Pre-posting & decoys @ Boca Spanish River
 - Snook Islands in Palm Beach Co. – Had AMOY nesting last year with 100% success. This year, 2 AMOY nests have already been posted; FWC may set decoys on south island for LETE (with permission).
 - Crandon Park still has the year-round posting – Rangel will suggest trying LETE decoys again?
 - Renata will set up another training for oil spill volunteer response.
 - Ricardo will check Turkey Point for nesting.

3:20 – 3:30 Wrap up

- Naomi will send minutes with signup sheets, link to rooftop webinar, and *Breeding Bird Protocol*
- Thanks everyone for making this meeting – and hopefully the 2015 nesting season – a success!