

Nature Coast Shorebird Partnership

Pre-season meeting agenda + notes

Monday March 6th 2017 | 1:00p-4:00p

Senator George Kirkpatrick Marine Laboratory | Cedar Key, FL

Welcome & introductions:

- Megan Wallrichs-FWC
- Blair Hayman-FWC
- Fara Ilami-FWC
- Janell Brush-FWC
- Vic Doig-USFWS
- Anne Paul-Audubon
- Libby Cagle-Audubon
- Doug Maple-Audubon
- Adele Mills-DEP
- Jamie Letendre-DEP

2015 Florida Shorebird Database (FSD) Annual Report summary:

- http://flshorebirdalliance.org/media/53554/FSD_AnnualReport2015_Final_Maps.pdf
- Janell stressed the importance of two sections: Future Directions (pages 31-32) and Research Directions (pages 35-37)

*Janell
Brush -
FWC*

“Training”—Brief refresher on Cedar Key bird species and breeding behaviors

- Florida Shorebird Database Training Webinars: <http://flshorebirdalliance.org/field-notes.aspx>
 - March 7th | 1-2pm: **FSD Webinar for new surveyors**
 - March 8th | 1-2pm: **FSD Webinar for returning surveyors**
 - March 9th | 1-2pm: **FSD Webinar for rooftop monitors**
 - Note: If you missed a webinar, they are generally recorded and posted for later viewing on the FSA website

*Janell
Brush*

Update on the Imperiled Species Management Plan (ISMP) & Critical Wildlife Areas (CWAs):

- For the most currently information go to: <http://myfwc.com> > Wildlife & Habitats > Imperiled Species
- All species status changes and new rules in effect January 18th 2017
- Important to note for shorebird relevancy: Black skimmer and American Oystercatcher newly listed as state-threatened.
- There is a new definition of take allowing for increased protections of listed species (can be found in ISMP’s glossary or in F.A.C. 68A.27.001)
- ISMP: <http://myfwc.com/media/4149481/Floridas-Imperiled-Species-Management-Plan-2016to2026.pdf>
- Last November FWC established 13 new CWAs and renewed 5 existing CWAs for a total of 33 CWAs statewide: <http://myfwc.com/conservation/terrestrial/cwa/>

*Blair
Hayman
- FWC*

FSD Custom Search demo

- New custom search feature on FSD allows for more refined searching by location
- Will be live by April 2017

Megan
Wallrichs
– FWC

Atsena Otie Key artificial nesting platform

- An artificial nesting platform has been constructed on a 40ft section of the dock structure at Atsena Otie as a trial in hopes to promote nesting of LETE, AMOY, and BLSK (photo on next page)
- There are plans to install game cameras for monitoring as well as decoys and a call broadcast system to encourage nesting.
- **ACTION ITEM:** A schedule will be created to check platform 1x/week to change camera batteries and memory cards. That person/group will also be responsible for going through game cam photos for that week. If you are interested in helping, email Megan.Wallrichs@MyFWC.com
- **ACTION ITEM:** If you cannot commit to checking the platform but happen to be near it at any point this season and see anything of interest (possible breeding behavior, predators, humans, etc) let Vic Doig (Victor.Doig@fwc.gov), Janell Brush (Janell.Brush@MyFWC.com), or Blair Hayman (Blair.Hayman@MyFWC.com) know.

Vic Doig
- USFWS

Survey route review & planning

- **ACTION ITEM:** See accompanying spreadsheet with established routes, potential routes, and rooftop sites with notes and assigned surveyors for the 2017 season
- Count window dates on next page

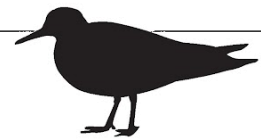
Janell
Brush

Partner updates, other issues/needs, & action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Partners identified a possibility of working with WMA staff along the Nature Coast to help identify potentially new nesting locations that are not readily surveyed by others through either in-service training, webinars, or phone calls to WMA managers.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Doug Maple will check for WIPL that have historically nested near the Far Away Inn
- **ACTION ITEM:** FWC will create a write-up for the local Audubon chapter's website and newsletter detailing information about shore- and seabird breeding behavior
- **ACTION ITEM:** Anyone who happens to be out in backwaters of the Nature Coast (for work or pleasure!) keep an eye out for nesting behaviors and make FWC aware so they can follow-up accordingly.
- **ACTION ITEM:** FWC to request Letter of Consent from Division of State Lands to post signage on Rattlesnake, McClamory, Dog, Gomez, and Corrigan's

All

Wrap-up & adjourn



Additional Resources & Notes:

- First count window is March 18th-24th!
- Florida Shorebird Alliance: <http://flshorebirdalliance.org>

Survey count windows:

BBP Calendar

Count	Date	Primary purpose	Reason
1	March 18-24	Locate early shorebird nests.	Many plovers and oystercatchers are on nests by mid-March.
2	April 15-21	Locate early seabird colonies; check status of shorebird nests.	Some seabird colonies begin forming in early April. Plover, willet and oystercatcher chicks begin to appear.
3	May 13-19	Locate new nests & colonies and check status of existing ones. Locate shorebird chicks.	May and June represent the peak of nesting season. Seabird chicks present at most colonies
4	June 10-16	Check the status of all nests & colonies. Count shorebird and seabird chicks.	by June.
5	July 8-14	Locate new nests & colonies and check status of existing ones. Count chicks and fledglings.	July is often the time when second clutches and renesting attempts are initiated.
6	Aug. 5-11	Count chicks and fledglings.	August represents the tail end of the nesting season when recent fledges are most apparent.

Atsena Otie Nesting Platform:

