

2017 Post-Season Treasure Coast Shorebird Partnership Meeting

Location: Ecoheritage House at Port St. Lucie's Richard E Becker Preserve
3398 Selvitz Road, Fort Pierce, FL 34981

Date: October 18, 2017

Time: 9:30am – 12:00pm

Meeting Participants:

- *Please be prepared to give a 5 minute summary of shorebird sightings, conservation issues, or challenges you'd like to talk about from the 2017 season*

AGENDA

9:30 – 9:40 Introductions – All

Heather Hitt (FWC), Ricardo Zambrano (FWC), Natasha Warraich (FWC), Amanda Thompson (SLC), Pam Hopkins (FOS), Sam Howarth (TNC), Sara L Martin (TNC), Samantha Pessolano (EAI), Nicole Desjardin (EAI), Ryan Welsh (FPL), Tim Towles (FWC), Bill Wagner, Scott Tedford (FPS), Jean Olbert (FWC), Dayma Wasmund (USFWS), Matthew R Anderson (IRLAP), Irene Arpayoglou (IRLAP), Kirk Fusco (IRLAP)

9:40 – 10:20 Round robin of 2017 Treasure Coast Nesting Season – All

In general, not much nesting activity on beaches or rooftops. A couple spoil islands (IR17 and IR18) each had one nesting pair of oyster catchers. A least tern colony at Sailfish Point with ~90 nests, a least tern and black skimmer colony reported on Jupiter Island, but not surveyed frequently enough (TNC staff from Blowing Rocks may help next year), a couple Killdeer nests here and there. Single pair of black skimmers at DOA Fishing Lures, was reported that one chick got ran over and another went to Treasure Coast Wildlife Hospital with injured wing. Pam spoke with new managers and neighboring building manager, all will be keeping a closer watch next season. Office Depot in Vero Beach had large least tern colony but not sure if it was successful.

10:20 – 10:40 Preliminary data summaries for 2017 – Heather Hitt, FWC

Not available

10:40 – 10:50 Break

10:50 – 11:10 Overview of new Shorebird Program structure – Natasha Warraich, FWC

See presentation attached

11:10 – 11:30 CWA update – Natasha Warraich, FWC

See presentation attached

11:30 – 11:45 Impacts from Irma? – All

Not much impact to beaches, outer trees on south and east sides of spoil islands most affected, rooftop fencing on west side of Winn Dixie and Office Depot was blown off. All fencing removed at Winn Dixie, fencing will be repaired at Office Depot using cinder blocks every 25 feet to hold it in place and galvanized wire instead of zip ties at connection points.

11:45 – 12:00 Wrap-up – Heather Hitt, FWC

- Pre-season meeting will be scheduled for February
- Ricardo will send out winter shorebird survey information
- Heather will try to call rooftop managers to see if they are still gravel
- Will bring copies and information for building managers/owners to explain importance of the birds nesting on their rooftops to pre-season meeting (in meantime – check the floridashorebirdalliance.org Resources page)
- Remember to let me know if you are attending a public event and I can provide shorebird monitoring information to help recruit more volunteers for rooftops