

Suncoast Shorebird Partnership Spring Meeting – March 2, 2017

Question & Answer Session with FWC law enforcement

- Bill Holcomb (Pinellas)
- Rob Gerkin (Sarasota/Manatee)
- Dan Parisoe – (Pasco Co., 3 Rooker) – conflict with access, issues with dogs (no dogs on state park property, easily enforceable)
 - Holidays are busiest bc many people on water, a lot going on – focus is on boat safety
- Call dispatch for any problems! – it helps to document incidents
 - There is a database that keeps track of and documents infractions of individuals
 - If available, nearest officer is sent
 - CAD – computer aided dispatch
 - Dispatch will create incident number, can go back later to see how the problem was dealt with
 - Hot spots will show up based on number of complaints
- Report Violations
 - 888-404-3922 (depends on area code, not location of caller)
 - 813-558-5050 (local dispatch – directly to Tampa dispatch)
 - Website - gets sent out to all dispatch within 20 min
 - <https://publictemp.myfwc.com/LE/WildlifeAlert/AlertForm.aspx?region=FWSW>
 - Can text violations
 - tip@MyFWC.com
- Documentation of incident can help
- What about city LE?
 - The CAD is not linked between the two, but the officers can take action depending on ordinance
 - They would know about ordinances and how they're written to who can handle particular problems
- Service Animals - <http://adata.org/factsheet/service-animals>
 - Can ask two questions: 1) Is the dog a service dog? 2) What service does the dog provide?

2017 FWC-funded Fish Crow control – Beth Forys

- Problems with Fish Crows in Florida
 - Tried trapping, effigies, removing trash cans – unsuccessful
- Last year (2016) – Conditioned Taste Aversion
 - Quail eggs used with chemical injected – causes crows to vomit, learned not to eat the eggs
 - Problems:
 - Carbachol requires a costly permit to use in experiment
 - Eggs were also rotting
- This year (2017) – Conditioned Stimulus Aversion
 - Predator (fish crow) response to electric shock – like a static electricity shock

- Egg is attached to power source, crow closes the circuit and gets a little shock
- Will start when nesting starts

Black Skimmer banding/nano-tag deployment and MOTUS towers – Beth Forys

- Towers can monitor birds movements via nanotags
- Will put tags on local Black Skimmers along with banding
 - 20 nanotags
 - use small tag glued onto wings – temporary
- 10 towers being put up in Caribbean
- Florida is a “data hole” so towers in state could help with tracking
 - tower at Ft Desoto (most likely)
 - more towers will potentially be installed in SW Florida

Demonstration on new Florida Shorebird Database Explore Custom Search feature - Kat Harris, FWC Regional Shorebird Biologist

- Will hopefully be open before the March count window
- Shea Armstrong, new FSA coordinator

Round-robin discussion

- “Build a Better Beach”
- April 1st - Welcoming the Shorebirds paper lantern lighting by St Pete Audubon
 - Pass-a-grille

Fall Meeting: Thursday, October 5, 2017, 1-3pm, Eckerd College