

# Timucuan Shorebird Partnership

## Pre-season Meeting Agenda

October 23, 2018 – 10:00am-1:00pm

The Ribault Club, 11241 Ft George Road, Jacksonville, FL 32226



- 10:00-10:10 Welcome & Introductions
- 10:10-10:30 Season Site Updates from Partners
- 10:30-10:45 FSD Post Season Data Summary – *Jean Olbert, FWC*
- 10:45-11:05 Predator Mgmt: Statewide Update and TSP Needs – *Megan Wallrichs, FWC*
- 11:05-11:15 Update on LE Shorebird Patrols – *Jean Olbert, FWC*
- Break (15 minutes)*
- 11:30-12:00 Update on Rooftop & Wilson’s Plover Research Projects – *Ariam Jimenez, FWC*
- 12:00-12:10 FSD Custom Search Function Tutorial – *Jean Olbert, FWC*
- 12:10-12:20 MBTA & HB 631 Update – *Blair Hayman, FWC*
- 12:20-12:50 What worked? What needs work? Lessons from this Season
- 12:55-1:00 Final Announcements / Wrap-Up / Action Items

## Timucuan Shorebird Partnership Post-Season Meeting

October 23, 2018 – 10:00am-1:00pm

### Season site updates from Partners

**SAISSA** – LETE colony 17 nests, Friday to Monday (all failed) – no sign of any birds. No signs of tracks or cause of failure. Flock of crows observed up beach on Monday. Great horned owl in area (observed by turtle patrol in the past). Full moon high tide did enter into the colony after nesting had failed. Had to remove posting. Didn't pre-post this season, waited until birds came in. Birds ended up nesting in front of private homes. WIPL observed inside posted area but did not confirm any fledging WIPL this year.

**Next Season:** Could we encourage stewards in this area if LETE colony comes – have to be ready. Maybe additional program for property owners in March/April(early) (have been done before by Blair/Julie W.). Past event was well attended. Maybe include American Beach Community as well. **\*\*Action Item: Bill will contact the community association for venue and follow up with Blair/Jean about presentations for March/April.**

**Allison** – (State Parks) ASP heavy predation (coyote), steward (mostly worked at Amelia at point of closure), had additional LE presence. Renourishment this winter (work starts early next month at groin road to rocks, northern boundary).

Big Talbot: dog/coyote predation. Found new area with WIPL nesting (n=12)

Little Talbot: limited dry habitat. Western colony lasted all season and fledged 6 chicks. Heavy depredation at this site. East Colony more spread out (game camera; LAGU, Coyote, Great Horned Owl predation). Some FWC predation management (LAGU; attempted coyote removal unsuccessful). 3 AMOY nests all depredated. A lot of territorial fighting between pairs that may have opened up predation risk.

South Little Talbot: Extra monitoring for WIPL project. Succeeded in finding some in the back dunes. Trouble re-sighting them. Maybe fledged 2-3 young.

Next Season: want to focus on coyote removal March/April. Consider exclosures. Great for incubation but not protection for young. **Action Item:** Jean follow up with Raya about issues with exclosures. May be issues with exclosures near sea turtle nests.

**Fort Clinch (Allison):** Concerns with coyote and deer walking through colonies as well. Definitely fledged WIPL young (not shown in presentation). LETE nested in disturbed area from hurricane. Had stewards at this site on weekends in morning (some weekends?)

**HMP:** BRPE nesting. Furthest north since 60's documented. 70 nesting pairs with over 60 chicks. Had mortality event from dog (8 dead feathered chicks, killed not eaten). **\*\*NEED COMMUNICATION ABOUT THIS\*\*** May have happened after hours with camping or boating.

### **FSD Post Season Data Summary** (attached)

**Action Item:** Jean will follow up about “hog” impact events reported in slides.

### **Predator Mgmt: Statewide Update and TSP Needs** (attached)

#### **Update on LE Shorebird Patrols** (slides attached)

- FWC LE committed to 25 hours of shorebird specific patrols at the beginning of the 2018 breeding season.
- FWC LE completed **114 patrols** (between March – August) and a total of **217 hours** this season in Nassau and Duval Counties alone.

**Action Item:** Jean follow up with Allison about citations – reporting.

### **FSD Custom Search Function Tutorial** (attached)

#### **MBTA & HB 631 Update**

- MBTA has been reinterpreted (Dec. 2017) and no longer includes protections to native species that are taken incidentally as the result of otherwise lawful activities. MBTA still covers species that are purposefully taken.
- Protections still exist under the FWC Rule 68A-4.001. This is a state rule that protects birds, eggs, young, and other wildlife.
- HB 631 went into effect on July 1, 2018. This allows owners to restrict access to beaches on their private property. This may impact our ability to post nesting areas – we are proceeding as before, but be aware we may see more folks trying to restrict access.
- **Action Item:** Blair/Jean/Megan remember to provide clear guidance on how State Laws and MBTA currently protect species that stewards might encounter on the beach.

### **What worked? What needs work? Lessons from this Season**

- Allison (SP): will be working on measures to address predation at the park and pursuing vegetation removal for nesting habitat enhancement at ASP. **Action Item.**
- Chris F. will follow up with Allison Conboy about coordinating Wells Fargo volunteer help with vegetation removal efforts (need 1-year advanced notice). **Action Item.**