



August 17, 2019

**Subject: 2019 – Piping Plover/Least Tern/American Oystercatcher Monitoring
Sandy Point Beach and Bird Sanctuary, West Haven, CT**

The West Haven Wildlife Guards, with oversight from Audubon Connecticut (Audubon) and in partnership with the City of West Haven and Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History (RTPI), are conducting threatened and endangered species monitoring at Sandy/Morse Point Beach and Bird Sanctuary for the latter half of the 2019 season. The following includes a summary report of monitoring conducted on the dates noted below, performed following training from Audubon and RTPI staff.

Monitoring Date: 8/14/2019

Monitoring Participants: Alfred Green, Samiyah Sutherland, James Weber, Matthew Wahl, Daniela Morales, Noah Anderson, Anthony Pachecho, Rianne Mustafa

Survey Start Time 9:15AM

Temperature: 76 Degrees F

Winds: 9mph N

Tide: Survey started 2 hours before high tide

Cloud Cover: N/A

Humidity: 82%

Duration of Visit: About 60 minutes

Piping Plover Pair Observations (M - Male, F - Female, A - unknown sex, J - fledging, H - Hatchling):

Pair 2: None seen

Pair 5: None seen

Pair 4: None seen

Pair 1: None seen

Pair 3: None seen

Pair 6: 2J

Target species observations: Piping Plover

Adults:

Eggs:

Hatchlings:

Fledglings: 2

Losses, if any:

Target species observations: American Oystercatcher

Adults: 6 (N-14 and N-D)

Eggs:

Hatchlings:

Fledglings: 2

Losses, if any:

Target species observations: Common Tern

Adults: 3
Eggs:
Hatchlings:
Fledglings:
Losses, if any:

Target species observations: Least Tern

Adults:
Eggs:
Hatchlings:
Fledglings:
Losses, if any:

Other Bird Species Observed (State listed species in bold):

- **Great Egret** 2
- **Snowy Egret** 3
- Northern Flicker 1
- Ruddy Turnstone 2
- Black-bellied Plover 6
- Semipalmated Sandpiper 23
- Semipalmated Plover 22
- Sanderling 32

Disturbances: None at this time



Monitoring Date: 8/16/2019

Monitoring Participants: Alfred Green, Samiyah Sutherland, James Weber, Matthew Wahl, Daniela Morales, Noah Anderson, Anthony Pachecho, Rianne Mustafa

Survey Start Time 9:27AM

Temperature: 72 Degrees F

Winds: 7 mph

Tide: Survey began 3 hours after low tide

Cloud Cover: N/A

Humidity: 76%

Duration of Visit: About an hour and 15 minutes

Piping Plover Pair Observations (M - Male, F - Female, A - unknown sex, J - fledging, H - Hatchling):

Pair 2: None seen

Pair 5: None seen

Pair 4: None seen

Pair 1: None seen

Pair 3: None seen

Pair 6: None seen

Target species observations: Piping Plover

Adults:
Eggs:
Hatchlings:
Fledglings:
Losses, if any:

Target species observations: American Oystercatcher

Adults:
Eggs:
Hatchlings:
Fledglings:
Losses, if any:

Target species observations: Common Tern

Adults:
Eggs:
Hatchlings:
Fledglings:
Losses, if any:

Target species observations: Least Tern

Adults:
Eggs:
Hatchlings:
Fledglings:
Losses, if any:

Other Bird Species Observed (State listed species in bold):

- **Clapper Rail** 1
- Red-winged Blackbird 1
- Mourning Dove 3
- Ruddy Turnstone 10
- Double-crested Cormorant 2
- Willet 2
- Semipalmated Sandpiper 5
- Black-bellied Plover 11
- Least Sandpiper 1
- Ruddy Turnstone 2

Disturbances: Two sets of dog track near the symbolic fencing



Monitoring Date: 8/17/2019

Monitoring Participants: Alfred Green, Samiyah Sutherland, James Weber, Matthew Wahl, Daniela Morales, Noah Anderson, Anthony Pachecho, Rianne Mustafa

Survey Start Time 9:30AM

Temperature: 76 Degrees F

Winds: 6 mph ENE

Tide: Survey began about 2 hours after low tide

Cloud Cover: N/A

Humidity: 82%

Duration of Visit: About an hour and 10 minutes

Piping Plover Pair Observations (M - Male, F - Female, A - unknown sex, J - fledging, H - Hatchling):

Pair 2: None seen

Pair 5: None seen

Pair 4: None seen

Pair 1: None seen

Pair 3: None seen

Pair 6: None seen

Target species observations: Piping Plover

Adults:

Eggs:

Hatchlings:

Fledglings:

Losses, if any:

Target species observations: American Oystercatcher

Adults: 3

Eggs:

Hatchlings:

Fledglings: 1

Losses, if any:

Target species observations: Common Tern

Adults: 400+

Eggs:

Hatchlings:

Fledglings:

Losses, if any:

Target species observations: Least Tern

Adults: 30

Eggs:

Hatchlings:

Fledglings:

Losses, if any:

Other Bird Species Observed (State listed species in bold):

- **Great Egret** 5
- **Snowy Egret** 3
- **Clapper Rail** 3
- Northern Mockingbird 3
- Barn Swallow 12
- Tree Swallow 15
- Laughing Gull 15

- Herring Gull 13
- Ring-billed Gull 20
- Semipalmated Sandpiper 50
- Semipalmated Plover 67
- Ruddy Turnstone 14

Disturbances: None at this time

Recommendations, if any: Continue monitoring for use by Piping Plovers, American Oystercatchers, Least Terns, and Common Terns. Maintain string fencing in areas that target species are likely to use. Remove string fencing at the end of the season. Continue to monitor predator activity/tracks.

Please contact Alfred Green if you have any questions. Thank you.

Alfred Green, West Haven Wildlife Guards Crew Leader