



Byron, Rebecca

From: Sbmaddock@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2005 9:23 PM
To: Podolsky, Richard
Cc: Otto, Dana; Lusby, Karen; Byron, Rebecca; Gutman, Lori; wgolder@audubon.org; saschult@ncsu.edu; MargoGZ@cs.com
Subject: Re: Do you have data on Wilson's Plover & Red Knots for CAHA and CALO?

Hi Richard,

I have not done systematic surveys for either species, but I am glad to hear that they will be included in the EA. Both species use CHNS and I do have concerns about their conservation status.

I saw a WIPL on Hatteras Spit in '05 around the time that the PIPL was acting territorial and I heard that the Hatteras techs saw two WIPL in the area later. In '04 (but perhaps '03? - I'm on the road so I don't have my notes), there was a WIPL that was on the Ocracoke spit and it was acting in a territorial manner and calling; I saw a scrape but no eggs; I later saw two adult birds near the same area.

I have also seen a WIPL at Bodie Island and Green Island during the breeding season in past years, and single birds that I assumed were spring migrants at the Hatteras Spit overwash fan and Hatteras Spit in 05. I also have seen fall migrants using the Ocracoke spit in 04 or 03; the high number, from memory, was somewhere around 8-10 (I can get the number when I review my notes).

You may want to check the historical publications, as there is limited information which suggests they were more numerous in North Carolina (check the 1919 NC birds publication).

Red knots will use the ocean side beaches that have a low angle beach face (larger intertidal area, I assume); I have seen them on "South Beach" just above the Frisco Ramp, and on both the E and W side of Ocracoke on the ocean side. I also have seen birds using the soundside areas (inside of the no-orv closures) on Ocracoke and Bodie Island. I do have some pictures of Red Knots with bands, but I haven't had the time to review them and turn them in yet.

There could be some Int. Census data from Hatteras on knot numbers, and I seem to remember someone saying something about seeing them during a past CBC a year or two ago.

Walker may also be able to help you some, as he was in Hatteras in the 1980's, and Shiloh Shulte also may have some info on both species, as he has spent quite a bit of time in the field doing AMOY research. I'm copying both.

I agree with Sue's suggestion re Margo; she has spent extensive time doing detailed census work in the Gulf states for WIPL and may be able to offer additional suggestions re mgt.

When I get back to NC, I will see if I can fill this in some.

Sid

In a message dated 11/20/2005 11:35:14 AM Eastern Standard Time, rpodolsky@louisberger.com writes:

Hi Sidney,

Do you have data on Wilson's Plover & Red Knots for CAHA and CALO you can provide us? We recently found out that the CAHA and CALO EA will need to include these two species. See pasted below some data we received from Sue Cameron via Marcia Lyons. Do you have any data to add to this for any time of the year for either species at CAHA (which I need ASAP) or for CALO (which is on a slightly longer fuse)?

Thank you so much. I enjoyed meeting you on the beach last month.

11/28/2005

Regards,

Richard

Richard Podolsky, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist
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Hi Sandra,
 Here is a summary of the data I have on WIPLs at CLNS and CHNS.
 Cape Hatteras
 Ocracoke Island - 0 in 1989; 2 pairs in 2004
 Hatteras Island - 3 pairs, 1 territorial male, 1 individual in 1989; 0
 pairs
 in 2004

Cape Lookout
 North Core Banks - 36 pairs, 4 individuals in 1989; 24 pairs in 2004
 South Core Banks - 35 pairs, 3 individuals in 1989; 20 pairs, 1
 individual
 in 2004
 Shackleford Banks - 32 pairs in 1989; 17 pairs, 1 individual in 2004

The 1989 count was incomplete for Shackleford Banks and Lower Core Banks
 so
 there may have been additional pairs that were missed that year.
 Obviously
 there have been declines since the 1989 survey.

We counted a total of 232 pairs of Wilson's plovers along the entire
 coast
 in 2004. Cape Lookout is very important to our state's population of
 breeding Wilson's plovers and supported 26% of the population in 2004.

Finally, I looked at the Texas report on Wilson's plovers and could find
 no
 guidance on buffer zones for closures. I've included a copy of the
 report
 fyi. I think this work has continued in 2004 and 2005 as well. I would
 recommend contacting Margo Zdravkovic directly. She is with National
 Audubon and has done a lot of work on Wilson's plovers. She may have
 suggestions or know of publications that might help
 (mzdravkovic@audubon.org). Please let me know if you need anything
 else.

Best,
 Sue Cameron
 North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
 Waterbird Biologist

11/28/2005

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11/28/2005

Do you have data on Wilson's Plover & Red Knots for CAHA and CALO?

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