

0024294

**From:** [Mike Murray](#)  
**To:** [Myers, Gordon S.](#)  
**Cc:** [Darrell Echols@nps.gov](#); [Cobb, David T.](#); [Martin, Mallory G.](#); [mike\\_bryant@fws.gov](#); [Russ\\_Wilson@nps.gov](#); [john\\_stanton@fws.gov](#)  
**Bcc:** [Cyndy Holda](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Colonial Waterbird Issues  
**Date:** 09/29/2009 04:16 PM

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Hi Gordon,

Our wildlife biologist is on leave for two weeks, so things are temporarily on hold for us to have further discussion. I propose having Cyndy Holda, my assistant, go ahead set up a conference call a few weeks from now involving the respective managers (you, Russ Wilson, Mike Bryant, and me), along with our respective technical representatives and John Stanton of the FWS Migratory Bird Field Office in Columbia. For a tentative agenda, I propose that the managers briefly discuss the general objective (to coordinate annual colonial waterbird nest surveys using consistent counting method and timing, so that our combined efforts provide a realistic picture of the overall CWB breeding activity in the area) and to confirm that we have a common understanding and commitment to that objective. We also need to talk about who else, if anyone, should be involved in the effort (e.g., NC Audubon has responsibility for surveying several islands in Pamlico Sound near Ocracoke). I think it would be good for the technical staff to hear and participate, as appropriate, in the managers' discussion, so they all hear the same thing about what the objective is. After the managers understand and confirm the objective, set some general target dates and (hopefully) commit their staffs to participating, then let's turn the call over to the technical representatives to organize themselves into a working group that is charged with developing the basic procedures necessary to accomplish the objective. They can determine and assign tasks as needed, and schedule date/time for their next get together. I propose that we take up John Stanton's (FWS) offer to coordinate the working group effort.

If you have other ideas on how to proceed, please suggest them. If this sounds okay to you, Cyndy can get started on identifying conference call dates/times that will work for everyone a few weeks from now.

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"Myers, Gordon S."  
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To "Mike\_Murray@nps.gov"  
<Mike\_Murray@nps.gov>  
cc "Martin, Mallory G."

0024295

09/23/2009 03:27 PM

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<mike\_bryant@fws.gov>, "Cobb, David T."  
<david.cobb@ncwildlife.org>

Subject RE: Colonial Waterbird Issues

Mike,  
I apologize for the delayed reply to your email. Ironically, I have been out of town at the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies annual meeting where I had the opportunity to chair the association's Bird Conservation Committee. One of the topics of discussion was the need to identify data gaps and improve monitoring. We are very excited about the prospects of partnering with the NPS and USFWS to gain a better understanding of the status of colonial waterbird populations. Our Wildlife Management Division Chief, David Cobb, will serve as our primary technical representative as we move forward.

Do you have any dates in mind that we can target for a conference call to kick things off?

Thanks again,  
Gordon

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-----Original Message-----

From: Mike\_Murray@nps.gov [mailto:Mike\_Murray@nps.gov]  
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2009 2:03 PM  
To: Myers, Gordon S.  
Cc: Martin, Mallory G.; Darrell\_Echols@nps.gov;  
Russ\_Wilson@nps.gov; mike\_bryant@fws.gov  
Subject: Re: Colonial Waterbird Issues

Gordon,

I communicated with Superintendent Russ Wilson at Cape Lookout NS and Refuge Manager Mike Bryant at Pea Island NWR regarding our discussion about trying to have a coordinated approach to CWB nesting surveys in the Outer Banks area. Both expressed interest in participating in future discussions.

Proposed Next Step: My suggestion is that we set up a conference call with Russ, Mike B., you, me Darrell and Mallory (i.e., the respective managers) in the next few weeks to discuss the concept and general objectives and to confirm all are on-board. If we agree to move forward collectively, then we should discuss assigning the task to technical staff to work out

the  
details (we need to think about who will take the lead in  
coordinating  
technical group conference calls or meetings, etc.). If you  
think this is  
the appropriate next step or want to suggest something else,  
please let me  
know. I can have Cyndy Holda set up a call in the next few  
weeks.

Mike Murray  
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