



Dead Neck Sampson's Island Weekly Shorebird Report

As of 05/01/2024

Monitors: Eric Schertler, Andrew Hayden, Jamie Infanti, Rose Caplan, Mike Heine

Piping Plover Activity:

There are currently 16 pairs on the island. There are 10 active nests, with 5 incubating full clutches. 3 nests are due to hatch no later than May 21, and 2 nests are due to hatch no later than May 25.

American Oystercatcher Activity:

There are 2 pairs of oystercatchers on the island, one at the east end and one at the west end. The eastern pair recently laid a first egg in one of the restoration areas. The western pair had a full clutch of 3 eggs but the clutch was lost due to coyote predation.

Fencing Maintenance and Activity:

Fencing was completed on island and all habitat is fenced. As scrapes and nests have been found, CWP has pulled fencing out and added a few additional poles to encompass wider areas. These adjustments have only been made on the ocean side of fencing.

Predator activity:

There is heavy crow and coyote activity on the island. Several sets of coyote tracks were found along the ocean side beach. A few other sets have been found in the restoration areas. Furthermore, the western AMOY pair had a full clutch predated by a coyote as evidenced by tracks. Crows have been seen throughout the island, either flying over or foraging on the beach, especially on a seal carcass that has been on the island for several weeks.

Management Concerns:

No major management concerns thus far given many boaters have not yet arrived for the summer, and there has been little human activity so far.