American Oystercatcher
2020 Breeding Season Summary
2020 Season

Coastal Program Shorebird Monitoring

• Audubon Alliance for Coastal Waterbirds
  • Audubon Connecticut
  • Roger Tory Peterson Institute
  • Connecticut Audubon Society

• Partners
  • CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
  • US Fish and Wildlife Service
  • The Nature Conservancy
  • Local Municipalities

• Many Dedicated Volunteers
2020 Season

Impact of COVID-19 Restrictions

Our Efforts
• Delayed Field Work
  • Working from home
• Limited field activities
  • Only exclosed second PIPL nests
  • Infrequent boat use for island surveys
• Reduced Staff
  • ACT down two field technicians
• Volunteer Efforts Delayed
  • Began mid June

Human Disturbance
• More People on Beaches and Islands
• Increased Early Season Beach Visitation
• Increased Water Craft Use
• Visitation Restrictions
  • Beach Closures
  • Open to Residents Only
  • No Restrictions or Closures
2020 Season

AMOY Population
56 - Breeding pairs, 21 - Non-breeding pairs, 48 - Chicks fledged
2020 Season

AMOY Productivity

• Productivity - 0.85 (Fledglings/ breeding pair)
• Three year average - 0.75
• Second highest since 2012
Breeding Site Variation

- 144 sites surveyed
- 56 used by AMOY
- 31 breeding sites
  - 77% Offshore Islands
  - 23% Mainland Beaches
- Highest beach productivity, 0.92, since 2012
- Island productivity 0.83
2020 Season

Productive Mainland Sites

- COVID early season beach closures & a full time daily monitor resulted in
  - Highest AMOY productivity at three mainland sites in the past six years
  - First ever PIPL nest at Compo Beach
  - First successful Black Skimmer colony in 15 years at Sandy Point
Thank You!