Military Overflight Effects on Nesting American Oystercatchers on Cape Lookout National Seashore, NC

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Objectives:

- 1. To assess if military overflights affect the behavior, reproductive success, and survival rates of breeding AMOYs at Cape Lookout.
- 2. To assess other potential disturbance factors and the correlating response of the American Oystercatchers.





Methods:

- **Baseline audio monitoring** of ground noise level across the entire Park
- 24-hour continuous video and audio monitoring of American Oystercatcher nests
- **Heart-rate monitoring** of incubating individuals

Video and Audio Monitoring



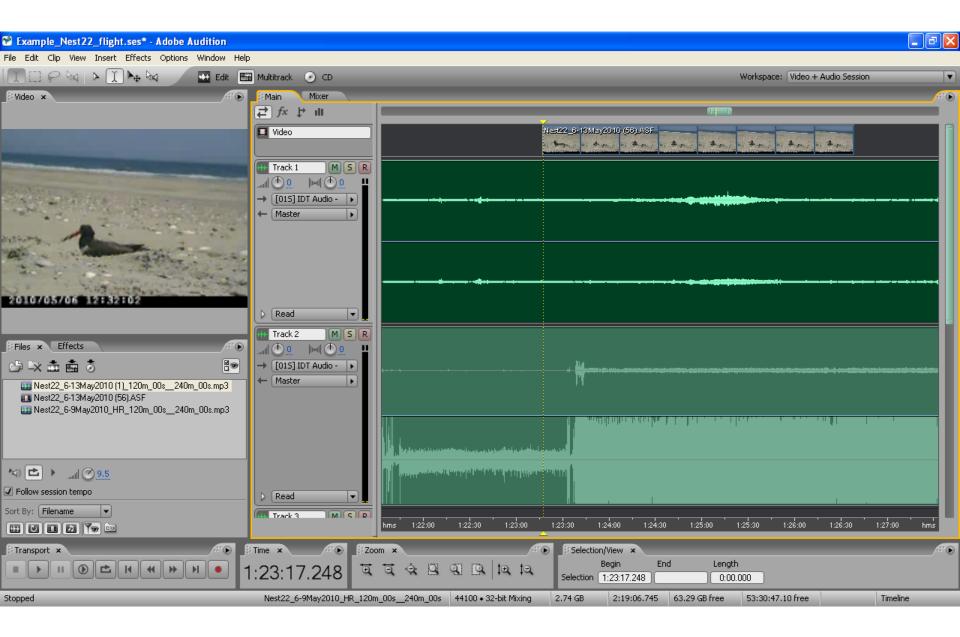
32 nests (55% of 58 nests found) were monitored with video and audio recording equipment

Heart Rate Monitor – False Egg



18 nests (31% of 58 nests found) had monitoring with heart rate eggs

Assembled audio, video, and heart rate



Heart Rate

