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

#### Tracy Borneman

### **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**



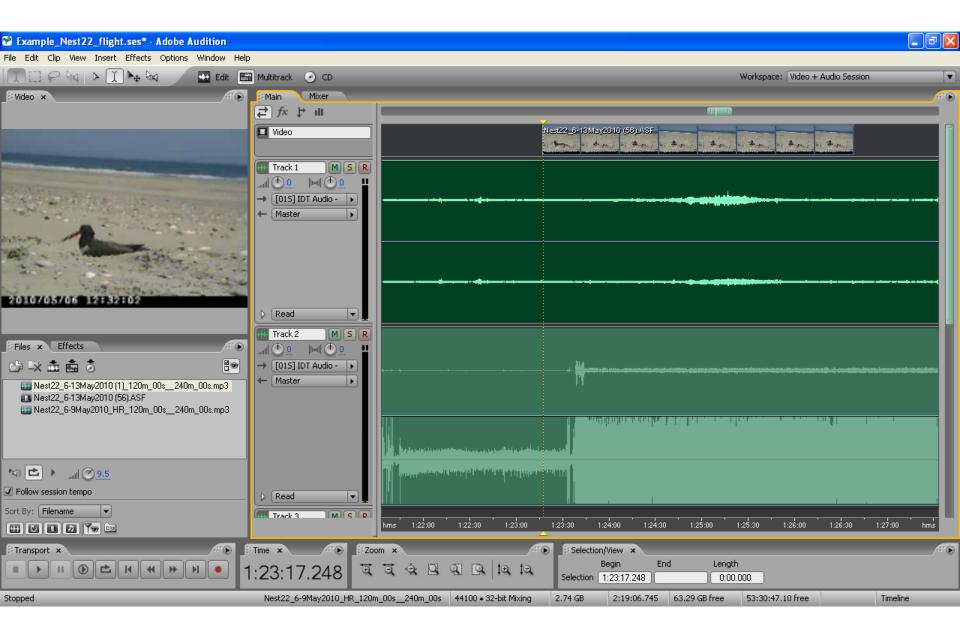
32 nests (55% of 58 nests found) were monitored with video and audio recording equipment

## 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**

