



Cape Lookout National Seashore 2013 American Oystercatcher Summary

Oystercatcher Nesting by Island 2013

Island	#pairs	#Nests	#Nests Hatched	#Chicks Fledged
North Core Banks	30	50	12 (24%)	13
South Core Banks	27	46	19 (41%)	12
Shackleford Banks	6	8	1 (12%)	0
CALO Total	63	104	32 (31%)	25

Causes of Nest Failure 2013

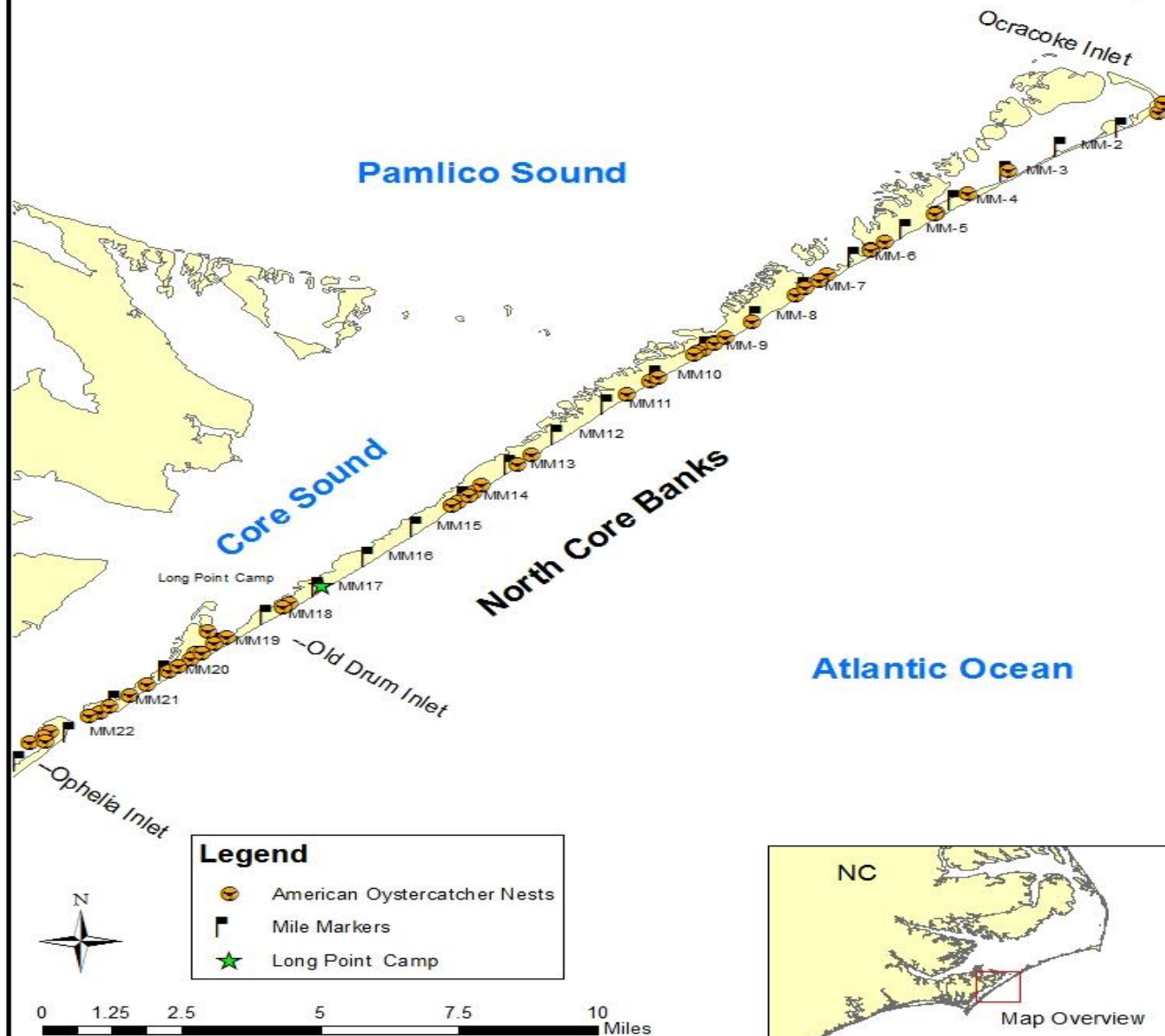
Island	Predation	Flooding/ Storms	Human Disturbance	Abandoned	Unknown
North Core Banks	9	0	1	0	28
South Core Banks	11	3	0	1	12
Shackleford Banks	1	0	0	0	6
CALO total	21	3	1	1	46

Summary of Seashore Oystercatcher Reproductive Success Data, 2004-2013

Year	Island	#Nests	#Nests Hatched	#Pairs (nesting)	#Chicks fledged
2004	Cape Lookout N.S.	71	38 (54%)	52	45 (0.86)
2005	Cape Lookout N.S.	66	26 (39%)	54	18 (0.33)
2006	Cape Lookout N.S.	70	23 (33%)	52	26 (0.50)
2007	Cape Lookout N.S.	99	21(21%)	61	31 (0.51)
2008	Cape Lookout N.S.	91	17 (19%)	57	15 (0.26)
2009	Cape Lookout N.S.	83	20(24%)	61	21 (0.34)
2010	Cape Lookout N.S.	113	28 (25%)	62	34 (0.55)
2011	Cape Lookout N.S.	114	29 (25%)	62	37 (0.60)
2012	Cape Lookout N.S.	99	31 (31%)	58	42 (0.72)
2013	Cape Lookout N.S.	104	32 (31%)	63	25 (0.40)

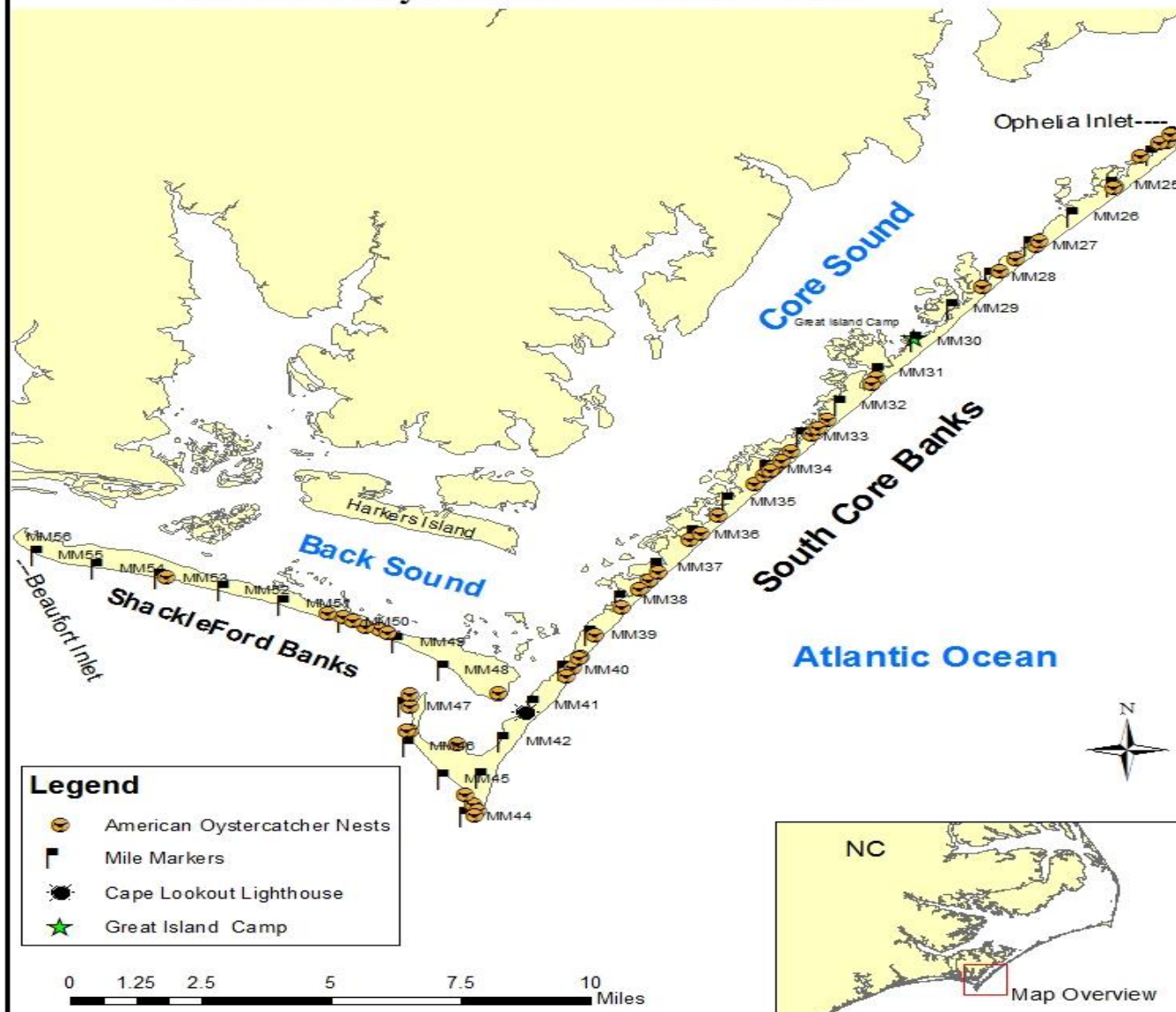


North Core Banks American Oystercatcher Nests 2013





South Core Banks and Shackleford Banks American Oystercatcher Nests 2013



Adaptive Management Strategy

Species Indicators (American oystercatcher)

- Breeding Population Size: Target 60 breeding pairs. Minor impact < 55 pairs. Moderate impact < 50 pairs
- Nest Survival: Target > 30% of nests hatched at least one chick. Minor impact 25% - 30%. Moderate impact < 25%
- Chicks Fledged per Breeding Pair: Target > 0.40 chicks/pair. Minor impact 0.40 - 0.30. Moderate impact 0.30
- Mammal Predation: Target < 20% of nests lost to mammal predation per year. Minor impact 20% - 25%. Moderate impact >25%.

If species indicators are triggered, the following actions would take place:

Step 1) Where 2 of the 4 species indicators have reached moderate impacts for two consecutive years (evaluating the previous 3 years running average), one or more management actions would be implemented (such as, but not limited to): increased education and testing, focused enforcement, trash management and fish scrap disposal, predator control, route restrictions, and increased buffers

Step 2) If species indicators continue to be triggered for two consecutive years after implementing Step 1, then a number of actions would be taken to help reduce impacts to species, such as:

- Reduce the number of long-term (annual) and/or short-term (10 day) vehicle permits issued
- Manage the size of parking lots
- Increase species protection buffer sizes

Species indicators will be reevaluated after a 5 year period, and possibly changed, based on new information.