



American Oystercatchers 2020 Breeding Season



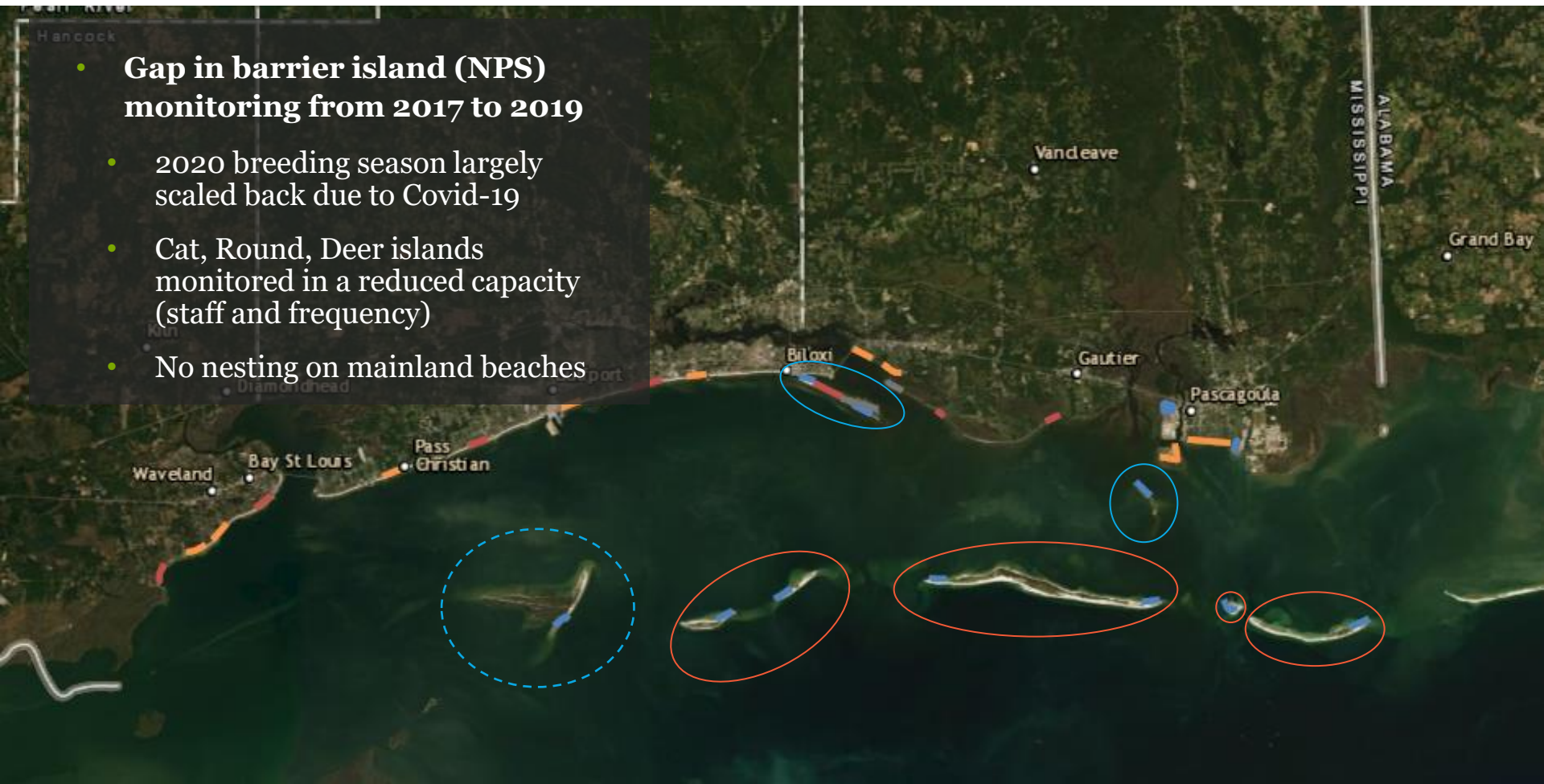
MELINDA AVERHART, STEWARDSHIP MANAGER



Photo: Collin Stempien

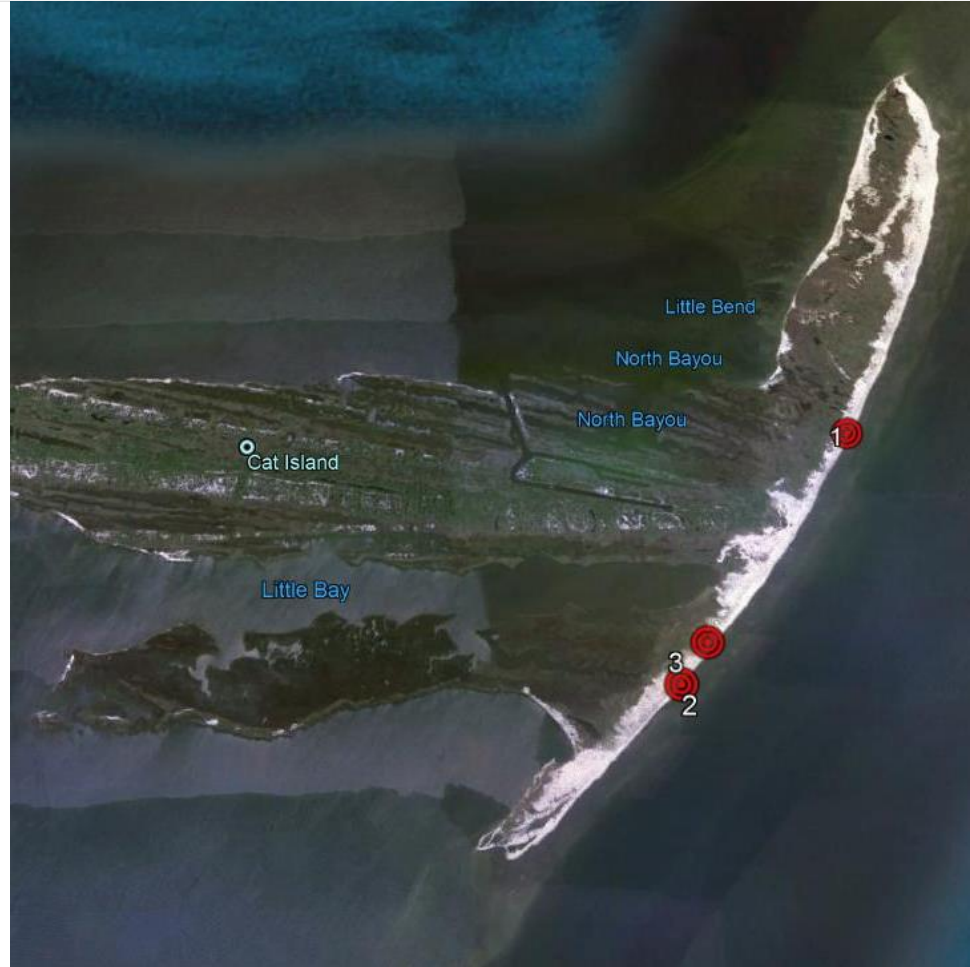
Monitoring

- **Gap in barrier island (NPS) monitoring from 2017 to 2019**
- 2020 breeding season largely scaled back due to Covid-19
- Cat, Round, Deer islands monitored in a reduced capacity (staff and frequency)
- No nesting on mainland beaches



Cat Island Nesting Results

- **Two pairs detected**
- **3 nests found**
 - Nest 001- hatched one chick, second egg fate unknown
 - Nest 002- depredated by a racoon
 - Nest 003-renest attempt with fate unknown





Research and monitoring in 2021 and beyond

- Include all 8 islands
- Will work in partnership with NPS biologists to result in increased data collection
- Likelihood of banding project in Mississippi (2021 Covid concerns may prohibit)
- Potential predator relocation project (2022?)



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Thank You!

