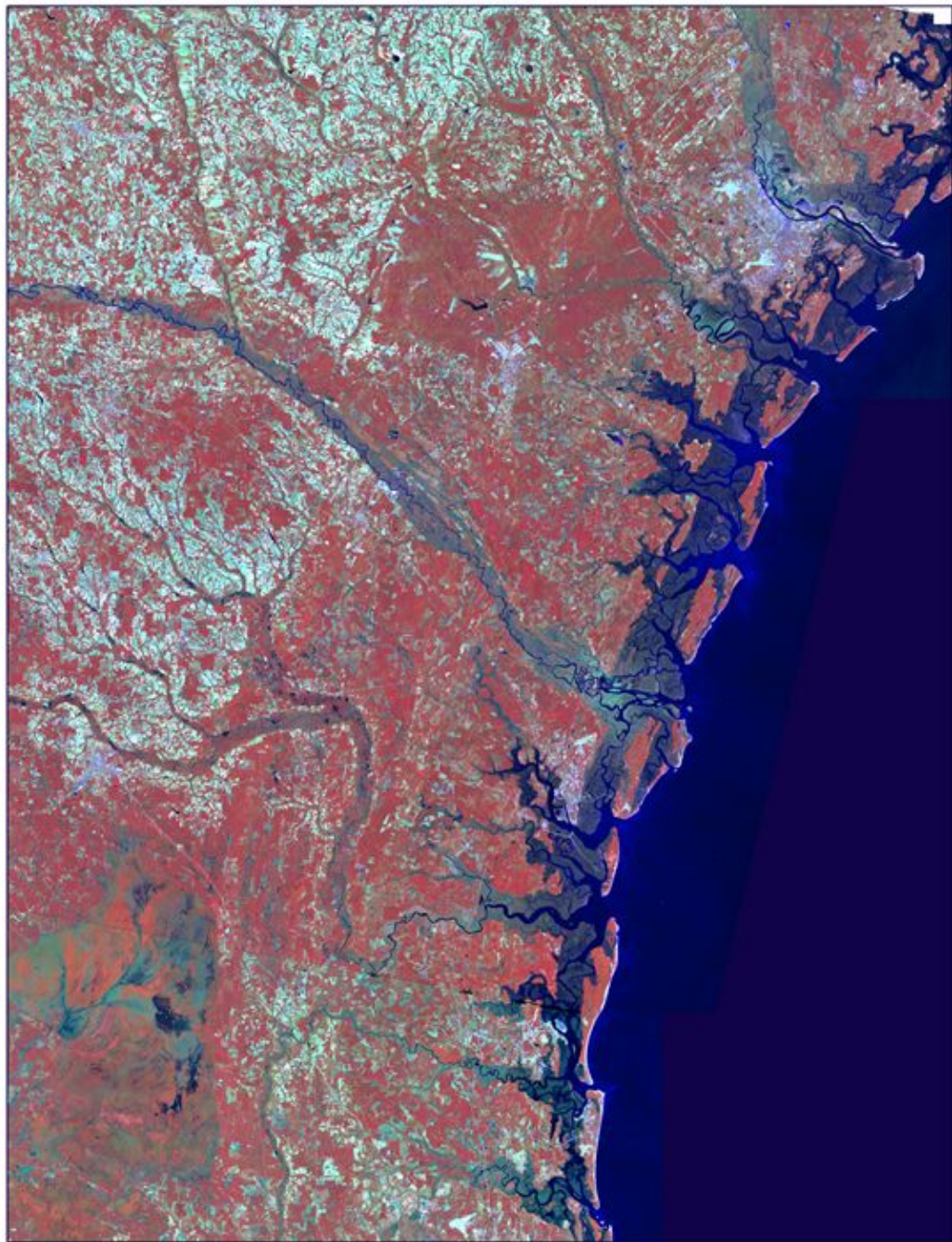


A Case Study in Adaptive Predator Management for Nesting Shorebirds



Scott Coleman and Kate Tweedy
Little St. Simons Island, GA







AMOY Monitoring History

- Incubation study
- Graduate Study: Predictors of nesting success
- Tracked every nest since 2008
- Seasonal Bird Technician and volunteers

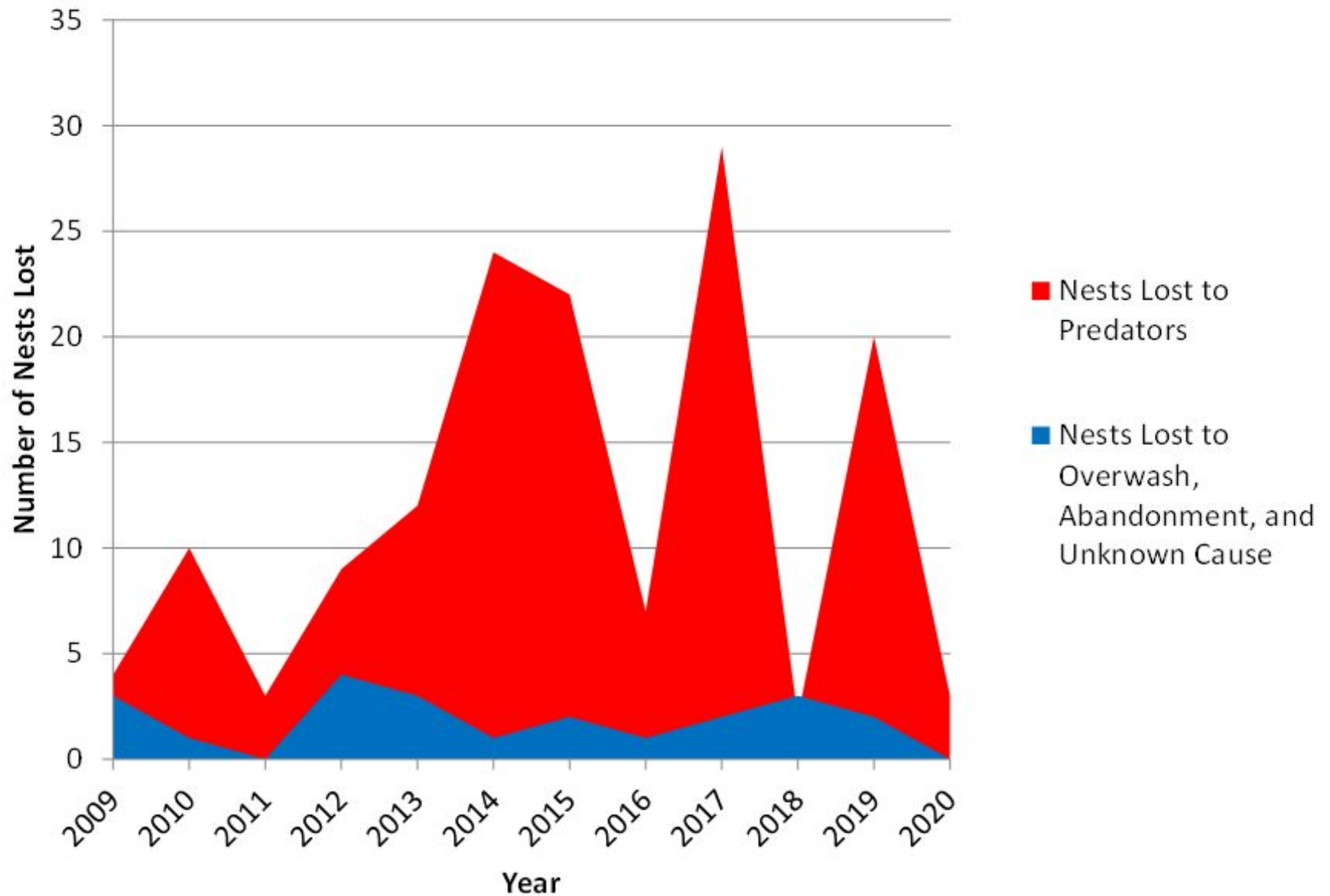


WIPL Monitoring History

- Graduate Study: Predictors of nesting success
- Graduate Study: Predator exclosures at nests
- Tracked at least a subset of nests since 2012
- Seasonal Bird Technician and volunteers



Summary of AMOY Nest Loss Causes



Predator Discussion

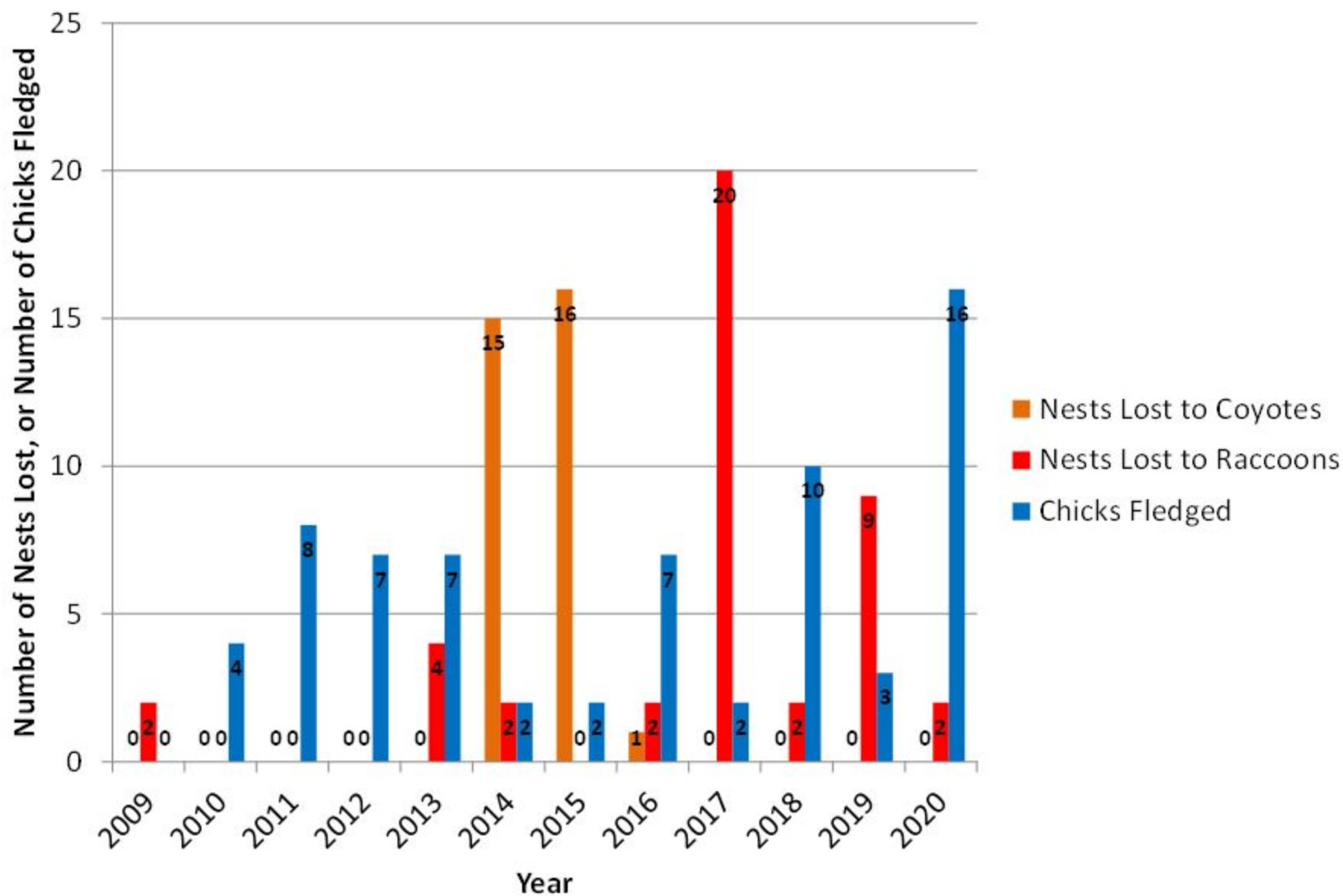
Raccoons – native, resident



Coyotes 2011 - 2017



Summary of AMOY Chicks Fledged vs. Nests Lost



Raccoon Control Methods

USDA Sharpshooting

- October – March

USDA Livetrapping

- October – March

In-house Livetrapping

- January – March

As-needed Trapping

- April – July



Raccoon Management Results

Resource Input	Results
USDA Contract \$7,862 avg. annual contract	59 raccoons removed
Trap Line 320 trap nights 80 staff hours	24 raccoons removed
As-needed Trapping 120 trap nights 36 staff hours	1 raccoon removed
Average Management Yield	9.7 AMOY chicks fledged/year (12-year average is 5.7 chicks)

2020 AMOY success

- 17 Pairs
- 17 Nests
- 44 Eggs
- 14 Nests Hatched
- 28 Chicks Hatched
- 16 Chicks Banded
- 16 Chicks Fledged



Results of Predator Management

- Higher AMOY egg survival rates
- Higher AMOY chick survival rates
- Greater number of fledglings produced
- Wading bird, seabird, and sea turtle success



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