

# Remembering Shiloh

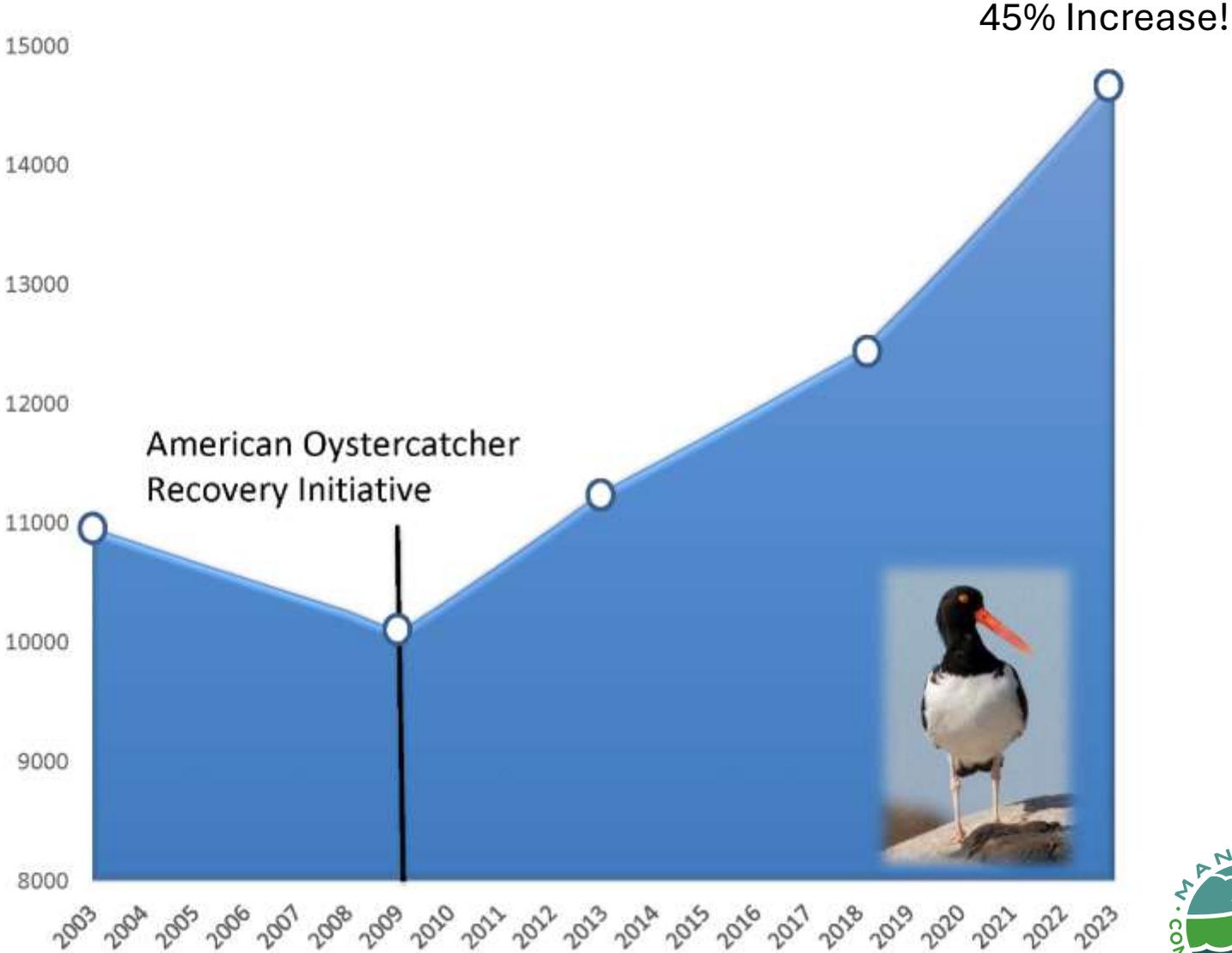
AMOY Annual Meeting  
15 October 2025



Stephen Brown, VP of Science  
Manomet Conservation Sciences

Shiloh Schulte

# American Oystercatcher Recovery



# The Plan to Plan the Plan

## American Oystercatcher Conservation Plan for the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of the United States

Version 1.0, April 2006

Shiloh Schulte<sup>1</sup>, Stephen Brown<sup>2</sup>, and the American Oystercatcher Working Group<sup>3</sup>.



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<sup>3</sup><http://www4.ncsu.edu/~simons/AMOY%20Research.htm>



## A Focal Species Conservation Action Plan For the American Oystercatcher *(Haematopus palliatus)*

for the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of the United States

Version 2.0, December 2007

Shiloh Schulte<sup>1</sup>, Stephen Brown<sup>2</sup>, Debra Reynolds<sup>3</sup>, and the American Oystercatcher Working Group<sup>4</sup>.



# The Plan to Plan the Plan

## A global assessment of the conservation status of the American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus*

Robert P. Clay<sup>1</sup>, Arne J. Lesterhuis<sup>1</sup>, Shiloh Schulte<sup>2</sup>, Stephen Brown<sup>3</sup>,  
Debra Reynolds<sup>4</sup> & Theodore R. Simons<sup>5</sup>

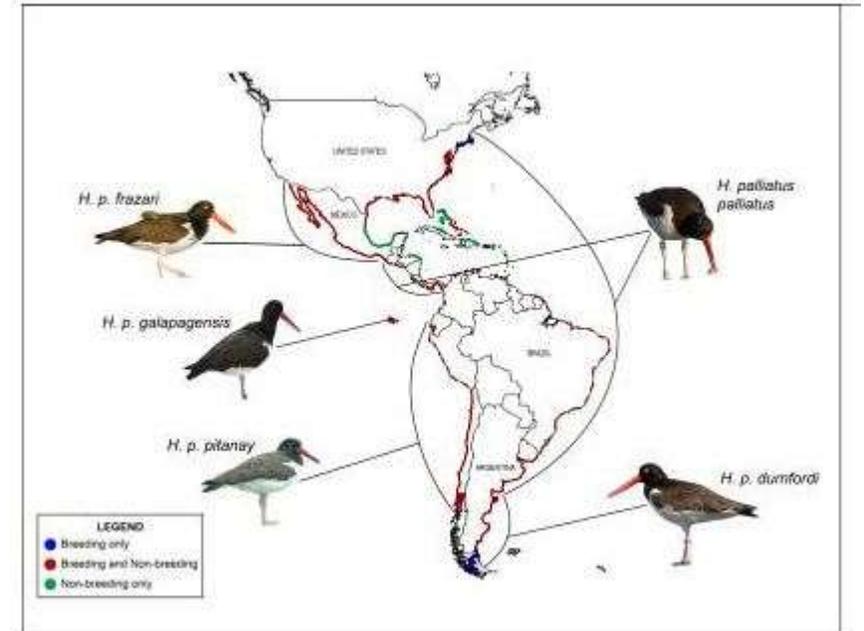
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# The Business Plan!

- Published in 2008
- 10-year plan to increase population by 30%
- Proposed budget of \$14.5M
- NFWF support target \$500k per year



## Business Plan for the Conservation of the American Oystercatcher

*A 10-Year Plan to Secure a Coastal Keystone Species*

American Oystercatcher Working Group  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
October 26, 2008





# Recovery Science and Limiting Factors

- Demographic models help us understand why populations are declining
- Identifying limiting factors allows us to target conservation action for success
- Shiloh was leading new demographic model for Whimbrel





Google Earth

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image Landsat / Copernicus  
Image U.S. Geological Survey  
Image IBCAO



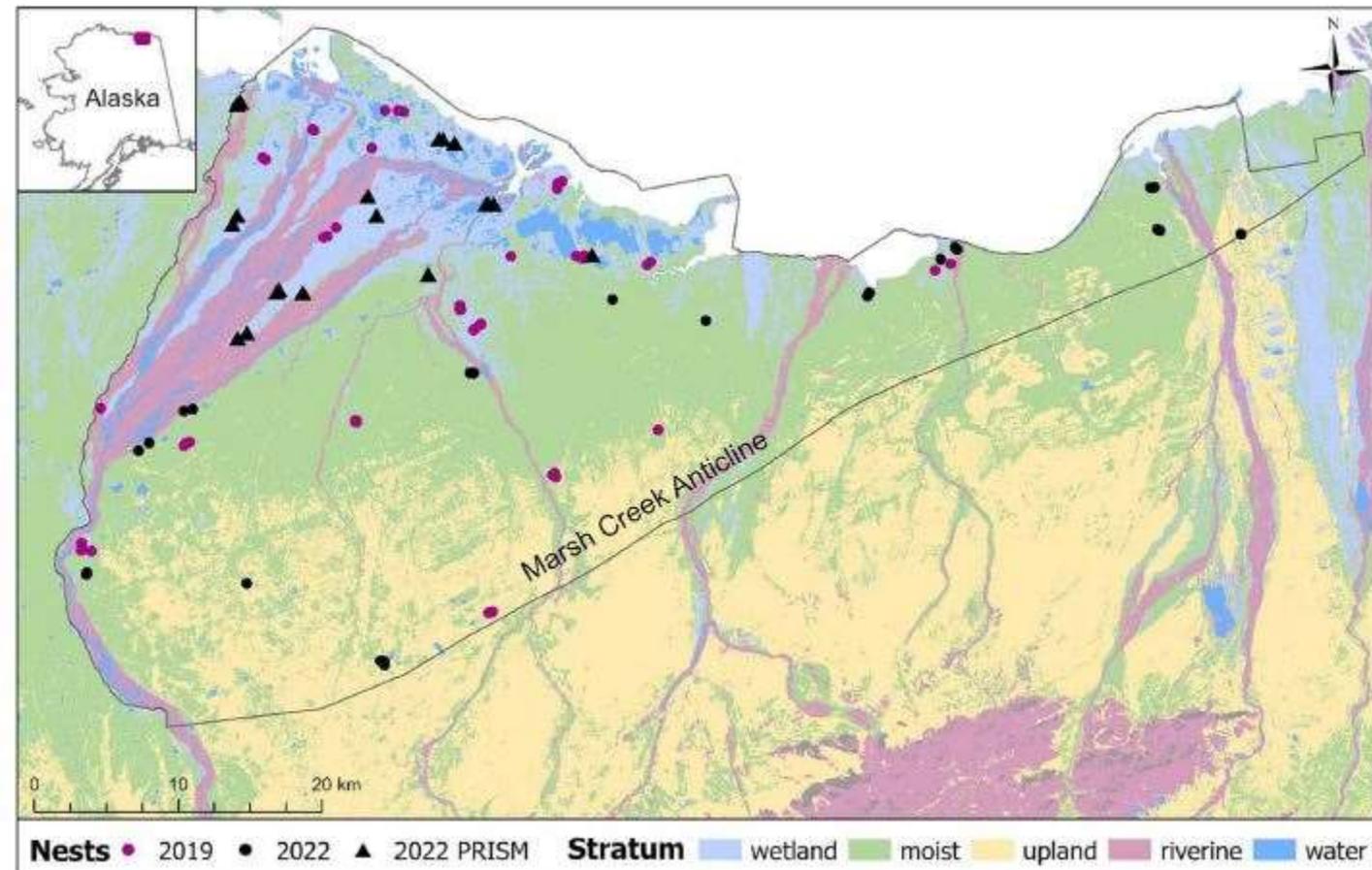
View from Space (Altitude: 6416 mi)



# Reducing bias in shorebird nest survival rates across a large Arctic landscape

SARAH T. SAALFELD,<sup>\*1</sup> EMILY L. WEISER,<sup>2</sup> STEPHEN C. BROWN,<sup>3</sup> CHRISTOPHER J. LATTY,<sup>4</sup>  
SHILOH SCHULTE<sup>3,†</sup> & RICHARD B. LANCTOT<sup>1</sup>

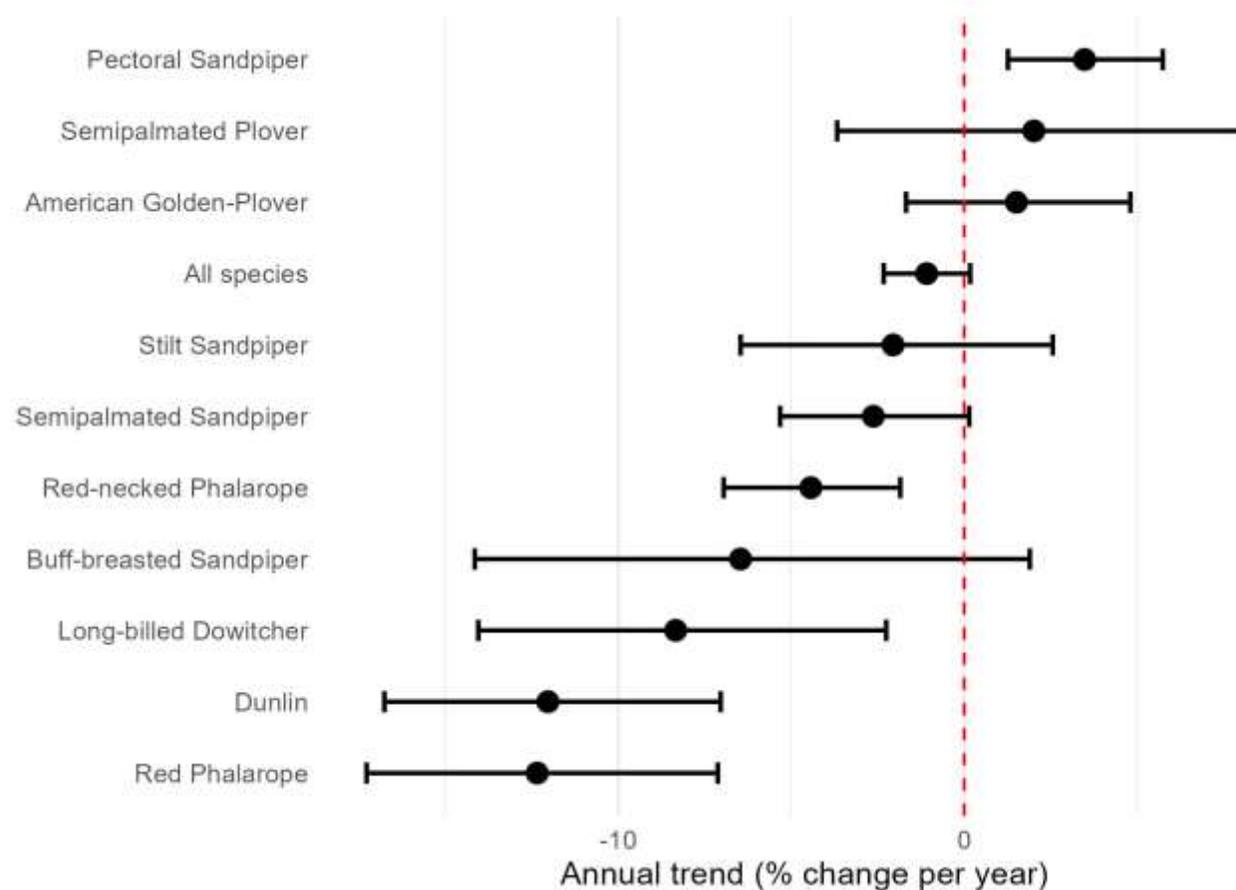
- Traditional methods may bias nest survival estimates because of human disturbance.
- Nest cameras combined with temperature sensors allow remote determination of nest fate.
- Nest survival estimates are critical baseline information against which to measure impacts of future development



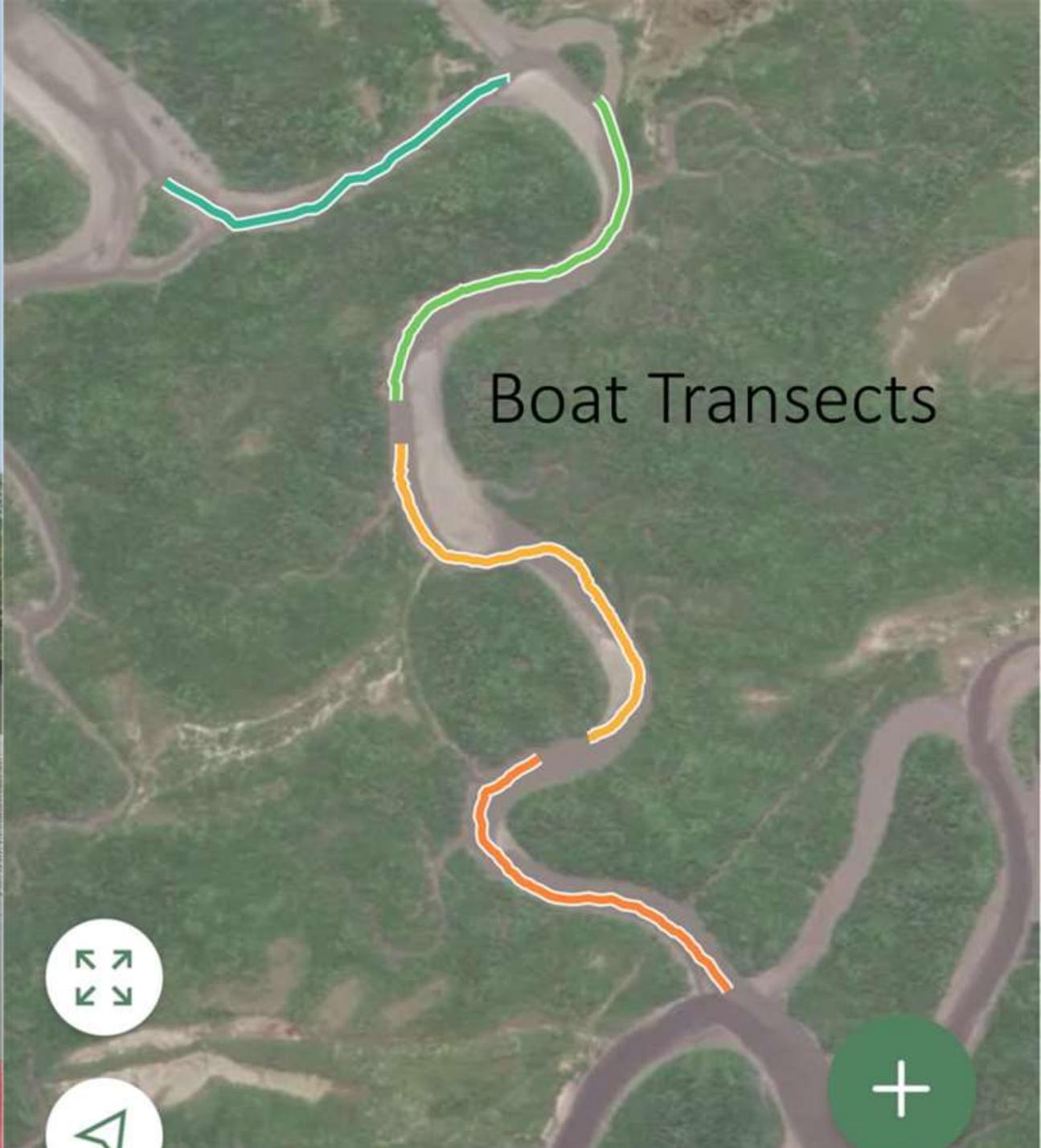
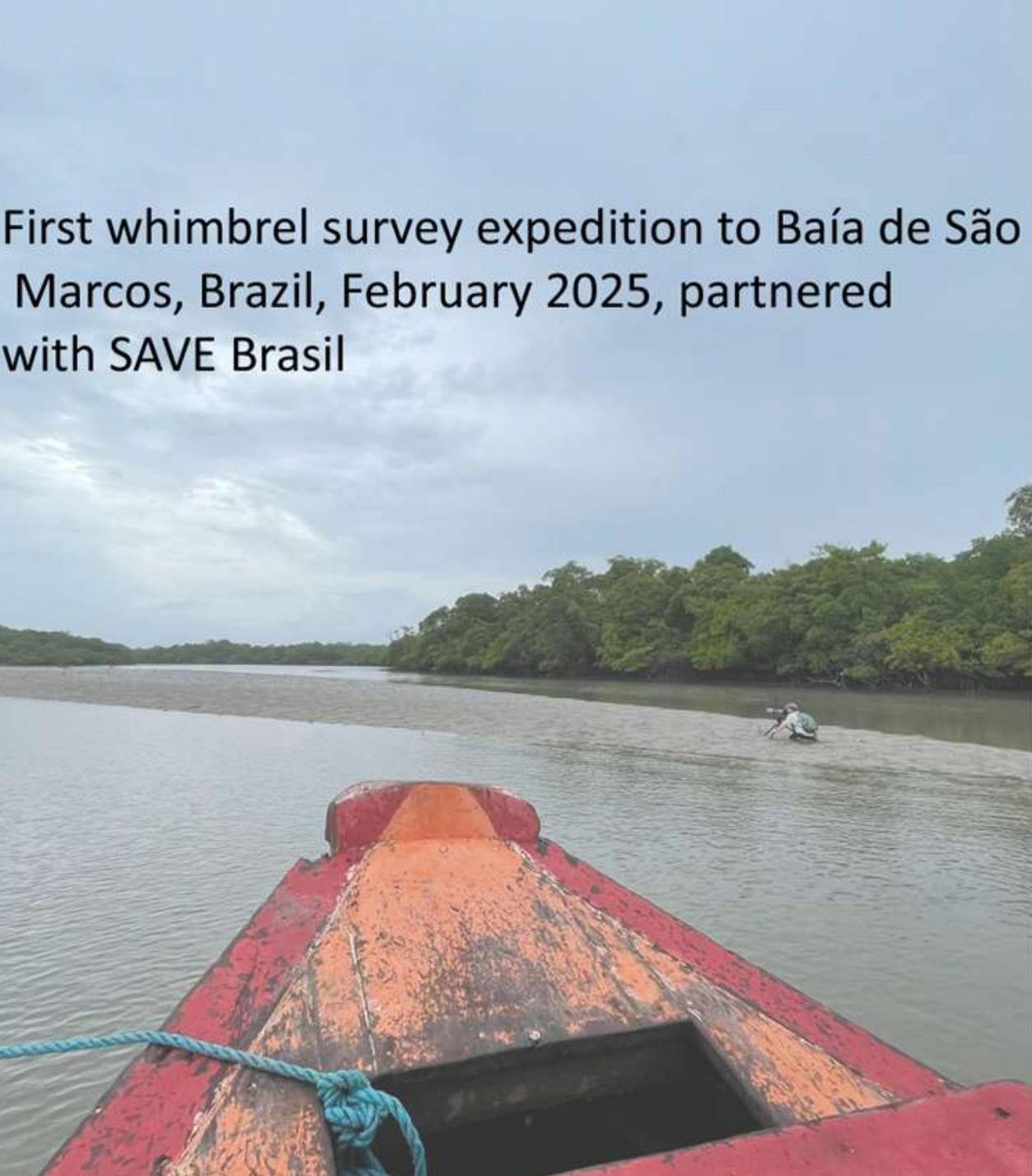


## Surveys of breeding shorebirds in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge suggest that most species have declined over the past two decades

- In review at Ornithological Applications, accepted with minor revisions.
- PRISM surveys conducted in 2002-2004 were compared with surveys in 2019-2022
- Dramatic declines were observed for several species (DUNL -89%, REPH -90%, LBDO -78%, RNPH-55%)
- American Golden-Plover did not decline in the Refuge (3% of pop.), despite large declines on migration



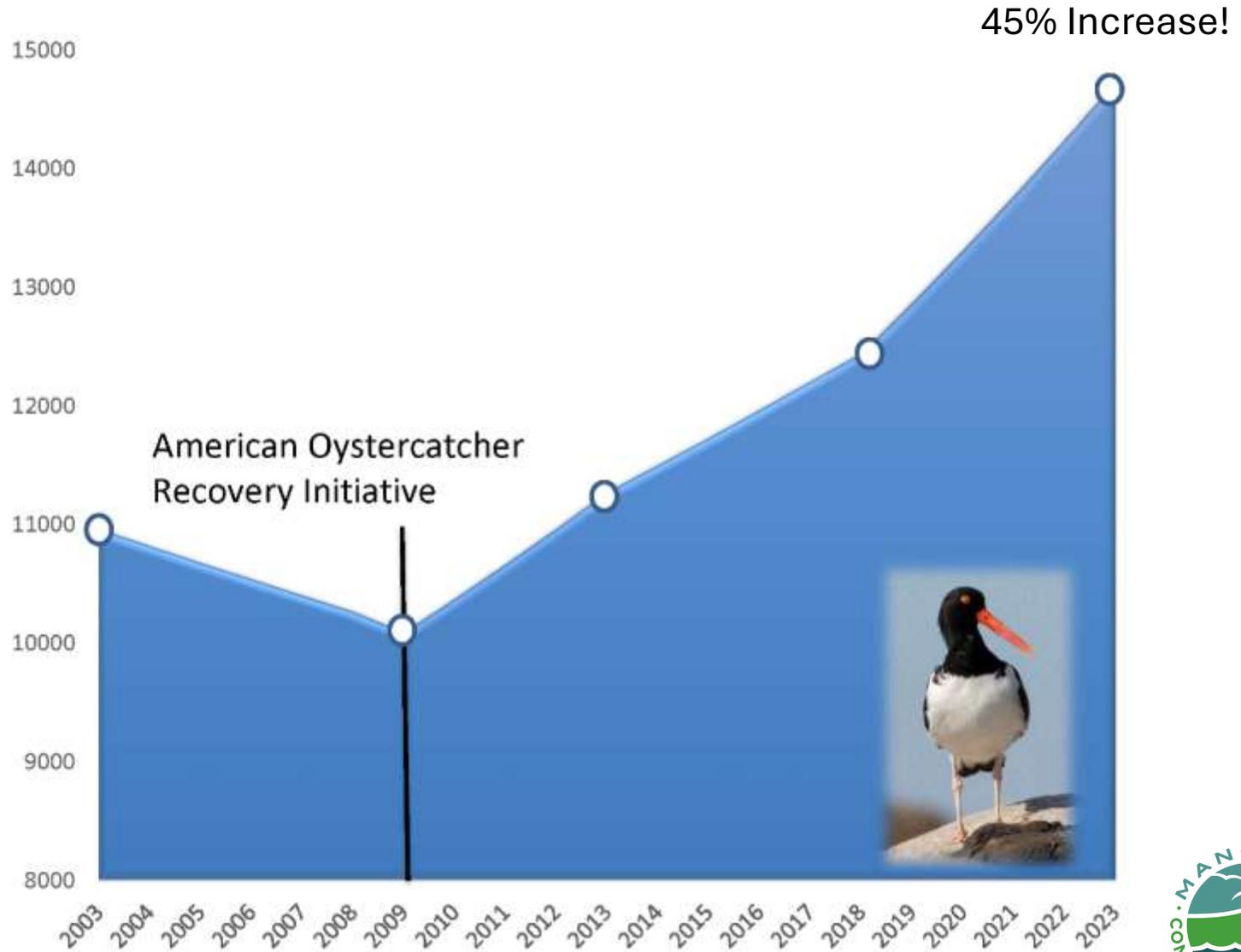
First whimbrel survey expedition to Baía de São Marcos, Brazil, February 2025, partnered with SAVE Brasil



# American Oystercatcher Survey Manuscript

Lead Writing Group:  
Lindsay Addison, Tim Keyes,  
Janell Brush, Jim Lyons,  
Stephen Brown

Shiloh lead author, with all  
participants as coauthors





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