

An aerial photograph of Assateague Island, Virginia, showing a long, narrow beach. A parking lot filled with cars is visible, along with a road and a body of water. The text is overlaid on the image.

Impact of relocating a beach parking lot on nesting and migratory shorebirds at Assateague Island, Virginia

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Field Assistance: Edie Levine-Barnoff, Swati Banerjee, Aylett Lipford, Casey Manera, Camille Alvino, Kevin Holcomb, Nicole Walker, Lydia Hansen, Mario Balitbit
GPS tags: Kate Goodenough, Juliet Lamb, Amber Litterer

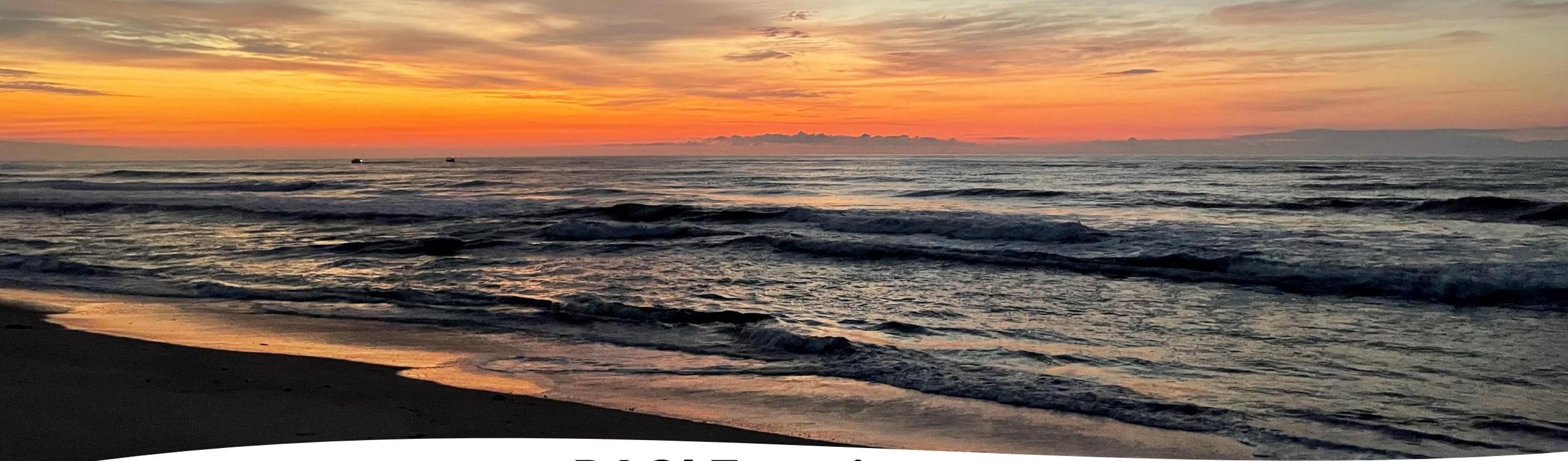












BACI Experiment

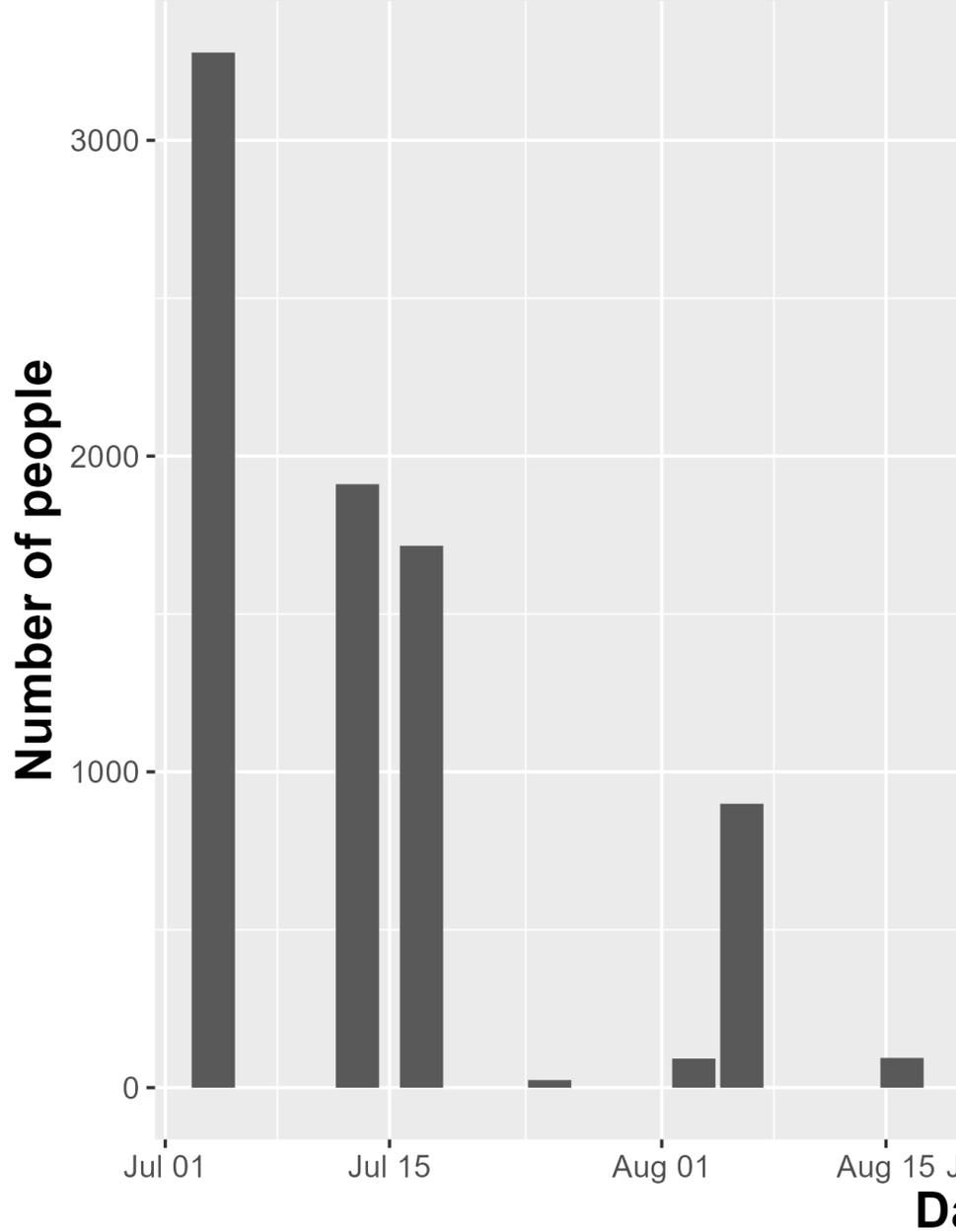
- 1) Migratory shorebird abundance and foraging habitat quality
- 2) Breeding response of American Oystercatchers and Piping Plovers
- 3) Nesting habitat availability and site selection
- 4) Mammalian predator activity and abundance
- 5) Movement ecology and home ranges of American Oystercatchers



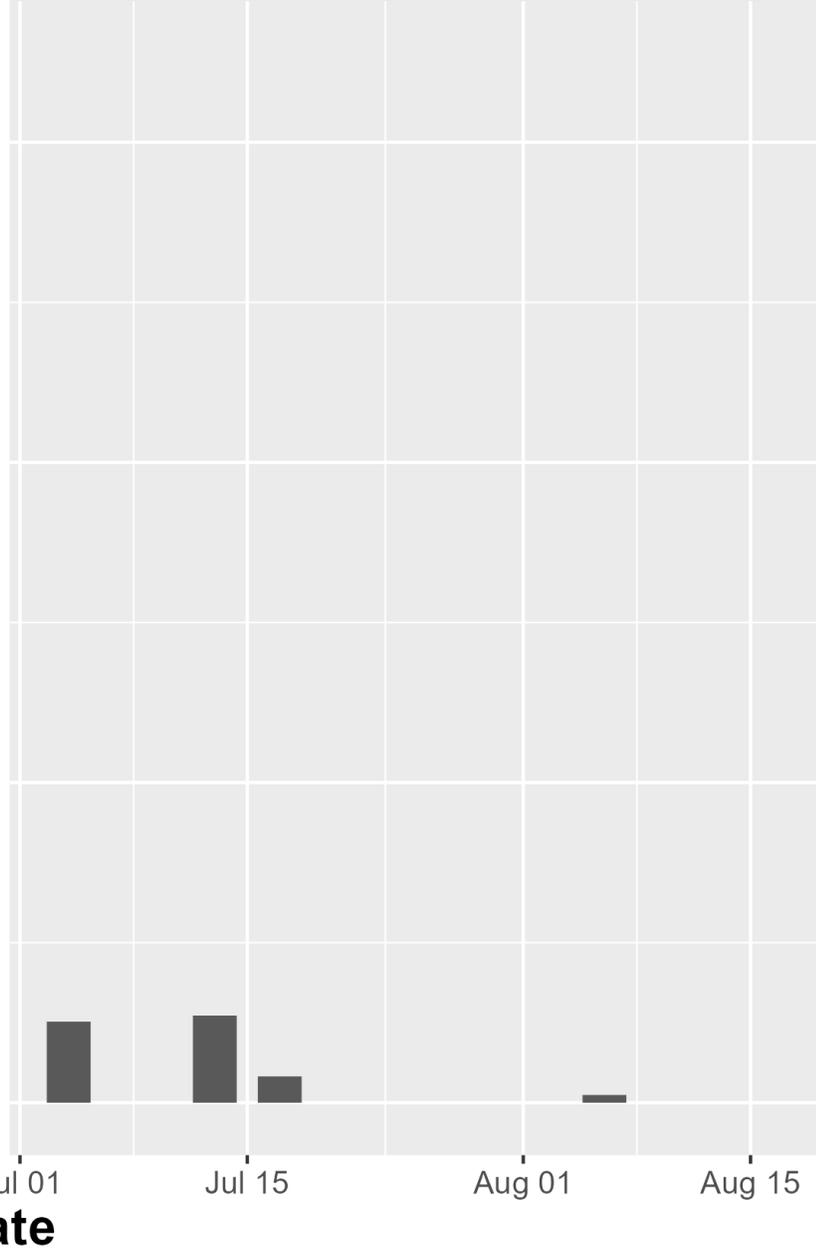
Methods

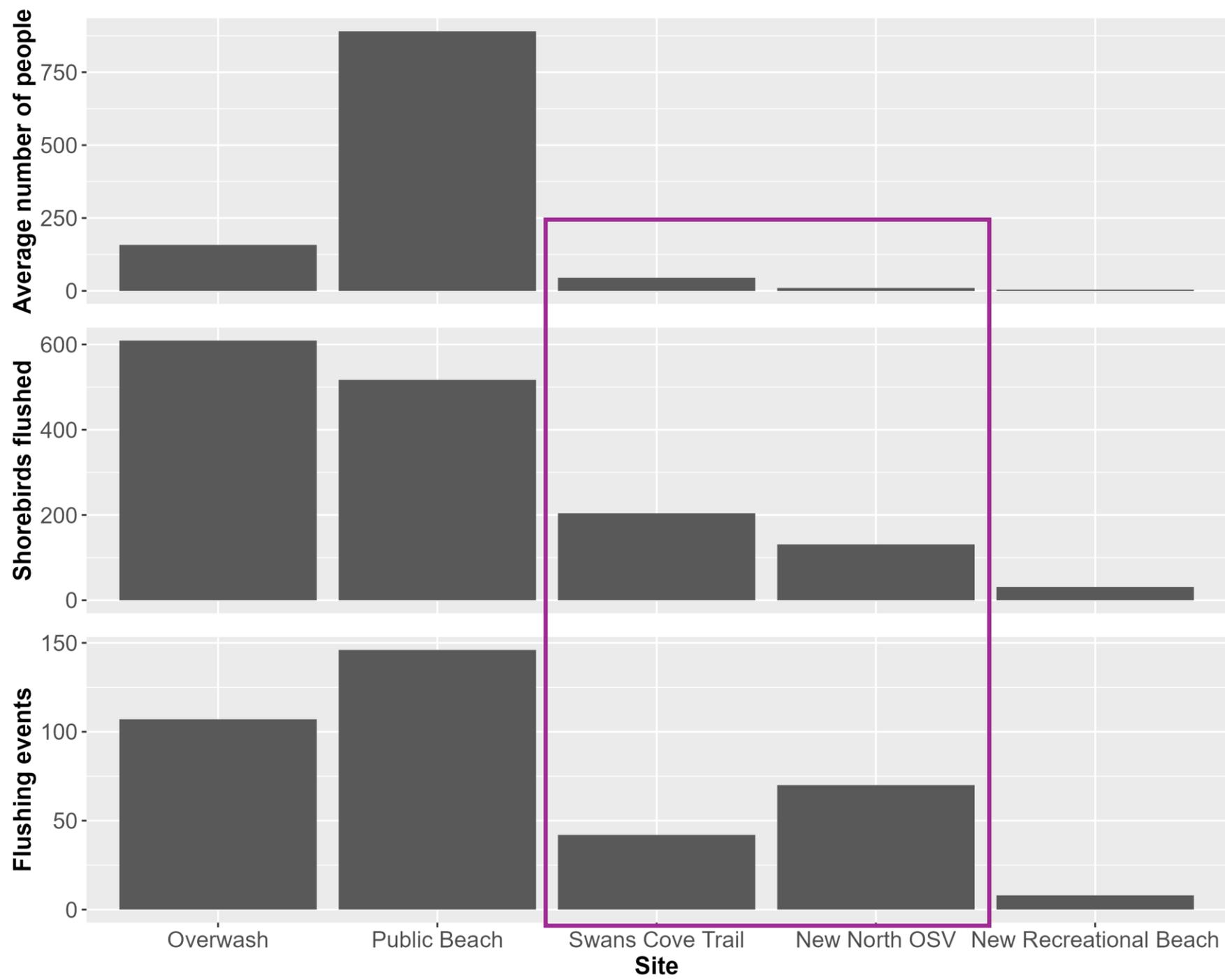


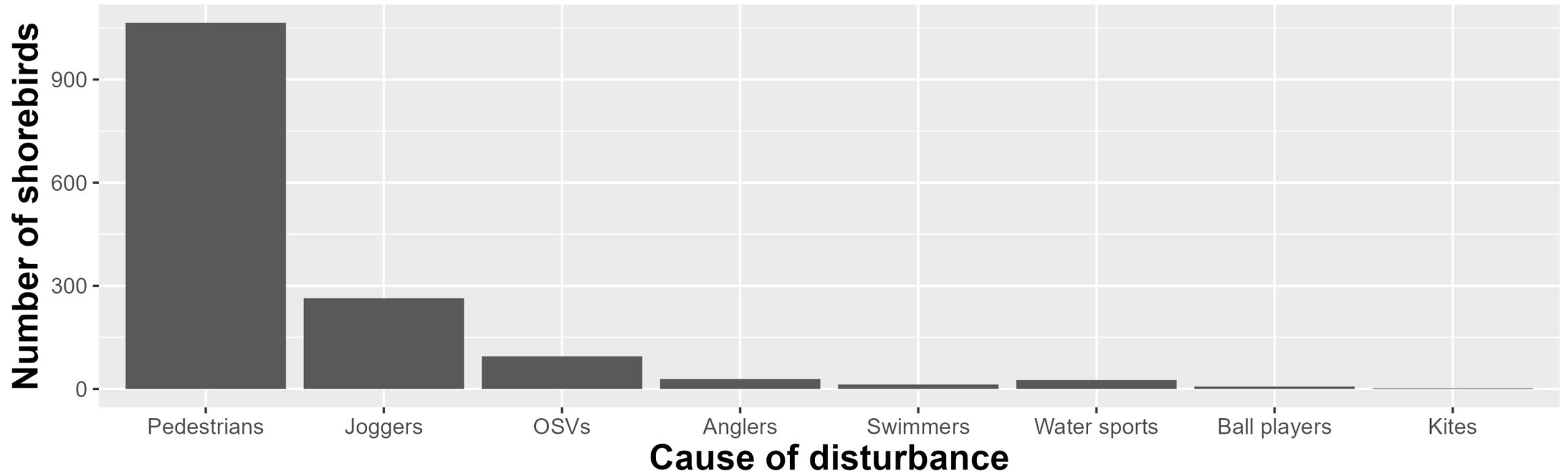
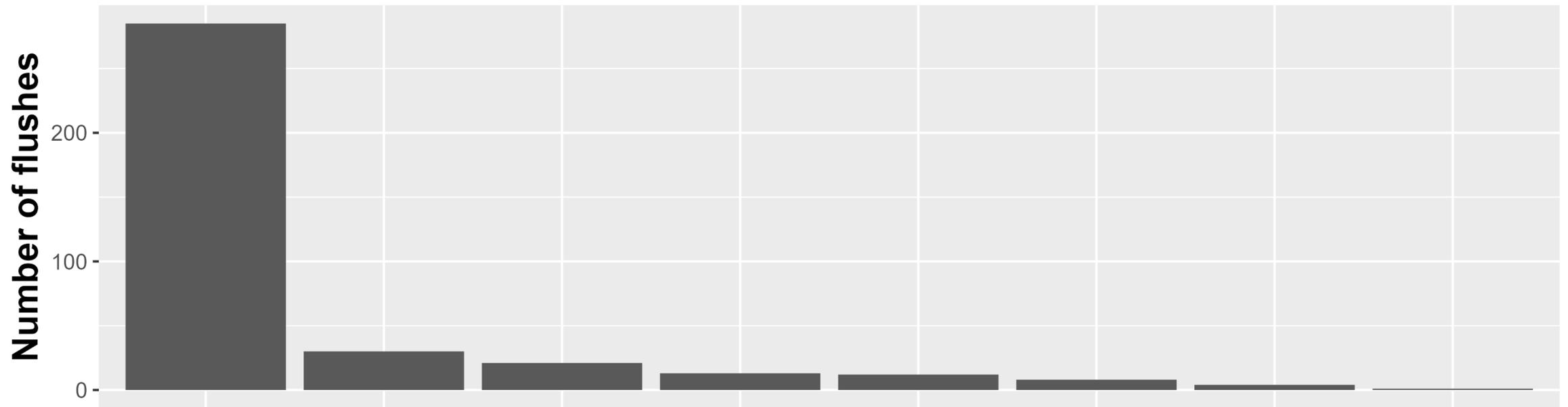
Public Beach



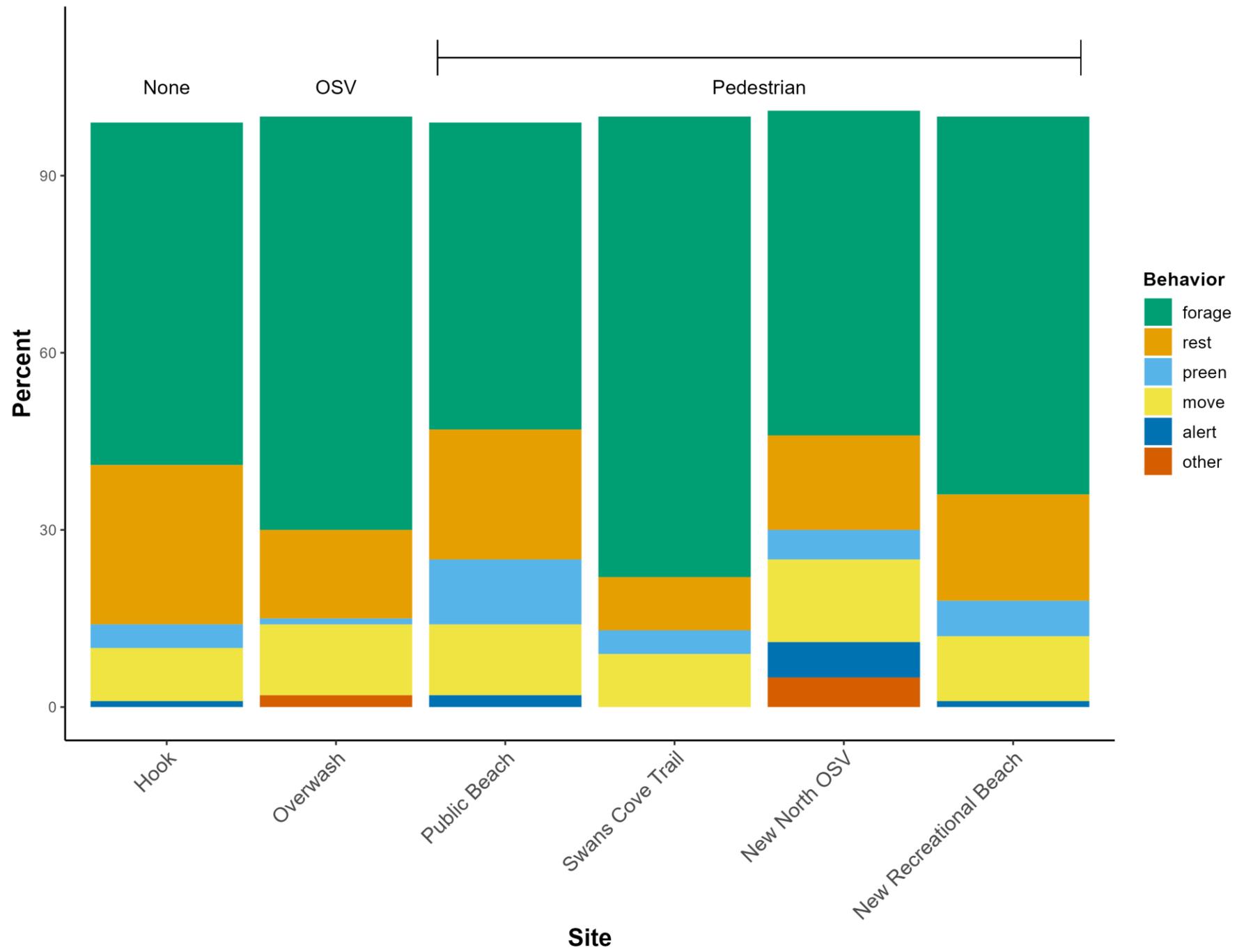
Overwash







Public use





Expected conservation benefits

- Restore 6 km of nesting and foraging habitat
- Quantify and justify the conservation investment of limiting human disturbance on shorebirds
- Expected refuge use of this research
 - a) Justify continuing to limit human disturbance from the former recreational beach
 - b) Evaluate a further nesting habitat manipulation is required

THANKS!

