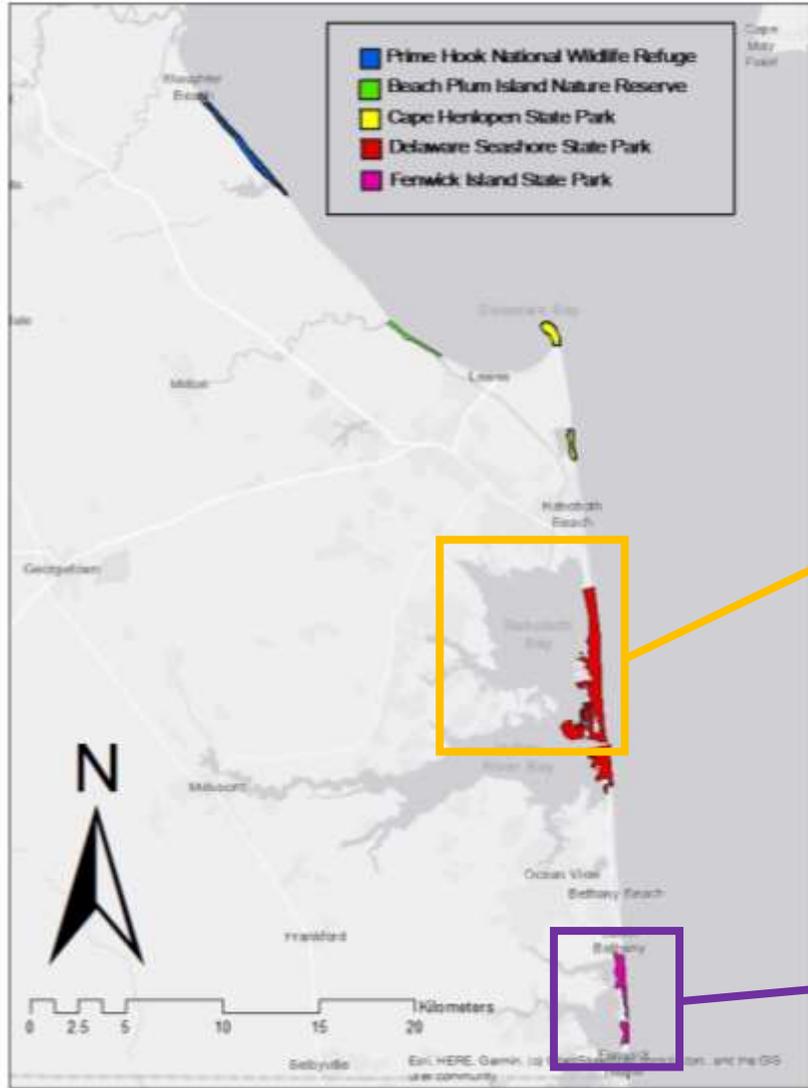


A photograph of two American Oystercatchers standing in a marshy area with tall green grasses and water. The birds have dark bodies and bright red bills. The background is a dense field of green grasses.

Delaware American Oystercatcher Season Summary

Katherine Christie, Coastal Waterbird Biologist
Delaware DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife

Survey Locations



★ Produced fledglings 2025

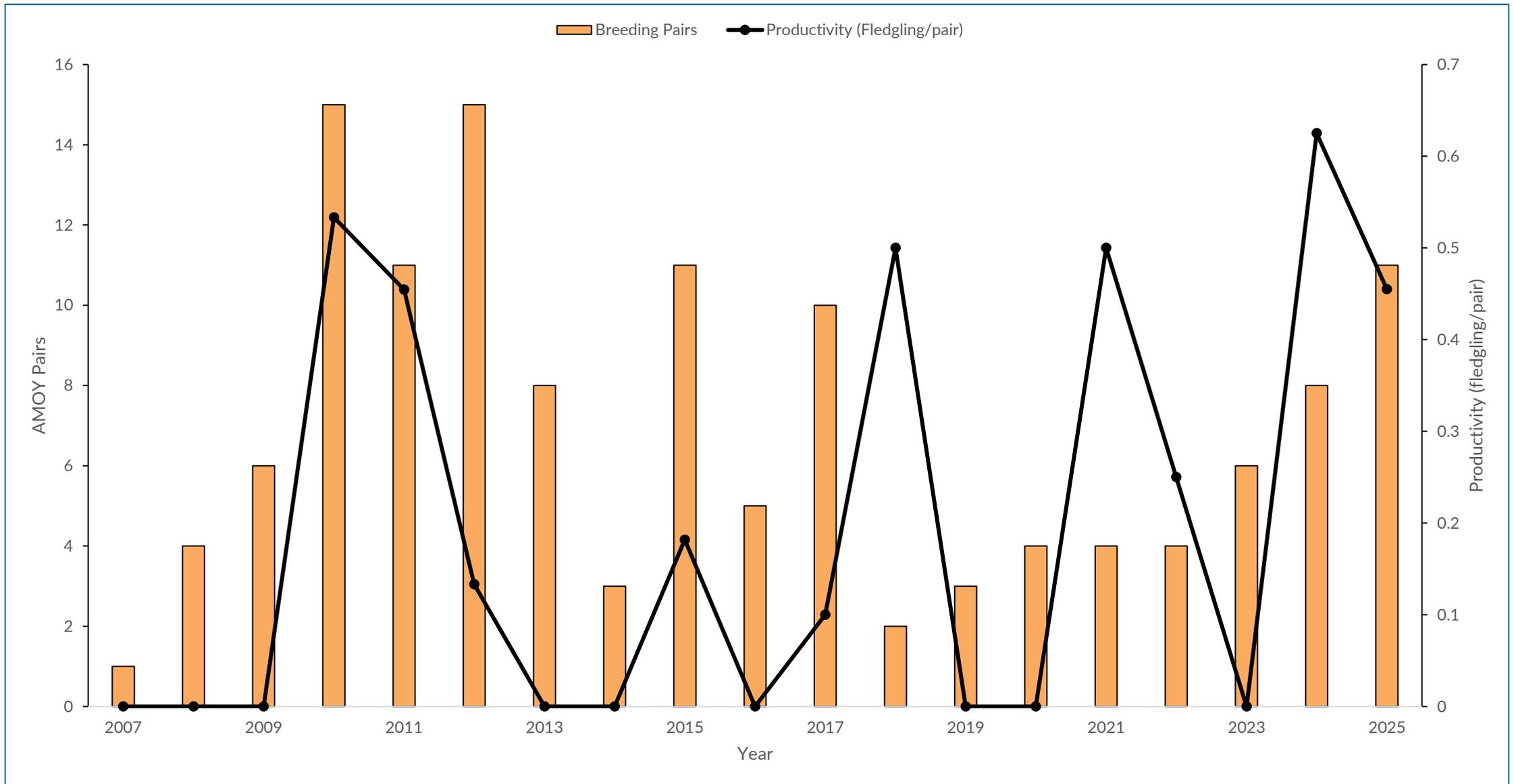


2025 Season Summary

- Another year with marsh fledglings!
- Multiple nest and chick failures on beaches from site-loyal pairs
- Higher success in marsh, numbers presented are a minimum



	Breeding Pairs	Chicks	Fledglings	Productivity
Beaches	5	4	0	0
Inland Bays	6	5	5	0.833
Total	11	9	5	0.455



Banding Program

- Reinstated banding in Delaware, with Green 'F' triangle bands (FAA-FAN)
- Adult capture using noose carpets (thanks Kashi and Emily!)
 - Adding bow net 2026
- Chick hand/net capture
- Several adult recaptures, two re-banded due to worn metal bands



Demographic	Total
Adults	7
Chicks (Fledged)	3 (3)



Looking Forward

- More adults to band!
- Continuing to expand pair monitoring coverage, increased frequency of nest checks in marsh?
- Habitat work replicating small beaches on Inland Bay marsh island edges...

Thanks!

Kat Christie (Katherine.christie@delaware.gov)