



Between Eggs and Chicks: A Weekly Marathon Following Oystercatchers

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← 1,800 mi



*Mataquito - Huenchullami
WHSRN Site*

This coastal wetland covers
about 846 hectares
a vital habitat for many species

The Site is home to several threatened species



American Oystercatcher

American Oystercatcher

(Haematopus palliatus)

- Subspecies in Chile: *pitanay*
- Resident status: Year-round resident in Chile
- Conservation status: Near Threatened (national level)
- Distribution: Present throughout the country



©Dorian Anderson

B e h a v i o r



Wintering flock

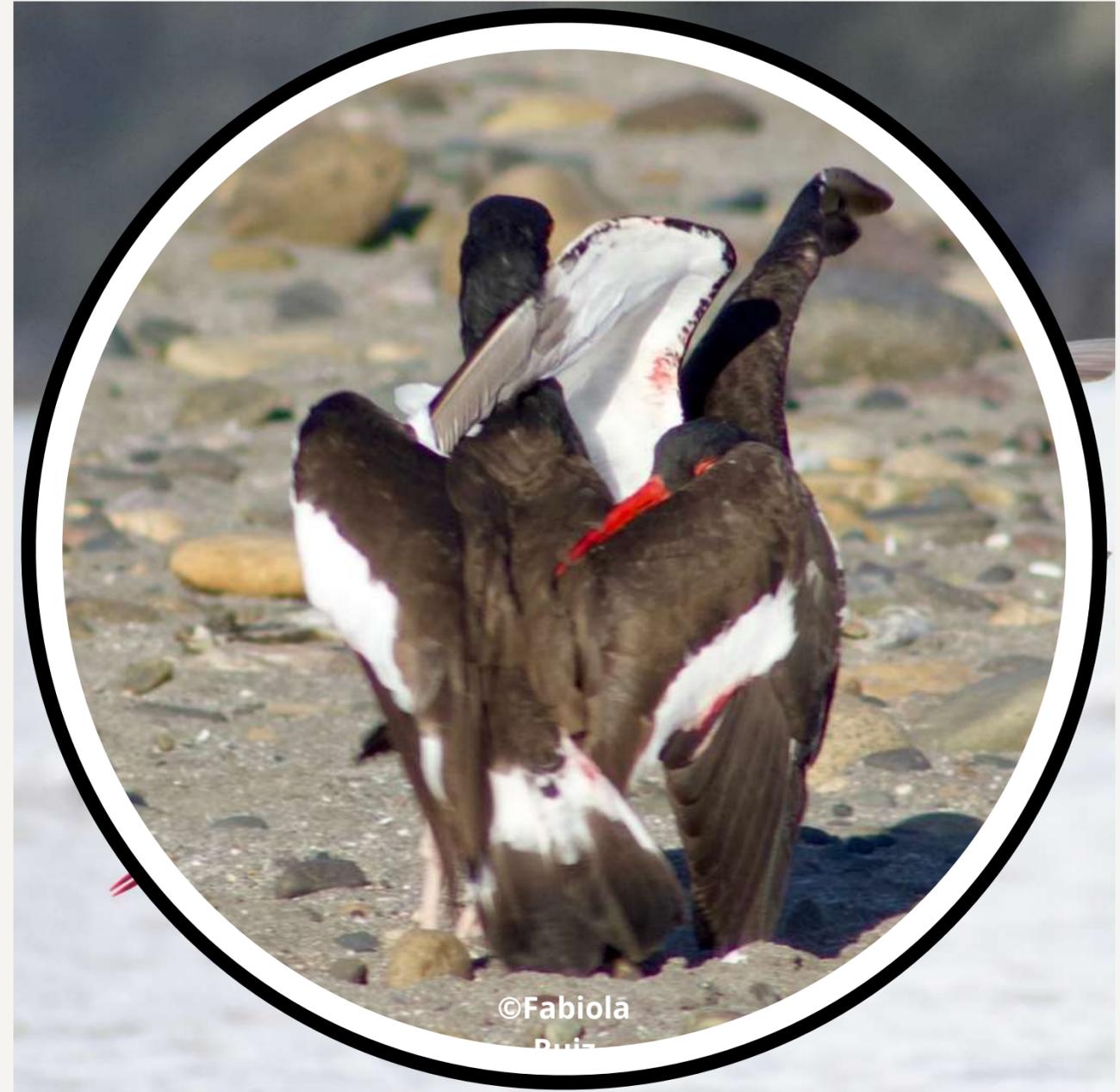


*Pair during the
breeding season*

B e h a v i o r



Wintering flock



*Pair during the
breeding season*

BREDDING SEASON

JUL	AGO	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	JUN
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*Pairs formation
and
Territorial behavior*



BREDDING SEASON

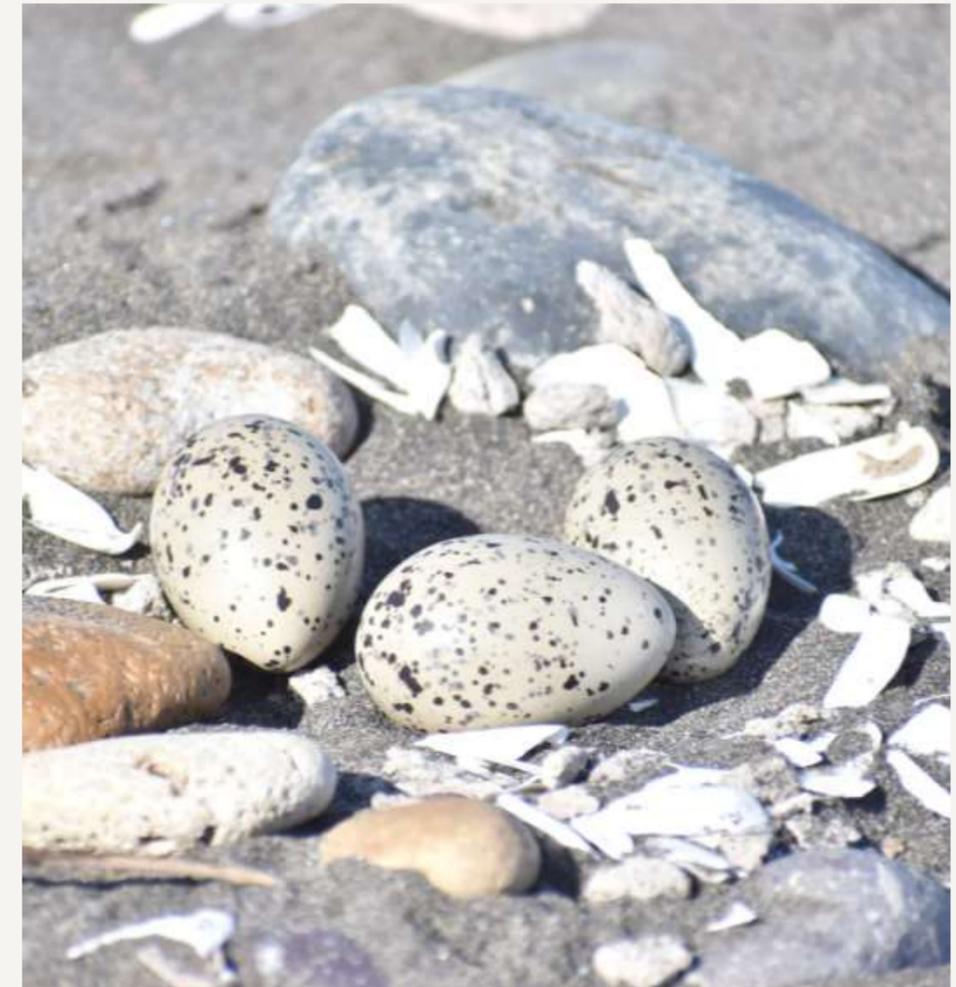
JUL	AGO	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	JUN
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Nests

1-5 eggs

On the sand or
vegetation



BREDDING SEASON

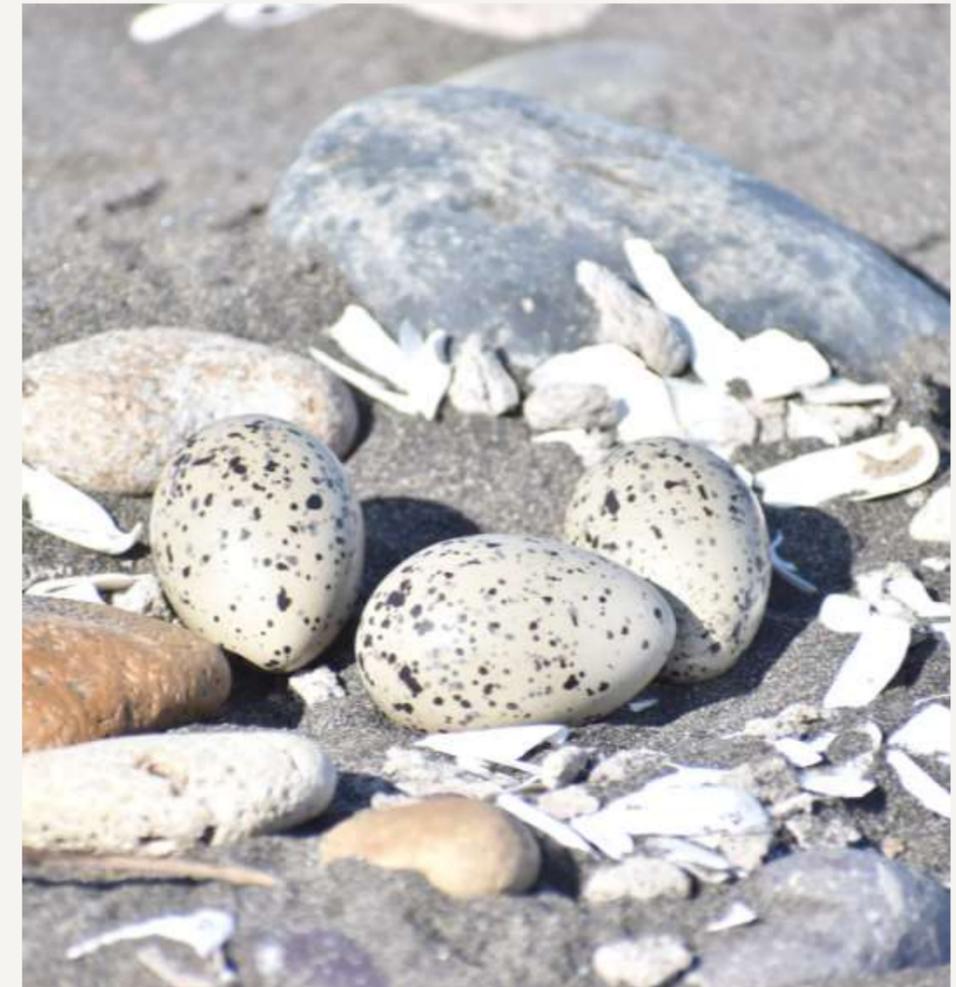
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Nests

1-5 eggs

On the sand or
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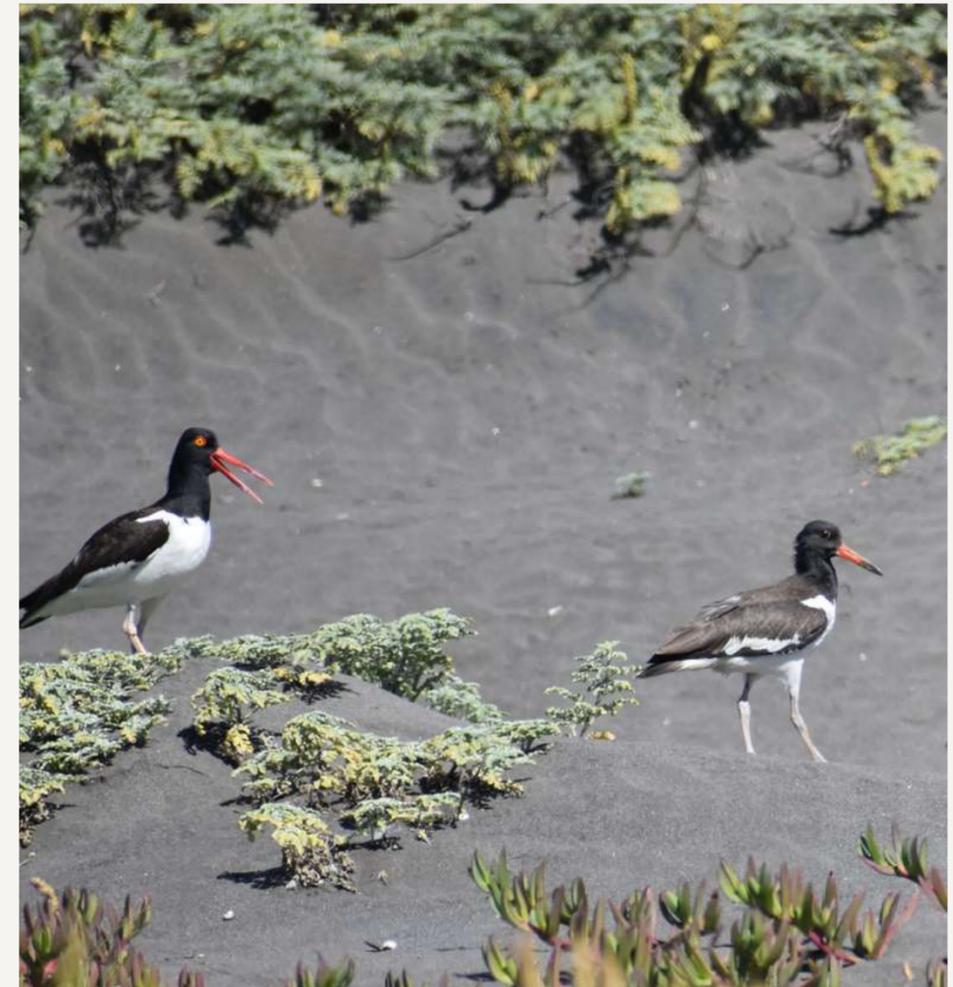


BREDDING SEASON

JUL	AGO	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	JUN
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Chicks
and
Fledglings

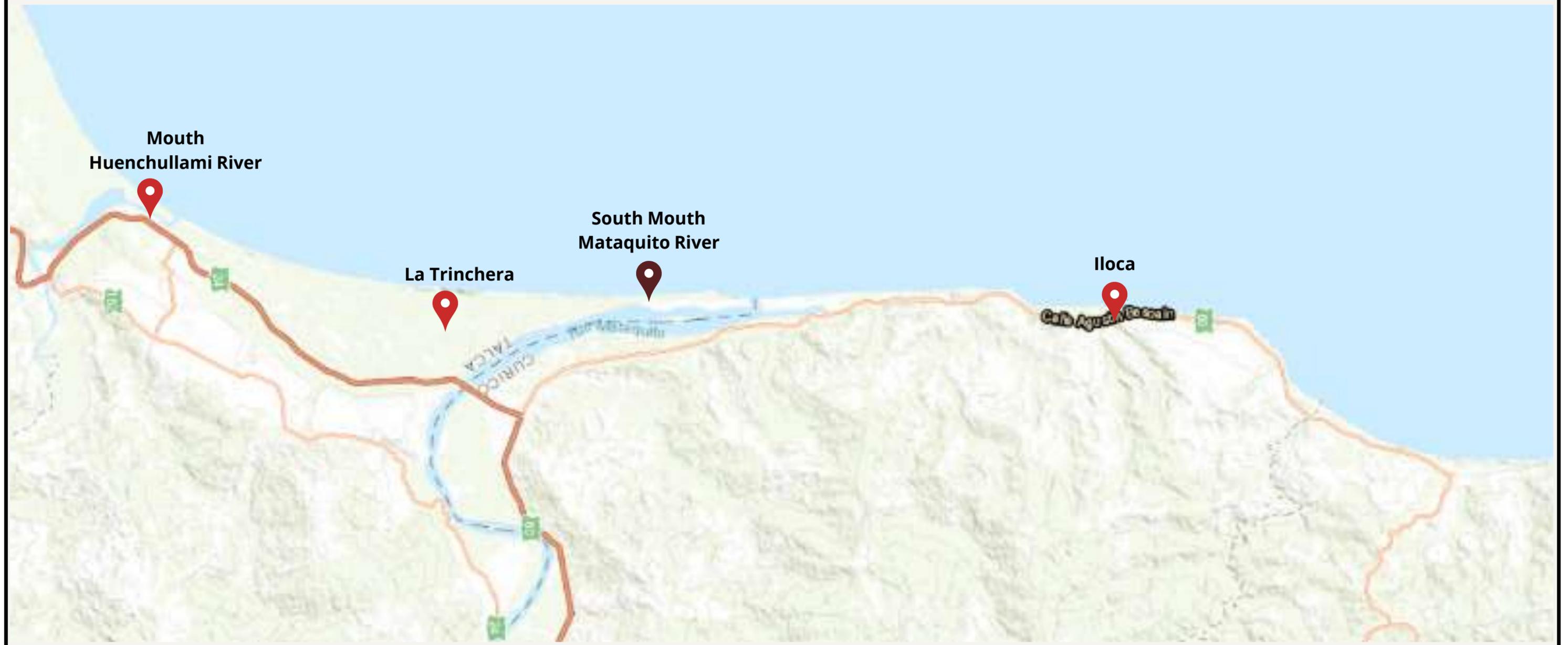




monitoring

BREDDING SEASON

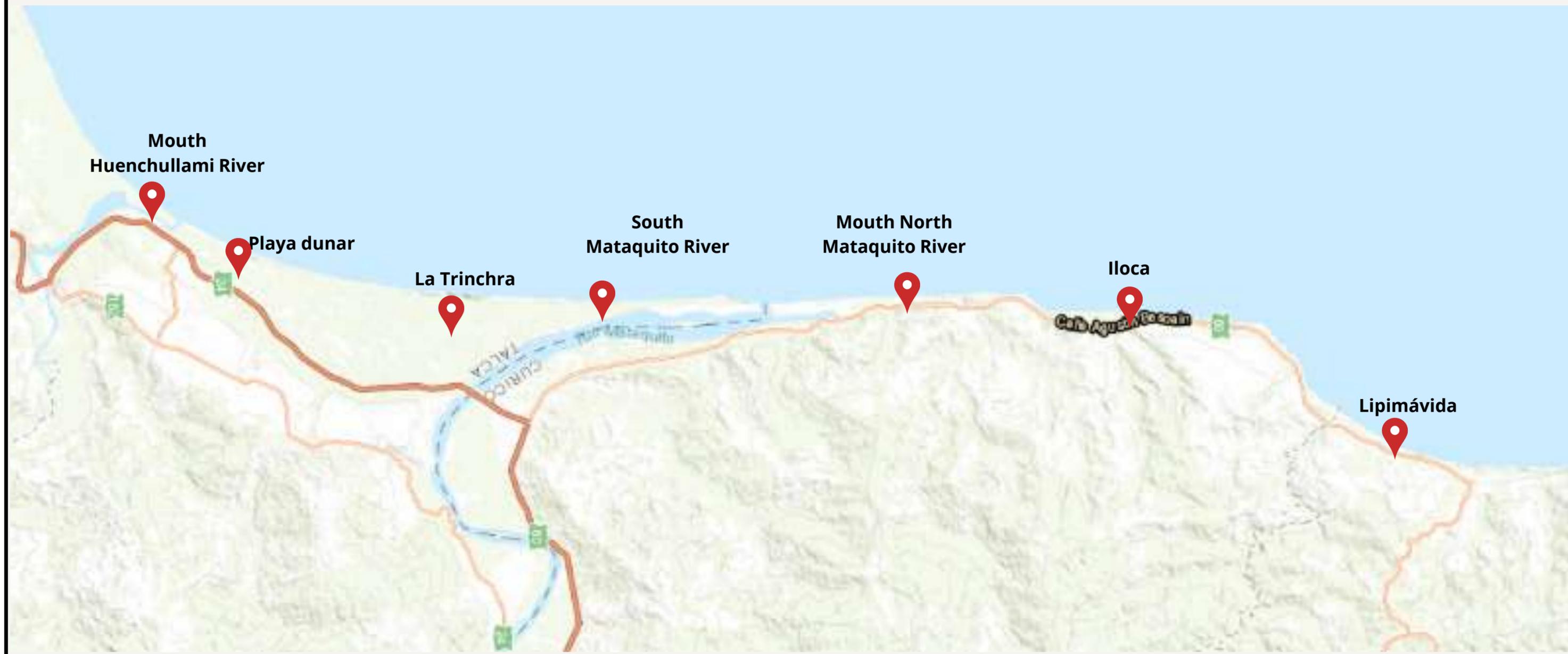
Study area: First season



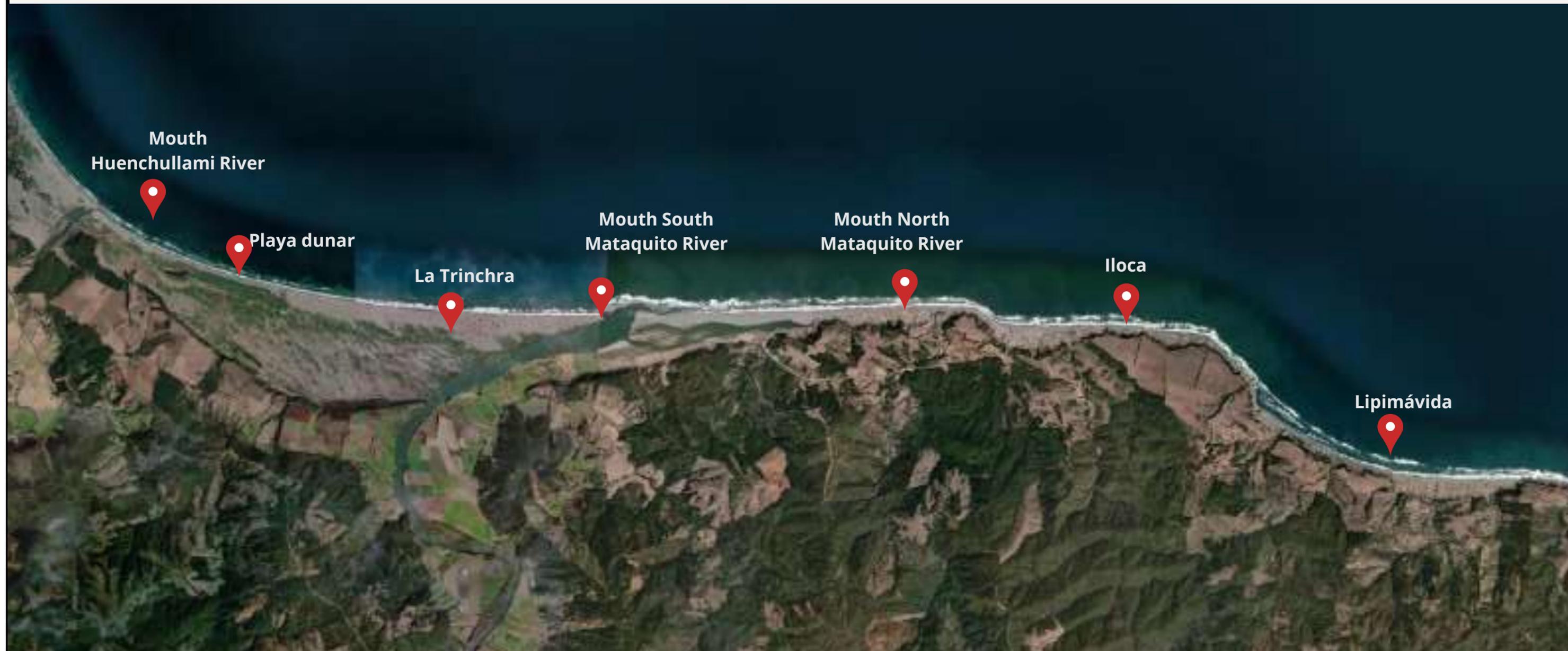
Study area: Second season



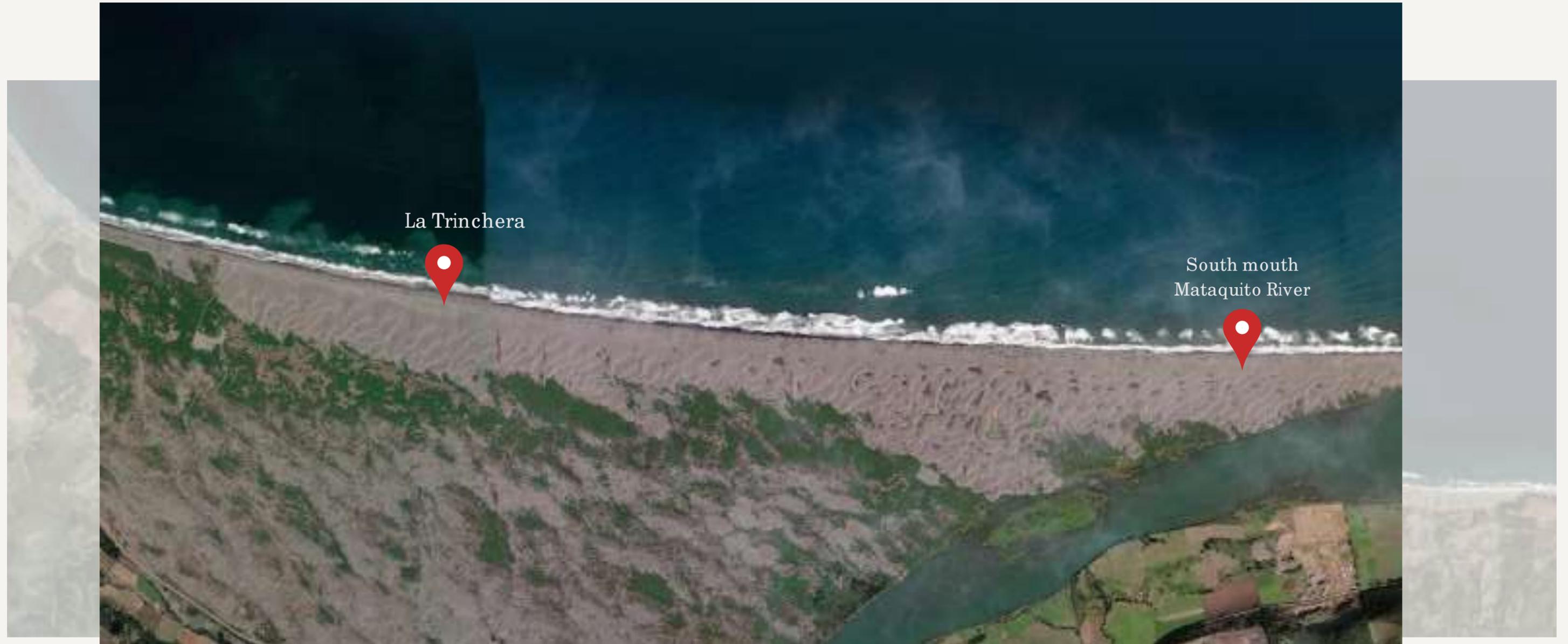
Study area: Last season



Study area: Last season



*Site with no apparent
anthropogenic threats or infrastructure*



La Trinchera

South mouth
Mataquito River

*Site exposed to human
disturbance and coastal development*



Why a weekly marathon?

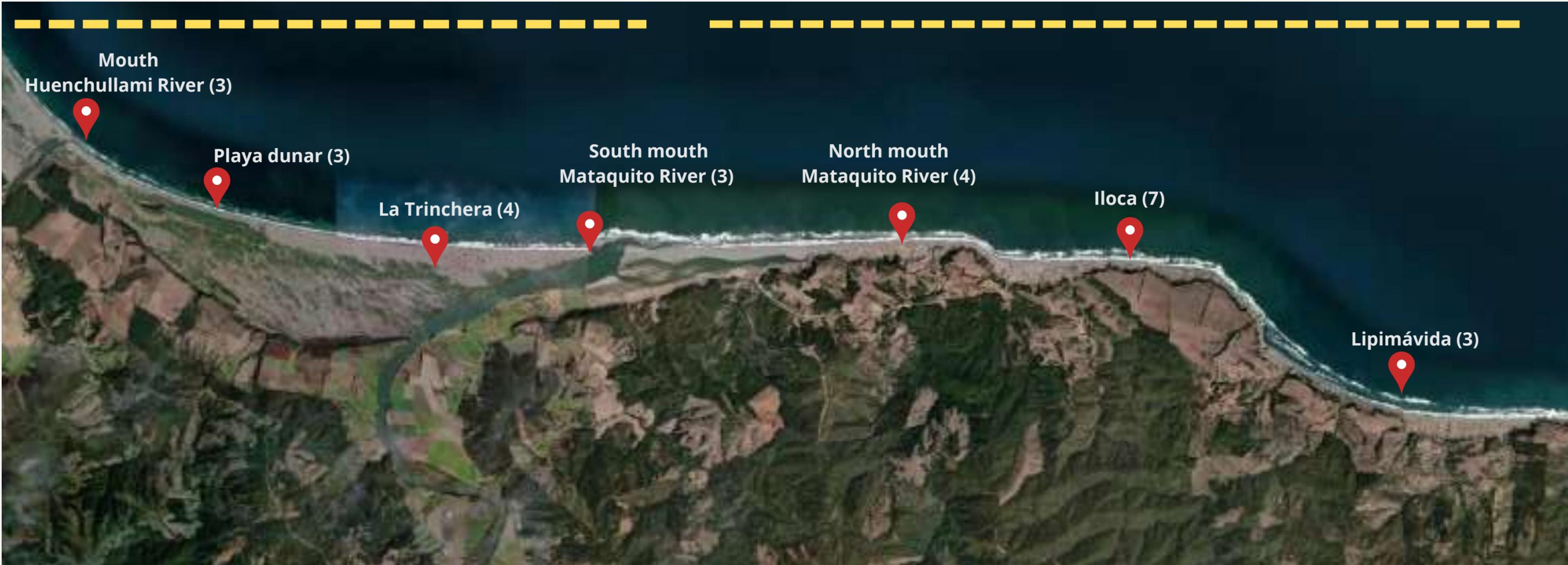


Why a weekly marathon?

I walk two half-marathons per week

Northern route

Southern route



Why a weekly marathon?

1

To make the most of each field day



Why a weekly marathon?

1

To make the most of each field day



2

To make the most of each field day



Why a weekly marathon?

1

To make the most of each field day



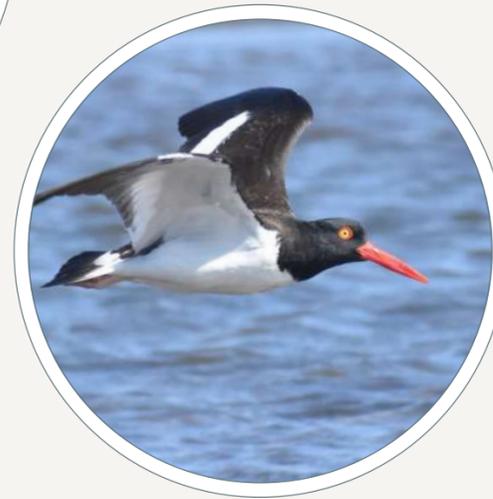
2

To make the most of each field day



3

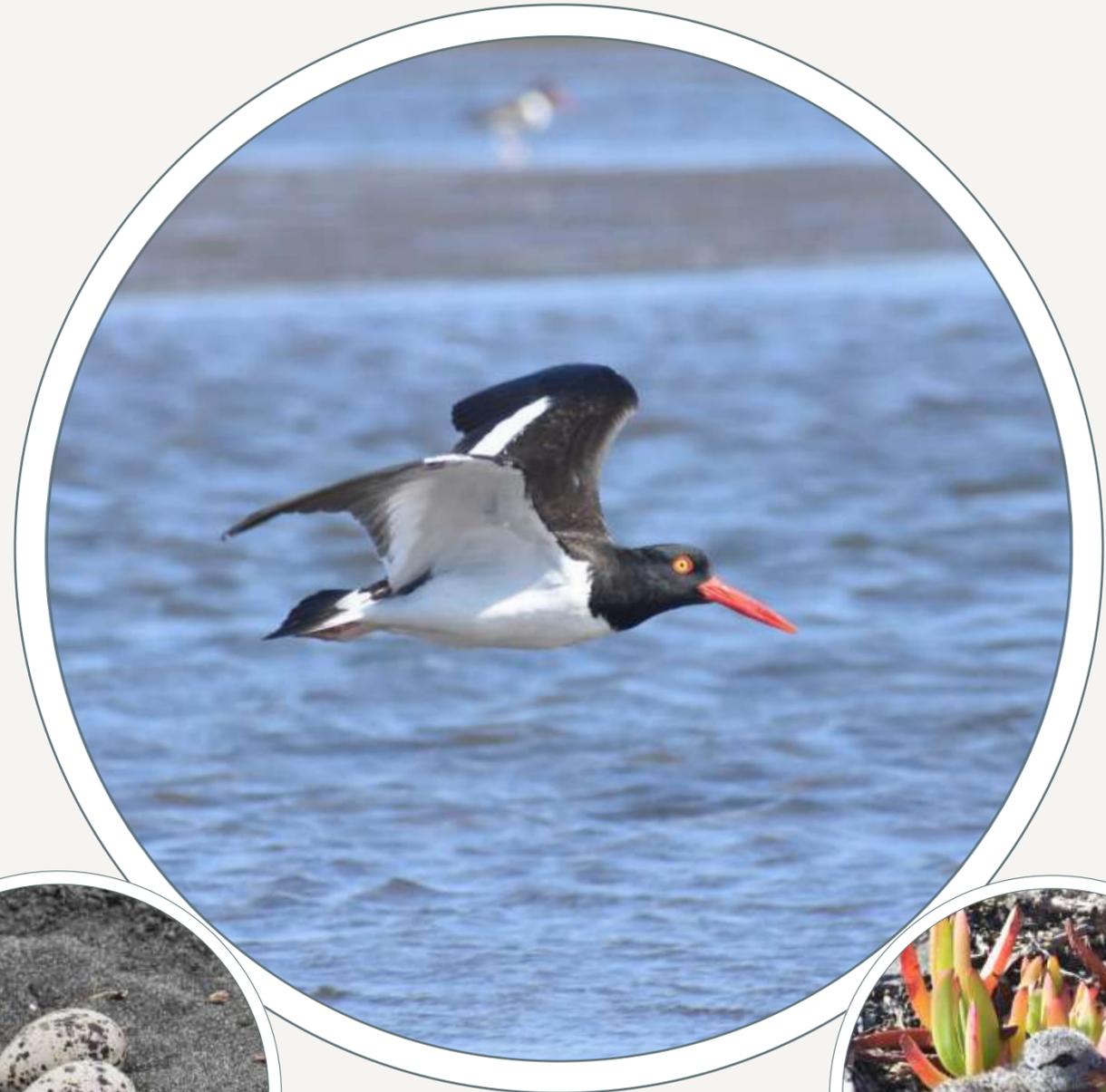
Because I truly love this bird



Methodology

For each transect, the following data were recorded:

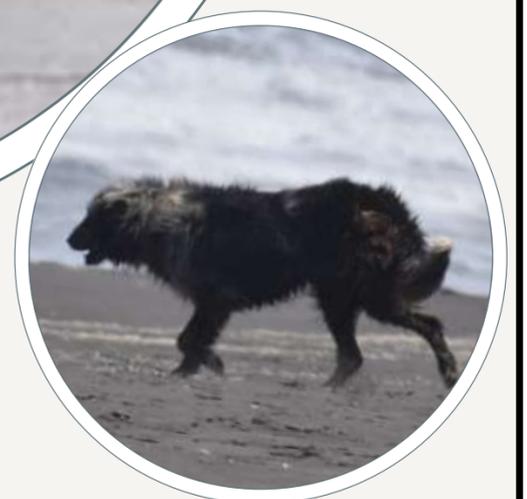
- Number of adults (in pairs, alone, and in flocks)
- GPS location of each nest
- Number of eggs
- Number of chicks
- Number of fledglings



Threat assessment methodology

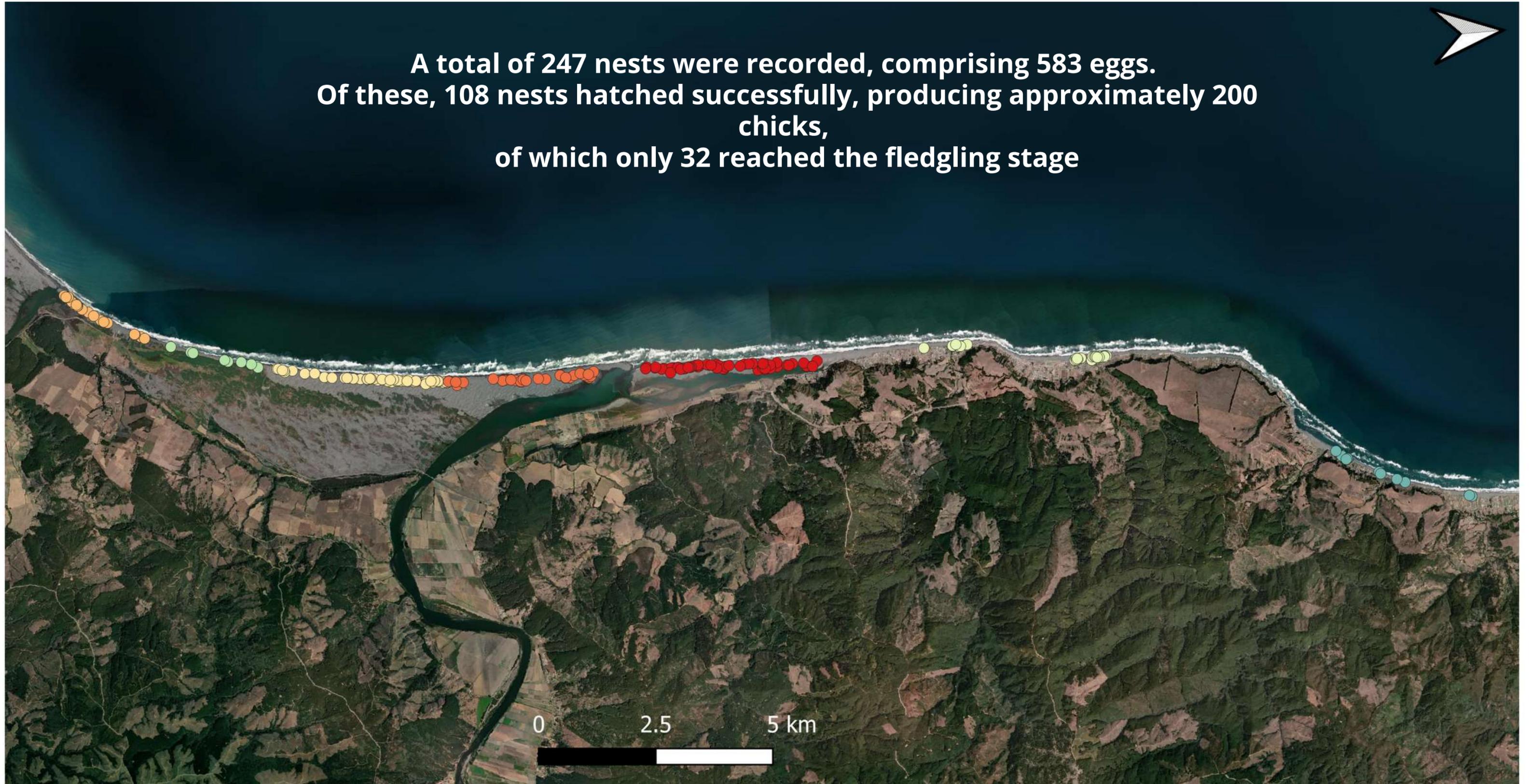
Threat assessment:

- Direct evidence recorded in the field
- Counts of people, dogs, and vehicles per beach
- Used as indicators of human disturbance



Results

A total of 247 nests were recorded, comprising 583 eggs.
Of these, 108 nests hatched successfully, producing approximately 200
chicks,
of which only 32 reached the fledgling stage



Results



	Huenchullamí	Playa dunar	Playa La Trinchera	Desembocadura sur	Desembocadura norte	Iloca	Vichuquén	Total
Nest	23	10	61	37	68	33	15	247
Eggs	60	21	156	83	157	72	34	583
Hatched nests	8	4	26	15	40	11	4	108
Chicks	14	10	60	18	70	17	11	200
Fledglings	4	0	4	4	7	5	8	32

Results



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Threats



Climate extremes



Human disturbance



Natural predators



High tides

And...

Threats



Climate extremes

Human disturbance



Natural predators



High tides



Dogs

Anthropogenic threats



Vehicles on the beach



Human disturbance

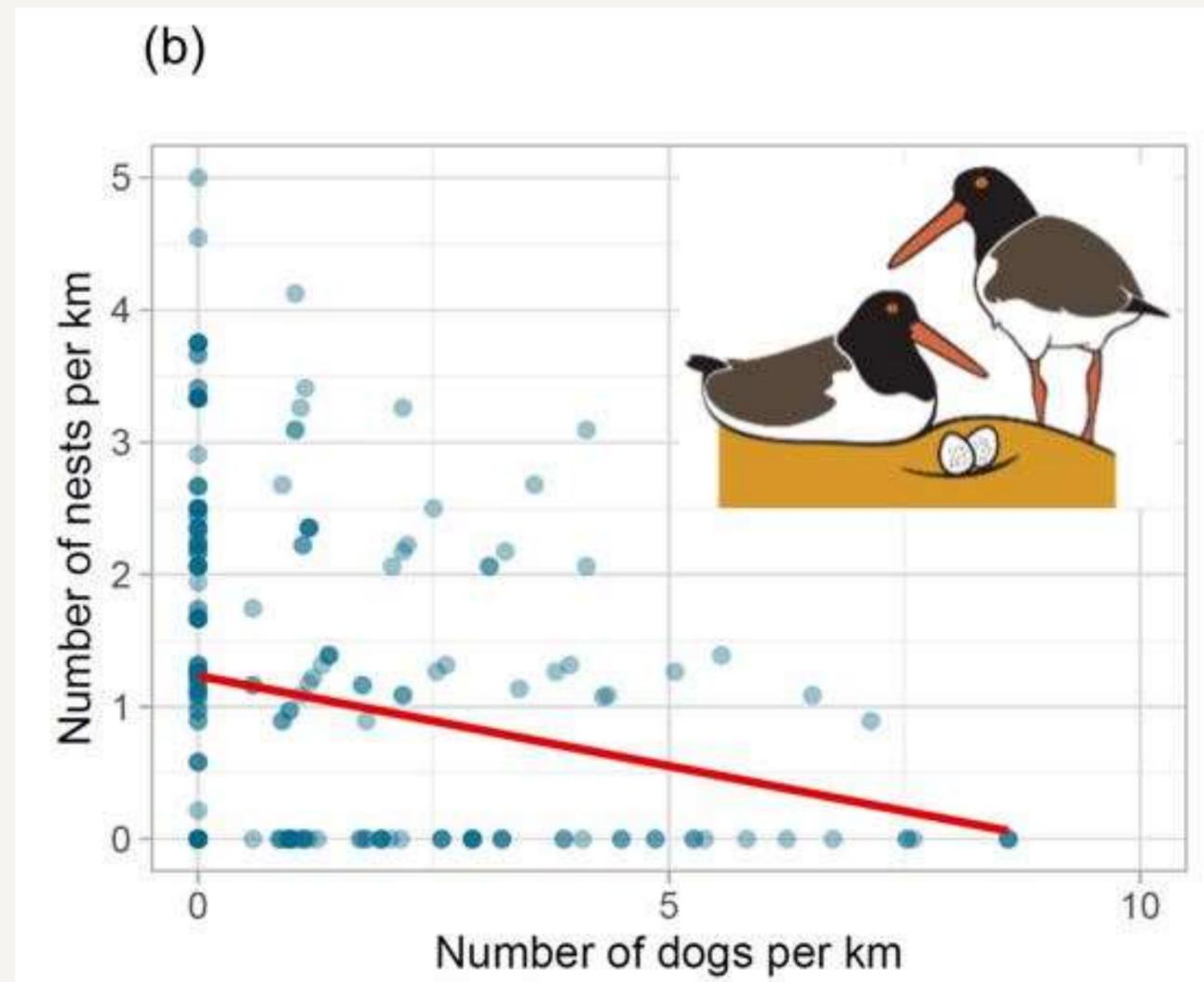
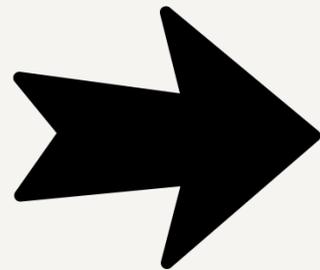


Dogs

Anthropogenic threats

Dogs density drives the reproductive effort of American Oystercatchers (*Haematopus palliatus*) in disturbed habitats of the Maule Region, central Chile

Díaz et al., in review



Camera traps



Camera traps

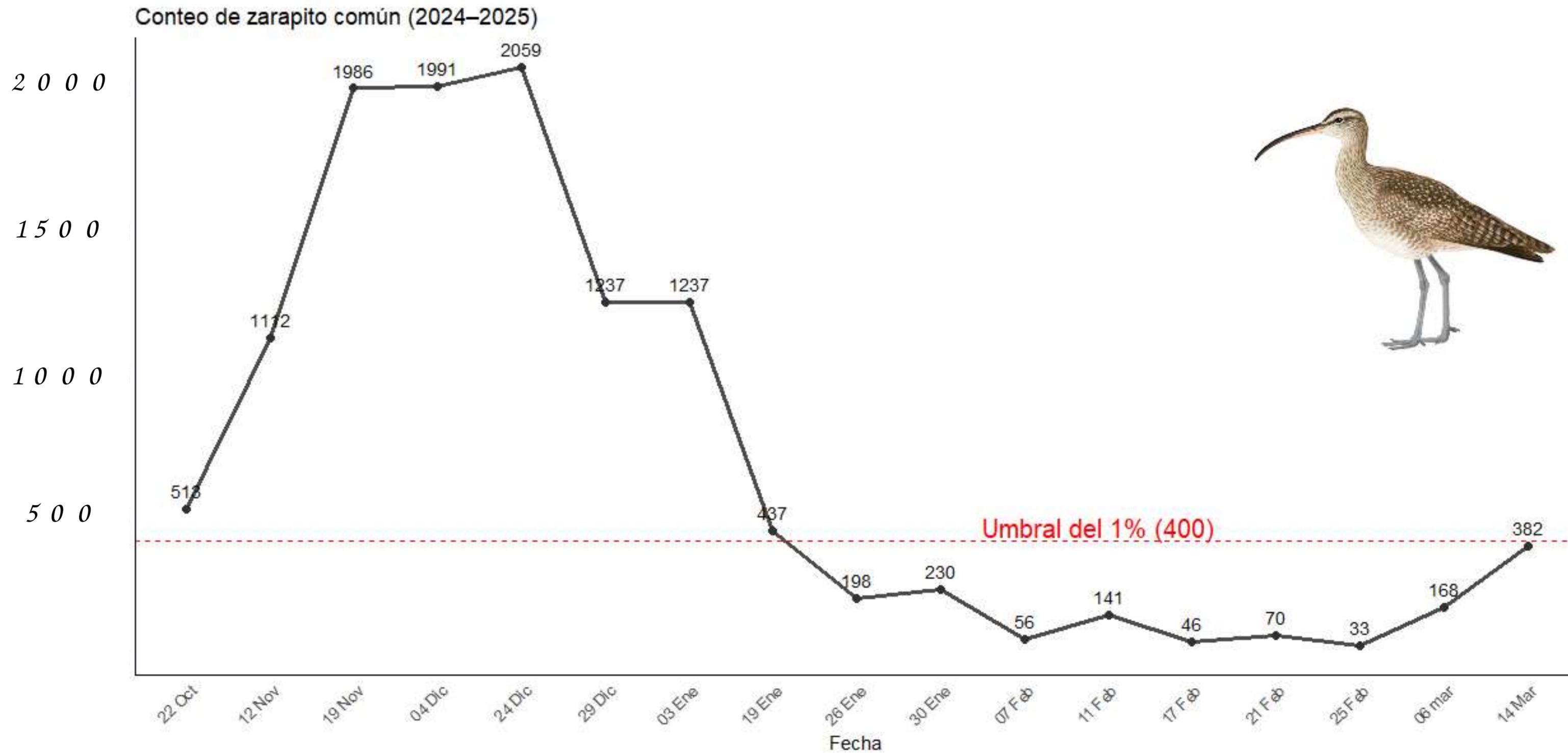




monitoring

NON-BREDDING SEASON

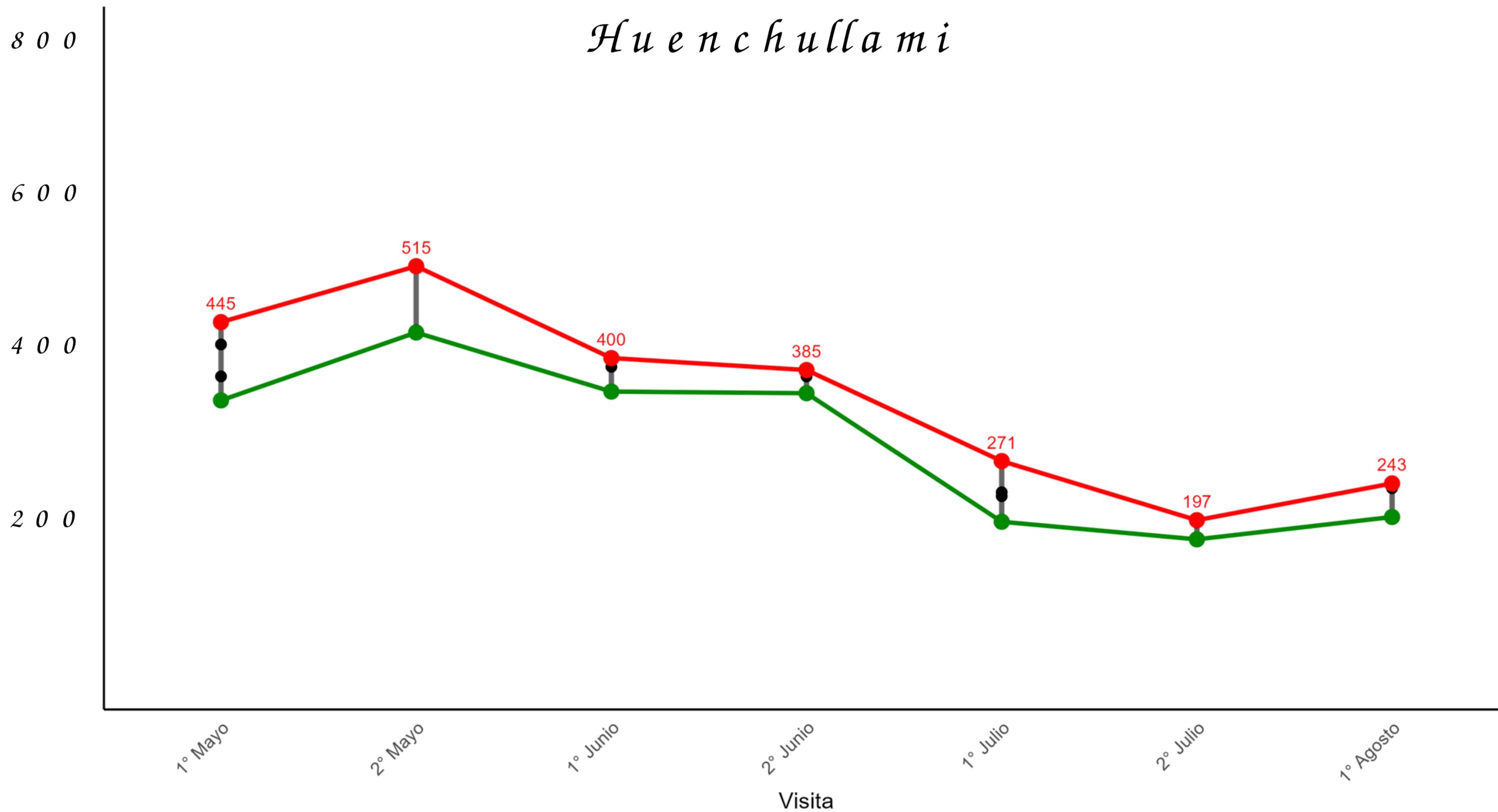
Whimbrels



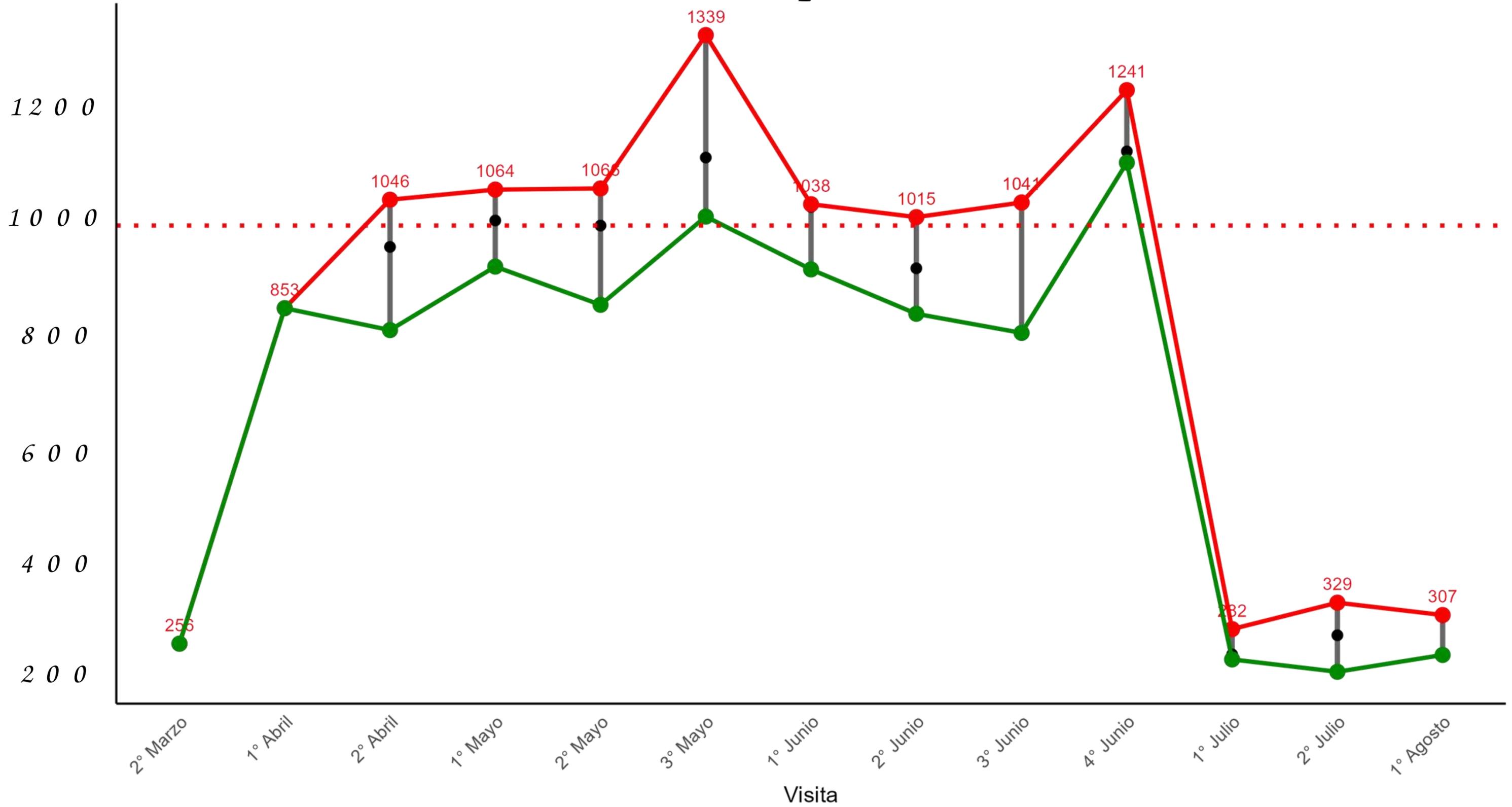
Non breeding season



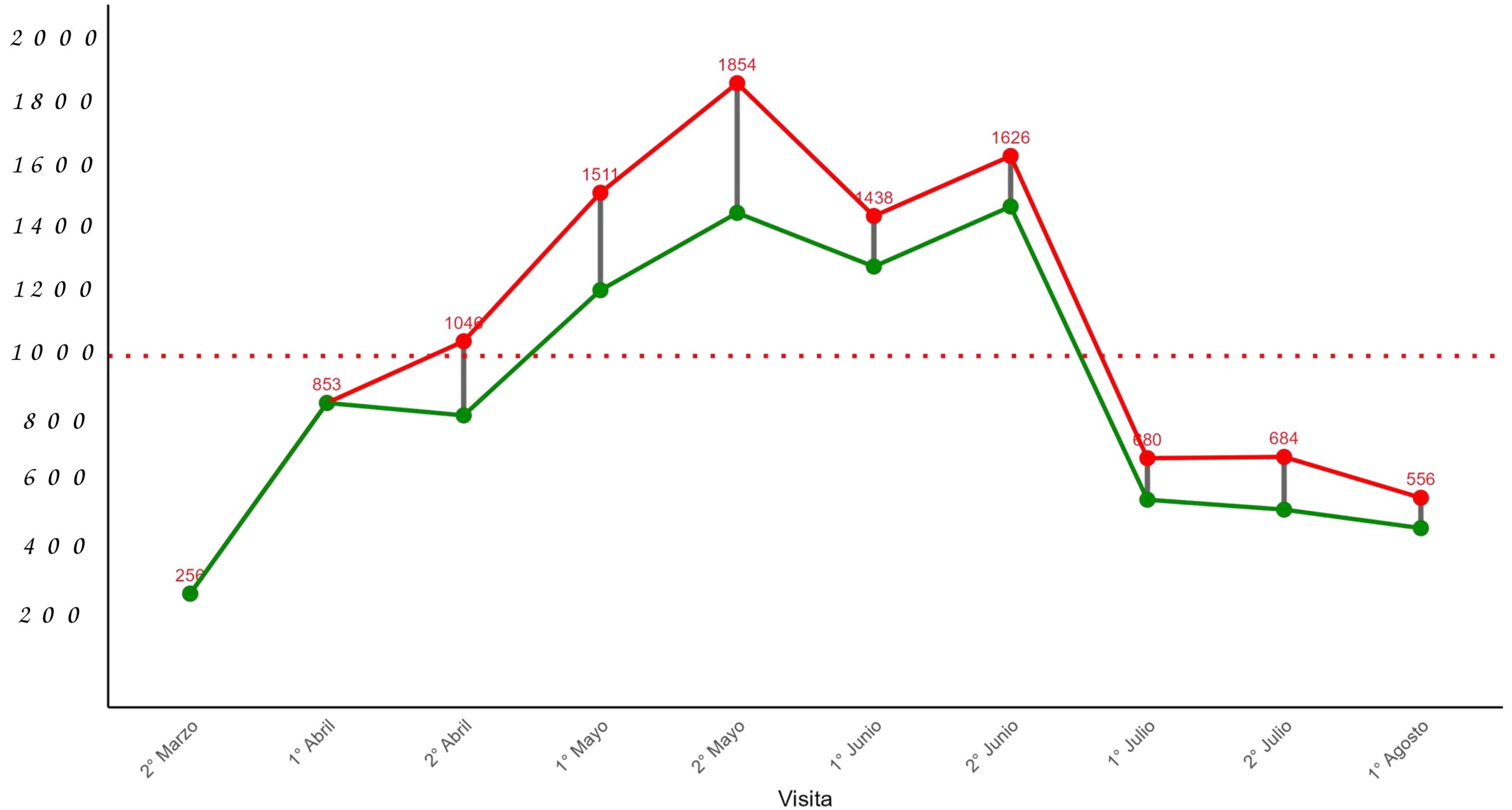
Huencullami



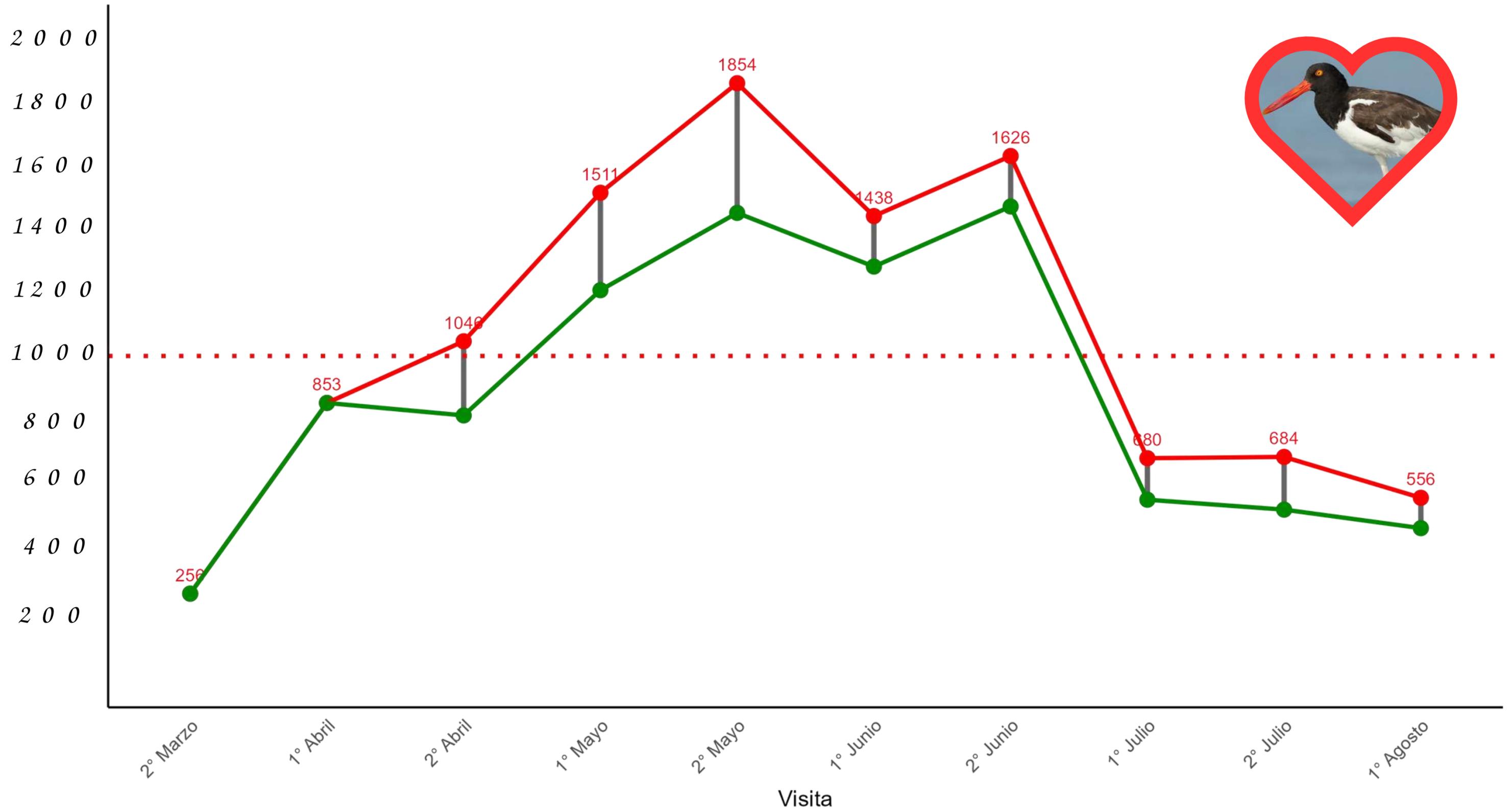
Mataquito



Huencullami + Mataquito



Huencullami + Mataquito



*Each student wrote at least one word that
came to mind when they saw the photo*



Lowbreddingsuccess

Bird

Beach

After the presentation

Shorebird

Pilpilen



Why protect the American Oystercatcher?

- It is part of the coastal ecosystem
- It is a bioindicator of the health of our beaches
- It is threatened by human activities
- It is part of the coastal landscape and culture
- Because it is really beautiful



©Vincent
Iadevaia

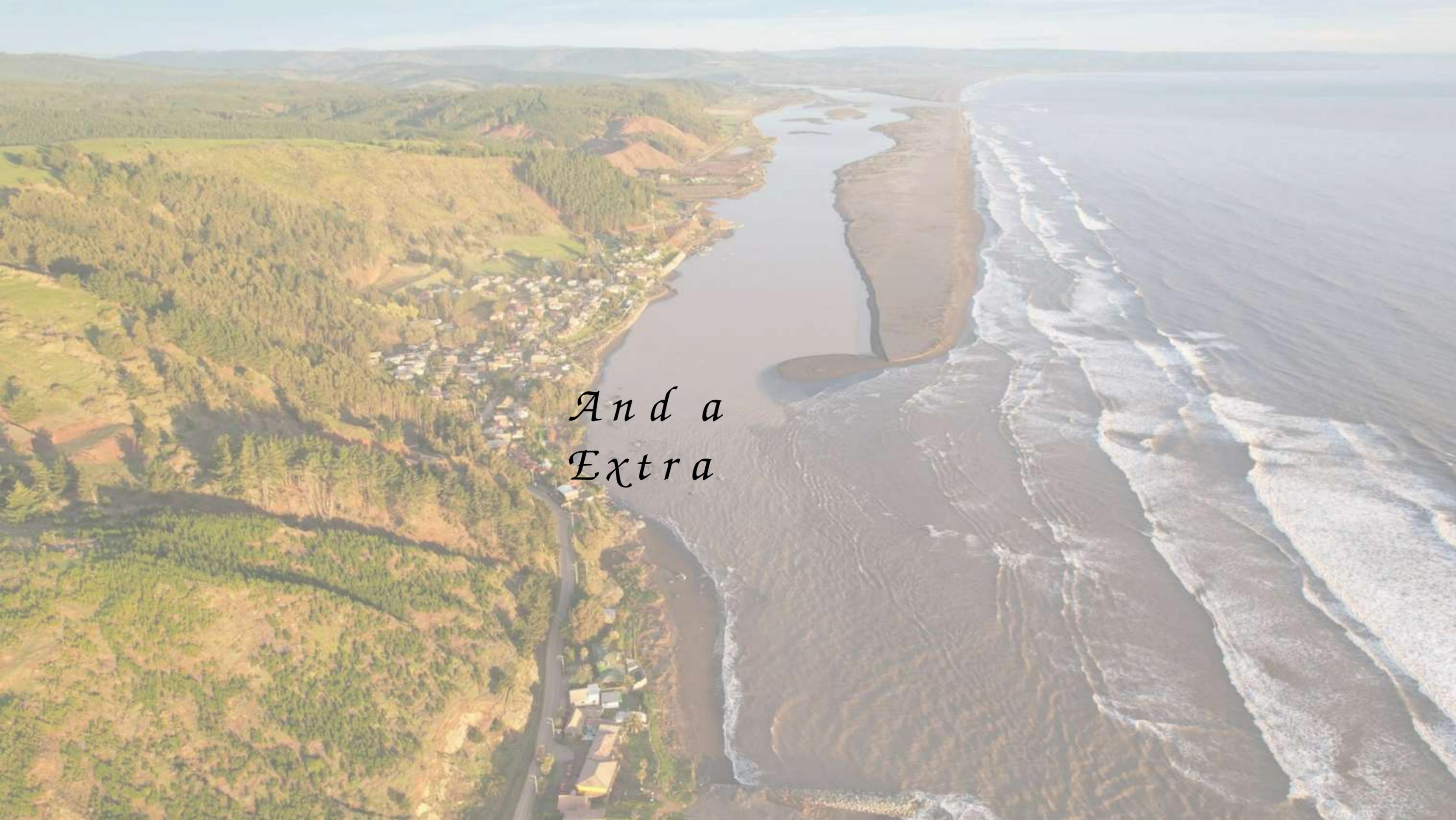


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An aerial photograph of a coastal town and bay. The town is situated on a peninsula, surrounded by dense green forests and rolling hills. The bay is filled with water, and waves are crashing against the shore, creating white foam. The sky is clear and blue. The text "And a Extra" is overlaid on the image in a black, serif font.

*And a
Extra*











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