

North Carolina AMOY-WIPL Survey

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Background/Need

- First survey in 2004
- Response to anecdotal observations of declines in both species
- Conducted every three years
- 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019, 2022, 2025



Background/Need

- AMOY nest in a variety of habitats in NC including barrier island beaches; marsh and marsh island shorelines (oyster rakes, sandy berms, wrack); dredge-material island; other natural islands; and rooftops.
- WIPL nest primarily on sandy beaches = all WIPL nesting sites overlap with AMOY making it possible to combine into a single protocol.

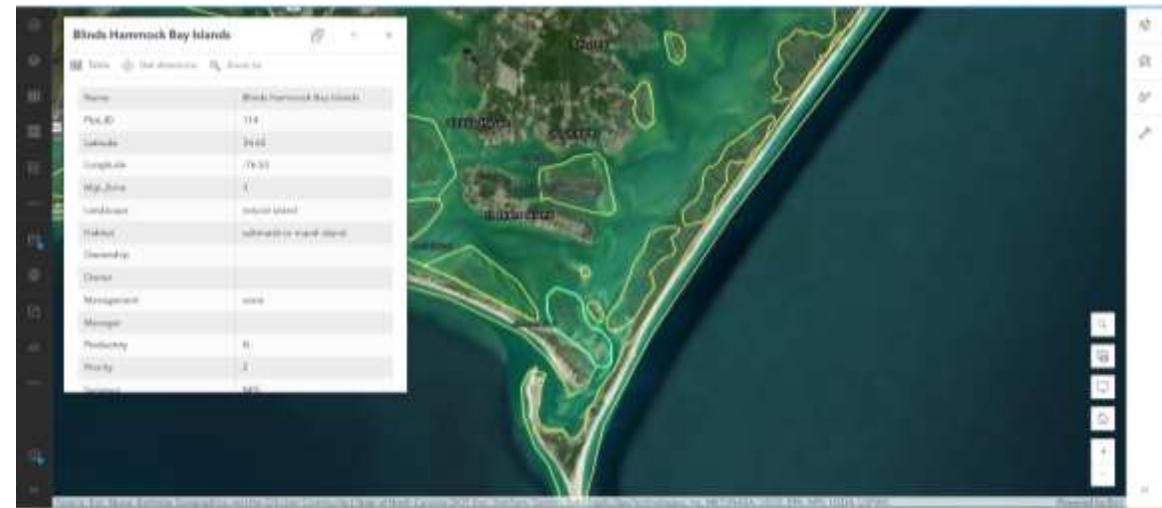
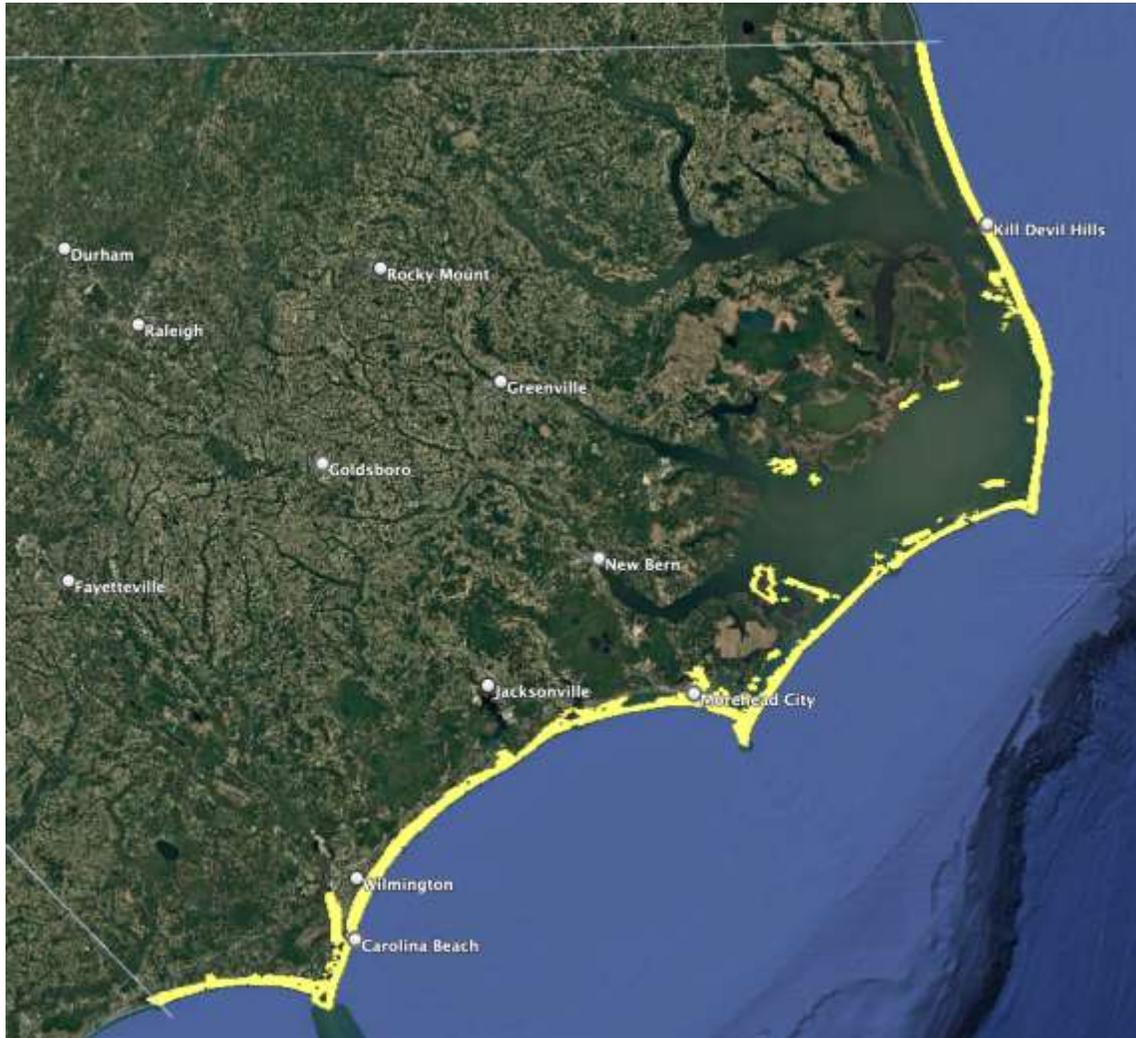


Objectives

1. To collect standardized, repeatable statewide counts of nesting AMOY and WIPL, reflecting the abundance and distribution of these species in the state over time, and
2. To collect this information in such a way that detection rates could be applied to survey data for sites that are not closely monitored throughout the season.



Coverage Area



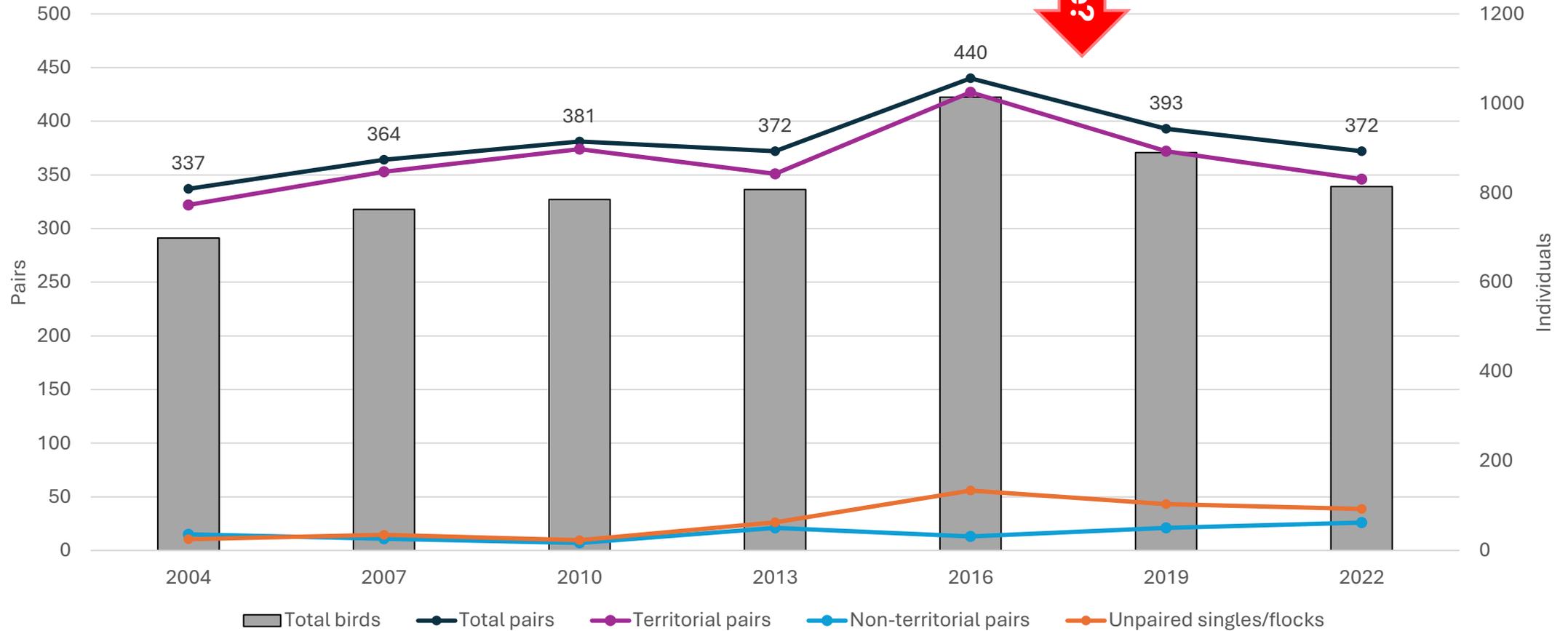
Protocols

Choose your own adventure

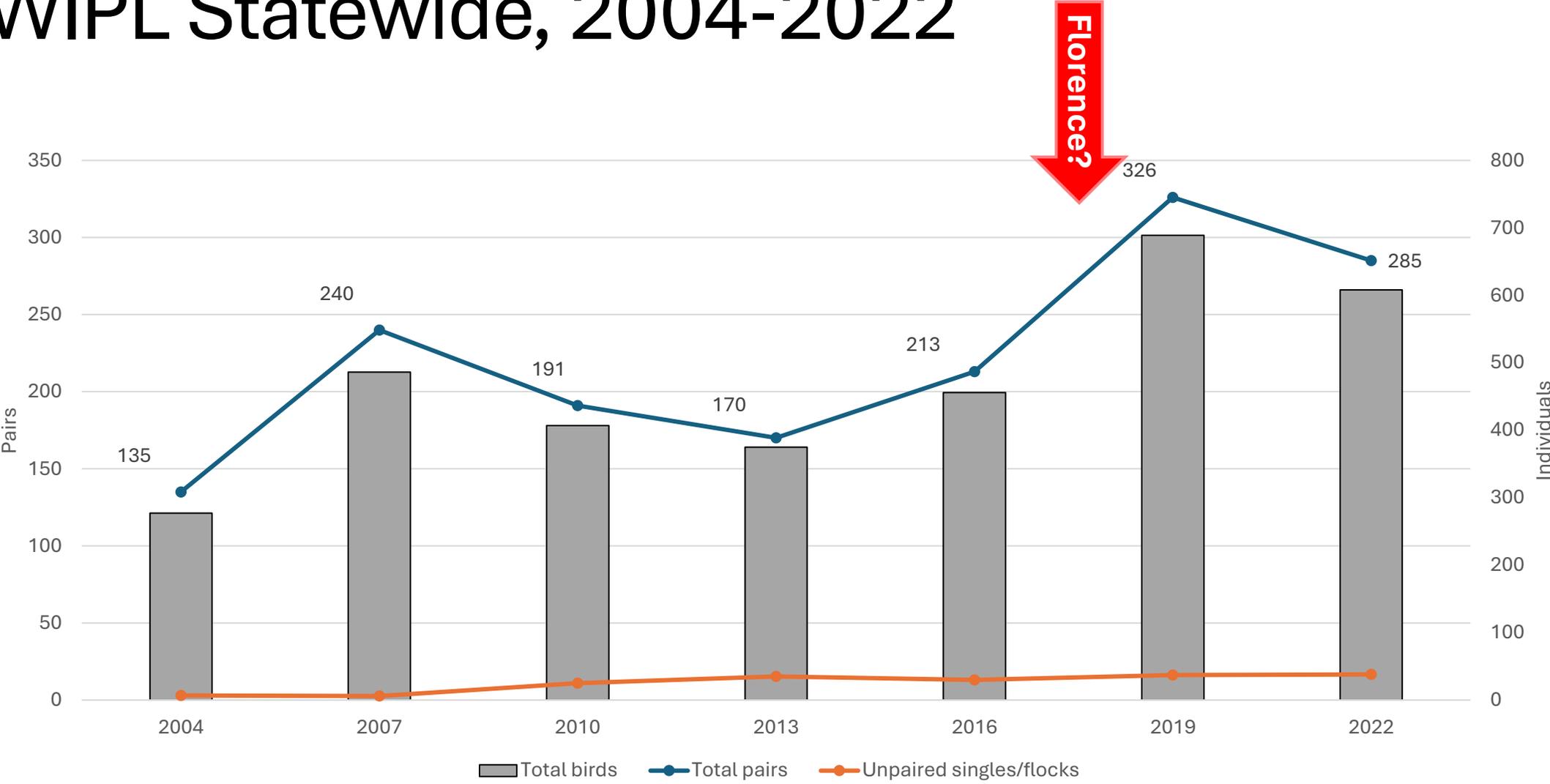
1. Cumulative season data
Intensive productivity monitoring (≥ 1 visit per week) of AMOY and/or WIPL
2. Census visit data
A small number (1-3) of visits to a site specifically to survey AMOY and WIPL pairs around high tide during the survey window



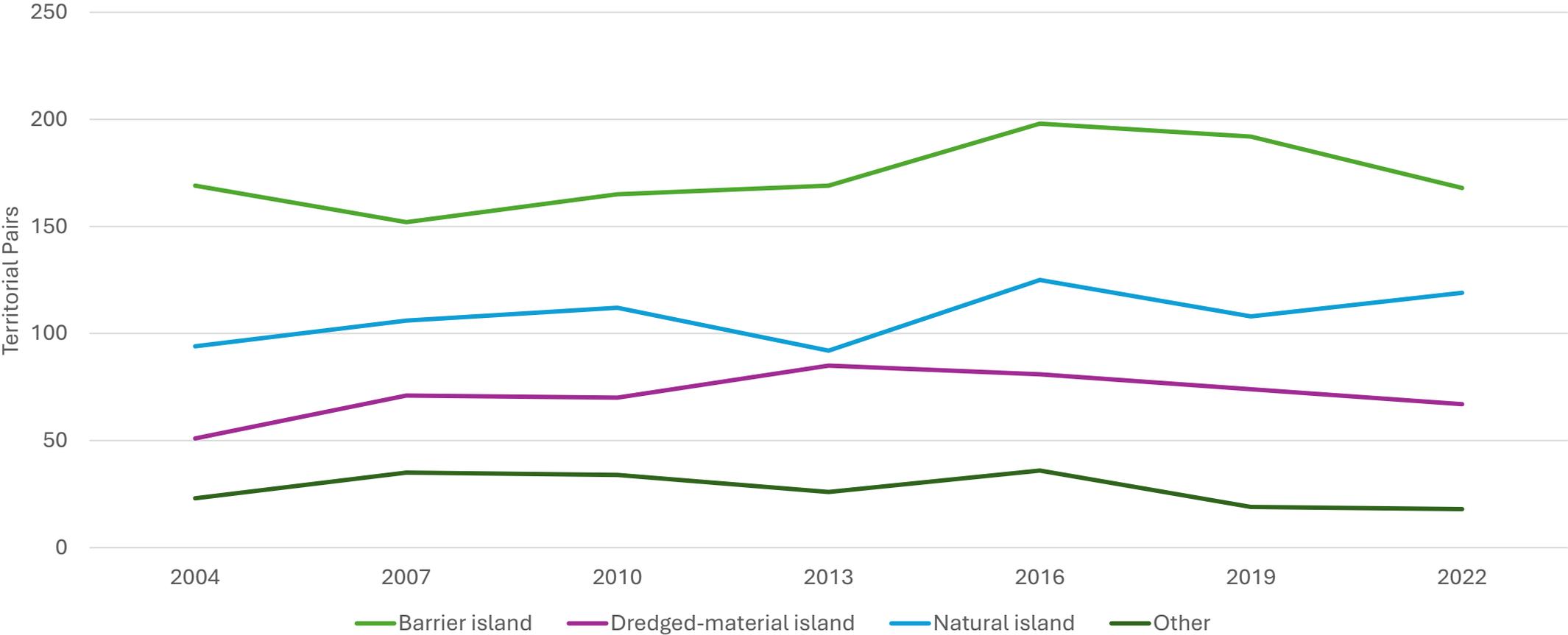
AMOY Statewide, 2004-2022



WIPL Statewide, 2004-2022



AMOY by Landscape, 2004-2022



Aspirations

- Crosswalk previous years' survey into current plots (effort) and tables
- Make these data easily available
- Investigate reviving “repeated survey” multi-state effort (to complete analysis of already collected data)
- Consider implications
 - Vulnerability to SLR
 - Changes in predator populations (coyotes)
 - Effects of management

