

Site Updates: Rockaway Beach

Amber Krauss
NYC Parks' Wildlife Unit: Wildlife Program Coordinator



Parks



Overview of RBESNA



2025 Results

Piping Plovers

- 16 pairs
- 92 eggs laid
- 58 chicks hatched
- 2 chicks fledged
- 0.13 productivity rate (chicks fledged/pairs)
- 63% of eggs hatched (chicks hatched/eggs)
- 3% of chicks fledged (chicks fledged/chicks)
- 97% mortality (chicks lost/chicks hatched)



2025 Results

American Oystercatchers

- 32 pairs
- 95 eggs laid
- 68 chicks hatched
- 45 chicks fledged
- 1.41 productivity rate (chicks fledged/pairs)
- 72% of eggs hatched (chick hatched/eggs)
- 66% of chicks fledged (chicks fledged/chicks)
- 37% mortality (chicks lost/chicks hatched)



2024 Nesting Attempts



NYC Parks

RBESNA 2024

Rockaway Beach Endangered
Species Nesting Area



0 0.2 0.4 Miles

Piping plover (PIPL)
Nest Attempt

- PIPL, A
- PIPL, B

American oystercatcher (AMOY)
Nest Attempt

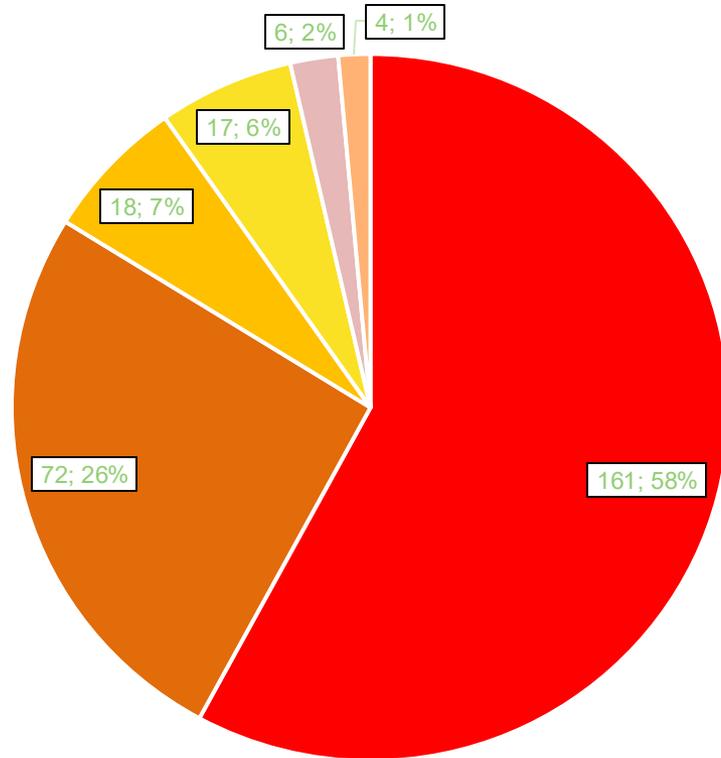
- AMOY, A
- AMOY, B
- AMOY, C

— Symbolic Fencing

Produced by NYC Parks Wildlife Unit,
December 11, 2024
Data Sources: NYC Parks

Antagonism with PIPL 2024

Observation of species antagonism against PIPL



■ PIPL ■ AMOY ■ LETE ■ GULL ■ COTE ■ Other



2025 Nest Attempts



NYC Parks

RBESNA 2025

Rockaway Beach Endangered
Species Nesting Area



0 0.2 0.4 Miles

Piping Plover (PIPL)
Nest Attempt

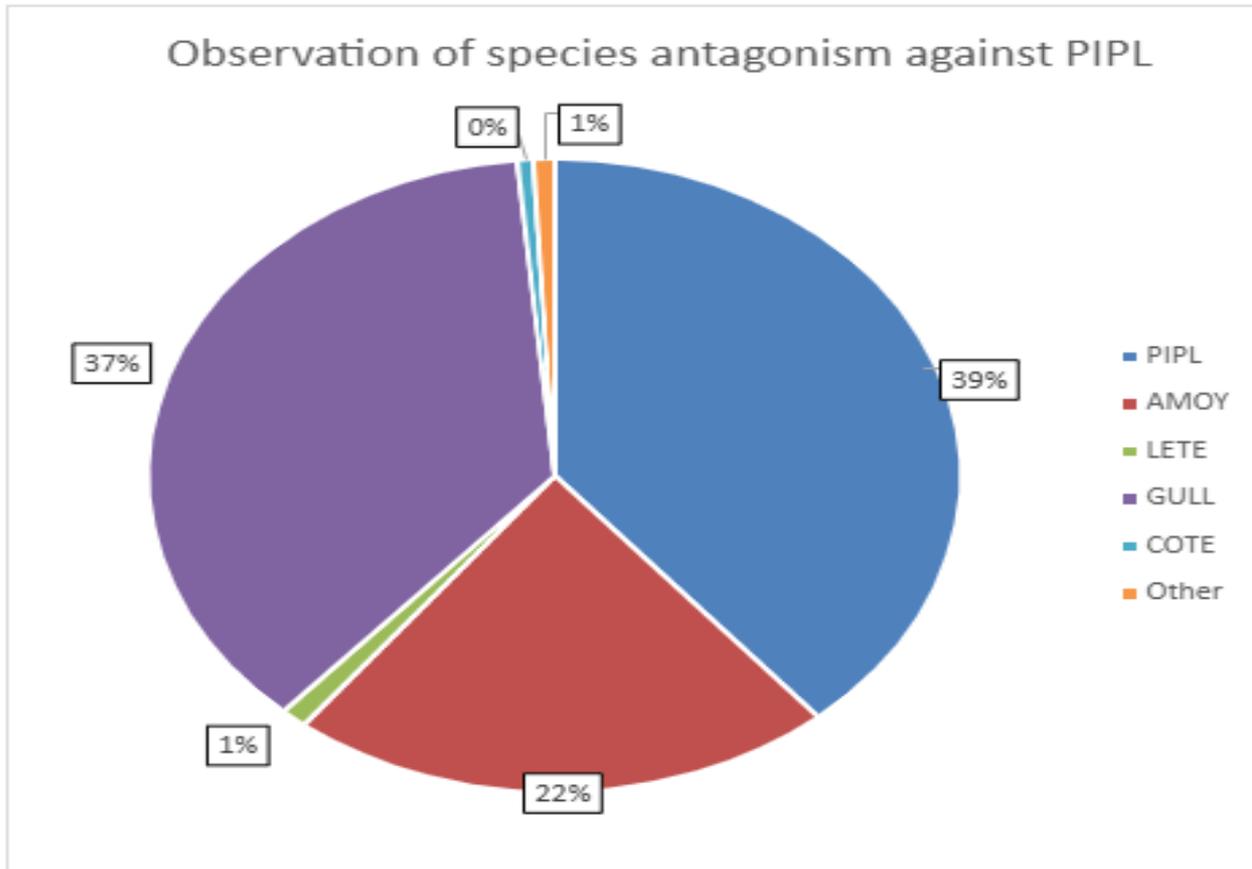
- PIPL A
- PIPL B

American Oystercatcher (AMOY)
Nest Attempt

- AMOY A
- AMOY B
- Symbolic Fencing

Produced by NYC Parks Wildlife Unit,
October 10, 2025
Data Sources: NYC Parks

Antagonism with PIPL 2025

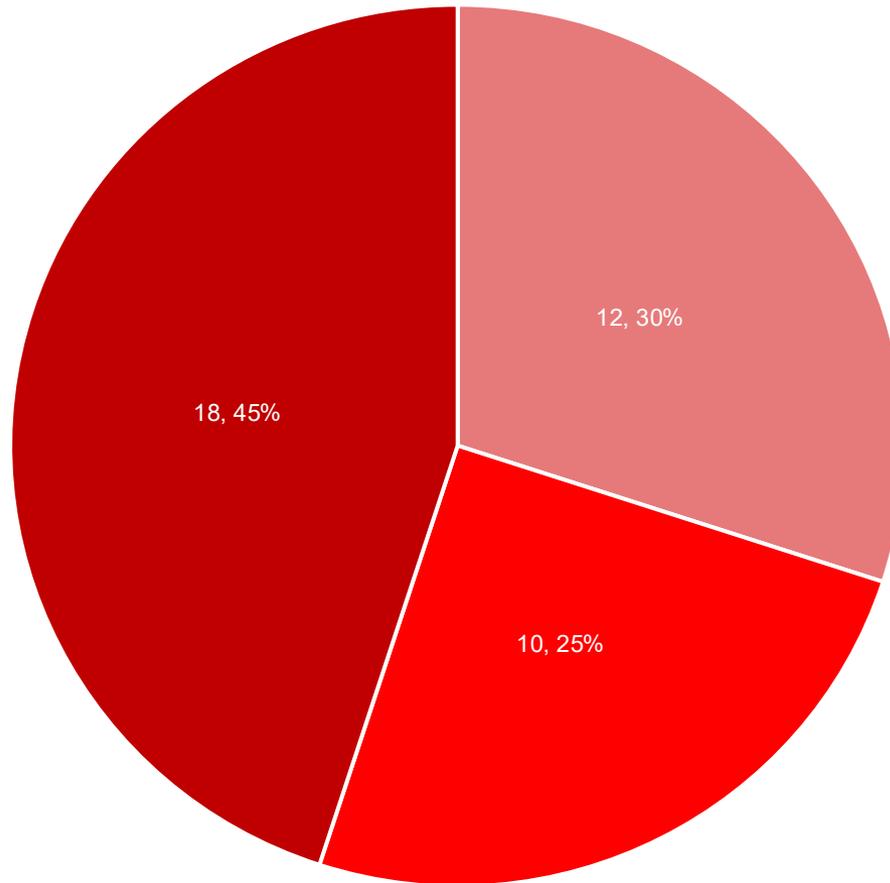


Competition

- In 2025 we deployed four game cameras on four separate plover nest
- 82.5% of the "events" recorded by the 2025 camera study involved American oystercatchers disturbing an incubating plover



Nesting Piping Plover Disturbance Responses



■ Fled nest ■ Territorial with ____ ■ Broken-wing display



MOULTRIE  75°F 30.33inHg **PIPL1** 27 MAY 2023 08:59 am



MOULTRIE  79°F 30.32inHg **PIPL1** 27 MAY 2023 12:06 pm

Thank You



Contact:
Amber Krauss
Amber.krauss@parks.nyc.gov

