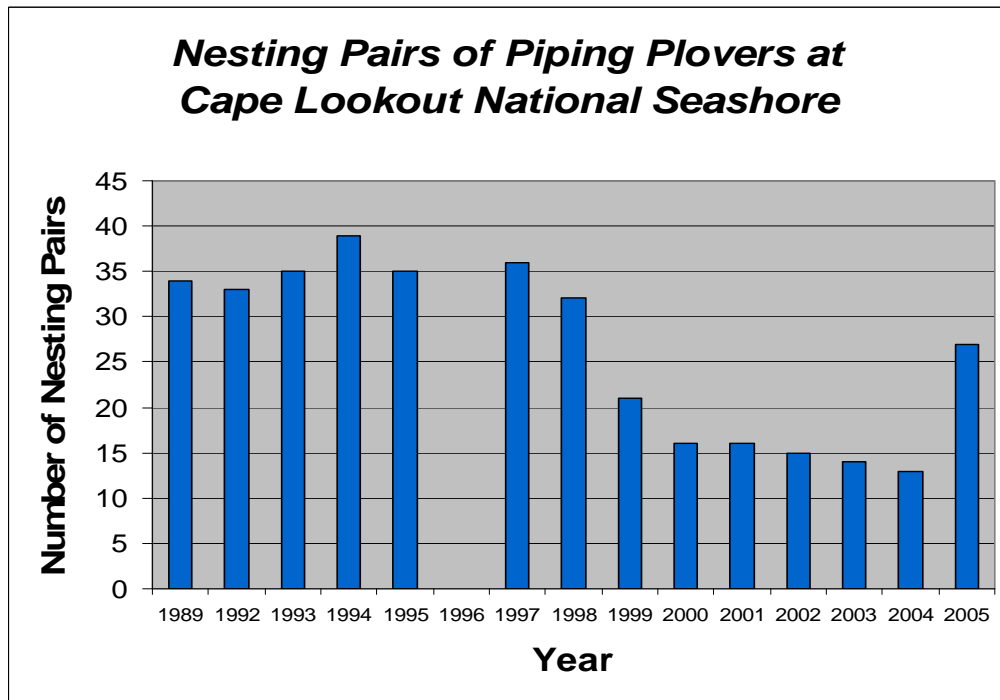


# 2005 Piping Plover Nesting

## CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE

A total of 27 pairs of piping plovers nested at Cape Lookout National Seashore, the most since 1998. Twenty four of 31 nests successfully hatched and 23 chicks survived to fledge. This was the second most productive year for piping plovers in the park since monitoring began in 1989. Each nesting pair produced an average of 0.85 chicks.



**North Core Banks** had eight nesting pairs, six on the Portsmouth Flats and two at Whalebone Inlet. Six of the ten nests hatched and five chicks successfully fledged.

**Middle Core Banks** had three nesting pairs at New Drum Inlet. All three nests hatched but none of the chicks survived past the first few days.

**South Core Banks** had 15 nesting pairs, 10 near New Drum Inlet, four at Cape Point and one at Power Squadron Spit. Fifteen of the 17 nests hatched and 18 chicks survived to fledge. The northern end of the island was particularly productive with 16 chicks surviving.

**Shackleford Banks** had one pair nesting near Mile 50. The nest hatched successfully but all chicks were lost in the first three days.