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American Oystercatcher Working Group

<http://amoywg.org/>



Topics Covered at Last Week's Meeting

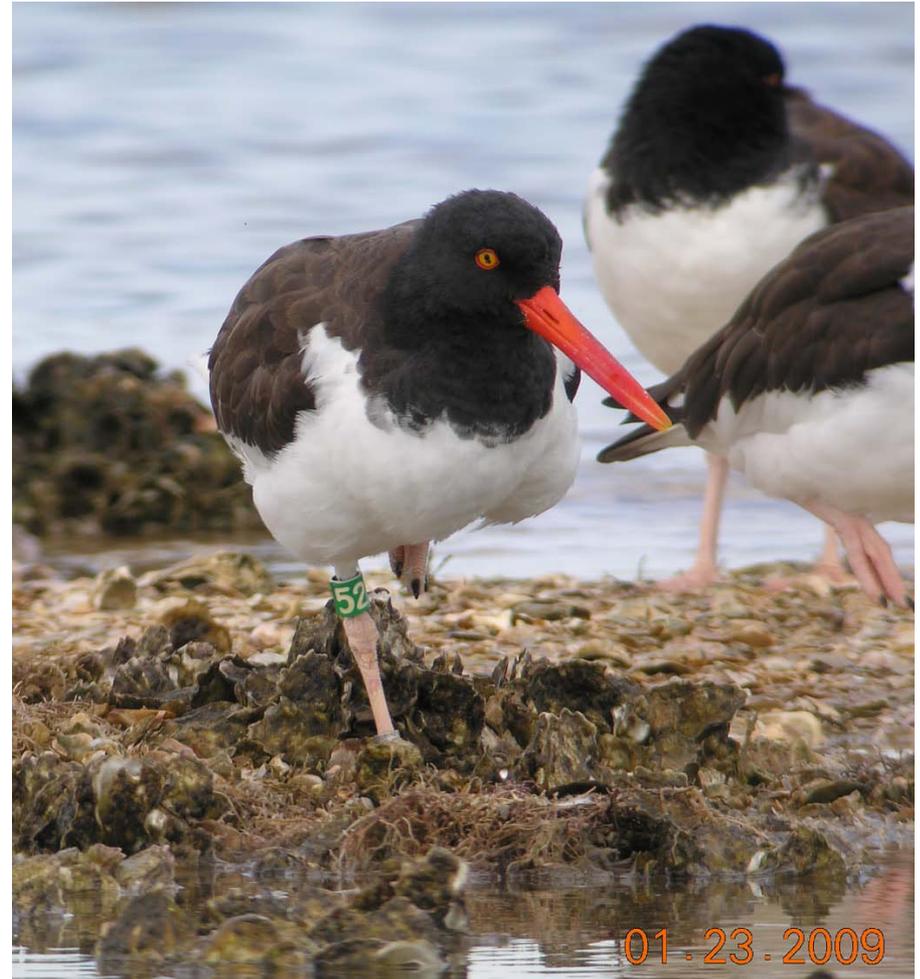
- Reproductive monitoring matrix for each state should be entered into google documents. Definitions for metrics need further discussion. Need more discussion on long-term presentation and archiving of range-wide productivity data. Define metrics.
- Data sharing agreement is needed. Give examples of data sharing agreements that the group can review at this meeting. Update on framework being developed for arctic shorebird database that might be a good model.



Topics Covered at Last Week's Meeting

- Develop a strategy for winter and breeding season range wide surveys. Report on progress towards this goal.
- Review what database is best suited for AMOY banding and resighting data. BBL, Bandedbirds.org, NC Audubon? Can someone prepare an overview on options?
- Develop an executive/steering committee for the Working group?
- Report on flag and banding options. Discuss the utility of flags versus vertical bands and types of markers each state is applying. Discuss the future of banding and resighting efforts from a rangewide perspective. When is enough enough?

- American Oystercatcher Working Group is meeting Nov. 29 - Dec 1 and one of the discussion items will be coordinating a rangewide breeding survey, perhaps as early as 2013.



Goals and Objectives



Working Group goals include the development of management objectives in a science-based, adaptive management framework. Primary objectives include; **monitoring population trends** at local, regional, and continental **scales**, obtaining reliable estimates **of demographic parameters** and the factors that affect them, understanding how variations in demographic parameters affect population viability over space and time, **identifying threats** to American Oystercatcher populations, and translating these findings into **management actions** that promote American Oystercatcher conservation.

Current Research Sites

- New Jersey
- Massachusetts
- Delaware
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia
- Florida
- Texas





Report a Banded Bird

Banding and Re-sighting

[Banding & Re-sighting](#)

[How to Identify Banded Birds](#)

[Reading Band Codes](#)

[Report Form](#)

[AMOY Banding Gallery](#)

Banding Schemes



Identifying Banded Birds

American Oystercatchers can be banded on up to four band locations. Band combinations are generally reported as upper left (tibiotarsus), lower left (tarsometatarsus), upper right, and lower right. Band Types include plastic bands, flags, and engraved metal bands. Plastic color bands and flags come in a variety of Band Colors. If you see a banded oystercatcher, record the location, color, and type of bands you observe. There can be up to two bands at each location so be sure to note the position of each band at each location.

Researchers working with American Oystercatchers have agreed on a common banding protocol. Each state has a color that identifies birds banded in that state. Each bird is banded with two identical bands engraved with letters and/or numbers. The combination of band color and engraved code identifies individual birds. We put two identical bands on each bird to increase the chance of reading the band code in the field and to guard against band loss.

