

The Trustees of Reservations | Overview of our shorebird activity as of 8.9.2012

PIPING PLOVERS				
	CRANE	VINEYARD	NANTUCKET	TOTAL
# PAIRS ESTIMATED AT PRESENT	3	3	1	7
# NESTS FOUND TO DATE	46	24	7	77
# PAIRS WITH ACTIVE NESTS	0	0	0	0
# NESTS PREDATED TO DATE	11	11	1	23
# NESTS ABANDONED TO DATE	3	2	0	5
# NESTS WASHED OUT TO DATE	15	2	0	17
# NESTS EXCLOSED TO DATE	19	10	0	29
# NESTS UNEXCLOSED TO DATE	27	14	7	48
# PAIRS WITH CHICKS	0	0	0	0
# FLEDGLINGS TO DATE	22	10	15	47

AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHERS			
	VINEYARD	NANTUCKET	TOTAL
# PAIRS ESTIMATED AT PRESENT	13	6	19
# NESTS FOUND TO DATE	25	7	32
# PAIRS WITH ACTIVE NESTS	0	0	0
# NESTS PREDATED TO DATE	10	1	11
# NESTS ABANDONED TO DATE	0	2	2
# NESTS WASHED OUT TO DATE	4	0	4
# PAIRS WITH CHICKS	1	0	1
# FLEDGLINGS TO DATE	9	7	16

Crane Beach

Piping Plovers: We do not have any active nests. Our last eight plover chicks from three broods fledged this week.

Terns: Our last least tern nests hatched this week. We currently have unfledged least tern chicks at the Dump Trail, Red Trail, Dead Zone, and Essex Point.

Migratory shorebirds continue to stage in the Bubble at 0.5E, within the symbolic fencing on the east side of the Red Trail, and on the ocean side of Essex Point. Interpretative signage has been installed around the Bubble to engage our visitors. During weekend high tides, volunteers are stationed at the Bubble to engage visitors and conduct shorebird counts.

Habitat delineation fencing is being pushed back to allow more access for beachgoers in areas where plovers, terns, and migrating shorebirds are not present.

Martha's Vineyard

Piping Plovers: We do not have any active nests. Our last three plover chicks fledged at the Elbow this week.

Oystercatchers: Two chicks fledged at Norton Point this week. We have one remaining brood of unfledged chicks at Norton Point.

Terns: We currently have both fledged and unfledged least and common tern chicks at Norton point, as well as unfledged roseate tern chicks. A small number of terns are still sitting on nests.

Mixed flocks of terns have been seen loafing and feeding on Leland Beach, East Beach, and at the Gut. The groups are smaller (only 2-20 individuals) and less consistent in their numbers than they have been in previous weeks.

Black Skimmers: Of the three black skimmers pairs whose nests hatched at Norton Point in early July, a total of 8+ chicks have fledged. The fourth brood currently has two unfledged chicks.

Nantucket

Piping Plovers: We do not have any active nests. Our last three plover chicks fledged this week.

Oystercatchers: We do not have any active nests and all chicks have fledged.

Terns: We have one active least tern nest on the Galls north of Marker 3. The nest is expected to hatch around 8/11. The least tern chick from our first nest along the Galls fledged this week.