

Effects of Piping Plover Nesting Habitat and Parental Supervision on the Survival of Chicks

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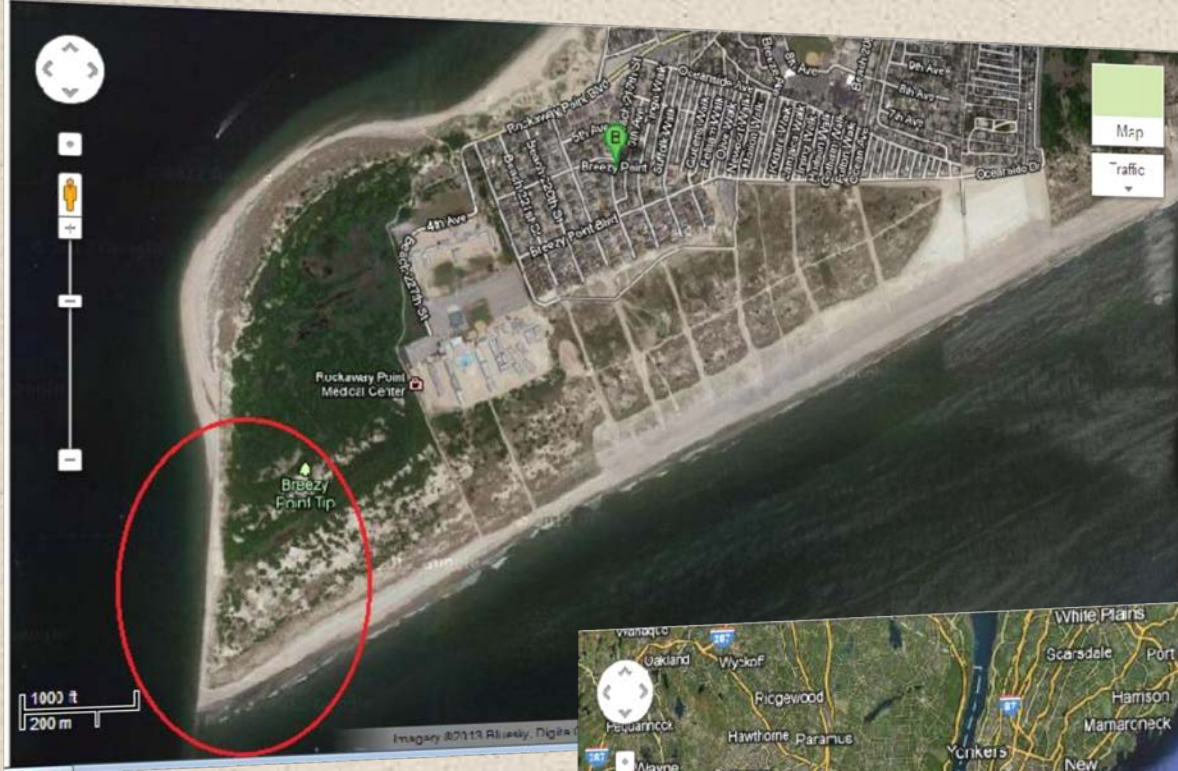
- Piping Plovers are one of the most endangered birds on the East Coast of North America in the 21st century
- population decreased to about 800 pairs

Hypothesis: Plover's attendance rates would decrease due to the general public on the beach.

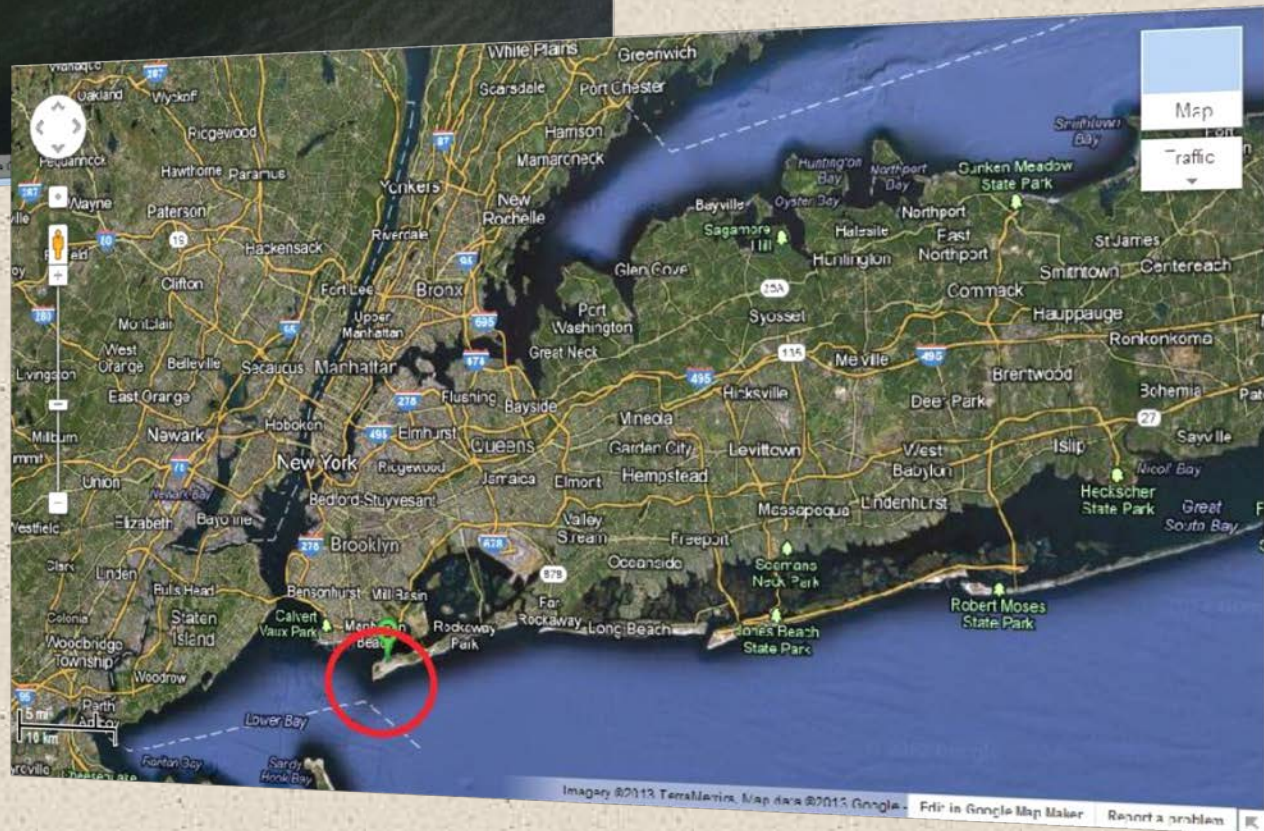
What is a Plover?

- Inhabits coastal beaches
- Within NY- Long Island, Queens , Hamptons,
- eastern bays, and harbors of northern Suffolk County
- Nest b/w late March and early April
- In 1986, Plovers were enlisted as an endangered species.
- reasons- coastal development, recreational activities, and disturbance of vehicles





Locality



Materials

Materials	Quantity	Function
Paint stirrs	20	markers for the bird's nests
Camera	1	Still images of birds throughout project
Plover Hatch/fledge date poster	1	Mandates dates of observation
Journal	1	Records data
GPS	1	Coordinates of the designated Plover's nest
Pink Markers	10	Marks area of observation

Nest #	Plover Att.	Eggs Hatched	Chicks Fledged	Productivity Rate
1	1.5	2	2	2
2	2	2	1	1.5
3	2	3	2	1.5
4	2	2	1	1
5	2	3	3	3
6	1.5	1	0	0
7	2	3	2	1.5
8	1	2	2	2
9	2	4	3	2.5
10	1.5	3	3	3
Avg	1.75	2.5	1.9	1.8

- No sort of pattern amongst plover attendance /chicks fledged.

- 90 percent of birds produced at least two eggs.

- Only 70 percent of over half fledged

- Productivity rate =Plover attendance.

- productivity rates & chicks fledged that this year's groupings were high.

Analysis

- birds probably had scarce interaction with each other.
- birds were flying in from diff. areas, and did not carry similar habits.
- In a 2012 NPS Fire Island productivity rate- 1.25
- Productivity Rate Breezy Pt.-1.8
- In a 2012 NPS Fire Island -15 birds
- Productivity Rate Breezy Pt.-19 birds



Conclusions

- there is little evidence to go off of to affirm the effects on the environment. baby chicks & their survival rate.
- find reasons why there is a varied presence of adult Plovers throughout the nest population
- eventually lead to a conclusion w. the environment,
- allow us to propose a plan to conserve the birds more efficiently and safely.



Here is a baby chick for your viewing pleasure.

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