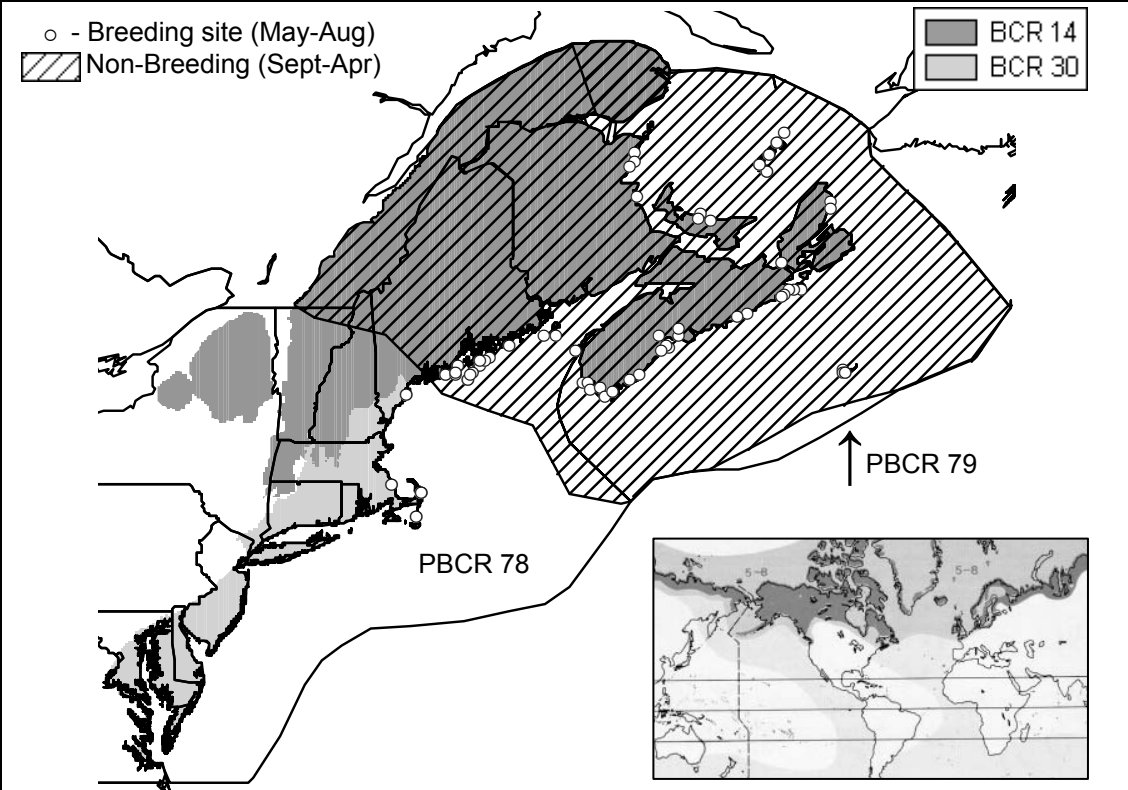


ARCTIC TERN (*Sterna paradisaea*)

Conservation Status: Abundance (b=breeding, nb=nonbreeding, t=total individuals), Population Importance (% reference population) and Conservation Rank							
Global	North America	BCR 14	BCR 30	Mid-Atlantic	S. New England	Gulf of Maine	Maritimes
1,000,000t	500,000t? (50%? global)	11,020b (7% NA)	12b (<1% NA)	0b (0% MANEM)	12b (<1% MANEM)	5,558b (50% MANEM)	5,450b (50% MANEM)
IUCN- Least Concern	NAWCP- High Concern	High Concern	High Concern	NJ-SZN; DE-SZN; MD- no info VA-SN State SGCN-DE	NY-S?N; CT, -no info; MA-SCS1; RI, VT- no info State SGCN-MA	MA-SCS1; NH-TSPB, SZN ME-TS2B; NB-S2B; NS-S3B MANEM Focal Species State SGCN-MA,NH,ME	QC-S5; NB-S1?B; PE-S2B; NS-S3B MANEM Focal Species



Regional Occurrence

- Distribution: breeds in region; winters in BCR 14/PBCR79
- Habitats used: barrier beaches, islands (breeding); mostly pelagic, coastal bays, estuaries (non-breeding); forage near-shore tidal zone to 20 km from colony (average 3 km); within 50 cm of surface where prey available; deep water, rocky shore, tide rips, upwellings; chicks sometimes feed on ground

NAWCP BD=1; NAWCP ND=1

Regional Abundance

- 2001: US—5,558b (13 colonies); CAN—5,450b
- 1990s: US—6,386b (9 colonies); CAN—12,000b
- 1970s: US—7,202b (13 colonies); CAN—7,000b (27 colonies)
- 40% decline since 1990s

NAWCP PS=3; NAWCP PT=4

Regional Threats/Limiting Factors

- Population concentrated at few nesting sites
- Colonies face habitat degradation, predation and displacement by nesting gulls, food shortage, and pollution
- Climate change (sea level change, increasing water temperature)

NAWCP TB=4; NAWCP TN=2

Conservation Needs: *Sustainability:* 1.3 fledglings/pair site/yr. *Conservation Actions:* Habitat loss to gulls can lead to breeding failure. Successful gull control at some colonies in Maine, and predator management in Canada. Successful management practices: restoration of historical nesting colonies, vegetation and predator control, and educational programs. *Needs:* manage nesting site predators, monitor, educate public on beach ethics, link with other bird conservation efforts, understand link between fisheries management and ARTE breeding/provisioning, and inter-annual breeding rates and the effect on population estimates. *Population Goals:* restore to 17,100-20,900b (increase); requires active management. *Habitat Goals:* Restore/protect breeding habitat in following priority complexes: ME-Penobscot Bay, Petit Manan Group; NB-Grand Manan Group; NS-Country Group; PE-Oultons Is Group. Protect non-breeding habitat of shelf and slope waters of Scotian Shelf and Gulf of Maine. *Conservation Projects:* 1, 3, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 73.