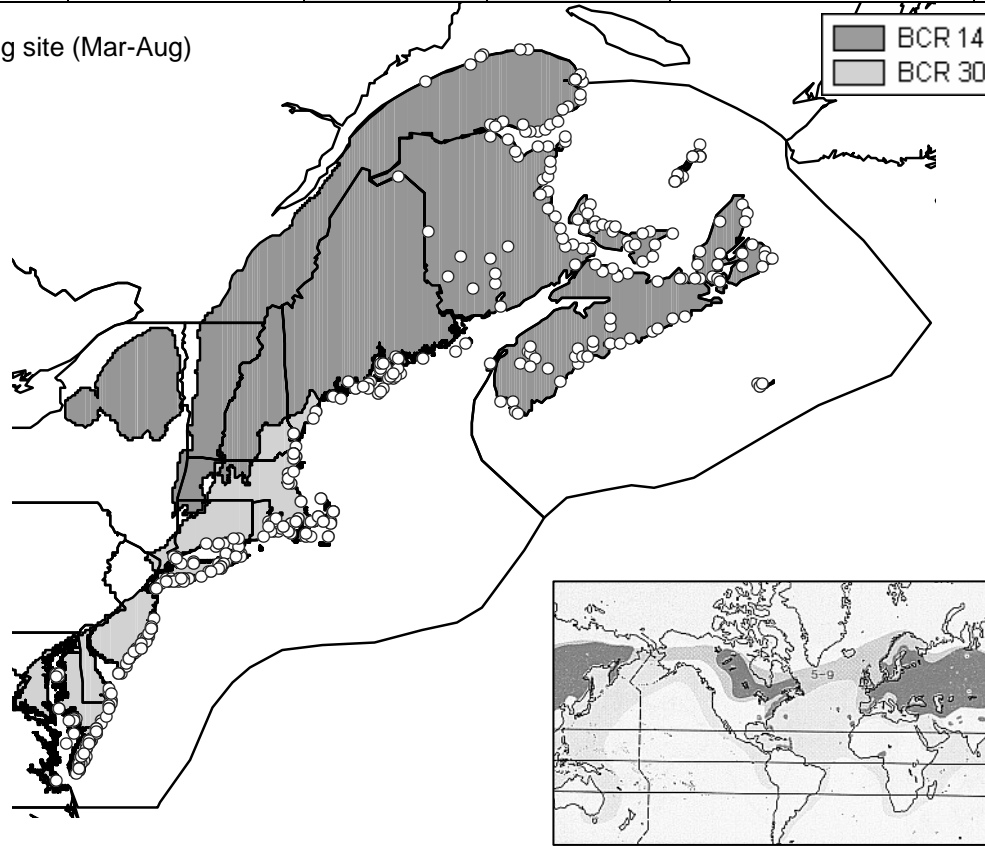


COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo hirundo*)

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
1,100,000-4,500,000t	300,000b (10-41% global)	89,406b (30% NA)	83,834b (28% NA)	9,822b (6% MANEM)	59,018b (34% MANEM)	28,606b (16% MANEM)	75,434b (44% MANEM)
IUCN- Least Concern	NAWCP- Low Concern	Low Concern	Low Concern	NJ- SCS3B; DE-ES1B; MD-S4B; VA-S3 MANEM Focal Species State SGCN-NJ,DE,MD,VA	NY-TS3B; CT-SCS3B,SZN; RI- S3B,SZN; MA-SCS3; VT-ES1 S2B,S2N MANEM Focal Species State SGCN-NY,CT,RI,MA,VT	MA-SCS3; NH-ES1; ME-SCS4B; NB-S3B, NS-S3B MANEM Focal Species State SGCN-MA,NH,ME	QC- S5; NB- S3B; PE- S3B; NS- S3B MANEM Focal Species

○ - Breeding site (Mar-Aug)



Regional Occurrence

- Distribution: breeds in region
- Habitats used: sandy, stony, rocky, or grassy islands; matted vegetation of salt marshes (breeding); seacoasts, estuaries, bays, rests on beaches and sand bars (non-breeding); shallow, inshore waters, bays, estuaries, salt marsh creeks, lakes (foraging); feeds at 5-10 km, up to 45 km

NAWCP BD=2; NAWCP ND=1

Regional Abundance

- 2000: US—97,446b; CAN—75,434b
- 1990s: US—84,680b (207 colonies); CAN—52,949b
- 1970s: US—57,250b (201 colonies)
- 48% increase in US population 70s-90s largely due to active management; declining in Quebec

NAWCP PS=2; NAWCP PT=2

Regional Threats/Limiting Factors

- Mammalian and avian predation
- Prey base fluctuations
- Occupation of prime island sites by large gulls
- Flooding and rising water levels wash away nests
- Human disturbance
- Unknown mortality factors operating in winter quarters
- Environmental contaminants (potentially)

NAWCP TB=5; NAWCP TN=4

Conservation Needs: *Sustainability:* 0.8-0.9 chicks/pair/yr. *Conservation Actions:* Several important sites in New England have been restored by controlling gulls; many sites intensively managed, including restricting human access, vegetation management, and predator control; charismatic species for conservation. *Needs:* assess productivity, research potential impact with commercial fisheries, monitor, manage nesting site predators, establish additional nesting sites, educate public of beach ethics, link with other bird conservation efforts. *Population Goals:* restore (increase). *Habitat Goals:* Restore/protect breeding habitat in following priority complexes: VA-Barrier Is Group, E Shore Chesapeake Bay Group; MD-S Marsh Group, Assawoman & Sinepuxent Bays; NJ-Great Bay Group, Little Egg Harbor; NY-Plum Is Group, Jamaica Bay Group; CT-Falkner Is Group; RI-Hope Is Group; MA-Plymouth, Buzzards Bay, National Seashore; NH-Isles of Shoals Group; ME-Muscongus Bay, Petit Manan Group; NB-Tabusintac, Kouchibouguac; NS-Sable Is, Channel; PE-Poverty Beach Group, Oultons Is Group; QC-Magdalen Is, E Gaspe. *Conservation Projects:* 1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 33, 34, 36, 40, 42, 45, 62, 73, 84, 85, 115, 116, 123.