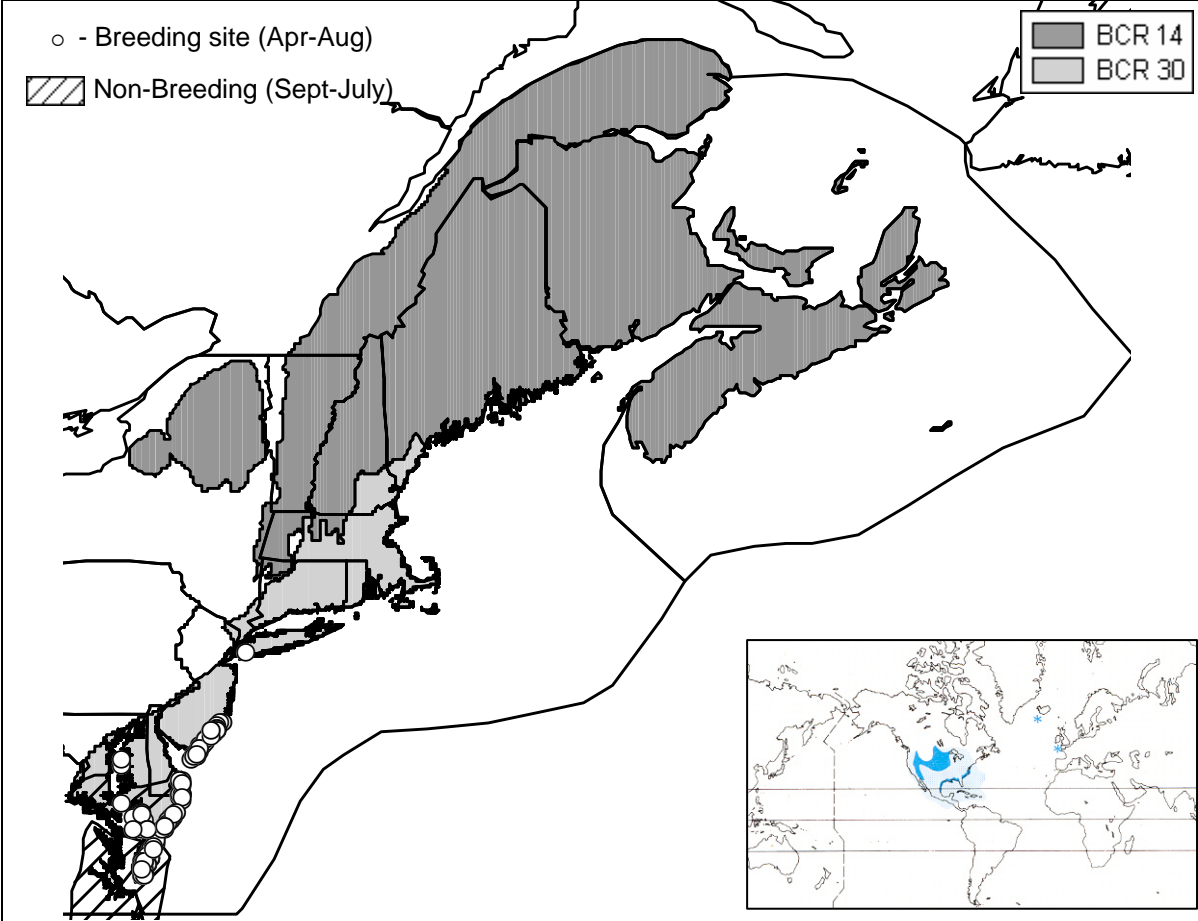


FORSTER'S TERN (*Sterna forsteri litoricola*)

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
120,000t	120,000t (100% global)	0b (0% NA)	16,690b (32-35% NA)	16,690b (100% MANEM)	0b (0% MANEM)	0b (0% MANEM)	0b (0% MANEM)
IUCN- Least Concern	NAWCP- Moderate Concern		Moderate Concern	NJ-S3B,S4N; DE-ES1B; MD-S3S4B; VA-SCS2B, S3N MANEM Focal Species State SGCN-NJ,DE,MD,VA	NY-S2S3; CT-S1B, SZN; RI-S1B, SZN; MA-S1; VT- na State SGCN-NY	MA-S1; NH-SZN; ME-S1B; NB, NS	QC-SN; NB; PE; NS



Regional Occurrence

- Distribution: breeds and winters in BCR 30
- Habitats used: fresh-water and salt marshes, seacoasts, bays, estuaries, rivers, and lakes (winter/migrating); forages in marshes in which they are breeding; also in lakes, water channels, shallow, saltwater estuaries, and coastal areas

NAWCP BD=2; NAWCP ND=2

Regional Abundance

- 2001: US—17,006b
- 1990s: US—16,690b (172 colonies); CAN—0b
- 1970s: US—4,156b (34 colonies)
- 302% increase in regional population 70s to 90s; currently stable

NAWCP PS=3; NAWCP PT=4

Regional Threats/Limiting Factors

- Reduction of desired marsh and wetland habitats; rising sea-level causing loss of suitable marsh nesting habitat
- Predation by gulls
- Disturbance/vandalism can cause colony failure; research observance can cause inattentive behavior that leads to chick mortality
- Collision with vehicles while foraging

NAWCP TB=3; NAWCP TN=2

Conservation Needs: *Sustainability:* 1.0-1.1 young fledged/pair/yr. *Conservation Actions:* Preserve, manage, and restore known wetlands of preferred nesting area to benefit breeding populations (artificial nesting sites may also be successful). *Needs:* monitor region-wide population, manage nesting site predators. *Population Goals:* maintain (above minimum) at 13,700-16,700b. *Habitat Goals:* Restore/protect breeding habitat in following priority complexes: VA-Southern Lagoon Group, E Shore Chesapeake Bay Group; MD-Tar Bay & Honga; NJ-Cape May Wetlands Group, Little Egg Harbor, Great Bay Group. Protect non-breeding habitat in BCR 30. *Conservation Projects:* 12, 28, 29, 40, 45.