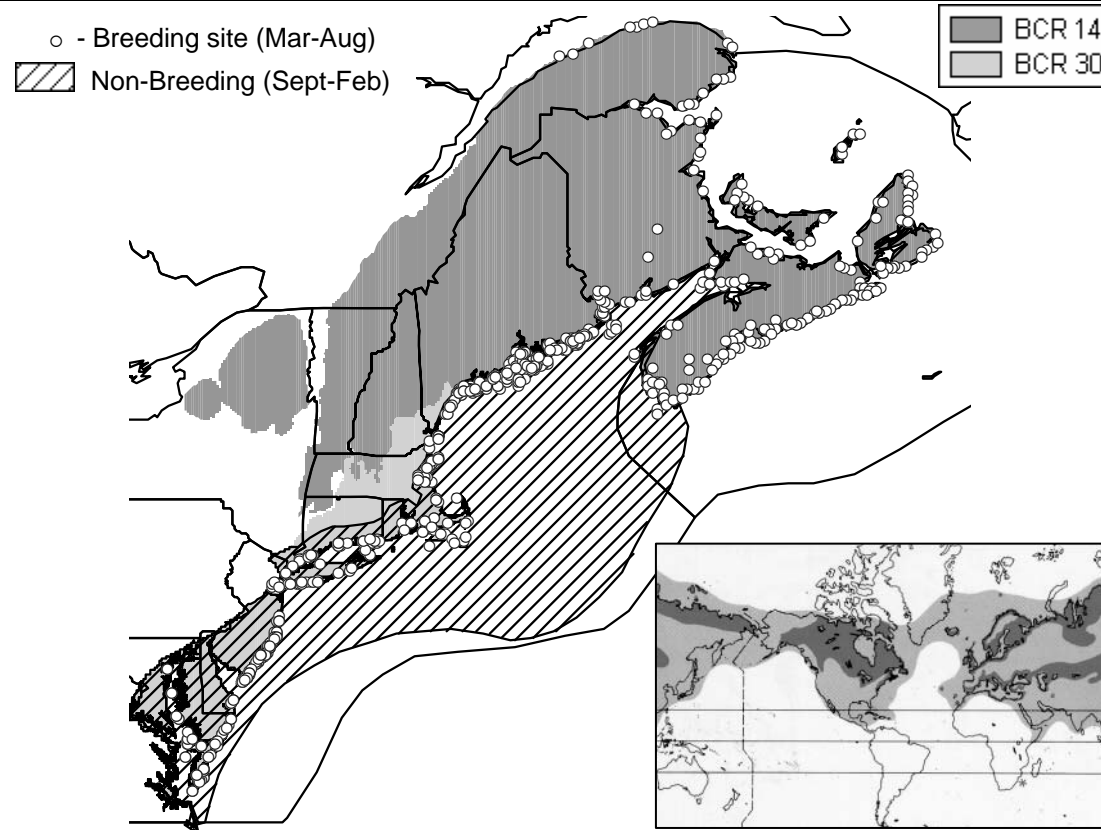


## HERRING GULL (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*)

<b>Conservation Status:</b> 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
2,600,000 – 3,000,000t	>286,000b (14-17% global)	196,182b (69% NA)	90,734b (32% NA)	36,916b (13% MANEM)	36,256b (13% MANEM)	75,244b (26% MANEM)	138,500b (48% MANEM)
IUCN- Least Concern	NAWCP- Low Concern	Moderate Concern	Low Concern	NJ- S5B, S5N; DE-S3B, S5N; MD-S5B, S5N; VA-S4 <b>MANEM Focal Species</b>	NY-S5; CT-S5; RI-S3B, SZN; MA-S5; VT-S4B,S5N <b>MANEM Focal Species</b> State SGCN-RI	MA-S5, NH-S5; ME-S5B, S5N; NB-S5B, S5N; NS-S5B, S5N <b>MANEM Focal Species</b>	QC-S5; NB- S5B, S5N; PE-S5B, S5N; NS-S5B, S5N <b>MANEM Focal Species</b>



### Regional Occurrence

- Distribution: breeds and winters in region
- Habitats used: breeds on seacoasts, bays, estuaries, lakes, rivers, along rocky or sandy coasts, islands, cliffs, on rooftops; forages up to 100 km from colony, typically within 20km; generalist and predator on pelagic and intertidal marine; opportunistic; along rocky shore, low intertidal, shallow subtidal; at sea around submarine features

NAWCP BD=1; NAWCP ND=1

### Regional Abundance

- 1990s: US—148,416b (468 colonies); CAN—138,500b
- 1970s: US—184,278b (414 colonies)
- 19% decrease in US population; declining in Canada

NAWCP PS=2; NAWCP PT=3

### Regional Threats/Limiting Factors

- Population growth limited by availability of suitable nesting and foraging areas
- Disturbance and predation at nesting colonies
- Oil pollution, pesticides, other environmental contamination
- Rising sea levels may reduce available nesting areas
- Reduction in food supply due to over-fishing

NAWCP TB=3; NAWCP TN=2

**Conservation Needs:** *Sustainability:* 3 fledglings/pair/yr. *Conservation Actions:* Population control of Herring Gulls has been conducted by state agencies and private individuals in attempts to provide greater nesting opportunities for other seabirds (terns, puffins, and other species of gulls); efforts appear ineffective on large scale, but successful in smaller colonies; out-competed by Great Black-backed Gulls. *Needs:* monitor, manage on site basis for conflicts with other nesting species, reduce supplemental food sources and conflicts with public. *Population Goals:* maintain (below maximum) at 261,293-319,359b. *Habitat Goals:* Restore/protect breeding habitat in following priority complexes: VA-E Shore Chesapeake Bay Group, Barrier Is Group; MD-Petapsco Group; NJ-Little Egg Harbor; NY-Jamaica Bay Group; RI-Misquamicut, Hope Is Group; MA-National Seashore, Noman's Land, Boston Harbor; ME-Machias Bay, Pleasant Bay; NB-Grand Manan Group; NS-Brier Is; PE-Poverty Beach Group, Oultons Is Group; QC-W St Lawrence. Protect non-breeding habitat of shelf waters of Northeast US Continental Shelf and Gulf of Maine. *Conservation Projects:* 3, 11, 12, 14, 18, 28, 29, 36, 39, 40, 45, 116.