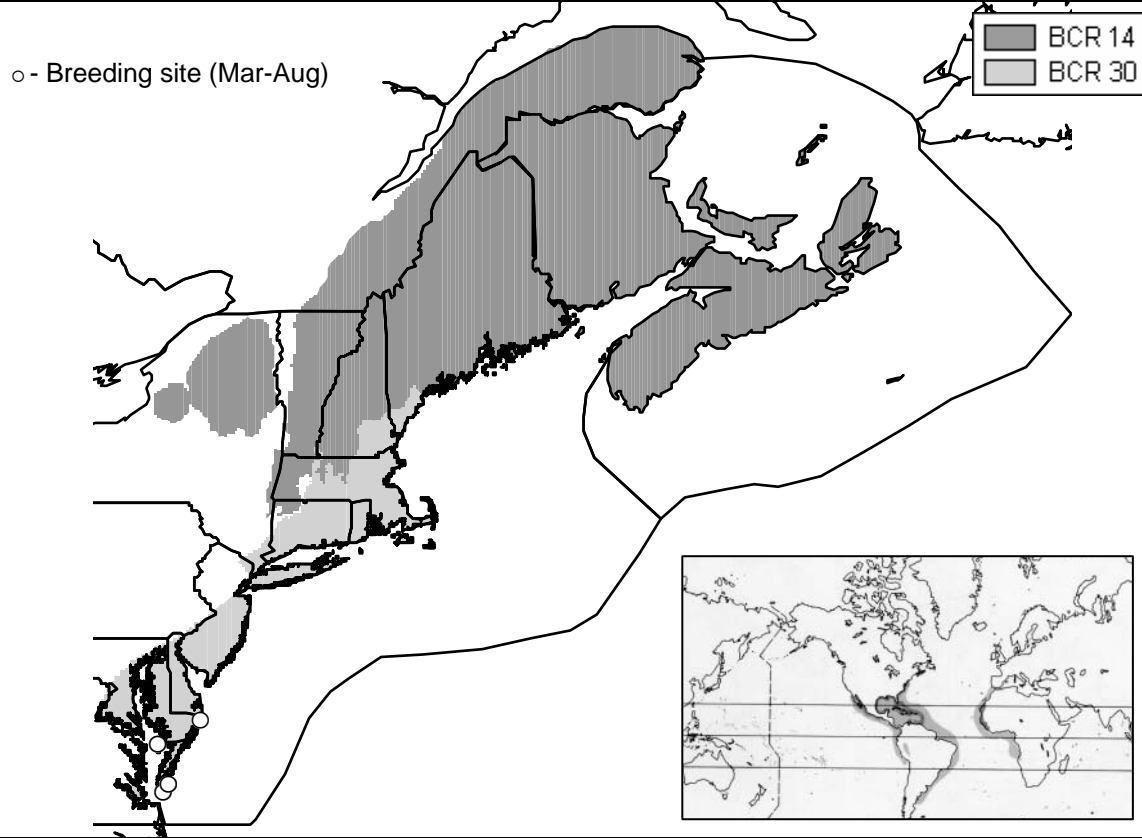


ROYAL TERN (*Sterna maxima maxima*)

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
280,000 – 310,000t	100,000 – 150,000b (54-73% global)	0b (0% NA)	6,343b (4-6% NA)	6,343b (100% MANEM)	0b (0% MANEM)	0b (0% MANEM)	0b (0% MANEM)
IUCN Least Concern	NAWCP- Moderate Concern		Moderate Concern	NJ-S1B; DE-SZN MD-ES1B; VA-S2B, SZN MANEM Focal Species State SGCN-NJ,MD,VA	NY-S?N; CT-SZN; RI- S1N; MA-SN; VT-no info	MA-SN; NH-no info; ME- no info; NB, NS- no info	QC- no info; PE-no info; NB, NS- no info



Regional Occurrence

- Distribution: breeds in BCR 30
- Habitats used: open sandy beaches (breeding); seacoasts, lagoons and estuaries, rarely on lakes (non-breeding); seldom seen foraging inland and seldom wander more than a few km from land; plunge divers

NAWCP BD=3; NAWCP ND=3

Regional Abundance

- 2000s: US—6,343b
- 1990s: US—15,641b (8 colonies); CAN—0b
- 1970s: US—16,808b (5 colony)
- Decrease in regional population; 60% decline since 1990s

NAWCP PS=2; NAWCP PT=3

Regional Threats/Limiting Factors

- Human encroachment (will desert colony and move to new site if disturbed early during egg-laying period)
- Predation, especially mammalian (fox and raccoon)
- Wind farm development

NAWCP TB=4; NAWCP TN=3

Conservation Needs: *Sustainability:* 1 chick/pair/yr (presumed). *Conservation Actions:* Protect nesting colonies from human disturbance (e.g. fencing, sign posting) and predation. *Needs:* assess productivity, manage nesting site predators, monitor, investigate causes of decline. *Population Goals:* restore (increase) to 15,100-18,500b. *Habitat Goals:* Restore/protect breeding habitat in following priority complexes: VA-E Shore Chesapeake Bay Group, Barrier Is Group; MD-Assawoman & Sinepuxent Bays. *Conservation Projects:* 9, 10, 45.