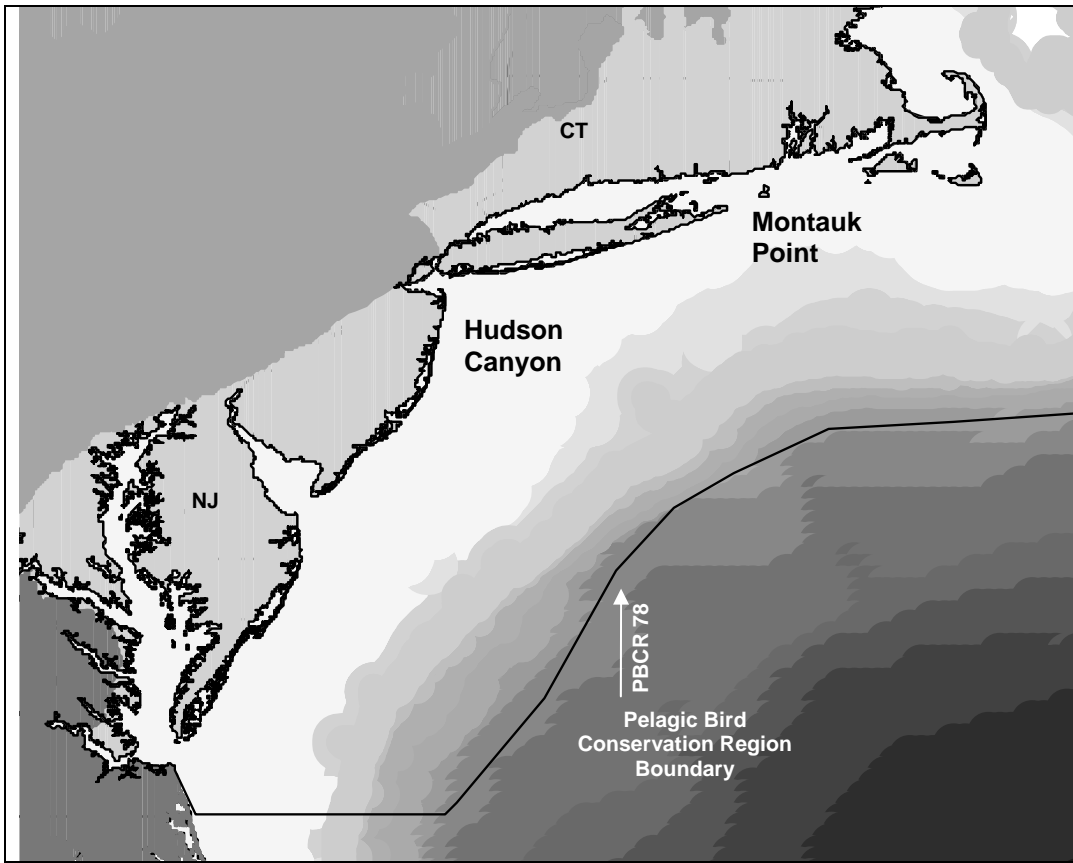


# Northeast US Continental Shelf Important Marine Bird Habitat



**Habitat Description**  
 This area extends from Cape Hatteras to the Gulf of Maine and includes most of Pelagic Bird Conservation Region 78. Overall the Shelf has a temperate climate that is structurally complicated by changing weather patterns, tides, and estuarine interfaces. It is a highly productive area with fisheries an important exploited resource.

**Associated Conservation Projects**  
**Project Numbers:** 13, 27, 28, 29, 43

<b>WATERBIRD USE</b> (MANEM focal species in bold)				
used by 8 waterbird species (7 focal) during breeding and 29 species (19 focal) during nonbreeding season				
Habitats	Nearshore Shelf Waters		Offshore Shelf Waters	Slope Waters
	BHGU, <b>BLKI</b> , BOGU, <b>CATE</b> , <b>COTE</b> , GLGU, <b>GBBG</b> , <b>GRCO</b> , <b>HERG</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , LBBG, LIGU, <b>NOGA</b> , RBGU, <b>ROST</b> , TBMU, <b>RNGR</b> , <b>HOGR</b> , <b>RTLO</b> , <b>COLO</b>		BHGU, <b>BLKI</b> , BOGU, GLGU, <b>GBBG</b> , <b>GRSH</b> , <b>HERG</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , <b>NOGA</b> , <b>RAZO</b> , RBGU, SOSH, SPSK, TBMU, WISP, <b>COLO</b>	<b>AUSH</b> , <b>BLKI</b> , <b>BRTE</b> , <b>GRSH</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , LTJA, SOSH, SPSK, TBMU, WISP
Timing	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Breeding	<b>CATE</b> , <b>COTE</b> , <b>DCCO</b> , <b>GBBG</b> , <b>HERG</b>	<b>CATE</b> , <b>LETE</b> , <b>COTE</b> , <b>DCCO</b> , <b>GBBG</b> , <b>HERG</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , <b>ROST</b>	<b>CATE</b> , <b>LETE</b> , <b>COTE</b> , <b>DCCO</b> , <b>GBBG</b> , <b>HERG</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , <b>ROST</b>	<b>LHSP</b>
Non-breeding	<b>DCCO</b> , LBBG, GLGU, <b>HERG</b> , LIGU, <b>NOGA</b> , RBGU, BHGU, <b>BLKI</b> , <b>COLO</b> , <b>GBBG</b> , <b>GRCO</b> , <b>HOGR</b> , LTJA, MASH, NOFU, <b>RAZO</b> , <b>RNGR</b> , <b>RTLO</b>	<b>DCCO</b> , <b>AUSH</b> , BOGU, GLGU, <b>COSH</b> , <b>GRSH</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , LTJA, MASH, NOFU, SOSH, SPSK, WISP	<b>BRTE</b> , <b>DCCO</b> , LBBG, <b>AUSH</b> , BOGU, <b>HERG</b> , <b>NOGA</b> , RBGU, BHGU, <b>BLKI</b> , <b>COLO</b> , <b>COSH</b> , <b>GBBG</b> , <b>GRCO</b> , <b>GRSH</b> , <b>HOGR</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , MASH, NOFU, <b>RAZO</b> , <b>RNGR</b> , <b>RTLO</b> , SOSH, SPSK, WISP	<b>BRTE</b> , <b>DCCO</b> , LBBG, <b>AUSH</b> , GLGU, <b>HERG</b> , LIGU, <b>NOGA</b> , RBGU, BHGU, <b>BLKI</b> , <b>COLO</b> , <b>COSH</b> , <b>GBBG</b> , <b>GRCO</b> , <b>GRSH</b> , <b>HOGR</b> , <b>LHSP</b> , LTJA, MASH, NOFU, <b>RAZO</b> , <b>RNGR</b> , <b>RTLO</b> , SOSH, SPSK, WISP

<b>HABITAT CONSERVATION</b>		
Threats	Protection	Conservation Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pollution/contaminants</li> <li>• overexploitation of resources</li> <li>• decreases in biomass yields</li> <li>• offshore energy development (e.g. wind)</li> <li>• potential effects of aquaculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State jurisdiction to 3 mi</li> <li>• Federal jurisdiction 3-200 mi</li> <li>• National Marine Fisheries Service, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council</li> <li>• TNC's Mid-Atlantic Bight Seascape program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduction in urban discharges</li> <li>• research of nearshore plankton blooms</li> <li>• monitoring of indicator species</li> </ul>