



Seabird Ecological Assessment Network

The Carolinas Edition

SEANET by the numbers:

- South Carolina has **12 active survey routes**.
- North Carolina has **17 active survey routes**.
- A total of **561 beached bird surveys have been completed** in South Carolina.
- A total of **1,087 beached bird surveys have been completed** in North Carolina.

Inside this issue:

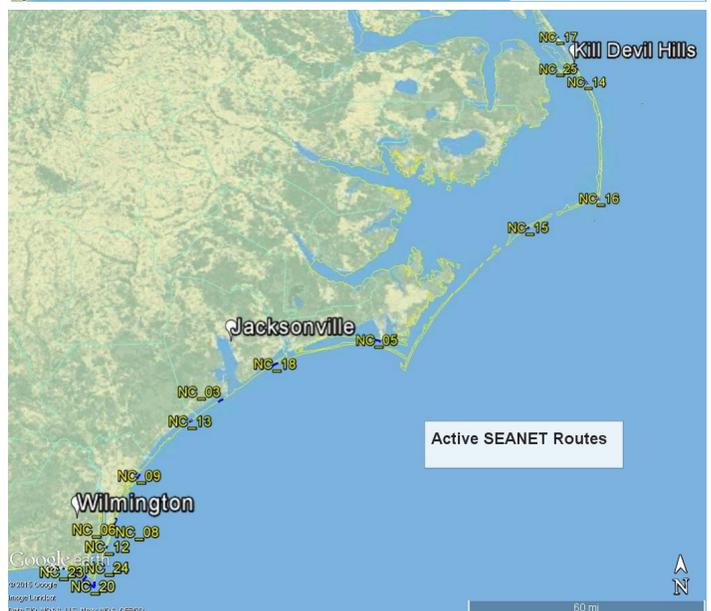
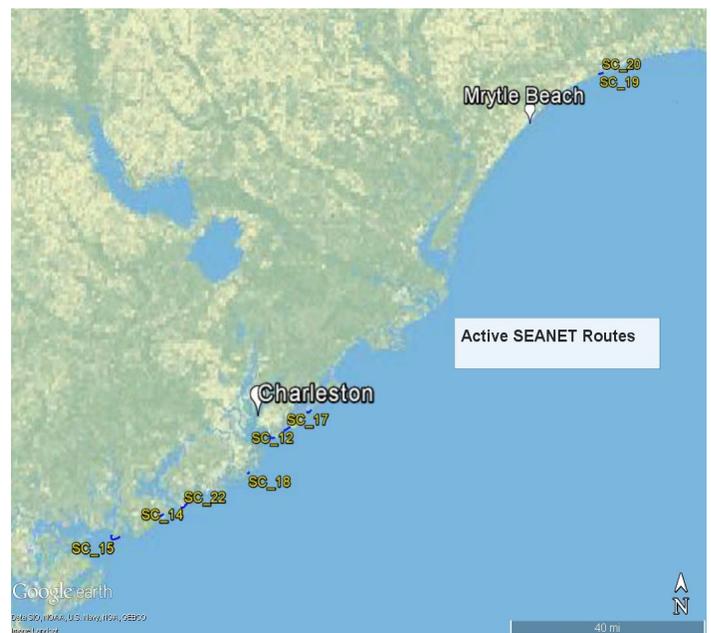
- A new field guide
- Beached birds of the Carolinas
- SEANET Champions!

SEANET in the Carolinas

SEANET started in 2009 in the Carolinas with the first survey route being established in South Carolina. Since that time, it has expanded and currently consists of 29 active routes in North and South Carolina! Dedicated volunteers and Natural Resource Agency staff comb their section of beach to locate beached birds and add to our information about bird mortality along the east coast of the United States.

These data are used to examine the spatial pattern of bird carcass deposition and how it varies across time. In addition, these surveys provide baseline information about bird mortality and can help to detect mass mortality events due to oil spills, algal toxins, and disease outbreaks.

Marine birds serve as indicators of ecosystem and human health; monitoring the threats they face and their mortality patterns can teach us about the health of the marine environment.



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[http://vet.tufts.edu/
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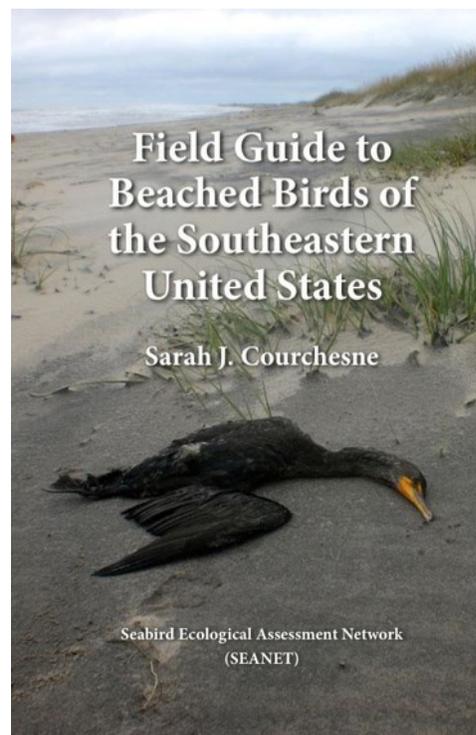


**A big THANK YOU
goes out to all the
SEANET Volunteers!!**

**Without you,
SEANET would not
be possible!**

After multiple years of work, and through generous funding from the USFWS Southeast Region Migratory Bird Division, the Seabird Ecological Assessment Network (SEANET) has published a field guide for the Southeastern U.S.! The guide will be available to members of federal agencies such as NOAA NMFS, USDA Wildlife Services, and USFWS first, and smaller numbers will be made available to citizen scientists monitoring for dead birds along the east coast. For more information about the guide, visit the SEANET blog: <http://seanetters.wordpress.com/2014/11/07/the-field-guides-are-finished/> or contact: John Stanton at (252) 796-2400 or by email at john_stanton@fws.gov

Thanks to all the contributors, volunteer photographers and volunteer editors for all their assistance along the way!



Beached birds of the Carolinas

The most commonly encountered beached birds on survey routes in the Carolinas are:

North Carolina

1. Common Loon
2. Laughing Gull
3. Double-crested Cormorant & Northern Gannet

South Carolina

1. Laughing Gull
2. Common Loon
3. Greater Shearwater & Black Scoter



The SEANET Champions!

Longest running SEANET Routes:

- Karen Beshears (SC)
- Gil Grant & Elizabeth Mead (NC)