

News Release



Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex
340 Smith Road
Shirley, New York 11967

Contact: Michelle Potter - Refuge Manager
Phone: 631 - 286 - 0485
Fax: 631 - 286 - 4003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 31, 2015

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES CONTRIBUTE TO THREATENED SHOREBIRD POPULATIONS

Refuge Manager, Michelle Potter, announces that the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex has completed another successful year for nesting shorebirds at the Elizabeth A. Morton National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Sag Harbor and the Amagansett NWR in East Hampton. We wish to thank refuge visitors for respecting the beach closures, which helped to increase nest success and protect the birds from a variety of disturbances during this very sensitive time.

During the 2015 nesting season, Morton NWR provided habitat for 2 pairs of federally-threatened piping plover and 7 pairs of least terns. One pair of piping plover and 14 pairs of least terns nested at Amagansett NWR this season. The Jessup's Neck Peninsula at Morton NWR and the beach at Amagansett NWR have now re-opened to public access.

Amagansett NWR and Elizabeth A. Morton NWR are part of the larger National Wildlife Refuge System which includes 563 national wildlife refuges throughout the United States. The Long Island NWR Complex is 6,500 acres and consists of 7 national wildlife refuges, 2 refuge sub-units and 1 wildlife management area. The Refuge Complex was established to conserve habitat for migratory birds, protect threatened and endangered species, enhance and restore habitat for native flora and fauna, and provide wildlife-dependent public uses, where appropriate and compatible. For more information, please contact the Refuge Headquarters at 631-286-0485 or visit our website at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/longislandrefuges>

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen visit www.fws.gov.