

# News Release



Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES CONTRIBUTE TO THREATENED SHOREBIRD POPULATIONS

Nesting shorebirds had a challenging, but successful year 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 that were implemented from April 1 to August 31. These closures helped to reduce disturbance and increased nest success. The Jessup's Neck peninsula at Morton NWR and the beach at Amagansett NWR have now re-opened to public access.

In spite of predation and weather challenges, Morton NWR provided habitat for two pairs of federally threatened piping plovers and approximately 50 pairs of state threatened least terns. Two pairs of piping plovers and 17 pairs of least terns also nested at Amagansett NWR.

Amagansett and Elizabeth A. Morton NWRs are part of the larger National Wildlife Refuge System, which includes 566 national wildlife refuges throughout the United States. The Long Island NWR Complex encompasses 6,500 acres and consists of seven national wildlife refuges, two refuge sub-units and one 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](http://www.fws.gov).*

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