

# Nesting Shorebirds & Funding Update



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# Nesting in Collier County

- Main species: Black Skimmers, Wilson's Plovers, Least Terns, and Killdeer
- Solitary vs. Colonial

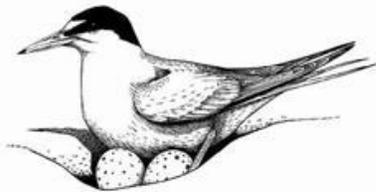




# DO NOT ENTER

## IMPORTANT NESTING AREA

- TEMPORARY POSTING -



**Help save our coastal birds.** Disturbance by people, pets or vehicles can result in nest abandonment and death of young birds.

Harassment or take of endangered or threatened birds, their eggs, or young is a violation of State Law, Chapter 68A-27 F.A.C., and may subject violators to criminal penalties. The attempt to take or possess any migratory bird, their nest, or eggs is a violation of Federal Law, 16 USC Sec. 703.

Funds for this sign provided by the Wildlife Foundation of Florida. Report Violations, call 1-888-404-3922.



Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

MyFWC.com



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# Threats

- Storms/natural disasters
- Predators/Outdoor house cats
- Monofilament/Trash
- Climate change: loss of habitat, food sources
- Disturbance by humans, dogs, vehicles, boats, planes, etc.

**HELP US PROTECT SHOREBIRDS**



**IF BIRDS APPEAR AGITATED OR TAKE FLIGHT,  
YOU ARE TOO CLOSE!**

**HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

- Avoid nesting shorebirds, respect signs
- Enjoy beach activities away from posted areas
- Look out for hard-to-see eggs & chicks on the ground
- Keep your dog on a leash
- Put garbage in its place
- Walk around groups of shorebirds - give them lots of space

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION 

## How You Can Help!



### Contact:

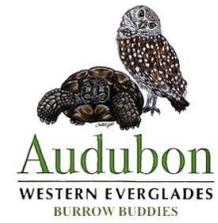
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Audubon Western Everglades  
AWE Biology Blog



[audubonwe.org](http://audubonwe.org)



## Gopher Tortoises

- Marco Island land study complete:  
321 surveys  
293.6 acres  
2961 Potentially Occupied Burrows  
500 Abandoned Burrows  
1481 Estimated Tortoises
- Promotion of specific properties to Conservation Collier.
- Mortality tracking:
- Continued outreach to public.

YEAR	NUMBER HIT
2022	37
2023	32
2024	22
2025	9

## Funding Update

## Burrowing Owls

- Year-round monitoring and maintenance of postings/weed-whacking.
- Around 400 natural sites, around 150 starter burrows.
- Mortality tracking and rescues. Rat poison outreach.
- Increasing starter burrow success:

164 Starters on Marco Island  
56 Excavated  
30 Remained Occupied  
27 Pairs  
24 Nests  
97 Fledged chicks

# Thank You!



## Shorebirds

- Steward and biologist multiple surveys a week August 2025-April 2026.
- Resident's, Dickman's Island, Sand Dollar CWA, Pelican Bay.
- Stewardship and outreach.
- "I give birds space" stickers.
- Banded bird resights.
- Mortality tracking and rescues.