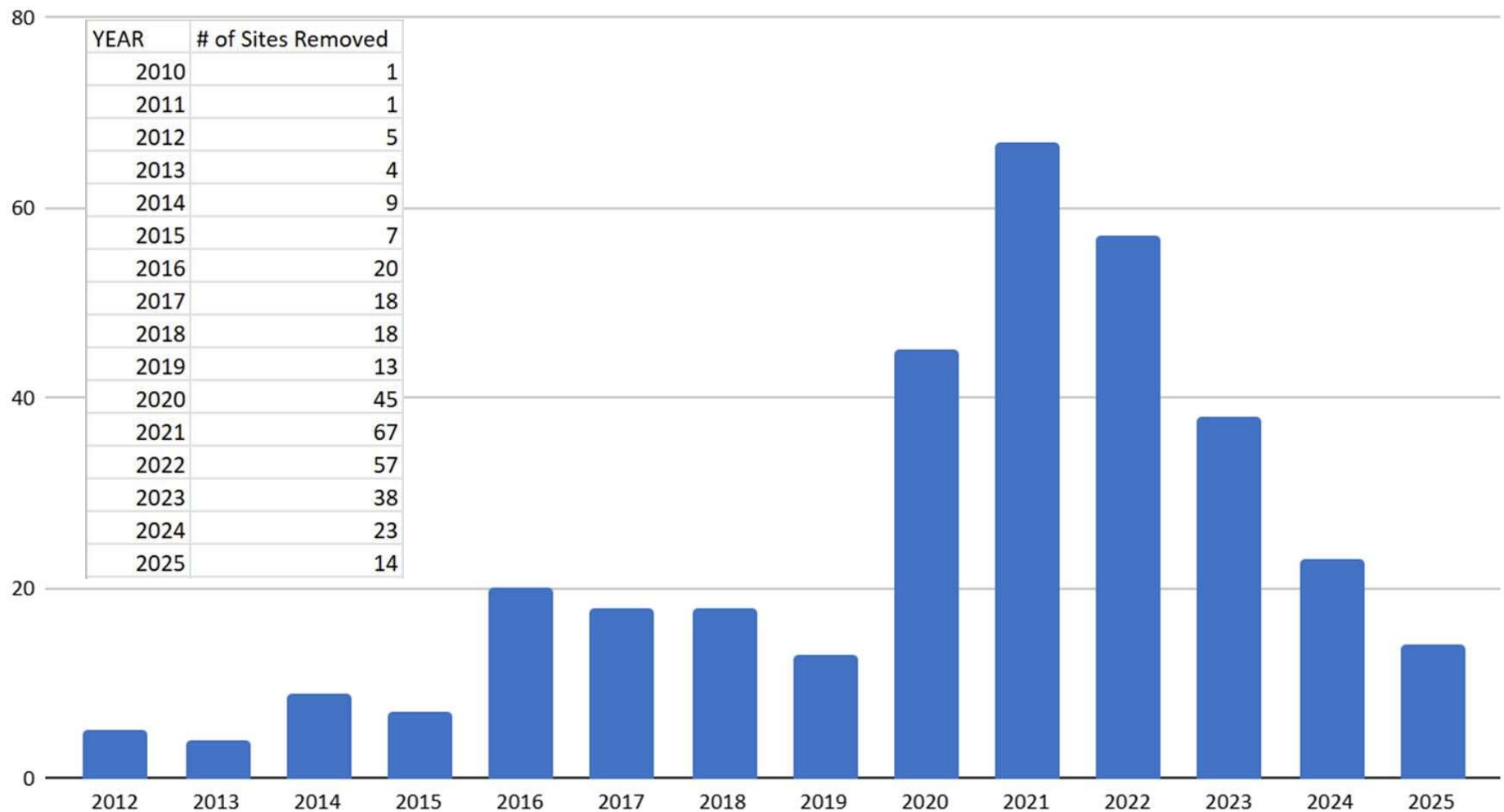


Burrowing Owl Safe Harbor Program-Starter Burrows



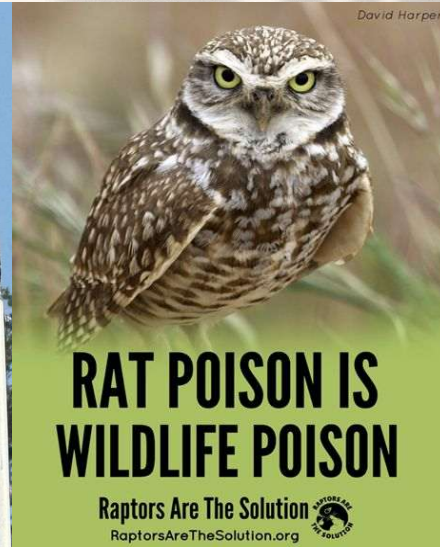
Brittany Piersma
Wildlife Biologist
Audubon Western Everglades

Marco Island-Burrowing Owl Sites Removed



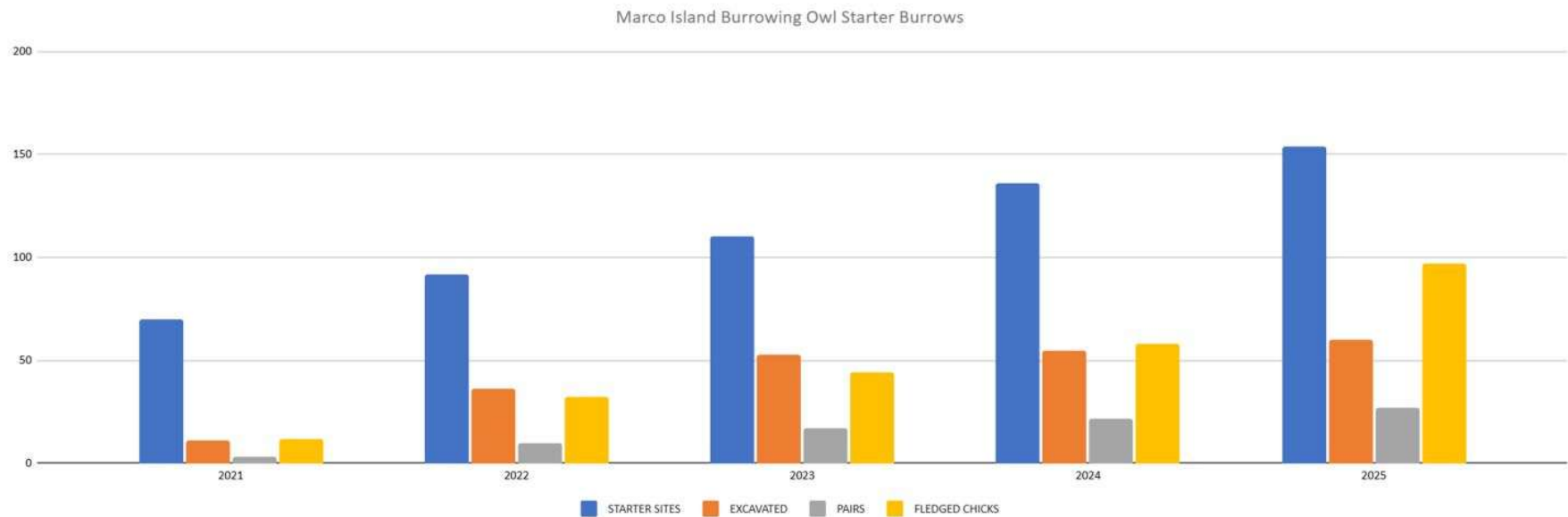
Safe Harbor Program

- Agreement between a willing resident, the City of Marco Island, FWC, and AWE.
- Starter burrows dug in front yards in a small area free of dense vegetation.
- No use of rat poison or outdoor cats.
- Safe Harbor ensures burrow can be removed at any time under a free permit pending no current nesting activity.
- City pays \$250 to owners that attract owls and that dig 18 inches into a burrow.
- One of a kind program with much success!



2021-2025 Starter Burrow Data

MARCO STARTERS								
YEAR					STARTER SITES	EXCAVATED	PAIRS	FLEDGED CHICKS
2021					70	11	3	12
2022					92	36	10	32
2023					110	53	17	44
2024					136	55	22	58
2025					154	60	27	97



2025 Starter Burrow Details

Marco Island

Total Starters: 154

Total Excavated: 60

Total Remained Occupied: 30

Total Pairs: 27

Total Nests: 24

Total Fledged Chicks: 97



- 3 Starters in Fiddlers, 4 starters in Isles of Capri, 5 starters in Esplande, and 1 starter in Naples.

Thank you to the starter burrow team!

2024-2025 Recipients

- **Becky Krisko**
- **Todd & Tamara Goehler**
- **Leanne Richards**
- **Chris Byrne**
- **Mike Fields**
- **Janet Brooks**
- **Nancy Lee Willer**
- **John Grobman**
- **Wayne & Stephanie Lewald**
- **Darid Jonah**
- **John Sidelko**
- **Pam Carey**
- **Susan Revall**



Thank you!



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