Atlantic Flyway Disturbance Project

- Literature Review
  Version I: Alphabetical
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The goal of this literature review was to compile information on the impacts of human
disturbances to shorebird, their habitats, their prey, and information on management recommendations
for reducing human disturbances to shorebirds. We focused on human disturbance to breeding,
migrating, and wintering shorebirds along the Atlantic Flyway. For topics where there was limited
research along the Atlantic Flyway, we also included pertinent information from other areas around the
world. Similarly, for topics where there was minimal research related to shorebirds, we included
information related to non-shorebird, coastal species.

We conducted the literature review in 2017-2018. We started by searching for articles related
to the Atlantic Flyway Shorebird Initiative’s fifteen focal species and top ranked human disturbances
(Mengak and Dayer 2018) throughout online databases such as JSTOR, Science Direct, Google Scholar,
Research Gate, and Springer Link. To ensure a complete and thorough search, backwards and forward
reference searching was implemented to verify that the review was complete. As the literature was
compiled from various sources, it was reviewed, organized, and tagged in a Mendeley database. Tags
are key terms or text labels that are used to identify the contents of an article and group articles of
similar topics. We tagged articles based on their study location, the focal species of the study, the
season in which the research was conducted, the migration status of the focal species (i.e. migrant or
non-migrant), the breeding status of the focal species (i.e. breeding or non-breeding), the study foci (i.e.
the main themes of the study such as education, abundance, signage, nest-site selection, etc.), and
disturbance types (i.e. walking, driving, boating, etc.).

The literature review contains 632 citations that are organized into two documents: Version I
contains a list of the citations in alphabetical order, and Version II contains the citations organized by
key terms/tags. Although these lists are current as of 2017, the documents should continue to be
updated as new information on human disturbance is revealed.


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Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. (1993). *Guidelines for managing recreational use of beaches to protect piping plovers, terns, and their habitats in Massachusetts*.

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Conservation, 15*(1), 151–157. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11852-010-0128-x

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McLachlan, A., Defeo, O., Jaramillo, E., & Short, A. D. (2013). Sandy beach conservation and recreation:
Guidelines for optimising management strategies for multi-purpose use. *Ocean & Coastal

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Stillman, R. A., West, A. D., Clarke, R. T., & Liley, D. (2012). *Solent disturbance and mitigation project phase II: Predicting the impact of human disturbance on overwintering birds in the Solent.*


van Polanen Petel, T., & Bunce, A. (2008). *Feathering the future of Burnett Mary shorebirds*.


Walsh, W., & Scherer, A. (2002). Biological opinion on the effects of completion of sections I and II of the Atlantic Coast of New Jersey beach erosion control project Sea Bright to Manasquan, Monmouth County, New Jersey on the Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus) and Seabeach Amaranth (Am. Retrieved from https://www.fws.gov/northeast/endangered/TEBO/PDFs/Monmouth County Programmatic BO.pdf


