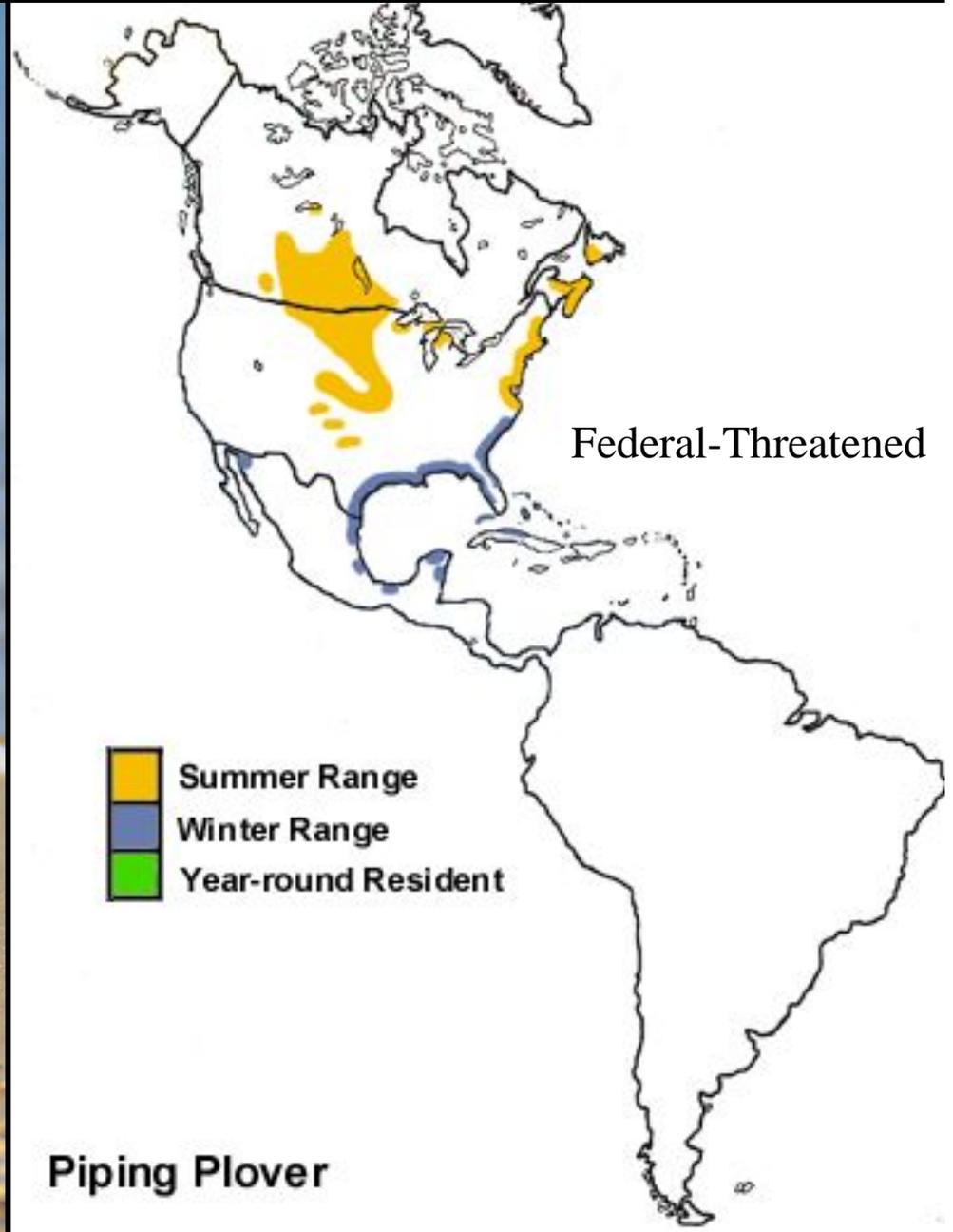


A Speedy Plover Review

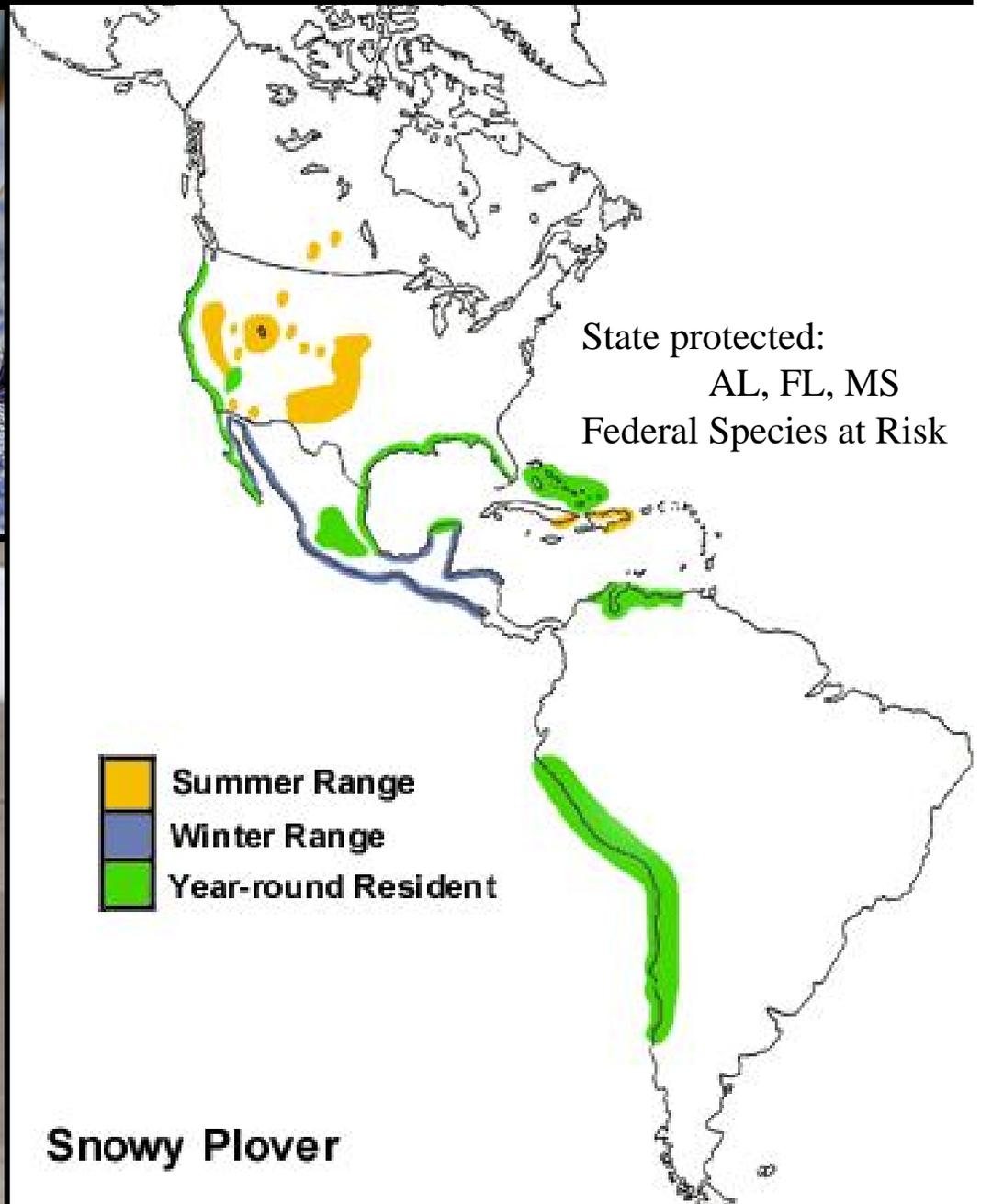
Patty Kelly
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Panama City Field Office, Florida



Biological Data: The Critters and their Status



Biological Data: The Critters and their Status

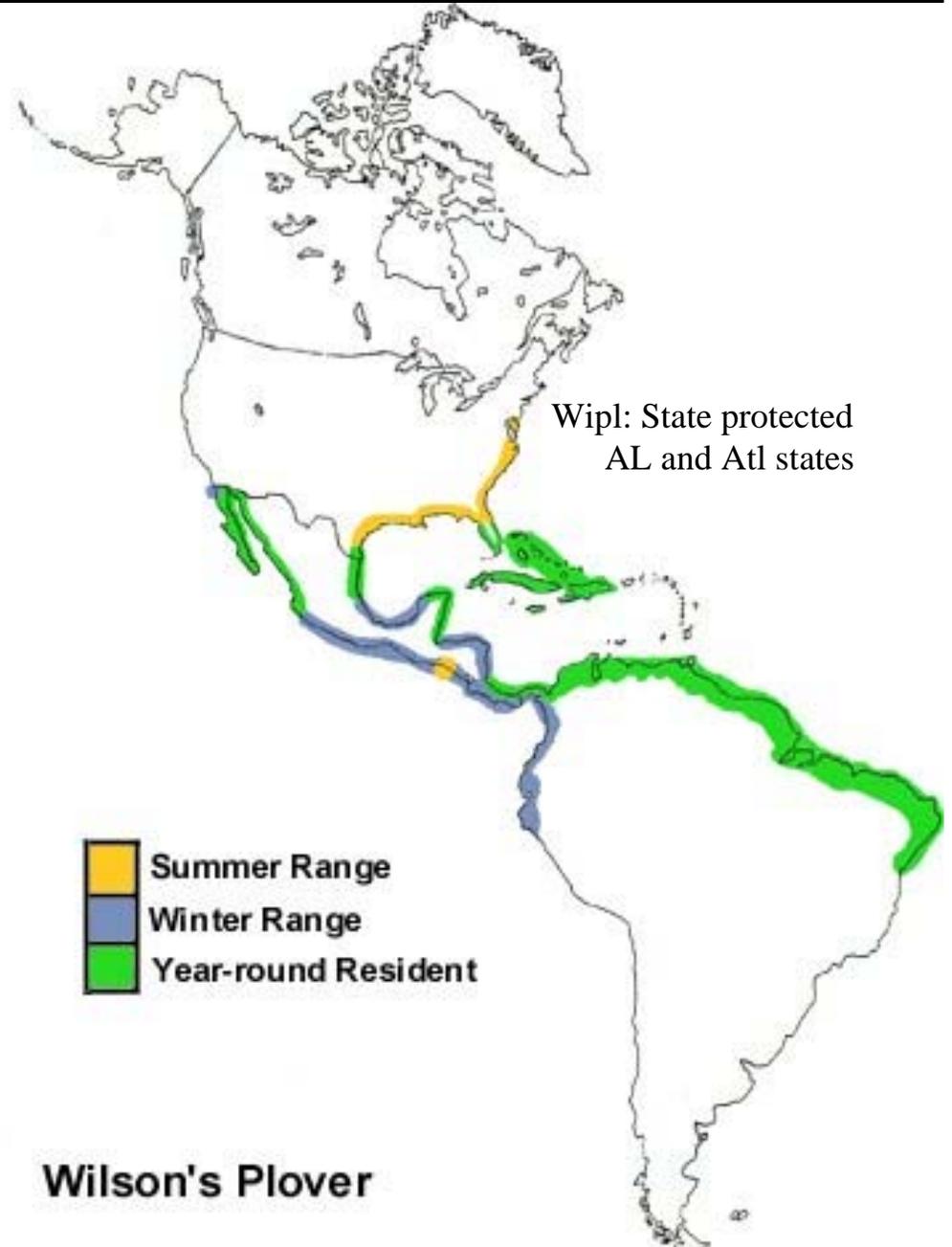


Biological Data: The Critters and their Status

© Peter Wallack



© Staff Hammocks Beach SP



Biological Data: The Critters and their Status

		~total	TX	LA	MS	AL	FL
Pipl	Winter	1947	1042	511	78	29	287
Snpl	Winter	1067	690	36	36	6	299
	Breeding prs	714	481	2	15	3	213
Wipl	Winter	259	unk	unk	0	0	259
	Breeding prs	1650	892	757	unk	1	unk
2001 International Census : winter data for TX and LA for pipl and snpl							
National Audubon 2004: TX snpl breed and wipl breed							
National Audubon 2005: LA LA, MS, AL snpl breed; LA wipl breed							
AL Div of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries: AL wipl breed							
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission 2002: FL snpl breed							
All else: 2006 International Plover Census. FL data not final.							



Biological Data: The Critters and their Status

PIPL Winter Distribution ~80% in Gulf

Location	1991 (%)	1996 (%)	2001 (%)
N. Carolina	<1	2	4
S. Carolina	1	3	3
Georgia	1	5	5
Florida	16	15	17
Alabama	<1	1	1
Mississippi	2	1	1
Louisiana	22	16	21
Texas	55	53	44
Other	2	4	4

Source: Ferland and Haig 2002



Habitat Associations: 2001 Winter Census

Piping Plover:



Snowy Plover :

MACRO

- Islands 73%
- Mainland 16%
- Sandbars 7%
- Unspecified 4%

MICRO

- Mud flats 36%
- Sandy beaches 33%
- Sand/salt flats 23%
- Algal mats 3%
- Oyster reefs 1%
- Gravel shores 0.1%

MACRO

- Islands 58%
- Mainland 34%
- Unspecified 8%

MICRO

- Sandy beaches 32%
- Mud flats 21%
- Sand/salt flats 21%
- Gravel shores 13%
- Algal mats 7%
- Oyster reefs .03%

Source: Ferland and Haig 2002



Habitat Associations: The Key Points

- Need Mosaic of favored habitat types
- Intermittent inundation and exposure
By tidal action
- Episodic Storm Events

Habitat Examples: Mosaic



Habitat Examples: Intermittent exposure

MUDFLAT



Habitat Examples: Islands and Mainlands

Sandy Beaches (not raked)



Habitat Examples: Middle Coast

Algal Mat



Habitat Examples: Island Beach



Sand flats

Habitat Examples: created by storm events

Tidal Pools



Habitat Examples: created by storm events

Islands: sandy beaches: washovers



Habitat Examples: Nesting Habitat



Intact Dunes with sparse vegetation

Management Challenges:

- Development
- **Dredging**
- Offshore Oil
- Recreationists
- Predation
- Beach Cleaning
- **Inlet stabilization**
- **Beach nourishment and stabilization**
- **Shoreline protection projects**



Management Challenges:

Can we merge the needs of people



Management Challenges:

and plovers??

