Waterbird Conservation for the Americas
Conservación de las Aves Acuáticas para las Américas

REPORT
WATERBIRDS IN SINT MAARTEN

(PHOTO: JAY HAVISER)

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1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Sint Maarten is a condominium belonging to France (52 km²) and the Netherlands (33 km²). The center of the island is composed of mountainous areas rising to 425 m. The coastal areas are low hills or flat, punctuated by numerous ponds, primarily of high salinity. Shorelines are characterized by sand or rock beach with interspersed cliffs. Simpson Bay Lagoon, one of the largest lagoons in the Lesser Antilles, is a dominant feature of the island and a major yachting center. The Dutch side of the lagoon is extremely polluted and the shoreline almost completely developed. The terrestrial vegetation is thorny woodland, dominated by scrub in the lowlands and low forest cover in the mountains.

The human population is 39,000 on Dutch Sint Maarten. However, the population increases greatly during the influx of seasonal visitors and tourists, which form the base of the economy.

The average annual temperature is 27ºC and average annual rainfall is 1772 mm. Much of the precipitation arrives during hurricane season in late summer and fall.

The herpetofauna is represented by 11 species, including one endemic *Anolis* species.

As a duty-free island, Dutch St. Maarten is rapidly developing free of sufficient environmental legislation. Ponds and lagoons are routinely filled in and altered while building takes place on steep hillsides. Disturbance due to watercraft, All Terrain Vehicles, and other recreational uses is significant due to the high concentration of residents and tourists.

2. ORNITHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

Although the terrestrial and wetland habitat of St. Maarten has been severely altered over the centuries, it remains an important area for waterbirds. The presence of two ponds having negligible salinity is unique within the region. A total of 164 avian species have been recorded on St. Maarten.

➢ WATERBIRDS –

Fifty species of waterbirds have been recorded on St. Maarten, including eighteen species which breed.

The Near Threatened Caribbean Coot *Fulica caribea* breeds at Fresh Pond (53 adults) and Little Bay Pond (22 adults), sometimes cross-breeding with the American Coot population. Other breeders found at these ponds include Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* (9 pairs), Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* (29 pairs), Great Egret *Casmerodius albus* (6 pairs) and Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* (6 pairs).

Ft. Amsterdam is a significant breeding site for Brown Pelicans, with up to 60 nests in some years. Pelikan Key harbors regionally significant breeding populations of Brown Pelicans (30 nests) and Royal Terns (47 nests).

The Great Salt Pond, which is used as a landfill, is a major staging area for thousands of Laughing Gulls (5,800 individuals) before the breeding season.

3. Protected Areas and Conservation Systems

The Netherlands Antilles has signed various international conventions to protect wildlife but there is no local legislation to allow implementation on St. Maarten, Saba or St. Eustatius. There is a nature ordinance that states that one cannot destroy valuable flora and fauna but no list of species considered valuable. The Hillside Ordinance prohibits construction above 300 meters. New nature protection legislation has been drafted and is pending government approval.

A marine protected area, which includes Pelikan Key and two smaller islets, has been established and moorings have been installed. With the recent creation of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance, funding of the marine park is now more reliable than in the past.

4. Conservation Initiatives

Environmental Protection In the Caribbean (EPIC) is the only organization conducting avian research on St. Maarten. This is the sixth year of seabird and wetland surveys (weekly to monthly), including three years of pond water quality testing. Funding is through private donors, local companies, and many volunteer hours.

Mangrove planting has been done by the Nature Foundation of St. Maarten at Little Bay and Fresh Ponds. This was government funded as part of an agreement associated with airport construction which destroyed another pond.

5. International Conservation Agreements

As part of the Netherlands, St. Maarten is party to the following international agreements:

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Convention on Fishing and Conservation of Living Resources of the High Seas
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar)
- Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
- Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping Wastes and Other Matter (London Convention)
- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling
- International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994
- Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer
- Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships, 1973 (MARPOL)
- Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOS)

6. CONSERVATION CONCERNS

There is no customs, therefore no controls on exotic species introductions. Introduced predators include dogs (*Canus familiaris*), cats (*Felis catus*), rats (*Rattus*), mice (*Mus musculus*), racoon *Procyon Lotor* and mongoose (*Herpestes auropunctatus*). Groups of African Green Monkey or vervet (*Cercopithecus aethiops*), likely originating from St. Kitts or Nevis, have been observed in the higher mountainous areas and could expand to lower elevations as has occurred in St. Kitts. Levels of egging and hunting are unknown, but the subsistence lifestyle has generally been phased out with the increase in tourism sector employment.

Awareness of environmental issues is on the increase due to the work of local organizations and the conspicuous loss of natural areas and wildlife. The conservation concerns of the general public have not yet translated into government action. Development of land and ponds is the primary concern on St. Maarten. Development permits are issued without thorough environmental impact assessments, despite public outcry. Permit restrictions are difficult to impose. Without enforceable legislation, this practice will likely continue.

7. CONSERVATION NEEDS

Researchers have identified high priority waterbird areas. Studies to determine nesting success, especially of Caribbean Coots, are needed to better understand the primary treats facing wetland species. The Brown Pelican colony at Ft. Amsterdam should be studied further to determine the factors influencing fluctuations in the breeding population. Conservation legislation is necessary, especially to protect wetland habitats. The Great Salt Pond should not be used as a landfill or filled to create parking.

8. GLOSSARY

EPIC – Environmental Protection In the Caribbean

9. LOCATIONS

A. Fresh Pond (63^{O} 3.54' West 18^{O} 1.95' North)

Fresh Pond is an oblong pond approximately 2.5 kilometers long and 1 kilometer across. It is located within the capital city of Phillipsburg. Due to the low salinity (2-3 parts per thousand), this pond supports species which are less common in other parts of St. Maarten and the Lesser Antilles.

Ornithological information The Near Threatened Caribbean Coot nests at this site. Two nests have been recorded while a maximum of 53 individuals have been observed. A maximum of 29 Snowy Egrets nests have been recorded in the mangrove trees on the little islets, while 183

individuals have been observed. Five pairs of Pied-billed Grebes have been recorded nesting at Fresh Pond. Two Common Moorhen pairs have been recorded nesting. Great Egret *Casmerodius albus*, White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis*, and Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis* nest at this site as well.

Species	Season	Year	Min-Max
Caribbean Coot *Fulica caribaea*	breeding	2001	53

Protection status Fresh Pond itself, like almost all ponds, is protected as public space and cannot be privately owned. Government may use the pond as it sees best. The area surrounding the pond is developed.

Conservation issues The presence of a sewage treatment plant on the shore of Fresh Pond causes concern regarding contamination. The water is high in nutrients from sewage outflow from surrounding areas, sometimes resulting in fish die-offs due to eutrophication. Trash is prevalent among the shoreline vegetation. Pollution runoff from adjacent roads is problematic. Predators such as cats, dogs, rats, and mongoose frequent the area.

The islet in Fresh Pond where Snowy Egrets nest, which is also an important roost site for other species.

View of Fresh Pond, with bird blind in the distance

B. Ft. Amsterdam (63^{O} 2.37' West 18^{O} 0.73' North)

The site is a peninsula of land approximately 2.5 kilometers long. Fort Amsterdam is a registered historical site, composed of several ruins. The pelican breeding colony is located on the west side of the point, on a slope below the fort. Vegetation is characterized by thorny scrub, composed mainly of *Acacia macracantha* and *A. tortuosa*, reaching over 2 m in height. The colony was on the western side of the point, below the fort. A smaller group of about 10 pelicans has also nested on the eastern side of Fort Amsterdam.

Ornithological information The breeding population of Brown Pelicans at Ft. Amsterdam varies greatly between years. The highest count was 60 nests in 2001, which qualifies as regionally important to the Caribbean Brown Pelican population. The presence of nesting pelicans at Pelikan Key is noted in the literature, but no mention of the Fort Amsterdam colony has been found (Danforth 1930; Voous 1954, 1955a, 1955b, 1983; Voous and Koelers 1967; Pinchon 1976; Hoogerworf 1977; Halewyn and Norton 1984; Rojer 1997; Raffaele et al. 1998; Collazo et al. 2000). The only exception is a note by David Johnston from the same year as the initial sighting in 2001 (Norton and White 2001). The size of the Fort Amsterdam colony would seem to make it more obvious than the smaller and more distant Pelikan Key colony. The area may have been overlooked in the past or possibly it was recently colonized.

Species	Season	Year	Min-Max
Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*	breeding	2001	60

Protection status Fort Amsterdam is a registered historical site, which affords it some protection. The adjacent resort has, in the past, attempted to expand the resort buildings over this registered historical area. Thus far, legal challenges to this action have protected the site. Public access to the site is controlled by the resort's security checkpoint.

Conservation issues The threat of development could arise if government alters its view of the historical and environmental value of Fort Amsterdam. Increasing tourism will likely cause more disturbances from speeding watercraft.

Ft. Amsterdam Peninsula viewed from across Little Bay. Divi Resort is at the left. Pelicans nest on rocks and shrubs along the coastline. EPIC@2006

Brown Pelican juveniles, adults, and chicks in nest in scrub at Ft. Amsterdam.
EPIC@2006

C. Great Salt Pond (63^{O} 2.78' West 18^{O} 1.85' North)

Great Salt Pond is the largest pond on St. Maarten/Martin and borders the capital Philipsburg. The pond is bordered on all sides by busy roads and pollution from the urban area and landfill is a major concern.

Ornithological information Laughing Gulls congregate at this site prior to the breeding season. The highest recorded population was 5,800 individuals. Based on BirdLife's Caribbean Laughing Gull population estimate of 15,000 individuals, this congregation represents a significant portion of the regional population. It is not clear if this occurred historically or if the gulls now assemble to feed from the landfill. The only species confirmed to breed at this site is the Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* (estimated 50 pairs).

Species	Season	Year	Min-Max
Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla*	resident	2001	5800

Protection status Great Salt Pond is unprotected and not near a protected area.

Conservation issues Pollution leaching from the landfill caused ecological collapse in 2006, and possibly other years, resulting in a massive midge infestation which plagued Philipsburg. The government began an intensive six week pesticide application to alleviate the infestation. Trash from the landfill and town is blown into the pond. Fires at the landfill occur several times a year. Land "reclamation" is used to create parking areas, carnival grounds, and other facilities within the pond. Water levels are artificially raised and lowered using seawater, which can result in flooded nests and altered salinity levels.

Great Salt Pond near the landfill

Great Salt Pond is at the left, with the landfill and pond fill visible in the center of the pond. The capital of Philipsburg separates the pond from the ocean at right.

D. Little Bay (63^{O} 3.77' West 18^{O} 1.35' North)

Site description Little Bay Pond is approximately 2.5 kilometers in diameter. It is located near the capital city of Phillipsburg but remains fairly undeveloped. Due to the low salinity (4-8 parts per thousand), this pond supports species uncommon in other parts of St. Maarten and the Lesser Antilles.

Ornithological information The Near Threatened Caribbean Coot nests at this site. Two nests have been recorded while a maximum of 22 individuals have been observed. Four pairs of Pied-billed Grebes have been recorded nesting at Fresh Pond. Four Common Moorhen pairs have been recorded nesting. White-cheeked Pintail and Ruddy Duck nest at this site as well

Species	Season	Year	Min-Max
Caribbean Coot *Fulica caribaea*	breeding	2001	22

Protection status Little Bay Pond has no legal protection, although its aesthetic and ecological value have inspired residents to fight for its protection.

Conservation issues The pond is owned by a foreign development corporation and is up for sale. Previous development proposals have sought to dredge the pond and turn it into a marina, which would support a proposed resort. Local opposition halted these plans but no legal protections exist for the site. However, the legality of owning this pond has been questioned as all ponds are supposed to be public land. The water is high in nutrients from sewage outflow from surrounding areas, sometimes resulting in fish die-offs due to eutrophication. Trash is prevalent among the shoreline vegetation. Pollution runoff from adjacent roads is problematic. Predators such as cats, dogs, rats, and mongoose frequent the area.

Little Bay Pond mangroves in 2005

Participants in a free bird walk at Little Bay Pond sponsored by EPIC

E. Pelikan Key (63^{O} 1.09' West 18^{O} 1.08' North)

Pelikan Key is a small rocky islet about 3 acres in size located approximately one mile southeast of St. Maarten.

Ornithological information Audubon's Shearwater *Puffinus lherminieri* is suspected of breeding at Pelikan Key in unknown numbers due to the presence of fledglings in March and May (Voous and Koelers 1967) although none were seen in June 2004 (EPIC, unpublished data). Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis* breeds annually, with a maximum record of thirty-five nests (Voous 1983). One hundred breeding pairs of Laughing Gulls *Larus atricilla* were estimated in 2004. Royal Tern *Sterna maxima* observations included 47 nests with eggs and 90 individuals. Bridled Tern Sterna *anaethetus* eggs were found and 15 nests estimated based on the number of adults calling (EPIC, unpublished data). Brown Noddy *Anous stolidus* reported as breeding in unknown numbers by Voous and Hoogerwerf in 1970s and 80s but none observed in 2004 by EPIC (unpublished data).

Species	Season	Year	Min-Max
Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*	breeding	1983	35
Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla*	breeding	2004	100
Royal Tern *Sterna maxima*	breeding	2004	90

Protection status Pelikan Key lies within a marine protected area where jet skis, fishing, anchoring, and ship traffic is prohibited.

Conservation issues Threats are limited within the IBA. There is no evidence of rodents or other predators. Threats to birds using the IBA are primarily outside, such as overfishing, oil spills, and plastics entanglement.

Pelikan Key main section

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Table 1. Waterbirds occurrence, distribution, habitat and population estimates in Sint Marteen.							
Family	**Species**	**English name**	**Category (IUCN)**	**Occurence**	**Population estimate**	**Distribution**	**In-country trends**
Anatidae	Dendrocygna bicolor	Fulvous Whistling-duck	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Dendrocygna arborea	West Indian Whistling-duck	VU	Passage			
Anatidae	Dendrocygna autumnalis	Black-bellied Whistling-duck	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Aix sponsa	Wood Duck	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Anas strepera	Gadwall	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Anas americana	American Wigeon	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	LC	Passage	2	Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Anatidae	Anas discors	Blue-winged Teal	LC	Winter	20	Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Anatidae	Anas clypeata	Northern Shoveler	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	

Anatidae	Anas bahamensis	White-cheeked Pintail	LC	Resident	150	Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Anatidae	Anas acuta	Northern Pintail	LC	Passage	2	Fresh Pond;	
Anatidae	Aythya collaris	Ring-necked Duck	LC	Passage	7	Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Anatidae	Aythya affinis	Lesser Scaup	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Anatidae	Aythya marila	Great Scaup	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Bucephala albeola	Bufflehead	LC	Passage			
Anatidae	Oxyura jamaicensis	Ruddy Duck	LC	Passage/Resident	175	Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Procellariidae	Puffinus lherminieri	Audubon's Shearwater	LC	Breeding	10	Pelikan Key	
Hydrobatidae	Oceanites oceanicus	Wilson's Storm-petrel	LC	Passage			
Podicipedidae	Tachybaptus dominicus	Least Grebe	LC	Resident			

Podicipedidae	Podilymbus podiceps	Pied-billed Grebe	LC	Resident	Aa	Fresh Pond; Little Bay;Great Salt Pond	
Threskiornithidae	Plegadis falcinellus	Glossy Ibis	LC	Passage			
Threskiornithidae	Platalea ajaja	Roseate Spoonbill	LC	Passage			
Ardeidae	Nycticorax nycticorax	Black-crowned Night-heron	LC	Resident		Little Bay	
Ardeidae	Nyctanassa violacea	Yellow-crowned Night-heron	LC	Resident	10	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond; Ft Amsterdam	
Ardeidae	Butorides virescens	Green Heron	LC	Resident	30	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Ardeidae	Bubulcus ibis	Cattle Egret	LC	Resident	500	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	

Ardeidae	Ardea herodias	Great Blue Heron	LC	Winter	10	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Ardeidae	Casmerodius albus	Great Egret	LC	Resident	30	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Ardeidae	Egretta rufescens	Reddish Egret	LC	Passage		Little Bay	
Ardeidae	Egretta tricolor	Tricoloured Heron	LC	Resident	1	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Ardeidae	Egretta caerulea	Little Blue Heron	LC	Resident		Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Ardeidae	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Ardeidae	Egretta thula	Snowy Egret	LC	Resident	225	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	

Phaethontidae	Phaethon aethereus	Red-billed Tropicbird	LC	Passage	30		
Phaethontidae	Phaethon lepturus	White-tailed Tropicbird	LC	Passage	20		
Fregatidae	Fregata magnificens	Magnificent Frigatebird	LC	Resident	40	Ft Amsterdam; Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond;Little Bay	
Pelecanidae	Pelecanus occidentalis	Brown Pelican	LC	Resident	125	Ft Amsterdam; Pelikan Key; Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond;Little Bay	
Pelecanidae	Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	American White Pelican	LC	Passage			
Sulidae	Sula dactylatra	Masked Booby	LC	Passage			
Sulidae	Sula sula	Red-footed Booby	LC	Passage			
Sulidae	Sula leucogaster	Brown Booby	LC	Passage	30	Ft Amsterdam	
Phalacrocoracidae	Phalacrocorax brasilianus	Neotropic Cormorant	LC	Passage			

Phalacrocoracidae	Phalacrocorax auritus	Double-crested Cormorant	LC	Passage		Great Salt Pond	
Rallidae	Porzana carolina	Sora	LC	Winter	1	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Rallidae	Porphyrio martinica	Purple Gallinule	LC	Resident		Little Bay	
Rallidae	Gallinula chloropus	Common Moorhen	LC	Resident	65	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Rallidae	Fulica americana	American Coot	LC	Passage	30	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Rallidae	Fulica caribaea	Caribbean Coot	NT	Resident	30	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Haematopodidae	Haematopus palliatus	American Oystercatcher	LC	Non-breeding	5	Great Salt Pond,	
Recurvirostridae	Himantopus mexicanus	Black-necked Stilt	LC	Resident	300	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	

Charadriidae	Pluvialis dominica	American Golden Plover	LC	Passage			
Charadriidae	Pluvialis squatarola	Grey Plover	LC	Passage	41	Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Charadriidae	Charadrius semipalmatus	Semipalmated Plover	LC	Passage	150	Great Salt Pond	
Charadriidae	Charadrius wilsonia	Wilson's Plover	LC	Resident	20	Great Salt Pond	
Charadriidae	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer	LC	Resident	10	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Charadriidae	Charadrius alexandrinus	Kentish Plover	LC	Passage			
Charadriidae	Charadrius collaris	Collared Plover	LC	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Gallinago gallinago	Common Snipe	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Limnodromus griseus	Short-billed Dowitcher	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Limosa haemastica	Hudsonian Godwit	LC	Passage		Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Numenius phaeopus	Whimbrel	LC	Passage		Great Salt Pond	

Scolopacidae	Bartramia longicauda	Upland Sandpiper	LC	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Tringa melanoleuca	Greater Yellowlegs	LC	Passage	5	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Tringa flavipes	Lesser Yellowlegs	LC	Passage	25	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Tringa solitaria	Solitary Sandpiper	LC	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Actitis macularius	Spotted Sandpiper	LC	Passage	10	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Catoptrophorus semipalmatus	Willet	LC	Non-breeding		Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Arenaria interpres	Ruddy Turnstone	LC	Passage	40	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond;Ft Amsterdam	
Scolopacidae	Calidris canutus	Red Knot	LC	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Calidris alba	Sanderling	LC	Passage	50	Great Salt Pond	

Scolopacidae	Calidris pusilla	Semipalmated Sandpiper	LC	Passage	40	Great Salt Pond; Little Bay	
Scolopacidae	Calidris mauri	Western Sandpiper	LC	Passage		Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Calidris minutilla	Least Sandpiper	LC	Passage		Great Salt Pond; Little Bay	
Scolopacidae	Calidris fuscicollis	White-rumped Sandpiper	LC	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper	LC	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Calidris himantopus	Stilt Sandpiper	LC	Passage	3	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Scolopacidae	Tryngites subruficollis	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	NT	Passage			
Scolopacidae	Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	LC	Passage			
Laridae	Larus delawarensis	Ring-billed Gull	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond; Great Salt Pond	
Laridae	Larus marinus	Great Black-backed Gull	LC	Passage	1	Fresh Pond; Great Salt Pond	

Laridae	Larus argentatus	Herring Gull	LC	Passage		Fresh Pond; Great Salt Pond	
Laridae	Larus fuscus	Lesser Black-backed Gull	LC	Passage	15	Fresh Pond; Little Bay; Great Salt Pond	
Laridae	Larus ridibundus	Black-headed Gull	LC	Passage	2	Fresh Pond; Great Salt Pond	
Laridae	Larus atricilla	Laughing Gull	LC	Resident	6,000	Ft Amsterdam; Pelikan Key; Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond;Little Bay	
Laridae	Sterna nilotica	Gull-billed Tern	LC	Passage			
Laridae	Sterna maxima	Royal Tern	LC	Resident	40	Pelikan Key; Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond;Little Bay	

Laridae	Sterna sandvicensis	Sandwich Tern	LC	Passage		Pelikan Key; Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond;Little Bay	
Laridae	Sterna dougalli	Roseate Tern	LC	Passage			
Laridae	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern	LC	Passage		Little Pond	
Laridae	Sterna forsteri	Forster's Tern	LC	Passage			
Laridae	Sterna antillarum	Least Tern	LC	Breeding	20	Pelikan Key; Fresh Pond;Great Salt Pond;Little Bay	
Laridae	Sterna anaethetus	Bridled Tern	LC	Breeding	Aa	Pelikan Key	
Laridae	Sterna fuscata	Sooty Tern	LC	Passage			
Laridae	Anous stolidus	Brown Noddy	LC	Breeding		Pelikan Key	
Stercorariidae	Stercorarius pomarinus	Pomarine Jaeger	LC	Passage			