



Waterbird Conservation Plan: 2006-2010

Mid-Atlantic/New England/Maritimes Region

MANEM Waterbird Working Group

December 2006

Abstract. A partnership of organizations and individuals working to facilitate waterbird conservation in the Mid-Atlantic/New England/Maritimes (MANEM) region of the US and Canada has developed a regional waterbird conservation plan to be implemented during 2006-2010. Over 200 partners comprising the MANEM Waterbird Working Group have compiled and interpreted technical information on the region's waterbird populations and habitats, assessed conservation status of these natural resources, developed strategies to ensure the persistence of sustainable waterbird populations in the region, and identified near-term priorities. MANEM partners include wildlife managers, scientists, policy makers, educators and funders.

The MANEM region consists of Bird Conservation Regions 14 (Atlantic Northern Forest) and 30 (New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast), and Pelagic Bird Conservation Regions 78 (Northeast US Continental Shelf) and 79 (Scotian Shelf). Seventy-four waterbird species utilize habitats in MANEM for breeding, migrating and wintering. Avian families include Gaviidae (loons), Podicipedidae (grebes), Procellariidae (shearwaters), Hydrobatidae (storm-petrels), Sulidae (boobies), Pelecanidae (pelicans), Phalacrocoracidae (cormorants), Ardeidae (herons), Threskiornithidae (ibises), Rallidae (rails), Laridae (gulls, terns), Stercoraridae (skuas, jaegers) and Alcidae (alcids). Partners in four subregions of MANEM selected 43 Focal Species for immediate conservation action.

The plan consists of technical appendices on 1) waterbird populations including occurrence, status, and conservation needs, 2) waterbird habitats and locations within the region that are critical to waterbird sustainability, 3) MANEM partners and regional expertise for waterbird conservation, and 4) conservation project descriptions that present current and proposed research, management, habitat acquisition, and education activities. Summarized information on waterbirds and their habitats provide a regional perspective for local conservation action. An Executive Summary and Abstract provide concise information in a popular format on near-term waterbird conservation priorities for the Mid-Atlantic/New England/Maritimes region of North America.

The MANEM Waterbird Conservation Plan is being implemented within the context and framework of the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan—a project of the Waterbird Conservation for the Americas Initiative (www.waterbirdconservation.org). The MANEM Working Group welcomes participation from all those interested in waterbird conservation and management. To learn more about waterbird conservation in the region, visit www.waterbirdconservation.org/MANEM. To contact the steering committee, email Kathy Parsons (waterbirds@manomet.org) or Scott Johnston (Scott_Johnston@fws.gov).

