

PACIFIC BROWN PELICAN SURVEY

Fall 2018 Summary Results



S. Carpenter

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Starting in 2016, the Pacific Brown Pelican Survey is a joint effort of the West Coast Audubon network, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and other partners. The goal is to conduct biannual surveys to help define distribution and abundance of Brown Pelicans and track shifts in population structure.



WHY COUNT BROWN PELICANS?

The California Brown Pelican subspecies (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*) was removed from the Endangered Species list in 2009. In recent years Brown Pelican productivity at the Channel Islands and across the range has been poor, and key forage species including anchovy have collapsed raising questions and concerns about recruitment to the breeding population and ultimately the health of the subspecies.

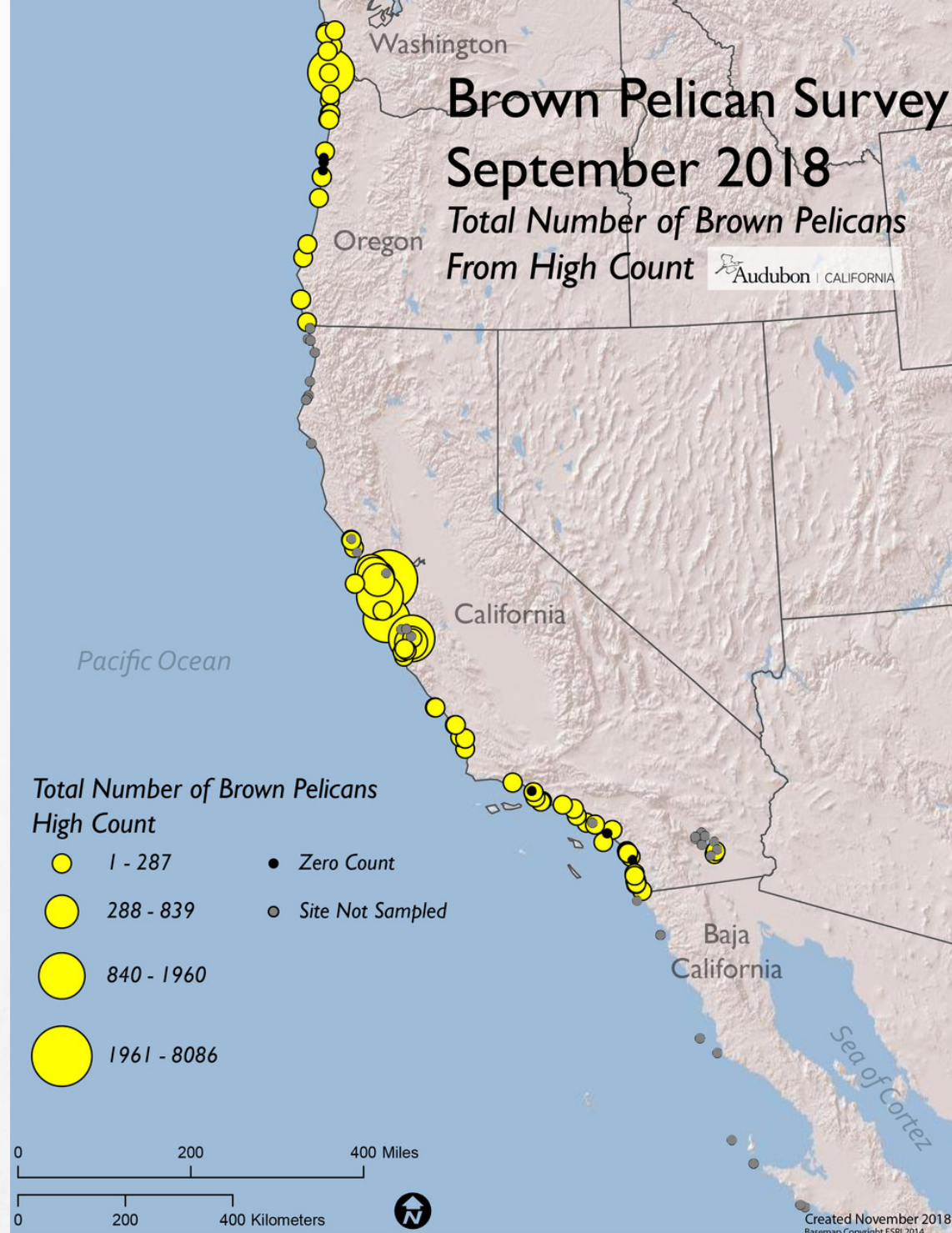
**THIS PROJECT RELIES ON
VOLUNTEER "COMMUNITY
SCIENTISTS" TO COLLECT DATA.**



SUMMARY

Coast-wide Results | Fall 2018

- 83 out of 116 known roost sites were monitored across the West Coast from California to Washington by 158 volunteers. Baja California sites were not surveyed.
- A total of 20,682 Brown Pelicans were counted during the survey - see map for relative abundance.
- ~ 88% of surveyed pelicans were aged as "adult" or "juvenile". The percentage of adults to juveniles was 65.9% to 34.1% with the highest proportion of juveniles in Washington.
- 8 pelicans were resighted with color-leg bands in California contributing to on-going seabird rehabilitation research.



Haley Crews

For more information visit: <http://ca.audubon.org/brownpelicansurvey>

Get involved! California contact: Anna Weinstein (aweinstein@audubon.org) | Oregon contact: Joe Liebezeit (jliebezeit@audubonportland.org) | Washington contact: Trina Bayard (tbayard@audubon.org) | Baja California contact: Yuliana Bedolla (yuliana.bedolla@islas.org.mx)