

Progress Report to Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust

Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Contract # 098

Report Period: 1 December – 31 December, 2025

GCBO team members continued our non-breeding shorebird surveys, targeted at documenting the location of multiple shorebird species on concern. We continued to use eBird data to identify locations to survey beyond our traditional survey routes. Our team visited 167 different eBird locations, though many locations were close to each other along roads. Only three oystercatchers were found during the surveys, two of which were found at a known breeding site. No oystercatchers were found during our standard non-breeding surveys.

The remaining transmitters from PathTrack arrived at the office. We also ordered the rest of the supplies needed for the transmitter harnesses. Finally, one of our partners reached out regarding the trapping and tagging schedule, so we began working on setting up the dates for the tagging portion of the project. Tagging will begin in late January, pending weather.