

## **Progress Report to Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust**

### **Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Contract # 098**

**Report Period:** 1 November – 30 November, 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 49 different eBird locations, but only found 2 oystercatchers. No oystercatchers were found during our standard non-breeding surveys. Several target sites were not accessible due to road access issues or gated communities; we will continue contacting authorities and local communities to see if we can get access. Additional target areas are only accessible via boat (i.e., barrier islands), which will not be able to be surveyed at this time due to scheduling.

The two test transmitters from PathTrack arrived and were tested. They functioned as expected, taking a fix every hour day and night except when satellite connection was poor. The error rate was found to be exceptionally low. Traditional satellite tags commonly have error rates of several hundred meters depending on conditions. The error rate on these two tags was less than 70m, with most fixes within 40-50m. This means we will be able to assess habitat quality and use at a fine scale during this study, if these error rates hold after deployment.