



Where are the Terns?

You can help.

Photo: Martin Renner



Aleutian terns may have declined up to 85% in Alaska in recent decades.

We don't know why.

New information is needed to assist a species status assessment by the US Fish & Wildlife Service. You can help document colony locations and numbers.

Even surveys from years ago are valuable. We need:

- > colony location
- > size
- > date
- > what species present

If you can help, or would like data sheets or protocols, please contact Heather_Renner@fws.gov

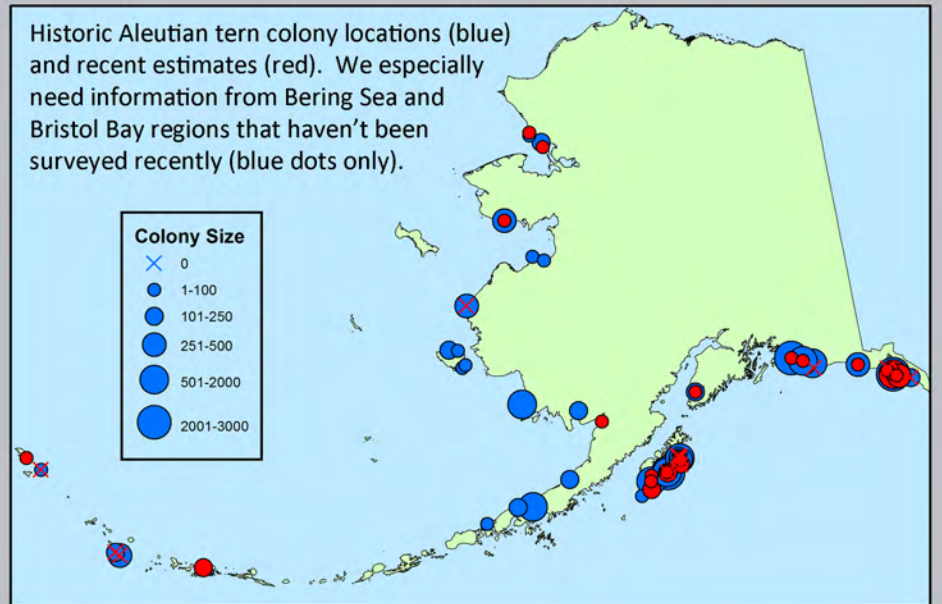


Photo: Martin Renner

Aleutian Tern, adult in breeding plumage.
Note: black bill and legs, black cap with white forehead, darker gray plumage.



Photo: Glen Tepke (pbase.com/gtepke)

Arctic Tern, adult in breeding plumage.
Note: red bill and legs, solid black cap and forehead, paler gray plumage.



Photo: Glen Tepke (pbase.com/gtepke)

Arctic Tern, subadult.
Note: similar to Aleutian Tern, but black cap does not extend all the way through eye to bill.



Photo: Martin Renner



Photo: Martin Renner



Photo: Mike Denega



Photo: Jeff Frederick

Aleutian terns are coastal, colonial seabirds, nesting in Alaska and the Russian Far East, and wintering off Southeast Asia. They often nest together with Arctic terns on flat vegetated islands, sandy spits, or in freshwater marshes or tundra. Nests can be inconspicuous and are very susceptible to disturbance.