

## Moist Substrate Habitats For Piping Plovers on the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Coasts

Jim Fraser  
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences  
Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Phone: (540) 231-6064  
Email: [FRASER@vt.edu](mailto:FRASER@vt.edu)

Moist substrates are important foraging habitats for piping plovers. Such habitats appear to enhance chick survival, particularly in the southern part of the plover's breeding range. Moreover, the distribution and size of such habitats play an important role in determining the distribution and abundance of breeding and wintering plovers. In this paper, I provide a brief overview of piping plover use of moist substrate habitats, and suggest the management implications of this information.