

Level 1 Parent Threat	Level 2 in survey	Priority Level 3 Threats	Atlantic Coast Level 3 Priority Threats
	1.3	Tourism and Recreational Areas: Tourist sites or recreational facilities with a significant ecological footprint. Includes local dredging in docks and marinas. Excludes residential infrastructures.	
		1.3.5	Docks & marinas: High-impact infrastructures that are associated with recreational boating. To be distinguished from the activity of recreational boating itself. Includes local dredging for boat travel off the main navigation channels. E.g., docks, marinas, boat launches.
5	Biological Resource Use: Threats that are due to the use/consumption of wild biological resources, including the impacts of legal, illegal and unintentional harvesting. The disturbance and control of certain species falls under this threat category, which includes habitat conversion and degradation, the development of related infrastructure as well as the uses and practices that are associated with the latter (e.g., use of machinery, wood storage, soil management). Excludes the transport of resources (e.g., logging roads, threat) and peat harvesting.		
	5.4	Fishing and Harvesting of Aquatic Resources: Harvesting aquatic species (wild plants and animals) for commercial, recreational, subsistence, cultural, research or control/scaring purposes. This category also covers incidental capture (bycatch), but excludes research activities.	
		5.4.1	Recreational or subsistence fishing: Harvesting of aquatic species for recreation or subsistence that is governed by management measures. Illegal harvesting by fishing is classified under the threat "Poaching/persecution of aquatic species". Includes bycatch and damage to released individuals, but excludes contamination of habitats due to solid lead from fishing gear. E.g., accidental catching of northern diamondback terrapins in crab pots, turtles ingesting hooks.
		5.4.2	Commercial fishing: Harvesting of aquatic species for commercial purposes that is governed by management measures for which the environmental impact is primarily on the species (as opposed to habitat damage from sea bottom trawling). Includes bycatch, but excludes ghost fishing gear entangling wildlife (in a separate threat). E.g., commercial fisheries, use of nets and fishing gear for eels, factory ships, marine mammals caught in industrial fishing nets.
6	Human Intrusions and Disturbance: Threats from human activities (unrelated to the use of biological resources) that disturb, alter or destroy habitats and their species.		
	6.1	Recreational Activities: Activities with generally low ecological impact that are conducted in natural areas for recreational purposes away from road networks. To be distinguished from tourism and recreation areas with a significant footprint, which is a source of pressure primarily on habitats, whereas recreational activities have a more direct impact on individuals of species (disturbance, mortality) and, to a lesser extent, habitats.	
		6.1.4	Recreational boating: Use of recreational boats and watercraft that disturb wildlife, incur collisions with animals, and induce wake damage. Excludes the spread of invasive species. E.g., yacht, zodiac boats, watercraft.
7	Natural Systems Modifications: Threats from activities that are generally carried out to improve human welfare, but may result in habitat degradation or destruction. This threat category includes the development or redevelopment (management) of natural and semi-natural habitats, as well as certain natural processes that can act as threats. Stopping a conservation action or a practice that is conducive to conservation is not interpreted as a threat, but as a return to the source threat (e.g., vegetation succession affecting pioneer species). Excludes meteorological or climate change-related threats that may modify natural systems.		
	7.2	Dams and Water Management/Use: Facilities or activities that alter the natural water regime (flow or water levels).	
		7.2.7	Withdrawal of groundwater: Withdrawal of groundwater for human consumption, crop production or other purposes. E.g., pumping water from the water table.
	7.3	Other Ecosystem Modifications: Other activities that contribute to habitat alteration or loss by redeveloping natural systems to improve human welfare. To be distinguished from the development and maintenance of urban parks.	
		7.3.1	Shoreline alteration: E.g., shoreline hardening, riprap along shorelines, breakwaters, concrete walls, shoreline filling. CLARIFICATION - THIS THREAT INCLUDES STREAM EMBANKMENTS
		7.3.4	Beach development: Creation of beaches, their nourishment (substrate replenishment) and maintenance.
	7.4	Removing / Reducing Human Maintenance: Stopping, reducing, or removing a management activity. Includes vegetation control, PRESCRIBED FIRE, hydrology control, human disturbance, etc.	
		7.4.3	Reducing or ceasing human disturbance control: e.g. reducing, removing, or ceasing bat gates, seasonal beach closures to ORV, fencing to rope off nesting areas
		7.4.4	Reducing or ceasing predator control: e.g. reducing, removing, or ceasing predator exclosures on shorebird nests, APHIS activities
8	Invasive and Other Problematic Species, Genes and Diseases: Threats posed by non-native and native species (plants, animals, pathogens or genetic materials) that have or are expected to have harmful effects on biodiversity following their introduction, spread or increase in population (abundance).		
	8.1	Invasive Non-Native / Alien Plants & Animals: Harmful plants and animals that were not originally present within an ecosystem, but were directly or indirectly introduced into or spread in the ecosystem as a result of human activities. The concept of exotic species includes species that are not native to a specific habitat; it can therefore include the introduction of species that are considered native to a different region of the US. Domestic species are also considered nonnative, whether they are feral or semi-domesticated (e.g., domestic cats going outside). Also includes introduction of wildlife due to "mercy releases".	
		8.1.2	Terrestrial plants: E.g., <i>Rosa multiflora</i> , garlic mustard, Japanese stiltgrass, <i>Phragmites</i> .
	8.2	Problematic Native Plants & Animals: Plants and animals that were originally present in ecosystem(s), but whose populations have increased to a level where they are now "out of control" or overabundant as a direct or indirect result of certain human activities.	
		8.2.5	Increased predation by mesopredators: E.g., raccoons, striped skunks, foxes.
9	Pollution: Threats that are associated with the introduction of foreign or excess material/energy from point and non-point sources. Threats that are posed by pollution are typically correlated with other human activities listed in the other sections (e.g., air pollution from cars, water pollution from sewage, agricultural effluents). Although there is a direct correlation between pollution and these other threats, their impact (scope and severity) is often evaluated separately from the source activity.		
	9.1	Domestic and Urban Waste Water: Point or non-point source wastewater from residential and urban areas; these discharges (may) contain nutrients, sediments, toxic substances, chemicals, etc.	
		9.1.2	Run-off: Effluents resulting from urban activities that are separate from the water supply system. Excludes oils and other hydrocarbons. E.g., salt/sand used to de-ice roads, fertilizers and pesticides used for lawns, parks, golf courses.
	9.4	Garbage and Solid Waste: Garbage and solid waste, including materials that can intoxicate or entangle plants and animals (strangulation/asphyxiation from plastic bags, elastic materials, ropes, etc.).	
		9.4.4	Drifting plastic and entanglement rubbish: Plastic garbage adrift or ashore of oceans or large water bodies that intoxicate or entangle wildlife. E.g., floating rubbish, nets, robes, buoys, ghost or derelict fishing gear, plastic bags.
11	Climate Change: Threats from major changes in ecosystems and severe climate/weather events outside of the natural range of variation that could harm species or habitats. May or may not be related to climate change.		
	11.1	Habitat Shifting or Alteration: Major changes in habitat composition or location.	
		11.1.1	Changes in vegetation communities: Major changes in an ecosystem resulting in changes to vegetation communities. To be distinguished from natural vegetation succession, which may threaten open-country species. E.g., migration of deciduous trees towards higher elevations, rising sea levels