

Last week Vice President Tom Morris, Director Bill Justice and I were invited to take a tour of the OSV Zone with the Superintendent of the park, Chief Resources Officer and the Lead Ranger for the Plover Program. They explained why and how tracking of the plover is done. Rest assured that the Park Service is doing their due diligence to protect the species as the law mandates as well as making absolute sure that the users of the OSV are able to use as much of the beach as possible during the protected times. Daily observation also ensures that when the birds reach full fledged distinction the closers will come down immediately. My opinion is that this great staff has the best interest of all parties involved. To all A.M.S.A. members as well as non-members that are OSV users, this open communication with our Park Service is just one example of what our club represents for over 50 years now. A.M.S.A., the “Keepers of the Beach”, will continue to be the voice of Assateague’s users. I welcome any individuals who would like to make sure the OSV, along with the rest of the island services, are intact for future generations to join A.M.S.A. and support its cause.

Plover report as of 7/12/18

- 24 breeding pair
- 62 hatched chicks
- 34 surviving chicks

Chicks in the Bull Pen are 29 days old on 7/16/18 so the closure should move south any day now to the areas of the “flats” where chicks much younger are still located.

A.M.S.A. will update on the website and Facebook as soon as notification is made.

Danny Morris
2018 A.M.S.A. President