

Marine Birds – Black Oystercatcher Breeding Sites

description

The Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*) is a distinctive, crow-sized, short-tailed, all-black bird with a long, bright reddish-orange bill and eye-ring. Black Oystercatchers tend to nest above the high tide mark on non-forested islands with shell or gravel beaches, and will defend territories that encompass both nesting and feeding areas. Males and females appear to form long-term pair bonds, and the pair returns to the same territory year after year.

This atlas page depicts active and historic Black Oystercatcher breeding sites. Based on expert feedback, the sites have not been classified in terms of their relative importance. Sites have been included regardless of whether breeding had been previously confirmed at a particular site. Attributes for each site include the date that breeding was last confirmed and the most recent survey results. Breeding site locations were buffered to represent some of the marine habitat used by these birds adjacent to each site, based on the distances employed in the creation of the Canadian Wildlife Service's Marine Bird Areas of Interest dataset.



PHOTO: BRANTYOUNG



PHOTO: RUTH JOY

data sources

- Environment Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service) – British Columbia Seabird Colony Inventory
- Parks Canada – Black Oystercatchers – Active Nest Sites
- Additional data may be available from the British Columbia Breeding Bird Atlas www.birdatlas.bc.ca

data resolution

- 1:250,000 (some points have been adjusted to match the 1:20,000 TRIM coastline).

data collected

- 1970-2007 (years breeding was confirmed)

date compiled

- 2008

reviewers

- Harry Carter, Consultant
- Gary Kaiser, Consultant
- Representatives from Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service

reviewer comments

- Several reviewers did not support the idea of classifying the sites into relative importance classes based on the number of nest pairs.

caveats of use

- Gaps in the extent of this feature should not be inferred to be an absence of the species, but rather an absence in survey effort.
- Buffer distances do not represent the entire foraging area of the birds.
- Sites of low relative importance may include extirpated sites or sites where the most recent survey did not obtain a count for breeding birds. Not all sites are surveyed each year and sites that were active in the past may or may not still support breeding populations. Therefore, these sites are still deemed important by the experts.
- Recommended date of expiry for use of these data in a marine planning context: None provided.

map, feature data and metadata access

- Visit www.bcma.ca/data for more information.


references

Species description contains material from:

- B.C. Conservation Data Centre. *Species Summary: Haematopus bachmani*. BC Ministry of Environment (MoE) 2010. 21 Sep. 2010 <http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/eswp/>
- Seattle Audubon Society. *BirdWeb – Seattle Audubon's Guide to the Birds of Washington*. Revised 2008. www.seattleaudubon.org/birdweb

BCMCA Atlas
Marine Birds
Black Oystercatcher
Breeding Sites

Legend

-  Breeding Sites
(0-37 nest pairs)

Notes:
 - Breeding sites have not been classified based on expert recommendations.
 - Breeding sites have been buffered by 2 kilometres.

Data Sources:
 Environment Canada
 (Canadian Wildlife Service),
 Parks Canada

Base Data:
 ESRI Base Data, GeoBase, GeoBC,
 NOAA, Natural Resources Canada,
 USGS, Washington State Government

Thematic Data:
 For more information on data sources
 and methods please refer to the
 facing page to this map

Projection: BC Albers NAD83

0 25 50 75 100 125 150

Kilometres

0 25 50 75

Nautical Miles

1:4,250,000*

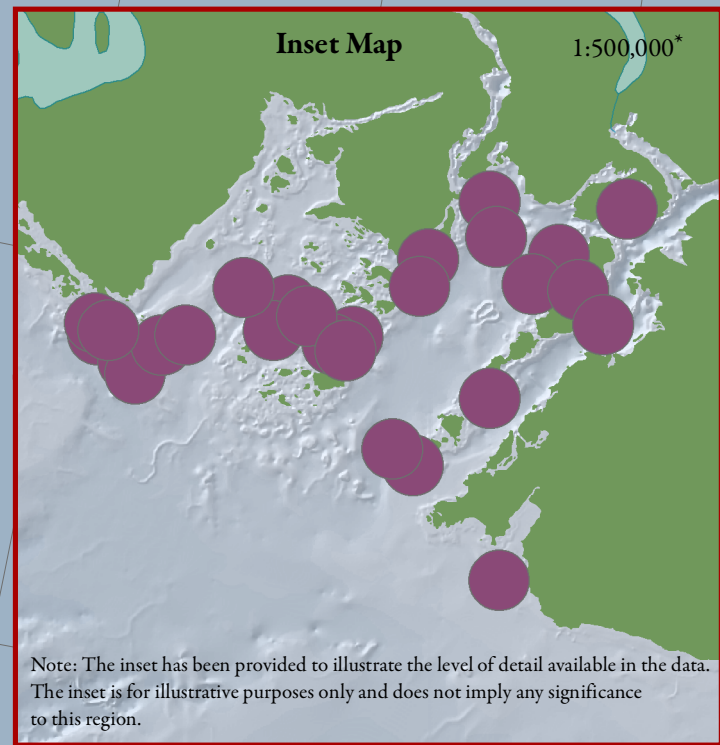
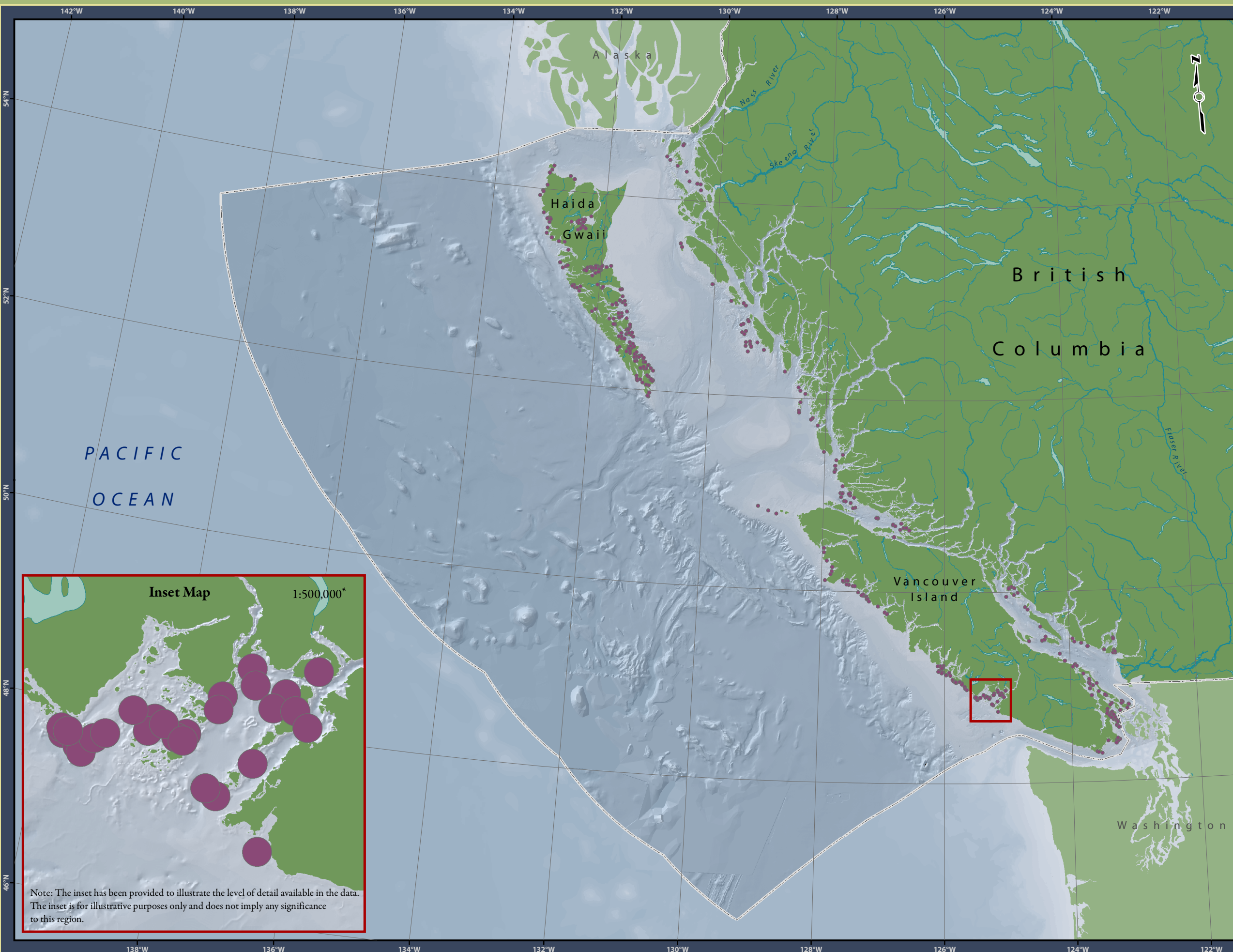
* Written scales are approximate and are based on a 11 x 17 inch paper size.

Prepared for:



Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.

August 19, 2010



Note: The inset has been provided to illustrate the level of detail available in the data. The inset is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply any significance to this region.