



Open Ocean Restoration Area

Northern Gannet Nesting Colony Restoration in Eastern Canada (*preferred*)



Northern gannets
Photo by Werner Bayer

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project would increase nesting success, survival, and productivity of northern gannets at their nesting locations in eastern Canada, through stewardship, habitat enhancement at existing colony locations, and re-establishment of existing and establishment of new breeding colonies by attracting breeding adults to the area using social attraction tools. All northern gannets in North America nest at six breeding colonies in eastern Canada, where they face threats such as predators and harmful marine debris.

This project, estimated to cost approximately \$5.7 million, would be implemented over approximately 5 years.

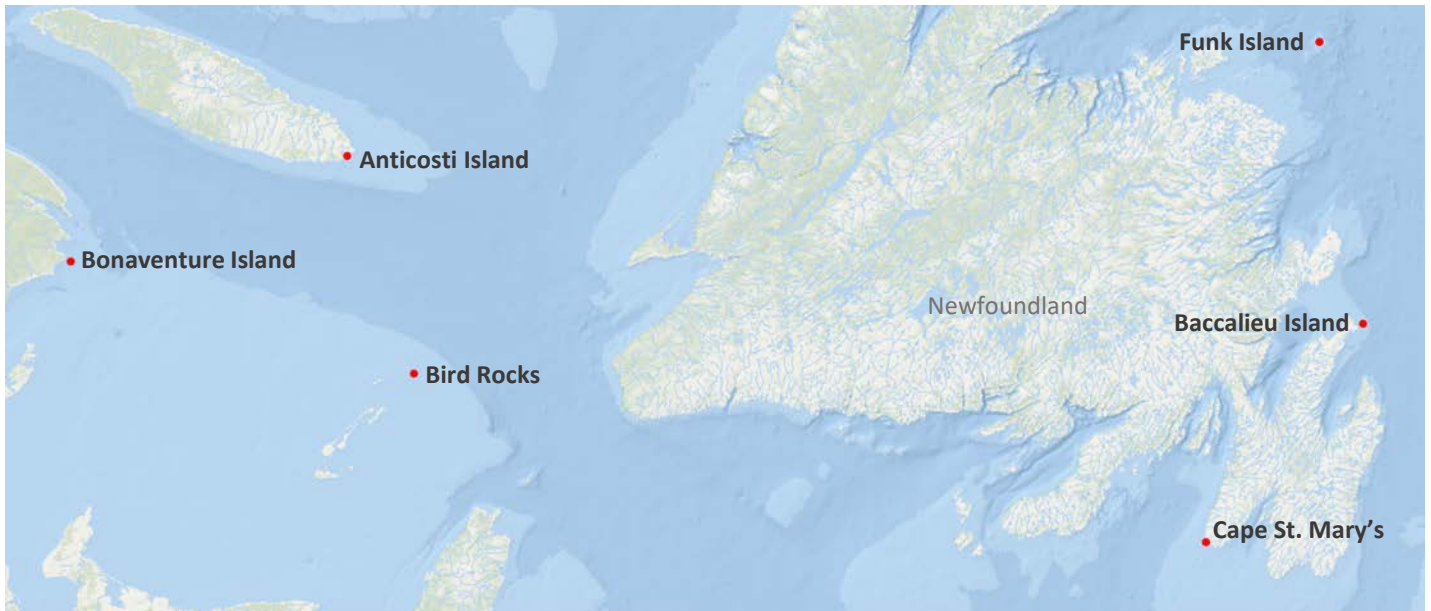
RESTORATION TYPE: Birds

Project Benefits

- Increase northern gannet nesting success, productivity, and survivorship
- Enhance existing northern gannet colonies
- Establish new breeding colonies



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This project would include the land-based removal of marine debris such as discarded fishing gear from nesting sites. Predator management would include both non-lethal and lethal methods. Staff would be supported to monitor and manage human disturbance and conduct outreach with reserve visitors. Nesting colony (re)establishment activities would include social attraction tools (e.g., decoys, sound systems). Breeding northern gannet adults would also be GPS-tracked to inform selection of new colony locations.






Implementing Trustee: U.S. Department of the Interior, in partnership with several entities

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Contact the Open Ocean TIG
openocean.TIG@noaa.gov
 or visit
www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/restoration-areas/open-ocean



RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

-  Land-Based Removal of Marine Debris
-  Predator Management
-  Biosecurity
-  Human Disturbance Management
-  Social Attraction