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### EDITORIAL COMMENT

We hope you enjoy this special issue on the terns of Massachusetts. It should be noted that this is not a comprehensive survey of our breeding tern populations, e.g., there is no data on the Plum Island or Monomoy colonies. While the article on "non-consumptive" environmental use and the South Shore does not directly discuss terns, it raises vital questions regarding them and all other birds. Terns, with their highly social breeding systems and their propensity to choose fragile nesting areas, are particularly vulnerable to human interference, direct and indirect, as Dennis Minsky and Peter Trull illustrate in their reports. We encourage you to carefully consider the issues raised in Wayne Petersen's article.

### TAKE A SECOND LOOK (TASL)

On Sunday, August 3, TASL will conduct a census of the shorebirds of Boston Harbor. Please contact one of the TASL Coordinators listed below if you would like to participate. If you have access to a motorboat that you could use for the shorebird survey, please let us know immediately.

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