



In partnership with the Duke Conservation Society, the Park Institute was proud to host Nicholas School of the Environment alumnus and CEO of the Chesapeake Conservancy, Joel Dunn, this week as part of our fall *Conservation Discussions* series.

FEATURED PARK



Photos and facts of
your favorite parks,
one issue at a time

Antelope Island State Park

Utah

FACT 1: As the name suggests, pronghorn antelope are native to the island. They are the ***fastest land animal*** in North America and share the island with other iconic herbivores including bison, mule deer, and bighorn sheep.



FACT 2: Most of the exposed rocks in the park's southern half are ***1.7 billion years old***. These ancient granite and quartz gneisses are part of Utah's Precambrian "basement" rock, which are rarely found without overlying sedimentary rock layers.

Nominate *your* favorite local, state, or national park [here](#) so our subscribers can learn about it.

PARK PERKS



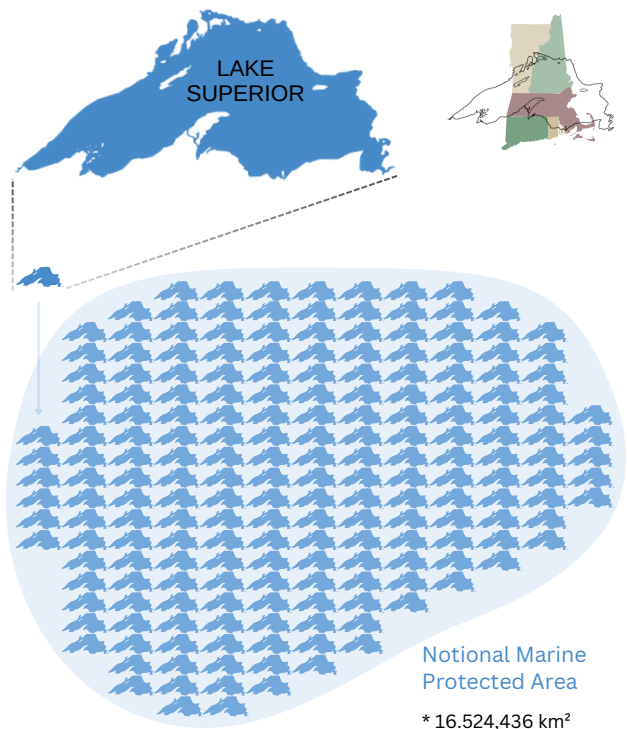
Visualizing key research to show why parks matter

Like their terrestrial counterparts, marine protected areas (MPAs) are key to the conservation of threatened species. MPAs contribute to the recovery of over-harvested fish stocks, but what about the conservation of seabirds threatened by human activity, especially *migratory* seabirds? This week's [article](#), published this month in the journal *Current Biology*, compares the migratory ranges of seabirds in the western Indian Ocean to current MPA borders. Attaching tracking devices to 348 seabirds across 9 species, the authors recorded movements during non-breeding periods, when the birds range over a larger area. The team used the tracking data to produce regional species richness maps, which were then overlaid with the charted MPAs.

The article suggests that migratory seabirds are widely distributed and that Indian Ocean MPAs encompass only a relatively small portion of species diversity. In fact, 88% of the most species rich areas were found **outside of current MPAs** and with no obvious clustering. To confidently account for only two-thirds of studied species, any single MPA would have to cover more than 16 million km² of ocean. For perspective, that is over *200 times the size* of the world's largest freshwater lake, Lake Superior, and much of this expansive area does not fall within any country's territorial waters. The authors contend that seabird conservation will require new "scales of thinking", oriented towards species protections across a vast area within international waters.

Scaling Seabird Conservation

MPA needed to cover 7 or more studied seabird ranges*



PLAY GROUND

What is quartz's biggest gripe?

it's always taken for granite

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Sustainably built *Park-It Frames* are the perfect gift idea and help support the Institute's conservation workforce programming.



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