

# Delaware Bay Shorebirds

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All non-credited photos by Chris Bennett

# Order Charadriiformes

## Skuas, Gulls, Terns & Skimmers

**Skuas**

**7 species worldwide**

**5 species in North America**

**Gulls (1)**

**47 species worldwide**

**28 species in North America**

**Terns (2)**

**41 Species worldwide**

**18 in North America**

**Skimmer (3)**

**41 Species worldwide**

**1 species in North America**

**Alcids (4)**

**22 species worldwide**

**20 species in North America**

(1)



(4)



# Order Charadriiformes

## Shorebirds

214 species worldwide

54 species in North America

Jacanas

Oystercatchers (1)

Stilts (2)

Avocets

Plovers

Sandpipers

Phalaropes



# Plumage

**Juvenal Plumage**

**July to November**

**Basic Plumage (winter)**

**September to April**

**Alternate Plumage (summer)**

**April to August**

# Molt

Process of growing new feathers that (usually) push out and replace old ones

Shorebirds molt twice each year

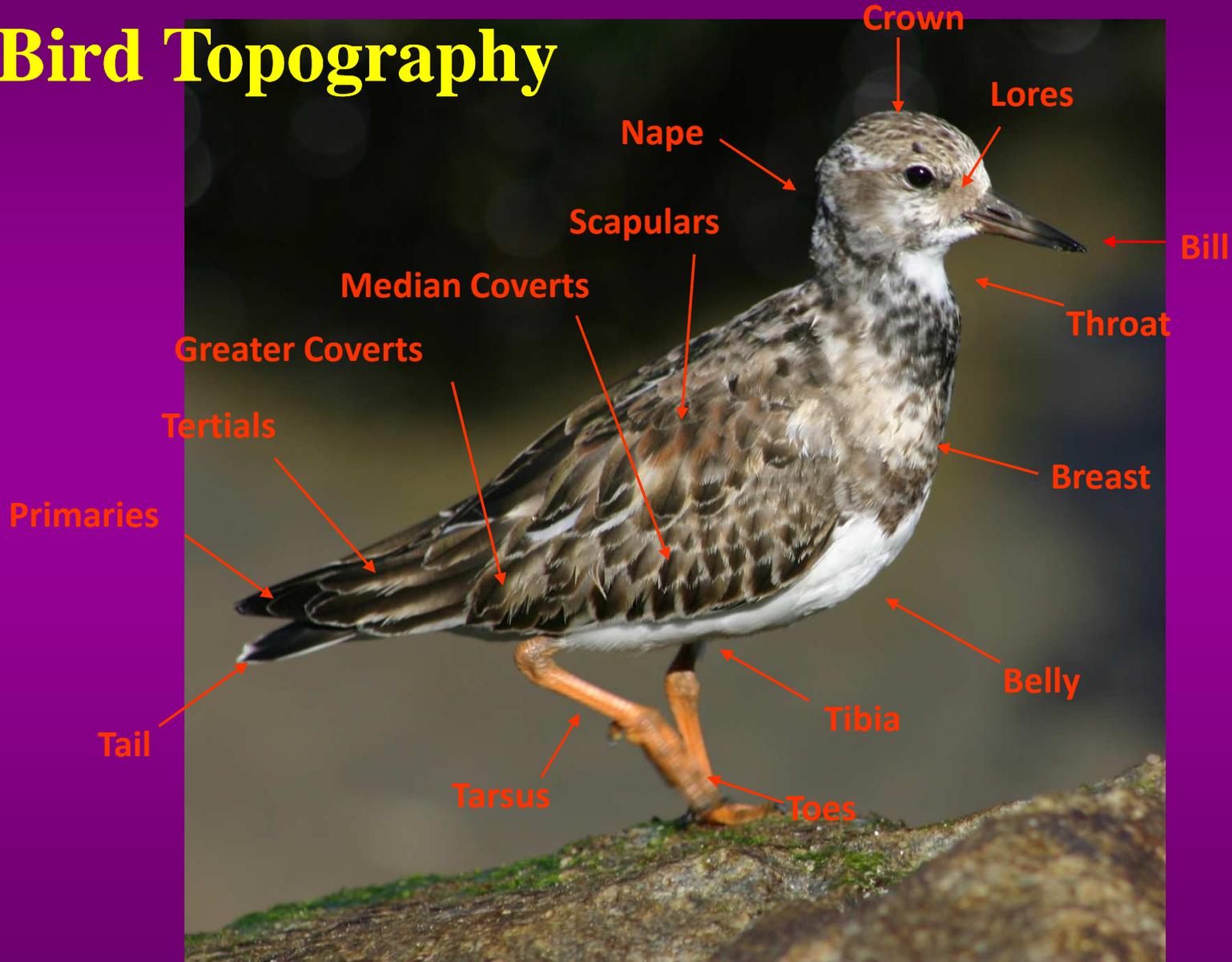
Pre-basic molt occurs from late summer to early fall

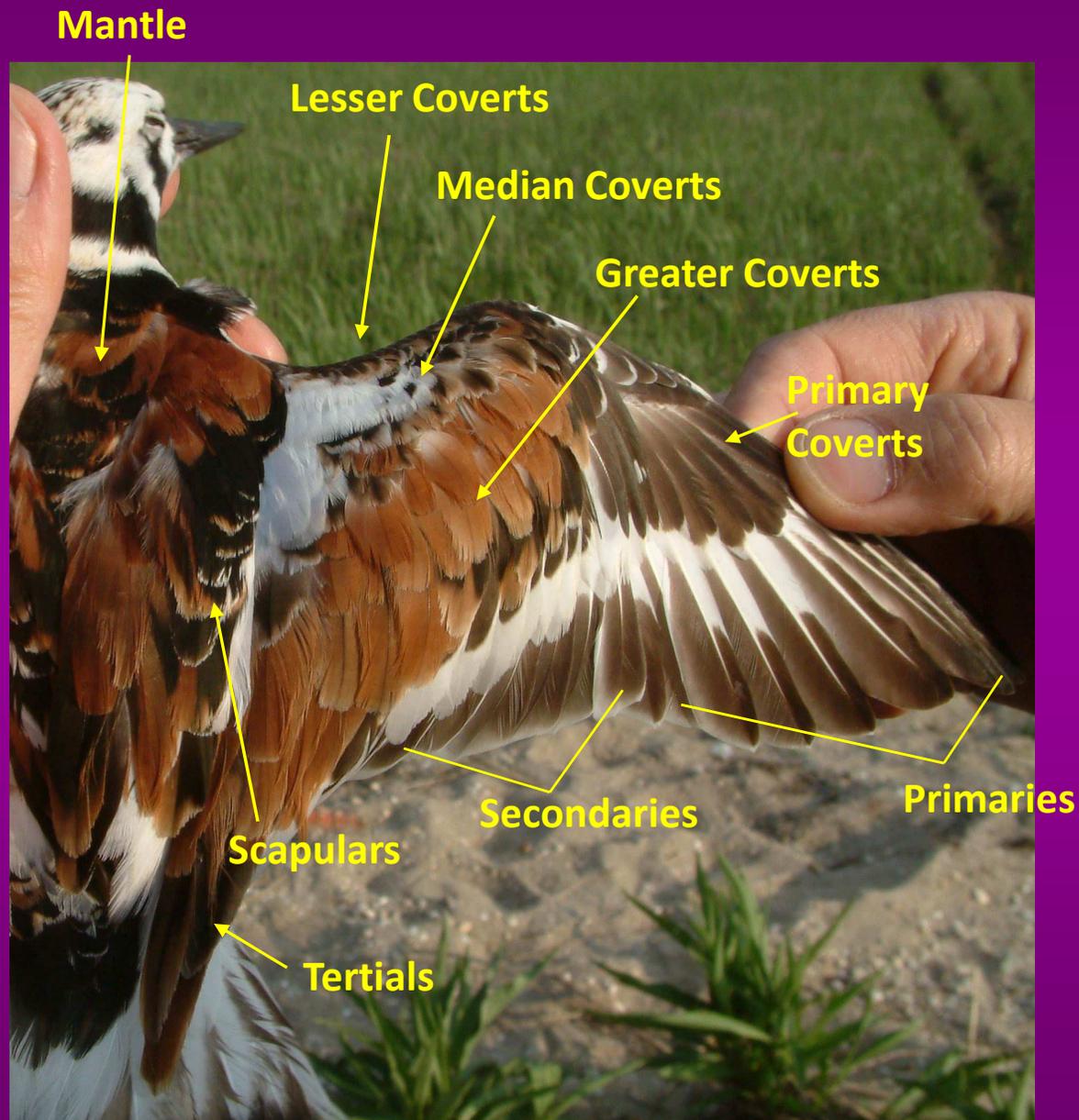
**Complete molt – all feathers are replaced**

Pre-alternate molt occurs from late winter to early spring

**Incomplete molt – only body and head feathers replaced**

# Bird Topography





# Four shorebird species dominate on Delaware Bay Beaches in May

**Red Knot**



**Ruddy Turnstone**



**Sanderling**



**Semipalmated Sandpiper**



# Range Maps

-  **Breeding Range**
-  **Winter Range**
-  **Year-round Range**

