

Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; June 5– June 11, 2008
(Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

Piping Plover:

Observations	Thurs 6/5	Fri 6/6	Sat 6/7	Sun 6/8	Mon 6/9	Tues 6/10	Weds 6/11
Oregon Inlet	0	1	2	0	2	2	2
Cape Point	8	8	9	8	8	8	8
South Beach	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Overwash Fans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hatteras Inlet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. Ocracoke	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
S. Ocracoke	5	4	4	3	3	4	3

PIPL Update:

Bodie Island:

Nest 6 continues to be incubated. As of 6/11 there were still 2 eggs in the nest.

Hatteras Island:

At Cape Point, one chick was missing from Brood 4 on 6/5. Monitoring of the two remaining chicks continues. Nest 5 (three-egg nest) continues to be incubated. Nest 9 was exclosed as a three-egg nest on 6/8.

There is an ongoing search in the South Beach and Cape Point areas for a fourth breeding pair currently making scrapes.

Ocracoke Island:

PIPL Nest 2 hatched three chicks on 6/6 with one egg left in nest. The three chicks have been observed morning and evening on the sound-side of South Point starting 6/7. The 25 day fledge date will be 6/30.

A PIPL pair, possibly from Nest 7 and/or Nest 8 is scraping in the northern end of the pre-nesting closure.

Foraging PIPL continue to be seen along the ocean shoreline within the foraging closure.

Nests/Brood data:

PIPL Nest 1 (Cape Point) was lost due to storm.

PIPL Nest 2 (Ocracoke) hatched 6/6. The chicks were six days old on 6/11.

PIPL Nest 3 (Ocracoke) is expected to hatch on or around 6/13.

PIPL Nest 4 (Cape Point) hatched three chicks on 6/3. The two remaining chicks were nine days old on 6/11.

PIPL Nest 5 (Cape Point) is expected to hatch on or around 6/13.

PIPL Nest 6 (Bodie Island) is expected to hatch on or around 6/24.

PIPL Nest 7 (Ocracoke) was lost due to storm.

PIPL Nest 8 (Ocracoke) was abandoned after two eggs were predated.

PIPL Nest 9 (Cape Point) is expected to hatch on or around 7/5.

Eight breeding pair (one on Bodie, four on Hatteras, three on Ocracoke) of PIPLs have been confirmed on the Seashore thus far for 2008.

Am. Oystercatchers Update:

AMOY Update: (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

29 total nests to date; 11 active nests; 11 nests lost; 7 nests hatched
16 total chicks hatched; 11 unfledged chicks; 5* chicks lost; 0 fledged chicks
*One killed by sibling, four unknown.

Bodie Island:

1 active nest/0 hatched nests/3 nests lost

Green Island: 1 active nest/0 hatched nests/2 nests lost

Hatteras Island:

Bodie/Hatteras District (south of Pea Island NWR- Ramp 30), 2 active nests/2 hatched nests/2 nests lost

Hatteras District (Ramp 30 – Hatteras Inlet), 6 active nests/4 hatched nests/2 nests lost

Ocracoke Island:

1 active nests/1 hatched nest/2 nests lost

We have a total of 23 breeding pairs (including pairs that have lost nests) and there are at least 10 other possible pairs in territories which have yet to nest.

Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Island:

LETE colony established one mile south of Ramp 4. Many nesting attempts after the overwash event of 6/2 are being lost to fox predation.

Green Island: Black Skimmer (BLSK)/Common Tern (COTE) colony southeast and north ends of Green Island. On 6/6 the colony was comprised of four BLSK nests and 16 COTE nests.

Hatteras Island:

Bodie/Hatteras District (Pea Island - Ramp 30):

LETE colony 2.1 miles south of Ramp 23. Twenty-four LETE and one COTE were observed in incubating posture from the south end of tern closure on 6/8.

LETE colony 0.3 miles south of Ramp 27. About 65 LETE roosting, incubating, and flying around were observed on 6/10.

LETE colony 0.1 miles south of Ramp 27. Three two-egg nests and two one-egg nests observed on 6/7.

LETE colony 1.1 miles north of Ramp 27. 15 LETE incubating, roosting and flying around on 6/10.

Hatteras District (Ramp 30 – Hatteras Inlet):

LETE colony at 1.7 mi east of Ramp 49. There continues to be at least 60 pair on nests. LETE colony just north of Ramp 34. There were six one-egg, 26 two-egg, and four three-egg nests, two abandoned and two predated nests on 6/6.

Mixed colony in the center of Cape Point pre-nesting closure. There were 28 LETE and two COTE observed in incubating posture on 6/5.

LETE colony at Ramp 45. Seven two-egg nests were found on 6/10.

Ocracoke Island:

There is one main colony on the ocean-side beach on South Point, with a sub-colony in the central portion of the big flats, and a sub-colony on the South Point spit. One nest, with two eggs, was observed on 6/6 in the big flats colony. On 6/7 16 scrapes and two nests were found in the South Point spit colony. The main colony has about 36 nests and the expected hatch date for the main colony begins 6/10.

Other species of interest:

There is a four-egg black-necked stilt nest at Cape Point. While North Carolina is in the migratory fly-way of this species, nesting in this location is listed as rare.

Sea turtle nests:

Weekly Nest Total: 11 loggerhead nests

Total Nests to date at CAHA: 16 (5 Ocracoke Island, 11 Hatteras Island, 0 Bodie Island)

Total False Crawls to date at CAHA: 8

Marine Mammals:

No marine mammal strandings this week.

Sea turtle Strandings (this week only):

6/6 A dead loggerhead sea turtle was found ocean-side between Frisco and Hatteras Villages.

Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

Closure #	Location	Species	Date Installed	Date Removed
Hatteras Island				
BH08-001-D	S of Ramp 27	AMOY/LETE	6/5/2008	
HI08-003-C	Hatteras Spit	PIPL/AMOY	6/11/2008	
HI08-006-D	Sandy Bay	AMOY	6/10/2008	
HI08-009-R	N of Ramp 43	AMOY	5/7/2008	6/10/2008
HI08-010-B	At Ramp 34	LETE	6/8/2008	
Ocracoke Island				
OI08-002-A	North Ocracoke	PIPL/AMOY	6/5/2008	
OI08-003-C	0.9 mi S of Ramp 68	AMOY	6/5/2008	

Closure intrusions since last report:

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped.	Other	ORV	Ped.	Other	ORV	Ped.	Other
Bird closure	0	2	0	0	13	0	0	4	2
Turtle closure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	2	0	0	13	0	0	4	2*

* Two boat violations on South Point.

On 6/8 resource management staff observed a boat landing on the sound-side of South Point and was able to take pictures. Two sets of barefoot prints were found through the PIPL brood area.

On 6/11 resource management staff observed a boat land on sound-side of South Point. They were asked to leave the restricted area and did so immediately.