

Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Weekly Field Summary for March 12-March 25, 2009
(Bodie Island, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)

Piping Plover (PIPL):

| Observations | Thurs 3/12 | Fri 3/13 | Sat 3/14 | Sun 3/15 | Mon 3/16 | Tues 3/17 | Weds 3/18 |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Oregon Inlet | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Cape Point | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| South Beach | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Hatteras Inlet | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hatteras Overwash | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| N. Ocracoke | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 7 |
| S. Ocracoke | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 17 |
| Observations | Thurs 3/19 | Fri 3/20 | Sat 3/21 | Sun 3/22 | Mon 3/23 | Tues 3/24 | Weds 3/25 |
| Oregon Inlet | 2 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Cape Point | 1 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| South Beach | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hatteras Inlet | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hatteras Overwash | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| N. Ocracoke | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 5 |
| S. Ocracoke | 12 | 8 | 1 | 10 | 8 | 3 | 4 |

PIPL Update:

Bodie Island:

At Bodie Island Spit, there are scrapes as well as territorial behavior activity near last year's nest location, with one definite pair being observed.

Hatteras Island:

At Cape Point, there appears to be three pair of PIPL with three distinct scrape territories, with more than 15 scrapes noted.

Ocracoke Island:

On Ocracoke there has been no breeding activity observed, despite the presence of birds.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

Resightings:

In 2008, resource management staff documented 23 nesting pairs on the seashore. Of the 23 pairs, 12 pairs had both individuals banded, 9 pairs had only 1 individual banded, and in two pairs neither individual was banded for a total of 33 banded breeding birds. Of these banded birds, 12 were resighted on their wintering grounds in Florida, two were resighted in South Carolina, and one is believed to be a year round resident. Four of last year's fledged chicks were also observed in Florida. As of March 25th, 13 of the 23 nesting pairs

have been observed on or near last years nesting location(s).

Green Island: None of the two pairs have been observed.

Bodie Island: Two of the three pairs have been observed.

Bodie/Hatteras: Two pairs and one partial pair of the four pairs have been observed.

Hatteras Island: Seven of the eleven pairs have been observed.

Ocracoke Island: Two of the three breeding pairs have been observed.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB): N/A

Sea turtle nests: N/A

Marine Mammals: Common dolphin stranded S of Salvo at Ramp 23 on 3/24.

Sea Turtle Strandings: Kemps Ridley sea turtle stranded on Ocracoke on 3/17.

Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

3/23/2009 - Full beach closure installed 1.2 miles S of Ramp 4. PIPL scrapes observed along with territorial behavior.

3/23/2009 - Full beach closure installed 0.2 mile W of Ramp 45 for AMOY copulation.

3/23/2009 – South Point pre-nesting closure modified for intentional violation.

3/25/2009 - Full beach closure installed 1.1 mile N of Ramp 30 for AMOY copulation.

Closure intrusions:

3/16/2009- Two dogs off leash were observed running into and out of the South Point closure.

3/19/2009 - Two pedestrians who arrived by boat at the Bait Pond were cited for entering the resource closure.

3/23/2009- Five South Point pre-nesting closure signs were snapped off at ground level. The violation was determined to be intentional so a buffer was expanded 50 m from the violations resulting in full and limited shoreline closures at the inlet.

| Violation type | Bodie Island | | | Hatteras Island | | | Ocracoke Island | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----|-------|-----------------|-----|-------|-----------------|-----|-------|
| | ORV | Ped | Other | ORV | Ped | Other | ORV | Ped | Other |
| Bird closure | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 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 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

