

Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Weekly Field Summary for April 9 – April 15, 2009
(Bodie Island, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)

Piping Plover (PIPL):

Observations	Thurs 4/9	Fri 4/10	Sat 4/11	Sun 4/12	Mon 4/13	Tues 4/14	Weds 4/15
Oregon Inlet	0	1	0	0	4	6	2
Cape Point	6	2	6	5	9	11	6
South Beach	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Hatteras Inlet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hatteras Overwash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. Ocracoke	5	3	8	3	4	3	2
S. Ocracoke	3	2	1	4	3	0	2

PIPL Update:

Bodie Island:

The number of PIPLs observed increased from the previous week. No scrapes or territories have been identified.

Hatteras Island:

11 PIPLs have been identified at Cape Point. Breeding behavior continues to be observed and scrapes are being monitored.

Ocracoke Island: At least one pair has been actively scraping on South Point.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

Resightings: All known breeding pairs have been observed on the Seashore. Several unpaired (banded and unbanded) birds with no breeding histories have also been observed.

Green Island: There are two known pairs present on Green Island. Five scrapes were observed on 4/13/2009.

Bodie Island (Ramp 1 to Bodie Spit): Three pairs have been identified at Bodie Island. Two pairs continue to scrape.

Bodie/Hatteras (Rodanthe to Ramp 30): Two breeding pairs have been identified between Ramps 27 and 30; however, no breeding behavior was observed and no scrapes were found in the territories this week.

Hatteras Island: Six pairs of breeding AMOYs have been observed scraping in territories. Five other pairs continue to be monitored for breeding behavior.

Ocracoke Island: Breeding behavior, including copulation and scraping, by two pairs has been observed. Three other pairs continue to be observed.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB):

Common terns have been observed roosting with royal and sandwich terns throughout the Seashore. Least terns have also been observed on Ocracoke and Bodie Island. Black Skimmers have been observed on Cape Point and Bodie Island Spit.

Sea turtle nests: N/A

Marine Mammals:

4/13/2009 – Neonate bottlenose dolphin was found on Lighthouse Beach.
4/15/2009 – Neonate bottlenose dolphin was found 1 mile west of R49.

Sea Turtle Strandings:

4/9/2009 – A small Kemp's Ridley was found dead on the sound side of South Point on Ocracoke.
4/13/2009 – A loggerhead sea turtle was found dead on the sound side in Avon.

Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

4/10/2009 – Expanded the AMOY closure under the Bonner Bridge to accommodate new scrapes.
4/10/2009 – Closure installed 1.7 miles south of R38 for new AMOY scrapes.
4/13/2009 – West end of the South Beach pre-nesting closure was modified from an upper beach closure to a full beach closure for observed AMOY scrapes.
4/14/2009 – A closure was installed 0.2 miles south of R44 (just north of the Bypass Road) at Cape Point for observed AMOY scrapes.
4/14/2009 – Closure installed 0.7 miles south of R59 for observed AMOY scrapes.
4/15/2009 – Closure installed 0.8 miles south of R68 for observed AMOY copulation.

Closure intrusions

Bodie Island:

4/9/2009: Three pedestrians were observed walking through the AMOY closure 0.3 miles south of Ramp 4.

4/11/2009: ORV tracks were located in the prenesting closure extending from the large posts at the Bait Pond southeast to the birds signs. Two sets of pedestrian tracks were located in the vicinity of the ORV tracks.

4/11/2009: One set of pedestrian tracks in AMOY closure 0.3 miles south of Ramp 4.

Hatteras Island:

4/11/2009: A set of pedestrian and a set of dog tracks were observed entering and exiting the AMOY closure 1.8 miles south of R38.

4/12/2009: Six sets of pedestrian tracks walked over the rope connecting the carsonite on the sound side of the Hatteras Inlet closure.

4/13/2009: 2 pedestrians were observed walking inside the Hatteras Inlet closure on the sound side.

4/15/2009: 1 pedestrian was observed walking the shoreline of the AMOY closure 1.8 miles south of R38.

4/15/2009: 1 pedestrian was seen inside the Hatteras Inlet closure on the sound side of the Hatteras Inlet closure.

Ocracoke Island:

4/13/09: Two sets of pedestrian tracks were found going into and out of the northern boundary of the South Point closure.