

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Weekly Field Summary for July 2– July 8, 2009
(Bodie Island, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)**

Piping Plover (PIPL) Observations:

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

Numbers in above table represent maximum number of PIPLs (not associated with a brood or nest) observed at one time.

PIPL Summary:

Total Nests to Date	Total Pairs to Date	Active Nests	Total Nests Hatched	Total Nests Lost	Total Eggs Hatched	Unfledged Chicks	Lost Chicks	Fledged Chicks
9*	9	0	6	3	19	2	13	4

**Based on location and timing, resource staff determined that Nest 6 was a continuation of the clutch from Nest 3.*

Bodie Island:

Very minimal PIPL activity observed this week.

Hatteras Island:

Four chicks from Cape Point have fledged. One pair continues to scrape and defend territory at Cape Point.

Ocracoke Island:

Ocracoke Island currently has one brood due to fledge soon. No other breeding activity has been observed.

Nests/Expected hatch dates:

- Nest/Brood 1 – Cape Point. Hatched on 6/2. Fledged one chick on 7/5.
- Nest/Brood 2 – Cape Point. Hatched on 5/30. One chick fledged on 6/24.
- Nest 3* – Single-egg nest lost.
- Nest 4 – Abandoned.
- Nest/Brood 5 – Cape Point. Hatched on 6/2. Fledged one chick on 7/4.
- Nest/Brood 6* – Cape Point. Hatched on 6/7. All three chicks lost by 6/23.
- Nest/Brood 7 – South Point (Ocracoke). Hatched on 6/11. This brood has two 28-day-old chicks.
- Nest/Brood 8 – Cape Point. Hatched on 6/15. Fledged one chick on 7/8.
- Nest 9 – Lost on 7/6, most likely to ghost crabs.
- Nest 10 – Overwashed.

** Based on location and timing, resource staff determined that Nest 6 was a continuation of the clutch from Nest 3.*

WIPL Update

Bodie Island

No WIPL activity.

Hatteras Island

No WIPL activity.

Ocracoke Island

WIPL Nest 1 – Hatched 7/1. The chicks and adults have not been observed since hatching. It is possible they moved directly to the soundside marsh where their main prey, fiddler crabs, are found. This area is less accessible and visible to observers.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

Resightings: Several paired and unpaired birds (both banded and unbanded) with no breeding histories continue to be observed.

Location	Total Nests to Date	Active Nests	Nests Hatched	Nests Lost	Total Chicks Hatched	Unfledged Chicks	Chicks Lost	Fledged Chicks
Green Island	2	0	1	1	3	1	0	2
Bodie District	4	0	1	3	2	1	1	0
Bodie/Hatteras District	6	0	5	1	7	2	4	1
Hatteras District	13	2*	5	6	12	6	5	1
Ocracoke District	6	0	2	4	5	0	5	0
CAHA TOTALS	31	2	14	15	29	10	15	4

*One single-egg nest is nine days past its estimated hatch date and is believed to be infertile.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB):

Currently colonies throughout North Carolina are fledging LETE chicks. Recent fledglings can be observed on almost every beach of the seashore and cannot be presumed to have fledged from CAHA. Even chicks in and near established colonies may not have fledged from that colony.

Green Island:

7/3 - Only two COTE chicks were observed with eight adults flying and calling overhead. One BLSK was observed roosting at the waters edge.

Bodie District (Ramp 1 to Bodie Spit):

7/3 - Bodie Spit. 38 LETE nests and two chicks were observed. One COTE nest was also observed.

Bodie/Hatteras District (Rodanthe to Ramp 30):

7/4 – Ramp 23. 16 LETE nests and 13 chicks were observed. Also, there were about 23 adults flying, roosting, or incubating.

7/7 – 1.1 mi N of Ramp 27. One LETE nest, four chicks, and 13 LETE adults were observed in the colony. The area is severely overwashed and sloping into the dunes.

7/8 – Less than 0.1 mi N of Ramp 27. Two fledged chicks and five LETE adults were observed in the colony.

7/8 – 0.3 mi S of Ramp 27. Six LETE nests and 28 chicks were observed, about 13 of which were fledged.

Hatteras District:

7/5 - 1.4 mi S of Ramp 38. Twenty-three LETE nests and 26 chicks were observed.

7/8- Salt Pond Road. Five LETE nests were observed.

7/8 - Ramp 45 to W of Drain. Three incubating LETE adults and one chick were observed.

7/8 - W South Beach. Twelve incubating LETE adults, 24 chicks and 35 fledglings were observed.

Ocracoke District:

7/7 - 0.6 mi N of Ramp 59. Seventeen LETE nests were observed.

7/5 - Ocracoke Spit sub-colony B. Eight LETE nests, 16 BLSK nests; three LETE chicks, two COTE chicks, and nine BLSK chicks were observed.

7/3 - Ocracoke Spit sub-colony C. Fifty-nine LETE nests and five LETE chicks were observed.

Sea turtle nests:

Nests this week on CAHA: 8

7/2 – Loggerhead nest, 0.3 mi N of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/3 – Loggerhead nest, 0.2 mi N of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)

7/3 – Loggerhead nest, 1.6 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)

7/4 – Loggerhead nest, 0.8 mi N of Ramp 27 (Hatteras)

7/4 – Loggerhead nest, 1.1 mi N of Ramp 27 (Hatteras)

7/7 – Loggerhead nest, 0.4 mi N of Ramp 43 (Hatteras)

- 7/8 – Loggerhead nest, 1.7 mi N of Ramp 70 (Ocracoke)
- 7/8 – Loggerhead nest, 4.8 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)

False Crawls this week on CAHA: 13

- 7/2 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.3 mi N of Ramp 72
- 7/2 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.1 mi N of Ramp 70
- 7/2 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.4 mi N of Ramp 70
- 7/4 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.1 mi N of Lighthouse Beach Rd
- 7/7 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.7 mi N of Ramp 43
- 7/7 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.9 mi S of Ramp 38
- 7/7 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.7 mi W of Ramp 45
- 7/8 – Green false crawl, 3.7 mi S of Ramp 23
- 7/8 – Green false crawl, 3.3 mi S of Ramp 23
- 7/8 – Green false crawl, 1.9 mi S of Ramp 23
- 7/8 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.7 mi S of Ramp 38
- 7/8 – Loggerhead false crawl, 2.5 mi N of Ramp 72
- 7/8 – Loggerhead false crawl, 5.8 mi N of Ramp 67

Total Nests at CAHA: 57 (39 Hatteras Island, 18 Ocracoke Island, 0 Bodie Island).

Total False Crawls to date on CAHA: 59 (29 Hatteras Island, 29 Ocracoke Island, 1 Bodie Island)

Sea Turtle Strandings:

- 7/2 - Unidentifiable remains discovered 1.9 mi S of Ramp 4 by Bonner Bridge (Bodie).
- 7/2 – Green sea turtle stranded dead at Coast Guard Beach (Hatteras).
- 7/4 - Green sea turtle stranded dead 1.6 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke).

Marine Mammals:

None this week.

Closures – additions/modifications/removals:

Closure #	Location	Species	Date Installed/Removed
Bodie Island			
NONE	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bodie-Hatteras			
BH09-006-D	0.7 mi N of Ramp 27	LETE	7/3/2009
BH09-008-E	Ramp 23	LETE	7/4/2009
BH09-002-E	0.7 mi N of Ramp 30	AMOY	7/7/2009
Hatteras Island			
HI09-002-G	South Beach	LETE	7/2/2009
HI09-010-R	Ramp 44	PIPL/AMOY	7/8/2009
Ocracoke Island			
OI09-002-J	Ocracoke Inlet	PIPL	7/3/2009

Closure intrusions

Bodie Island:

7/2 - Five pedestrians were observed walking at waterline inside the closure at the N end of Ramp 23.

7/4 - One set of pedestrian tracks were seen inside the AMOY closure 1.9 mi S of Ramp 4.

7/7 - Dog tracks were found inside sea turtle nest closure just N of Ramp 23. Nest was unharmed.

Hatteras Island:

7/2 - Two kiteboarders came on shore in Cape Point closure just W of Point.

7/3 - A jogger was seen running east through the South Beach closure.

7/4 - A pedestrian walked from Ramp 44 to Cape Point.

7/4 - Pedestrian tracks seen in bird closure just south of Ramp 44. The tracks entered closure, followed pre-nesting signs for 75 yards, then returned by the same route.

Ocracoke Island:

7/2 - Two sets of bare footprints were observed going into the pre-nesting closure on the north end of the island. The footprints went within one meter of a LETE nest.

7/3 - Two sets of bare footprints were seen along north inlet, within the pre-nesting closure.

7/3 - Three people observed swimming/wading across creekmouth and then walking on mudflats within pre-nesting closure on north end of the island.