

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

Piping Plover (PIPL) Observations:

Observations	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds
	7/9	7/10	7/11	7/12	7/13	7/14	7/15
Oregon Inlet	1	0	0	0	3	0	0
Cape Point	2	1	2	3	1	5	2
South Beach	0	0	1	0	1	14	1
Hatteras Inlet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hatteras Overwash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. Ocracoke	0	2	2	0	0	2	0
S. Ocracoke	2	1	7	1	1	3	1

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	0	13	6

**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. One migratory PIPL was observed passing through at 1.0 mi N of Ramp 27.

Hatteras Island:

Four chicks from Cape Point have fledged. A PIPL continues to scrape at Cape Point. Migrants have been seen throughout the district, including four PIPL south of Ramp 38 on 7/13 and 14 on South Beach on 7/14.

Ocracoke Island:

The two chicks from Brood 7 fledged on 7/10. No breeding PIPL behavior has been observed in Ocracoke District.

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. Fledged two chicks on 7/10.

Nest/Brood 8 – Cape Point. Hatched on 6/15. Fledged one chick on 7/8.

Nest 9 – Lost on 7/6 well past hatch date, 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

There is currently no known WIPL activity on the seashore.

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	0	0	3
Bodie District	4	0	1	3	2	1	1	0
Bodie/Hatteras District	6	0	5	1	8	2	5	1
Hatteras District	13	0	6	7	13	3	6	4
Ocracoke District	6	0	2	4	5	0	5	0
CAHA TOTALS	31	0	15	16	31	6	17	8

Other: On 7/10 an unbanded AMOY was found dead on the Bonner Bridge. The bird was most likely hit by a vehicle.

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:

7/10 - One COTE chick was observed along with six COTE adults. There was no BLSK activity observed.

Bodie District (Ramp 1 to Bodie Spit):

7/9 – Bodie Spit. 50 LETE nests as well as three young chicks were observed. There were no BLSK observed; eight abandoned eggs were found along with four predated eggs. There were also four abandoned COTE eggs and one predated egg. Abandonment may have resulted from a rain washout on 7/6.

Bodie/Hatteras District (Rodanthe to Ramp 30):

7/15 – Ramp 23. A total of 11 LETE nests and four young chicks and new scrapes were observed.

7/13 – 1.1 mi N of Ramp 27. Three young LETE chicks were observed.

7/10 – Less than 0.1 mi N of Ramp 27. Two fledged LETE chicks were observed.

7/14 – 0.3 mi S of Ramp 27. Three LETE nests were found along with about ten young chicks seen running toward the dunes.

Hatteras District:

7/13 -1.4 mi South of Ramp 38. 19 LETE nests and 40 LETE chicks were observed.

7/13- Salt Pond Road. Two LETE nests and one LETE chick were observed.

7/13 - Ramp 45 to W of Drain. One LETE nest and two LETE chicks were observed.

7/14 - W South Beach. 16 LETE nests and three LETE chicks and new scrapes were observed.

Ocracoke District:

7/13 - 0.6 mi N of Ramp 59. 21 LETE nests were observed.

7/11 - Ocracoke Spit sub-colony B. Two LETE nests, 0 COTE nests, 26 BLSK nests and one LETE chick were observed. Two BLSK chicks were found dead.

7/15 - Ocracoke Spit sub-colony C. 48 LETE nests and two LETE chicks were observed.

Sea turtle nests:

Nests this week on CAHA: 13

7/9 – Loggerhead nest, 2.5 mi S of Ramp 59 (Ocracoke)

7/9 – Loggerhead nest, 0.1 mi S of Lighthouse Beach Rd. (Hatteras)

7/9 – Loggerhead nest, 2.1 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/9 – Loggerhead nest, 0.2 mi S of Ramp 34 (Hatteras)

7/11 – Loggerhead nest, 0.3 mi N of Ramp 68 (Ocracoke)

7/13 – Loggerhead nest, 0.7 mi N of Ramp 34 (Hatteras)

7/13 – Loggerhead nest, 0.4 mi N of Buxton (Hatteras)

7/14 – Loggerhead nest, 0.2 mi N of Ramp 49 (Hatteras)

- 7/14 – Loggerhead nest, The Hook (Hatteras)
- 7/14 – Loggerhead nest, 1.6 mi N of Ramp 44 (Hatteras)
- 7/15 – Loggerhead nest, 0.5 mi N of Buxton (Hatteras)
- 7/15 – Loggerhead nest, 0.17 mi S of Lighthouse Rd. (Hatteras)
- 7/15 – Loggerhead nest, 1.4 mi N of Ramp 30 (Hatteras)

False Crawls this week on CAHA: 17

- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 4.6 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)
- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.9 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.7 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.7 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.6 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.4 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/9 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.8 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/10 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.2 mi SW of Ramp 68 (Ocracoke)
- 7/11 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.1 mi N of Salt Pond Rd (Hatteras)
- 7/11 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.1 mi S of old lighthouse site (Hatteras)
- 7/14 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.9 mi N of Ramp 70 (Ocracoke)
- 7/14 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.3 mi N of Ramp 70 (Ocracoke)
- 7/14 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.5 mi N of Buxton (Hatteras)
- 7/14 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.6 mi N of Ramp 43 (Hatteras)
- 7/15 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.6 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)
- 7/15 – Loggerhead false crawl, 5.7 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)
- 7/15 – Loggerhead false crawl, 6.3 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)

Total Nests at CAHA: 70 (50 Hatteras Island, 20 Ocracoke Island, 0 Bodie Island).

Total False Crawls to date on CAHA: 76 (39 Hatteras Island, 36 Ocracoke Island, 1 Bodie Island)

Sea Turtle Strandings:

- 7/12 – Green sea turtle found dead soundside at Hatteras Inlet.
- 7/12 – Green sea turtle found dead S of Ramp 59 on Ocracoke.
- 7/14 – Green sea turtle found dead at Hatteras Inlet.

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			
BH09-002-F	0.6 mi N of Ramp 30	AMOY	7/10/2009
BH09-008-F	Ramp 23	LETE	7/15/2009
Hatteras Island			
HI09-003-C	1.0 mi S of Ramp 55	AMOY	7/9/2009
HI09-016-F	1.6 mi S of Ramp 38	LETE	7/13/2009
HI09-017-A	2.3 mi S of Ramp 38	AMOY	7/13/2009

HI09-003-R	Hatteras Overwash Fans	PIPL	7/15/2009
HI09-004-R	Hatteras Inlet	AMOY/LETE	7/15/2009
HI09-014-R	2.4 mi N of Ramp 34	AMOY	7/15/2009
Ocracoke Island			
OI09-002-K	0.9 mi SW of Ramp 72	PIPL	7/10/2009
OI09-001-E	0.4 mi N of Ramp 59	LETE	7/13/2009
OI09-002-L	0.8 mi SW of Ramp 72	LETE	7/14/2009

Closure intrusions

Bodie Island:

7/14 - Two sets of pedestrian tracks were seen coming from water into the AMOY/CWB closure 0.6 mi S of Ramp 4.

7/14 - Four sets of pedestrian tracks observed entering the closure at Ramp 27.

7/14 - One pedestrian jogged through entire closure at Ramp 23 and continued to Ramp 27.

7/14 - At Ramp 23, one set of pedestrian tracks came in from the N and shortly turned around.

7/15 - One pedestrian jogged through entire closure at Ramp 23 and continued to Ramp 27. These are a new set of tracks from previous day.

7/15 - At Ramp 23, one set of pedestrian tracks crossed into the closure from the N boundary. Pedestrian turned around halfway through the closure.

Hatteras Island:

7/10 - Two set of pedestrian tracks were seen inside the overwash closure at Hatteras Inlet.

7/12 - A set of pedestrian tracks were seen inside the AMOY closure 2.2 miles S of Ramp 38.

7/13 - Four pedestrians were seen inside the LETE closure S of Ramp 38. Two pedestrians were observed walking up into the dunes and disturbing the birds.

7/13 - Three pedestrians were seen walking the shoreline of the LETE closure S of Ramp 38.

7/15 - A set of pedestrian tracks were seen entering the overwash closure at Hatteras Inlet.

7/15 - Five pedestrians and a dog entered the AMOY closure 2.2 miles S of Ramp 38.

Ocracoke Island:

None observed.