

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Weekly Field Summary for July 23– July 29, 2009
(Bodie Island, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)**

Piping Plover (PIPL) Observations:

Monitoring of migratory/wintering PIPLs began on July 25, 2009. Resource staff have re-established the transects that will be used this winter.

All chicks are fledged and no more breeding is anticipated. This will be the last weekly report that provides summary information on the 2009 PIPL breeding season.

PIPL Breeding 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.*

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

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	0	1	1
Bodie/Hatteras District	6	0	5	1	8	2	5	1
Hatteras District	13	0	6	7	13	0	6	7
Ocracoke District	6	0	2	4	5	0	5	0
CAHA TOTALS	31	0	15	16	31	2	17	12

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB):

Currently, colonies throughout eastern North Carolina are fledging LETE chicks. Recent fledglings can be observed on almost every beach of the seashore, but the origin of the fledged chick cannot be conclusively determined.

Green Island:

7/25 – Colony has ended. No activity was observed and the resource signs were removed.

Bodie District (Ramp 1 to Bodie Spit):

7/28 – Bodie Spit. No new nests or chicks were observed. There were two abandoned eggs and one predated egg along with about 50 LETE adults scattered throughout the colony.

Bodie/Hatteras District (Rodanthe to Ramp 30):

7/28 – Ramp 23. A total of four LETE nests and two young chicks were observed.

7/25 – 1.1 mi N of Ramp 27. One LETE chick and five fledglings were observed.

7/26 – 0.3 mi S of Ramp 27. Four LETE chicks were observed and one predated chick with cat tracks nearby.

Hatteras District:

7/27 -1.4 mi S of Ramp 38. 11 LETE chicks and 25 fledgelings were observed.

7/27 - East South Beach. One LETE chick was observed.

7/27 - West South Beach. Three LETE chicks were observed.

7/26- Salt Pond Road. One LETE nest and two fledgelings were observed.

Ocracoke District:

7/27 - 0.6 mi N of Ramp 59. Seven LETE nests and several scrapes were observed.

7/26 - Ocracoke Spit sub-colony B. Colony was overwashed on 7/23. Mink tracks and ghost crabs were observed in the colony on 7/26. One large BLSK chick was observed on 7/26/09 at the boundary of the Ocracoke Spit sub-colony C.

7/26 - Ocracoke Spit sub-colony C. As of 7/26 the colony has no nests. Additional survey is needed to confirm there are no unfledged LETE chicks present.

Sea turtle nests:

Nests this week on CAHA: 11

7/23 – Loggerhead nest, 0.3 mi NE of Ramp 49 (Hatteras)

7/23 – Loggerhead nest, 1.8 mi N of Ramp 27 (Hatteras)

7/23 – Loggerhead nest, 0.3 mi N of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/24 – Loggerhead nest, 0.6 mi N of Buxton (Hatteras)

7/24 – Loggerhead nest, 0.4 mi N of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/24 – Loggerhead nest, 0.6 mi N of Buxton (Hatteras)

7/25 – Loggerhead nest, 0.6 mi N of Ramp 68 (Ocracoke)

7/28 – Loggerhead nest, 0.1 mi S of Ramp 68 (Ocracoke)

7/28 – Loggerhead nest, 0.1 mi N of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)

7/29 – Loggerhead nest, 0.7 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)

7/29 – Loggerhead nest, 0.5 mi S of Ramp 49 (Hatteras)

False Crawls this week on CAHA: 13

7/23 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.9 mi S of Ramp 34 (Hatteras)

7/23 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.7 mi N of Avon Pier (Hatteras)

7/23 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.8 mi S of Avon Pier (Hatteras)

7/23 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.2 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/23 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.4 mi N of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/24 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.9 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/24 – Loggerhead false crawl, 2.1 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/24 – Loggerhead false crawl, 2.6 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

- 7/24 – Loggerhead false crawl, 2.8 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/24 – Loggerhead false crawl, 7.6 mi N of Ramp 67 (Ocracoke)
- 7/25 – Loggerhead false crawl, 1.0 mi N of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)
- 7/28 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.5 mi SW of Ramp 45 (Hatteras)
- 7/29 – Loggerhead false crawl, 2.3 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)

Total Nests at CAHA: 86 (59 Hatteras Island, 27 Ocracoke Island, 0 Bodie Island).

Total False Crawls to date on CAHA: 96 (52 Hatteras Island, 43 Ocracoke Island, 1 Bodie Island)

Sea Turtle Strandings:

- 7/23 – Green sea turtle found dead 2.0 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)
- 7/24 – Kemp’s Ridley sea turtle found dead 1.2 mi E of Ramp 49 (Hatteras)
- 7/25 – Green sea turtle found dead (Hatteras)
- 7/25 – Green sea turtle found dead 3.0 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)
- 7/25 – Green sea turtle found dead 0.4 mi N of Ramp 59 (Ocracoke)
- 7/26 – Green sea turtle found dead 0.5 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)
- 7/27 – Green sea turtle found dead 1.6 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)
- 7/27 – Hybrid sea turtle found dead 2.4 mi S of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)
- 7/28 – Green sea turtle found dead on sandbar N of Ramp 59 (Ocracoke)
- 7/28 – Green sea turtle found dead S of Ramp 59 (Ocracoke)
- 7/29 – Green sea turtle found dead 0.5 mi S of Ramp 49 (Hatteras)
- 7/29 – Green/Loggerhead sea turtle found dead at Ocracoke inlet shoreline (Ocracoke)

Marine Mammals:

None this week.

Closures – additions/modifications/removals:

Closure #	Location	Species	Date Installed/Removed
Bodie Island			
GI09-001-R	Green Island	AMOY/LETE	7/25/2009 - removal
Bodie-Hatteras			
NONE	NA	NA	NA
Hatteras Island			
HI09-001-L	East side of Cape Point	AMOY	7/29/2009
HI09-017-R	2.3 mi S of Ramp 38	AMOY	7/29/2009 - removal
Ocracoke Island			
OI09-001-F	0.3 mi NE of Ramp 59	LETE	7/26/2009

Closure intrusions

Bodie Island:

- 7/23 - Dog tracks were found inside turtle closure just N of Ramp 23.
- 7/25 - One set of pedestrian tracks observed heading into the resource closure from the water approximately 0.7 mi S of Ramp 4.
- 7/27 - A yellow jeep with three passengers drove through the pedestrian corridor and into the resource closure 0.7 mi S of Ramp 4.
- 7/27 - A jogger was observed running along the shoreline in the LETE closure at Ramp 23.

7/28 - Three ORV's entered the resource closure 0.5 mi S of Ramp 4 and drove to 1.1 mi S of Ramp 4.

7/28 - Two pedestrians were observed shelling S of Ramp 23 inside the LETE closure.

7/28 - One pedestrian was observed walking inside the LETE closure N of Ramp 23.

Hatteras Island:

7/24 - Three sets of footprints were observed inside the AMOY closure S of Ramp 44.

7/24 - Several sets of footprints and surfers were seen inside the LETE and AMOY closure south of Ramp 38.

7/26 - A dog was observed inside the pedestrian access corridor at Cape Point. Dogs are prohibited inside the corridor until the area reopens to ORVs. (Note: The area reopened to ORVs on July 29.)

7/28 - Four pedestrians were inside the LETE closure S of Ramp 38.

7/29 - Two pedestrians were inside the LETE closure S of Ramp 38.

Ocracoke Island:

None observed.

Deliberate Violations

On Sunday July 26th, turtle patrol found and reported an intentional violation of an un-expanded turtle closure 1.2 mi S of Rodanthe Pier. All signs and PVC had been vandalized and/or removed from the nest site, leaving the nest unprotected. The nest site appeared to be intact (i.e. no attempt had been made to dig up the eggs) and it is not thought that this violation resulted in a loss of the viability of the eggs. As a result of the deliberate violation, the buffer was expanded by 50 meters on the morning of July 30th.