

Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Weekly Field Summary for July 30– August 5, 2009
(Bodie Island, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)

Piping Plover *Breeding season has concluded.*

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

Two unfledged, 30-day-old AMOY chicks remain on the seashore. AMOY chicks usually fledge sometime after 35 days, but it can take as long as 45-50 days. The estimated fledge date (based on 35 days) for these two chicks is 8/10.

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):

Colonies throughout eastern North Carolina continue to fledge LETE chicks. Recent fledglings can be observed on almost every beach of the seashore, but the origin of the fledglings cannot be conclusively determined.

Green Island:

No activity.

Bodie District (Ramp 1 to Bodie Spit):

8/1 – Bodie Spit. No LETE activity observed in colony. No adults, chicks, or fledglings.

8/5 – Bodie Spit. No LETE activity observed in colony. No adults, chicks, or fledglings.

The pre-nesting closure is to be removed on 8/6.

Bodie/Hatteras District (Rodanthe to Ramp 30):

8/3 – Ramp 23. Several incubating adults and one chick were observed.

7/31 – 1.1 mi N of Ramp 27. One LETE chick was observed.

8/5 – 1.1 mi N of Ramp 27. No chicks were observed.

8/5 – 0.3 mi S of Ramp 27. No chicks were observed.

Hatteras District:

8/1 -1.4 mi S of Ramp 38. Six LETE chicks and five nests were observed.

8/3 – East South Beach. No LETEs observed.

8/3 - West South Beach. One LETE chick was observed.

8/3 - Salt Pond Road. One LETE nest, one chick and two recent fledglings were observed.

Ocracoke District:

8/5 - 0.6 mi N of Ramp 59. One two-egg LETE nest and one chick were observed.

Sea turtle nests:

Nests this week on CAHA: 9

7/30 – Loggerhead nest, 2.0 mi N of Ramp 55 (Hatteras)

7/31 – Loggerhead nest, 1.6 mi S of Ramp 38 (Hatteras)

7/31 – Green nest, 1.0 mi N of Buxton village (Hatteras)

8/01 – Loggerhead nest, 1.0 mi N of Ramp 70 (Ocracoke)

8/01 – Loggerhead nest, 2.8 mi N of Ramp 27 (Hatteras)

8/01 – Loggerhead nest, 0.3 mi N of Ramp 43 (Hatteras)

8/02 – Loggerhead nest, 0.1 mi S of Ramp 43 (Hatteras)

8/02 – Loggerhead nest, 0.8 mi N of Ramp 43 (Hatteras)

8/04 – Loggerhead nest, 1.6 mi SW of Ramp 55 (Hatteras)

False Crawls this week on CAHA: 2

7/31 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.1 mi S of Ramp 44 (Hatteras)

7/31 – Loggerhead false crawl, 0.6 mi N of Ramp 72 (Ocracoke)

Total Nests at CAHA: **95** (67 Hatteras Island, 28 Ocracoke Island, 0 Bodie Island).

Total False Crawls to date on CAHA: **98** (53 Hatteras Island, 44 Ocracoke Island, 1 Bodie Island)

Sea Turtle Nest Hatchings:

Two nests in Ocracoke District have completed hatching and the nest expansions have been removed. Two other nests in Hatteras District are in the process of hatching and those expansions will be removed no sooner than 72 hours after the first emergence was observed.

Sea Turtle Strandings:

7/31 – Green sea turtle found dead at Hatteras Inlet.

8/4 – Loggerhead sea turtle found alive and floating around at Salvo Marina. Turtle was transported to Roanoke Island Animal Hospital.

Marine Mammal Strandings:

None this week.

Closures – additions/modifications/removals:

Closure #	Location	Species	Date Installed/Removed
Bodie Island			
BI09-001-M	0.5 mi S of Ramp 4	AMOY/LETE	7/30/2009
Bodie-Hatteras			
BH09-009-E	0.1 mi S of Ramp 27	AMOY/LETE	8/1/2009
Hatteras Island			
NONE	NA	NA	NA

Ocracoke Island			
NONE	NA	NA	NA

Closure intrusions

Bodie Island:

7/31 - One pedestrian was observed shelling in the resource closure 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27.

8/1 - At Ramp 23, ORV tracks extended from Ramp to mid-beach, did a U-turn then exited via Ramp. Barricades were still intact.

8/4 - Two pedestrians were observed walking inside the CWB closure at Ramp 23.

8/5 - A child's bare footprints were found within the filter fencing and around a sea turtle nest cavity, N of Ramp 23. Multiple other sets of pedestrian tracks were also observed within the closure.

8/5 - Bare pedestrian footprints were observed leading to water from dunes within the LETE closure, 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27.

Hatteras Island:

7/31 – PVC pipe from a turtle closure in South Avon village was removed and then partially burned.

7/31 – Bare footprints went through turtle closure N of Buxton.

8/2 - Sometime between 7 and 11 a.m., an ORV backed into the symbolic fence at a turtle nest closure just north of Ramp 55 and broke the string. The law enforcement staff investigated the incident and it does not appear to be a deliberate violation.

Omitted from last week's report for Hatteras Island:

7/24 - N of Buxton; Multiple surfers were observed walking into and through the turtle nest closure. Footprints were also observed within 15 feet of egg chamber.

7/25 - N of Buxton: Multiple footprints were observed above the high-tide line throughout closure, two articles of clothing were also left hanging on the closures' stringing.

7/25 - N of Buxton: A single set of footprints were observed in a sea turtle closure. Footprints were observed throughout most of the closure and over the nest cavity.

7/30 - N of Buxton: Two PVC markers were removed from behind a nest and were relocated about 10 feet away from the original locations.

Ocracoke Island:

8/3 - One pedestrian with three dogs were observed in the South Point closure.

8/4 - One pedestrian observe shelling in South Point closure.