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From: [Doug Crumpton](mailto:Doug.Crumpton@nps.gov)
To: [Cyndy Holda@nps.gov](mailto:Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov); [Mike Murray \E-mail\](mailto:Mike.Murray@nps.gov)
Subject: RE: Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Mgmt. Field Summary for June 19 - 25, 2008
Date: 06/27/2008 03:56 PM

On Sunday, June 22, 2008, during the routine banding of American oystercatcher (AMOY) chicks on Cape Hatteras National Seashore, the Park experienced a chick fatality. This incident is currently under review by management. Pending completion of the review, Superintendent Mike Murray has suspended further banding operations on the Seashore. An experienced bird bander from North Carolina State University, with the help of three NPS employees, was on the Seashore banding pre-fledgling AMOY chicks when the event occurred. One chick, a member of a brood of three, expired after a chase-and-capture of less than two minutes. The other chicks in the brood were banded and appeared to be unaffected upon release. Earlier the same day, five other AMOY chicks had been successfully banded at three other locations. American oystercatchers, both breeding adults and chicks close to fledging, are banded to aide in the monitoring of the species in their breeding range which can help determine survival and recruitment into the population. The fatality was the first documented in the banding of more than 207 chicks and 120 adults at both Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout. The chick will be sent off for a necropsy to see if the cause of death can be determined.

This is a perfect example of why ORV and pedestrian use is not the cause of any "declines" in successful nesting of birds at Hatteras. The "experienced" bander should not have been handling the chicks period. All banding should be stopped permanently, they stand a better chance of survival if left to their natural fate. The members of Audubon and DOW need to read this statement closely, but I'm sure they will find a way to spin it in their favor of these ridiculous closures which are not going to produce any better hatching/fledging results than were there before the consent decree.

-----Original Message-----

From: Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov [mailto:Cyndy_Holda@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008 3:46 PM
Subject: Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Mgmt. Field Summary
for June 19 - 25, 2008

(See attached file: 062508 RM Rpt.doc)