

**From:** [Thayer Broili](#)  
**To:** [Mike Murray](#); [Darrell Echols](#)  
**Subject:** Turtles and Fires from Michelle  
**Date:** 08/04/2008 08:43 AM

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Maybe discussion on the bird call?

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----- Forwarded by Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS on 08/04/2008 08:39 AM -----

**Michelle  
Baker/CAHA/NPS**

To Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Britta  
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS

08/02/2008 11:15 AM

cc

Subject

Thayer and Britta,

I recently received the an email from some people who were staying in Avon and witnessed some unexpected loggerhead hatchlings. To preface, they had a bonfire south of the pier, and were ultimately surprised to find hatchlings about to run into their fire pit. They took the turtles to the water and released them.

This even coincided with what we found the next morning at Nest 04, which had reached day 62 of incubation. Around 50 hatchlings had emerged and the majority had headed straight for the water. However, some reached the edge of the filter fencing and headed for the fire on the beach.

The filter fencing currently extends to the water line, so there is little I can do to protect these hatchlings if they emerge at low tide. This nest is over, and we don't need to worry about it anymore, but we do have 6 other nests in Avon that are all coming up, plus 2 in Hatteras and one in Buxton.

I know it sounds extreme, but is there any way we can ban bonfires from the south end out Avon (all nests are S. of the Pier), until the last nest hatches? Or can we think about making it a rule that fires must be 500 meters away from any expanded nest?

Thank you in advance for your suggestions!

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Michelle