

From: [Cyndy Holda](#)
To: [Kim Mosher](#)
Cc: [Gregory Robinson](#); [Darrell Echols](#); [Dennis McGinnis](#); [John Wescott](#); [Paul Stevens](#); [Michelle Baker](#)
Bcc: [Mike Murray](#)
Subject: Re: RAMP 44 & Turtle nest
Date: 10/13/2009 11:34 AM

Good Morning Kevin,
Yes, the work on Ramp 44 will continue. It appears that the correct mixture of clay vs shell was not correctly mixed and therefore, with the recent rainfall, the ramp needs more work. Our Maintenance Division is aware of the problem.

As for the sea turtle nest located on the beach between Ramp 43 and Ramp 44, I have gleaned the following information from Michelle Bogardus for you. Hope this will answer your questions:

- 1) The sea turtle nest located on the beach between Ramp 43 and Ramp 44 was laid on August 2nd, 2009. It was overwashed (effects of passing Hurricane Bill) only for a one time cycle.
- 2) The nest was expanded on September 21, 2009. (Day 50 incubation)
- 3) Hatchlings began emerging yesterday (October 19). The nest protection area will most likely be removed in the next day or two as is the standard protocol to ensure all hatchlings have left the area prior to removing the filter fencing.

You have mentioned your dislike of the filter fencing to me many times before. While NPS would prefer to avoid any artificial "corralling device," if you will, and filter fencing certainly does have its downsides, our turtle biologists and staff feel it is an undesirable but necessary techniques for the protection of sea turtle nests/hatchlings on the beaches of Cape Hatteras National Seashore for several reasons, i.e., multiple use/shared beach activities, commercial beach and recreational fishermen, off-road vehicle use, effects of artificial lighting concerns, etc.

Each nest site is monitored daily for sand accumulation and remedial efforts taken to make as smooth a path to the ocean as possible for the hatchlings once the filter fencing is put into place, usually around day 50 of incubation. Obviously, the northeast facing beach nests take more work than say South Beach nests, but staff are watching all the nests sites closely these days.

The cooler temperatures have significantly slowed the hatching process. We have a few left to hatch and then another successful turtle season will come to an end. Hope you are enjoying those beautiful fall beaches!

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cc

10/12/2009 06:23 PM

Subject RAMP 44

HELLO, I HAVE BEEN GETTING LOTS OF QUESTIONS FROM MY MEDIA GROUP ABOUT THE CONDITIONS AND TYPE OF MATERIAL USED AT RAMP 44. I ASSUME THAT THERE IS MORE TO BE DONE ON IT.....CORRECT? ALSO, HOW LONG WILL THE TURTLE RUNWAY BETWEEN RAMP 43 AND 44 STAY UP? THAT NEST WENT UNDERWATER AT LEAST ONCE AND I THOUGHT THAT MIGHT HAVE "SEALED" IT. THE BLACK TARP HAS NOW ALLOWED THE SAND TO BUILD UP MUCH HIGHER THAN THE ORIGINAL DEPTH. NOT GOOD. I BELIEVE IT'S ABOUT 3 WEEKS LATE. THANKS FOR YOUR INFORMATION PAST AND PRESENT. AMERICA LOVES THEIR NATIONAL PARKS! REGARDS, KEVIN MC CABE