

From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Britta Muiznieks](#)
Cc: [Michelle Bogardus](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS
Date: 06/04/2010 12:10 PM
Attachments: [NCWRC.Comments.051110.pdf](#)

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Britta,

I think we (HQ) will wait until after Matthew's visit before making a decision on sending the report to Larry "as is" or waiting until it is "final." Please let me know, after the visit, how it went, what sort of time frame is expected for completion of the data analysis, and any related issues that came up for discussion.

While Matthew is here, would you or Michelle please see if he has any advice on the DEIS comment from WRC (see item 4 of the attached) that CAHA should "evaluate the applicability of sea turtle nest relocation criteria, similar to those used at Pea Island NWR, that quantify geomorphic characteristics of beach width, beach slope and distance from mean high tide."

I am very receptive to that recommendation, but can Matthew suggest specific parameters for those criteria elements (i.e., how wide? how steep? how far from mean high tide?), or a simple methodology for identifying them. As it is presented, the recommendation puts all the burden on us to come up with the criteria. It would be preferable if Matthew could help us identify what the specific measures should be. For example, should we simply adopt the criteria used at PINWR if, in fact, they have such criteria? Or, do we need to do some elaborate study to come up with our own?

I would also like to know what Matthew thinks, even if it is "unofficial", about our sea turtle nest closure expansion sizes under the interim strategy which what is proposed in the DEIS and our use of filter fencing. We say we are following the NC handbook as our guidance, but then neither the buffer expansion or the filter fencing is mentioned in the NC handbook. Both measures were institutionalized under the interim strategy, in part, as a means to mitigate the lack of any restrictions on night driving. Now, given the likelihood that we will continue with some kind of night driving restrictions in the FEIS, **are the big expanded buffers for nests within their hatch windows (especially the size of buffers in areas open to ORVs) and the filter fencing still necessary and effective?** Or, could we simplify our approach (such as one-size expanded buffer fits all situations) because we will have a night driving restriction from now on? In other words, would smaller buffer expansions and something other than filter fencing be appropriate and effective?



NCWRC.Comments.051110.pdf

Thanks,

Mike Murray
Superintendent

0026591

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▼ Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

**Britta
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS** To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS
06/04/2010 11:00 AM Subject Re: Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS 

Mike-

I would probably call it a preliminary report rather than final.

Michelle talked to Matthew this week and he is planning on coming down early next week to help with the analysis of the data that was collected. I'm not sure how quickly we will be able to get through the analysis and write it up given that we are probably in the busiest month of the year as far as the field season goes. It will probably depend on whether Matthew just shows us how to do it or whether he will actually help with the analysis itself.

Britta Muiznieks
Wildlife Biologist
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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▼ Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS

**Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS** To Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS
06/03/2010 01:13 PM Subject Re: Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS 

Michelle,

Should we consider the report that was provided in earlier messages as "final" (or is it "preliminary" or something else) and provide it to Larry Hardham? I'm okay with that; just want to be sure you are. If you are, then I can have Cyndy send it to him. If we do say it is "preliminary," then we should expect a request for the final report and have the intent to actually finalize it. We could simply call it "the report" without getting into the "final" or "preliminary" issue, recognizing that there is some data analysis that was not addressed in the report. In any case, are there any concerns about us providing the report "as is" to Larry now, or are we waiting for an expected "final report" from Matthew?

Mike Murray
Superintendent
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▼ Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS

**Michelle
Bogardus/CAHA/NPS** To Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
05/31/2010 06:08 AM Subject Re: Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS 

Britta,

The report that we submitted this spring fulfills our reporting obligation to Eastern National. However, no statistical analysis has been done on the data collected. Originally, the grant says that we were supposed to have a graduate student from NC State to work with the data along with Matthew Godfrey. At this point we are dependant on Matthew to help us with the data since I neither designed the study nor have a background in bio-stats.

Michelle

▼ Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

**Britta
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS** To Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
05/30/2010 01:32 PM Subject Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS

Michelle-

So where are we on the analysis of the 2008 and 2009 data? In the report it says that data from 2008 and 2009 is still in the process of being analyzed. Are we still waiting on Matthew for help with the analysis?

Britta Muiznieks
Wildlife Biologist
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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----- Forwarded by Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS on 05/30/2010 01:31 PM -----

**Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS**

05/28/2010 04:39 PM

To Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS 

He hasn't requested from us yet. If/when he does, we have it (now) at HQ and can respond to him.

Thanks,

Mike Murray
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▼ Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS

**Britta
Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS**

05/28/2010 04:23 PM

To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Re: Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS 

Mike-
Do you want me to send this report to Larry?

[attachment "2010 Hatchling Sex Ratio Final Report Compact file.pdf" deleted by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS]

Britta Muiznieks
Wildlife Biologist
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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▼ Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS

**Mike
Murray/CAHA/NPS**

To Michelle Bogardus/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS

05/28/2010 04:06 PM

cc

Subject Fw: Temperature Study at CHNS

FYI

Mike Murray
Superintendent
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----- Forwarded by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS on 05/28/2010 04:06 PM -----

"Godfrey, Matthew H"
<matt.godfrey@ncwildlife.org>

To Larry Hardham
<hardhead@embarqmail.com>

05/28/2010 03:34 PM

cc Mike Murray <mike_murray@nps.gov>, Bob Davis <davisrb@embarqmail.com>

Subject RE: Temperature Study at CHNS

Hi Larry,

This project is being spearheaded by NPS, and I don't know when the report will be finalized, but I imagine that NPS would be willing to send you a copy when it is ready.

Matthew

From: Larry Hardham [mailto:hardhead@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2010 9:25 AM
To: Godfrey, Matthew H
Cc: Mike Murray; Bob Davis
Subject: Temperature Study at CHNS

Matthew,

Shown below is a quote from the "Cape Hatteras National Seashore Sea Turtle 2009 Annual Report". Has this report been finalized yet? Please forward a copy to Bob Davis and myself as we are very interested in the results and how the conclusions may be used for sea turtle management at the Seashore..

"Temperature Study

In 2009, a HOBO (temperature reading device) was placed in each nest as a part of ongoing temperature dependent sex determination study. This study records the incubation temperature for all nests on CAHA to determine the effect of spatial and temporal changes on the sex ratio of developing hatchlings. This was the third and final year that CAHA has operated this study, which was funded by Eastern National in 2007. **A final report will be out early in 2010.**"

Thank you,

Larry