0027102

From: Paul Stevens

To: <u>Darrell Echols; Mike Murray; Cyndy Holda</u>

Subject: Fw: Update on Tri-village area ATV/turtle closure incident

Date: 07/01/2010 04:32 PM

Cyndy,

This should be enought information for a press release. Rangers Sean Reier and Jim Churchman investigated.

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---- Forwarded by Paul Stevens/CAHA/NPS on 07/01/2010 04:25 PM -----

David

Carter/CAHA/NPS

To Paul Stevens/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Jon

Anglin/CAHA/NPS@NPS

07/01/2010 04:03 PM

Subject Update on Tri-village area ATV/turtle closure incident

Incident occurred about 2:00 AM. Two ATVs drove onto the beach in the area of Sea Oats Dr in Rodanthe north of the Rodanthe Pier. They drove south on the beach for about two miles. The turtle nest that was run through was about one mile south of the pier. Tires tracks indicated swervs, donuts and jumping. The turtle nest was run through by one ATV and Hunt admitted that it was him. Resource staff checked the nest and believe it is OK. The tire tracks of one ATV led to the cottage Hunt was staying at. Hunt confessed that he was drunk and a PBT reading of .11 was obtained at 9:00 am. Hunt identified Tillet as the other ATV operator.

Suspects identified; Daniel Hunt, age 28, from Maryland Brian Tillett, age 34, lives in Rodanthe

Hunt confessed and was charged with;

unsafe operation operate ORV in seasonal ORV closure entering a resource closure for turtle nest giving false information disturbing wildlife intoxicated in park area

Hunt's ATV was seized as evidence

Tillet remained silent but Hunt identified Tillet as being the other ATV operator. Tillet was charged with;

unsafe operation operate ORV in seasonal ORV closure

The ATV is owned by Gary Midgett and was taken with out authorization by Tillet with out Midgett's knowledge.

After Sean and Jim informed me of the investigation I told Sean too also issue charges for unregistered motor vehicle and night driving to both and also charge Tillet with driving on suspended license.

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