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**From:** [Cyndy Holda](#)  
**To:** [Kim Mosher](#)  
**Bcc:** [Mike Murray](#)  
**Subject:** Predator removal figures and turtle nest  
**Date:** 08/24/2010 10:16 AM

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Kevin,

In discussions with the resource management staff, I found that ghost crabs are not a targeted species for removal. If a ghost crab hole is observed inside a predator enclosure, the hole will be collapsed to discourage burrow formation near incubating plovers. Park staff has experimented with ghost crab traps but they have not proven to be an effective tool for minimizing predation at or near plover or turtle nests.

Your continued interest in our turtle program is appreciated. We have a record number of turtle nests on the beach this summer. Our management techniques have been successful for several seasons and we hope the increased numbers will benefit turtle populations along eastern North Carolina coastlines.

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cc

08/23/2010 01:17 PM

Subject Fw: Predator removal figures and turtle nest

Hello Cyndy, I was talking with a gentleman from the University of Maryland interested in ghostcrabs and their predators in Cape Point area. I told him they are usually destroyed when in the enclosures but with the absence of natural predators their numbers remain very high out there. Out of curiosity, I looked up the predator removal figures and wondered why doomed ghostcrabs are not recorded in the report? Why aren't they? That data could prove to be useful someday. On a different note, I highly suggest that turtle nests that are within 30-50 feet of the high tide line that are due to hatch soon be dug up by next Sunday, August 29th. Several near ramp 44, which I have been very concerned with from day one, already have the runways up which will certainly kill everything once they fill up with water. My knowledge of offshore storms and many swell charts are showing that soon to be hurricane Danielle

will have a large easterly swell here by next Monday. Many of those nests should have been relocated from the beginning. I know it is a hard job but my offer still stands if the Park needs any assistance in the future. I sincerely hope I am wrong and lets hope for the best.....they already dodged one bullet. Kevin.

Here are figures thru 2009 as reported by NPS