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To: Melissa Forder; Mike Murray; Darrell Echols; Thayer Broili; Cyndy Holda

Cc: <u>Jocelyn Wright</u>: <u>Eric Frey</u>; <u>Michael Piatak</u>
Subject: Turtle summary as of today (9/7/11)

Date: 09/07/2011 03:02 PM

Of the total 147 nests we have had in 2011, 69 were still in the ground prior to the storm. Prior to the storm's arrival, 18 nests were excavated early thus affecting our emergence success totals for the year. Nests are normally excavated 3 days after the first emergence is observed. Nests within the hatch window (50 days and older) were checked prior to the storm for hatchlings and/or pipped eggs and if either was found the nest was excavated early as hatchlings/pipped eggs cannot survive inundation within the nest cavity.

Of the 69 nests in the ground prior to the storm:

20 nests are still active,

40 were lost (washed out or dead),

4 were impacted (combination of successful hatch/dead hatchlings or sand deposition w/live hatchlings documented during nest check),

3 normal hatches during/post-storm

2 dead or infertile (loss not storm related)

Again, I expect the numbers lost to Hurricane Irene to increase as we excavate more nests. This number may be confounded by the abnormally high tides we are currently having as a result of Hurricane Katia. It will be difficult to attribute the loss of a nest to either Hurricane Irene (8/26-8/28) or Hurricane Katia (9/7-9/8) or both after this second storm event. We have not documented any new false crawls or nests since the storm. Our last nest in 2010 was found on 9/6/2010 north of Ramp 27. If no more nests are found, the last nest for 2011 was found on 8/21/2011 south of Ramp 38.

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