# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; April 16-22, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatterns, and Ocracoke Districts)

# Piping Plover:

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat			
Oregon Inlet	NS	10 (TF)	B (RW)	6-10 (RW)	NS	NS	NS			
Cape Point	2 (M)	3 (JA)	2 (DM)	4 (DM)	3 (DM)	5 (DM)	2 (TF)			
Hatteras Inlet	0 (KS)	1 (KS)	0 (JA)	1 (JA)	NS	NS	0 (KS)			
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	0 (JA)	0 (JA)	NS	NS	NS			
Incidental sightings	+ 4/	* 4/19 1 obs foraging @ 2 miles S of R59 – Ocracoke (JA) *4/21 1 obs foraging @ HI overwash fans (SM)								

KS=Karen Sayles; JA=Jon Altman; TF=Tracy Fayollat; DM=Doug McGee; RW=Rebbeca Walker; SM=Sidney Maddock; M=Pat & Neal Moore
NS=not surveyed

#### Comments:

Oregon Inlet: Birds all foraging, flying, & roosting. 2 banded birds obs on 4/17-identified as wintering birds banded winter '05/'06 in park with Virginia Tech study

Cape Point: 4/17 territorial threat displays between 3 birds (charging); 4/19 parallel run & charging between 4 birds; 4/20 charging between 3 birds, scraping by 1; 4/21 territorial charging amongst 5 birds; other behavioral obs include foraging, preening & roosting.

Birds have been obs foraging outside of closure at tide line in the "cove" facing S.Be.

Hatteras Inlet: 4/17 single bird obs making scrapes; 4/19 single bird scraping; other observational behaviors include calling, roosting, preening & on ground movement.

S. Ocracoke: Survey area comprised of last years breeding territory.

#### Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's): (NOTE: active = eggs in nest)

Green Is – 1 nests to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged Bodie Is – 0 nests to date; 0 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged Hatteras – 3 nests to date; 3 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged Ocracoke – 1 nest to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged

## Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- No report

<u>Hatteras</u>- Royal terns @ Cape Point closure; Least terns @ last year nesting territory on S.Be. <u>Ocracoke</u>- No report

# See turtle nests: (turtle patrol to start mid-May)

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: 2 loggerheads; 1 N of Buxton, 1 in Hatteras Village

Ocracoke: none

## Marine Mammals:

4/19 Dead bottlenose dolphin between Campground & Airport ramp on Ocracoke.

- 4/20 Report of live stranded dolphin S of Cape Point, group of fishermen pushed animal back into water before help for the animal arrived. Dolphin was last seen heading south where several commercial fishermen had nets set. Fishermen pointed out as pushing animal back into the water denied any knowledge of incident. No further details obtained.
- 4/20 baby bottlenose dolphin, dead, Frisco

4/21 young dolphin, dead, Hatteras

# Closure requests - additions/modifications/removals:

 4/18 Hatters Inlet closure modified as a safety closure due to erosion, sound side beach opened to accommodate ORV access to the spit.

 4/20 Hatters Inlet bird closure modified on the ocean facing side near the spit. 60 ft "bump out" made to protect AMOY nest from disturbance.

 4/22 New closure request made for AMOY nest located N of Buxton. Pending approval. Not implemented.

 4/22 Closure modification request for S.Be made to increase buffer distance for AMOY nest. Pending approval. Not implemented.

Closure violetions:

Closure violations:	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other
Bird closure	NR	NR	NR	0	7	0	NR	NR	NR
Turtle closure	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other	NR	NR	NR	1	0	0	NR	NR	NR
Totale	<del> </del>	7.00		i	7	Ö			

\*Other violations include: ORV driving into Hatterss Breach area to get to section of Pole Rd that is closed \*\* NR = no record (staff unable to survey or no violations recorded); NA = not applicable

Predator control: A total of 12 "Have a Heart" box traps set from R38 to Hatteras Inlet.

4/21 Opossum-female released.

4/22 Feral cat-male, transported to SPCA

# In other news:

- Jon Altman's change of duty station from Ocracoke to Buxton completed.
- New Bodie Island Biotech, Rebecca Walker, EOD'ed on Monday 4/17.
- Team meeting with Thayer on Thursday 4/20

Submitted: April 22, 2006

Karen Sayles

# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; April 23-29, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# Piping Plover:

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat		
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	NS	10 (RW)	NS	10 (RW)	NS		
Cape Point	NS	3 (TF)	4 (NM)	NS	3 (NM)	6 (JM)	4 (TF)		
Hatteras Inlet	NS	1 (SM)	NS	0 (JA)	0 (DM)	1 (DM)	0 (DM)		
Hatteras breach	NS	3 (JA)	NS	2 (DM)	0 (DM)	NS	NS		
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS		
Incidental sightings	2 birds obs in tire ruts near R27								

KS=Karen Sayles; JA=Jon Altman; TF=Tracy Fayollat; DM=Doug McGee; RW=Rebbeca Walker; SM=Sidney Maddock; M=Pat & Neal Moore; GM=Gerry Mulligan; NS=not surveyed

#### Comments:

Oregon Inlet: up to 10 plover observed foraging on the flats near the pond Cape Point: High step tattoo observed on 4/24! Birds spending much time foraging on muddy/wet flat, outside of closure & down at the tideline on the southern end of the hook. Territorial behavior noted. Foraging & roosting birds outside of closure disturbed by humans, ORV's & dog.

<u>Hatteras Inlet</u>: Single bird obs. foraging on the mud flats, roosting in area where was observed scraping and disappears behind dunes adjacent to area with scrapes.

<u>Hatteras breach</u>: 3 possibly 4 birds observed in this area, foraging as well as in territorial displays. 3-4 nest scrapes were located in the area on 4/26. Closure was put up 4/27.

<u>S. Ocracoke</u>: Unable to survey area.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's): (NOTE: active = eggs in nest)

<u>Green Is</u> – 1 nests to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Bodie Is</u> – 1 nests to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Hatteras</u> – 7 nests to date; 7 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Ocracoke</u> – 2 nests to date; 2 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged

# Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- No report

Hatteras- Royal, sandwich & least terns along with a few black skimmers obs. at Cp. Pt.

Ocracoke- No report

Sea turtle nests: (turtle patrol to start mid-May)

<u>Bodie Is</u> – To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> – To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated Ocracoke - To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: 1 loggerhead south of R55

Ocracoke: none

#### **Marine Mammals:**

• 4/27 2 dead dolphins located, 1 near Isabel Inlet, south of R55

• 4/28 1 dead dolphin N of R34

• 4/29 1 dead dolphin N of R70

# Closure requests - additions/modifications/removals:

- 4/23 New closure installed 1.5 m N of R70 AMOY nest (OI-06-009)
- 4/23 New closure installed 0.8 m S of R27 AMOY nest (HI-06-010)
- 4/24 Closure South Beach modified (HI-06-004)
- 4/25 New closure installed 0.5 m S of R55 AMOY nest (HI-06-011)
- 4/25 New closure installed 1.5 M N of Buxton Amoy nest (HI-06-008)
- 4/27 Closure 1.5 m N of Buxton modified (HI-06-008)
- 4/27 New closure installed 0.6 m S of R55 PIPL (HI-06-012)
- Modification request for Hatteras Inlet ocean beach closure for PIPL mating activity still pending approval.

#### Closure violations:

Violation type	Bo	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other	
Bird closure	NR	NR	NR	4+	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	
Turtle closure	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Other	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	
Totals				4+		No.				

<sup>\*</sup> NR = no record (staff unable to survey or no violations recorded); NA = not applicable

Predator control: A total of 12 "Have a Heart" box traps set from R38 to Hatteras Inlet.

- 1 feral cat removed from bird closure N of Buxton (F) 4/28 transported to SPCA
- Male possum released

#### In other news:

- International shorebird surveys conducted for all districts.
- Sayles & Altman attended PIPL ICS meeting in Buxton on Wed.
- Sayles attended Fri meetings held at main bird closures between CAHA management, NPS Deputy Director – Steve Martin & CAHA stakeholders.

Submitted: April 30, 2006

Karen Sayles

<sup>\*\*</sup>Fox tracks were observed around trap down at Hatteras Inlet\*\*

# Summary of Cape Point Plover activity April 23 – 29, 2006:

Three to six piping plover have been observed at various times through out the week foraging and roosting along the tide line of the south facing beach at Cape Point (the "hook" or "cove" area), outside of the current closure boundary.

This is the area of shoreline that was recommended as being closed on April 7, 2006 by US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Several instances of disturbance of foraging and roosting birds in this area have been documented over the past week. Birds have been flushed by pedestrians, dogs and ORV's.

Documentation of breeding behavior outside of the current boundary has also been noted for this area. Territorial displays have occurred between birds, and on April 24, 2006, the "high step tattoo" (a mating and copulation behavior) was observed, which signifies that breeding is occurring.

### 0033495

Thayer Broili

To: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS@NPS

05/02/2006 08:55 AM

cc: Karen Sayles/CAHA/NPS@NPS Subject: Fw: Cape POint plover update

**EDT** 

If you have, or when you get, the referenced closure modification, attach per Karen's note below.

Thayer Broili
Chief of Resource Management
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Phone 252-473-2111 ext.137
Cell 252-475-8345

Fax 252-473-2595

---- Forwarded by Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS on 05/02/2006 08:54 AM -----



Karen Sayles 05/01/2006 09:48 AM EDT To: Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS, Mark Hardgrove/CAHA/NPS, Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS, Norah Martinez/CAHA/NPS, Paul Stevens/CAHA/NPS, Maggie Tyler/CAHA/NPS

CC

Subject: Cape POint plover update

Attachment to cloure modification as per Mike's request.

Karen Sayles Biological Science Technician Cape Hatteras National Seashore 46500 Lighthouse Rd Buxton, NC 27920 (252) 995-6968 office

25.2

(252) 475-8346 mobile CpPt plover April 23-29.doc

# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; April 30 – May 6, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	0	6	6	4	0
	110	115	(RW)	(RW)	(RW)	(RW)	(RW)
Cape Point	NS	2 (JA)	4	3	5	2	4
Cape I oint	149	1 (KS)	(GM)	(DM)	(DM)	(JA)	(JA)
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	0 (DM)	NS	0	1	NS
Hatter as Three	170	IND	0 (1211)	מאו	(DM)	(DM)	1/9
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	1	1	1	1	NS
Tracter as breach	מאו	140	(DM)	(DM)	(DM)	(DM)	1/1/2
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	NS	NS	2 (JA)	NS	NS
<b>Incidental sightings</b>							

KS=Karen Sayles; JA=Jon Altman; TF=Tracy Fayollat; DM=Doug McGee; RW=Rebbeca Walker; SM=Sidney Maddock; M=Pat & Neal Moore; GM=Gerry Mulligan; NS=not surveyed

#### Comments:

Oregon Inlet: Most observation were of foraging birds at the pond. 1 bird was observed in territorial displays with other piping plover as well as semi-palmated plovers Cape Point: Most observations were of foraging birds at the salt pond, mud flats & ocean front. Territorial behavior documented as well as "high step tattoo" mating behavior on 5/4/06. Disturbance of foraging birds on the south facing beach documented. Birds are foraging in the area initially set aside to be included in the shoreline closure. Shoreline closure buffer distances were modified & limited on the day of implimentation. Hatteras Inlet: Bird foraging on the oceanfront at tideline from the end of the "Pole Rd" area south. Disturbance of feeding documented as vehicles drove by.

<u>Hatteras breach:</u> 1 bird observed foraging & roosting at largest overwash fan. Territorial charges observed with semi-palmated plover.

S. Ocracoke: Birds foraging at tideline.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's): (NOTE: active = eggs in nest)

<u>Green Is</u> – 2 nests to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2-3 chicks; 0 fledged

Bodie Is - 2 nests to date; 1 active; 1 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged

Hatteras - 8 nests to date; 8 active; 0 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged

Ocracoke - 3 nests to date; 1 active; 2 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged

## Colonial waterbirds:

<u>Bodie Is</u>- Least terns arriving back at Oregon Inlet & S of R23; Royal & sandwich terns also S of R23 & black skimmers at Green Island

<u>Hatteras</u>- 5 areas of documented courtship & scrapes by least & common terns. 3 areas in prenest closures, 2 un-protected by boundaries.

Ocracoke- No report

Sea turtle nests: (turtle patrol to start mid-May)

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none Hatteras: none Ocracoke: none

Marine Mammals: No records.

# Closure requests - additions/modifications/removals:

- 5/1 Cape Point closure modified; aprox 600 feet of south facing beach tideline closed to ORV's & pedestrians & ORV by-pass on N beach opened
- 5/2 0.9 m N of R67, Ocracoke AMOY nest posted
- 5/6 1.4 m S of R27, AMOY nest posted

#### Closure violations:

	Во	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other	
Bird closure	NR	NR	NR	1**	3+	2-dog	NR	NR	NR	
Turtle closure	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Other	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	
Totals				1	3+	2				

<sup>\*</sup> NR = no record (staff unable to survey or no violations recorded); NA = not applicable

Predator control: A total of 12 "Have a Heart" box traps set from R38 to Hatteras Inlet.

- Cat removed from N of Buxton bird closure (male) 5/3
- \*All traps removed from field 5/6

### In other news:

- 3 AMOY nests lost to high storm tides (2 on Ocracoke & 1 0.8 m S of R27).
- Hatteras Inlet continues to erode. Signs washing out as quick as we can put them up.
- Cindy, Jenn, Abra & Nick 4 new bio-techs arrived this week!
- Picked up another jeep for our summer fleet (2 other vehicles were in the shop)

Submitted: May 7, 2006

Karen Sayles

<sup>\*\*</sup> Violation occurred at new hightide by-pass at Cape Point

# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; May 7 - 13, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# Piping Plover:

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Cape Point	NS	NS	4 (GM)	4 (GM)	6 (JA)	NS	NS
Hatteras Inlet	NS	2 (JA)	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	1 (SM)
Incidental sightings						e	·

KS=Karen Sayles; JA=Jon Altman; DM=Doug McGee; RW=Rebbeca Walker; SM=Sidney Maddock; M=Pat & Neal Moore; GM=Gerry Mulligan; NS=not surveyed

#### **Comments:**

Oregon Inlet: Area not surveyed due to seasonal training.

Cape Point: Observations were of foraging birds either along the shoreline & at the salt

pond.

<u>Hatteras Inlet</u>: Surveys minimal due to seasonal training <u>Hatteras breach</u>: Area not surveyed due to seasonal training <u>S. Ocracoke</u>: Area not surveyed due to seasonal training

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's): (NOTE: active = eggs in nest)

Green Is – 2 nests to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2-3 chicks; 0 fledged Bodie Is – 3 nests to date; 2 active; 1 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged Hatteras – 9 nests to date; 8 active; 1 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged Ocracoke – 3 nests to date; 1 active; 2 lost; 0 hatched; 0 chicks; 0 fledged

### Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- No update – training week

<u>Hatteras</u>- 5 areas of documented courtship & scrapes by least & common terns. 3 areas in prenest closures, 2 un-protected by boundaries. LETE nests w/eggs located at Salt Pond Rd closure. Cape Point closure filling up with skimmers, LETE & common terns.

Ocracoke- No report - training week

# **Sea turtle nests:** (turtle patrol starts 5-14-06)

 $\begin{array}{lll} \underline{Bodie\ Is} - & To\ date:\ 0\ nests\ -\ 0\ false\ crawls\ -\ 0\ hatch\ -\ 0\ excavated\\ \underline{Hatteras} - & To\ date:\ 0\ nests\ -\ 0\ false\ crawls\ -\ 0\ hatch\ -\ 0\ excavated\\ \underline{Ocracoke} - & To\ date:\ 0\ nests\ -\ 0\ false\ crawls\ -\ 0\ hatch\ -\ 0\ excavated\\ \end{array}$ 

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none Hatteras: none Ocracoke: none

# Marine Mammals:

- Small whale reported on N end of Ocracoke
- 3 neonate bottlenose dolphins recovered
- 1 harbor porpoise recovered

# Closure requests - additions/modifications/removals:

\* No closure modifications/additions for the week due to seasonal training.

# Closure violations:

Violation type	Bo	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other	
Bird closure	NR	NR	NR	12+	12	5*	NR	NR	NR	
Turtle closure	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Other	NR	NR	NR	NA	NA	NA	NR	NR	NR	
Totals				12+	12	5				

NR = no record (staff unable to survey or no violations recorded); NA = not applicable

Predator control: \*All traps removed from field 5/6

# In other news:

• First week of seasonal training completed! Thanks to all who participated.

Submitted: May 14, 2006

Karen Sayles

<sup>\*</sup>Other violations include 3 dogs in bird closure and 2 horses in shoreline closure.

First Piping Plover nest of the season located Sunday, May 14, 2006 at Cape Point! (southern hook area)



eggs in nest



# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; May 14 - 20, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Oregon finet	(??)	(??)	(RW)	(SM)	(RW)	(RW)	(RW)
Cape Point	4	5	3	6	No	2	3
Caperonic	(GM)	(AM)	(GM)	(MW)	data?	(DM)	(AM)
Hatteras Inlet	No	2	1	0	0	No	1
Hatter as Thiet	data?	JA/KS	(JA)	(DM)	(DM)	data?	(DM)
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	0	0	0	NS	NS
			(DM)	(DM)	(DM)	1000-11110-	
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	1 (SM)	NS	NS	NS -	NS
Incidental sightings							

KS=Karen Sayles; JA=Jon Altman; DM=Doug McGee; RW=Rebbeca Walker; SM=Sidney Maddock; GM=Gerry Mulligan; AM=Audrey Morgan; MW=Marie Wirschem; NS=not surveyed

#### Comments:

Oregon Inlet: Plover behaviors include territorial displays (ie. gliding runs, horizontal threat, vocalizations). Utilizing SE corner of closure as well as foraging near pond. Cape Point: Pair of birds obs copulating 5/14, nest located 5/14. Area is very active w/ breeding behavior. There are atleast 2 pairs. Birds are foraging at the dried salt pond flats, at ephemeral pools and at the shoreline. Bird closure surveyed closely by KS & JA. Sune heavy with plover tracks is same dune where AMOY nest was. This area was hit by a raccoon causing loss of AMOY nest. Possibility is high that we had plover nest in this area and lost it to predation before located. Need to set traps and remove raccoon. Hatteras Inlet: Birds calling & utilizing small dune field near inlet. Observed foraging at tidal creek on the sound side. Also observed roosting. Area surveyed but no nests located. Hatteras breach: PIPL still observed foraging on sound side flats in this area; however no further nesting behavior has been documented.

S. Ocracoke: 1 bird obs foraging on flats. More intensive monitoring of area needed.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's): (NOTE: active = eggs in nest)

Green Is - 2 nests to date; 1 active; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2-3 chicks; 0 fledged

Bodie Is - 5 nests to date; 2 active; 2 lost; 1 hatched; 1 chicks; 0 fledged

Hatteras - 11 nests to date; 5 active; 2 lost; 4\* hatched; 8 chicks; 0 fledged

Ocracoke - 5 nests to date; 2 active; 2 lost; 1 hatched; 3 chicks; 0 fledged

\* 2<sup>nd</sup> nest on SBeach has starred eggs – chicks should be out of eggs soon

## Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- Least terns nesting in 2 locations

<u>Hatteras</u>- Least tern active in 6 different locations. Common terns and black skimmers also nesting at Cape Point.

Ocracoke- Black skimmers and terns have arrived at SPoint flats

Sea turtle nests: (turtle patrol starts 5-14-06)

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 digs — 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 digs — 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 1 nests — 1 digs - 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: 1 loggerhead; 1 kemp's ridley

Ocracoke: 1 loggerhead

Marine Mammals: No reports

# Closure requests - additions/modifications/removals:

- So-be closure modified as shoreline closure 5/18 for AMOY chicks
- Hatteras Inlet spit modified as shoreline closure 5/16 for AMOY chicks
- New closure in place at "Isabel Inlet" 5/20 for nesting least terms
- 1.4 m S of R27 closure modified as shoreline closure 5/16 for AMOY chicks
- New closure 0.3 m S of R27 in place on 5/17 for nesting AMOY & least terms
- New closure 1.4 m S of R23 in place on 5/17 for nesting least terms

#### Closure violations:

	Bodie Island				Hatteras			Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other	
Bird closure	NR	NR	NR	1	41	0	NR	NR	NR	
Turtle closure	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NR	NR	NR	
Other	NR	NR	NR	3	0	0	NR	NR	NR	
Totals				4	41	0				

NR = no record (staff unable to survey or no violations recorded); NA = not applicable

Predator control: \*All traps removed from field 5/6

#### In other news:

- International Shorebird Surveys conducted for Bodie Island and Hatteras Districts
- 2 AMOY nests lost in Bodie Island district 1 to fox predation @ Oregon Inlet & 1 lost to ORV's before closure could be erected @ 1 m S of R27
- 1 AMOY nest lost @ Cape Point to raccoon. Racoon tracks heavy at Cape Point. Also went into the CWB area and amongst dunes where PIPL was thought to be nesting.
- NC State AMOY folks are in the park radio tagging chicks. So far we know that 1 has been lost to ghost crab predation N of Buxton & others are highly mobile and being relocated far away from their original nest site & outside of closure boundaries.

Submitted: May 21, 2006

Karen Sayles

<sup>\*</sup>Other violations include 2 ORV's and 1 ATV driving into area closed to off-road vehicles

70: Thayor Broili m Jon Althan

slect: Clarity Statement on Weekly Report
May 14-20 about AMOY nest lost
to ORVS at I mik South g Rays
27. This is Rehere Waltress

Statement.

2 pages total

2006 02:08

6. Malker - AMON 24 Sternenz

page 1

1+z found and GPS positioned an 104 nest w/ 1egg @ 1.0 m @ of :7. He reported this information to BI Bio Techs (R. Walker / C. Byrden). ring bird patrol on 5/13,/5/14, 5/15, 16 no nest was found. " Area as searched and GPS was used locate nest site. The legg was ne. There were ORV tracks en the nest site, so the assumption as that the nest was ran over an orv. This nest site on an area of beach that is heavly only bres ever put in or a senightion.) ever put in ided. beach closure ble the area nest was missing the egg after 2 days.

# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; May 21 - 27, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	0	0	3	1 (DT)	1 (DT)	1 (RW)	1
Cape Point	4 (JA)	3 (GM)	4 (JM)	4 (JA)	4 (JM)	2 (MW)	5 (KS)
Hatteras Inlet	0 (JA)	0 (AM)	1 (DM)	0 (DM)	1 (JA)	1 (DM)	0 (MW)
Hatteras breach	1 (JA)	0 (AM)	NS	0 (DM)	0 (AM)	0 (AM)	NS
S. Ocracoke	No data	No data	No data	1 (BP)	1 (BP)	No data	No data
Incidental sightings							

KS=Karen Sayles; JA=Jon Altman; DM=Doug McGee; RW=Rebbeca Walker; SM=Sidney Maddock; GM=Gerry Mulligan; AM=Audrey Morgan; MW=Marie Wirschem; BP=Bob Pollock; DT=Dan Tenerowicz; 0=Audrey Morgan; JM=Jessica Maxfield; NS=not surveyed

#### Comments

Oregon Inlet: Foraging at pond & ephemeral pool. Territorial displays observed.

Cape Point: Birds obs. foraging @ shoreline closure & to the south, ephemeral pools & salt pond dried flats. Territorial observations noted. Nest being incubated.

South Beach: Coming soon.

Hatteras Inlet: Bird obs @ tidal creek on sound side, scrapes near last years nest site. Hatteras breach: 1 obs of foraging, no other PIPL activity for this area

S. Ocracoke: Foraging on ocean beach, flying to soundside. May have heard 2<sup>nd</sup> bird, no visual confirmation.

## Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

<u>Green Is</u> — 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2-3 chicks; 0 fledged \*Bodie Is — 7 nests to date; 2 incubating; 4 lost; 1 hatched; 1 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Hatteras</u> — 11 nests to date; 5 incubating; 2 lost; 4 hatched; 10 chicks; 0 fledged \*Ocracoke — 7 nests to date; 2 incubating; 3 lost; 2 hatched; 5 chicks; 0 fledged \*need to confirm data

#### Colonial waterbirds:

<u>Bodie Is-</u> 2 least tern colonies active; 1.4 m S of R23 & 0.3 m S of R27 Hatteras-

- Large nesting colony of (estimates) 80 black skimmers, 70 common & 24 least terms active
   @ Cp Pt
- Least terns colony N of R34 approximately 20-24 birds
- Salt Pond Rd R45 Least tern colony 81 nests, many more scrapes, 162 200 birds
- Least terms 2 m N of R49 27 least terms & 5 nests

- Isabel Inlet least terns approximately 40 birds & 12 nests
- Hatteras Inlet least terms incidental obs of 4 nests

Ocracoke- Black skimmers & common terns @ spit; Least tern nest located 1.3 m N of R72

### Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 digs — 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 0 nests - 0 digs — 0 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 1 nests — 1 digs - 1 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none

<u>Hatteras:</u> 2 loggerheads <u>Ocracoke:</u> 1 loggerhead

Marine Mammals: No reports

# Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- New closure 2.4 m NW of R67 for AMOY (5/25)
- New closure 3.2 m SW of R59 for AMOY (5/25)
- Modified closure 0.9 m NW R67 for AMOY chicks (5/21 & 5/22)
- Modified closure 1.5 m S of R27 for AMOY chicks (5/22)
- Modified closure @ Oregon Inlet for AMOY nest (5/27)
- Modified closure 0.3 m S of R23 for LETE nests (5/27)
- New closure 1.0 m S of R27 for AMOY nest (5/21); Removed (5/23)
- New closure 1.05 N of R34 for AMOY nest (5/23)
- New closure 0.5 m N of R34 for LETE nests (5/23)
- New closure 2 m N of R49 for LETE nests (5/27)
- Modified closure 1.5 m S of R38 for AMOY nest (5/22)
- Modified closure 0.5 m S of R55 for AMOY chicks (5/21); modified to full beach on night (5/22); modified to original nesting boundary (5/23)
- Modified closure 1.0 m S of R45 for AMOY chicks (5/23)
- Modified closure @ Hatteras Inlet Spit for AMOY chicks (5/26)

## Closure violations:

	Bo	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other	
Bird closure	0	1	0	3	25	1 dog	0	1+	0	
Turtle closure	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	0	0	
Other	1+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals	1+	1	0	3	25	1	0	1+	0	

NR = no record (staff unable to survey or no violations recorded); NA = not applicable

**NOTE:** Hatteras District (Cp Pt/ So-Be area) is having problems with horseback riders going through the full beach closures where chicks are present. Possible to contact stable owners to explain rules & regs?

#### **Predator control:**

• 2 traps set at Cape Point for raccoon – nothing

# In other news:

- Red Knot surveys conducted as part of East Coast Spring Migration Survey. Bird is
- candidate for Federal listing. 327 Ocracoke; 5 Bodie; 209 Hatteras; 542 total Snowy Plover at Cape Point! Only 2<sup>nd</sup> sighting in NC. 1<sup>st</sup> sighting in 1994. Birders from far and wide (not just from NC) have been flocking to the beach to catch a glimpse. Who says birds don't help the economy?!
- NCDOT sprigged small dune area within Isabel Inlet least tern colony (5/23)
- 2 AMOY chicks confirmed dead 5/23 at Pole Rd, Hatteras Inlet

Submitted: May 27, 2006

Karen Sayles



Mike Murray 06/06/2006 02:02 PM EDT

To: Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS

cc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Mark Hardgrove/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Karen

Sayles/CAHA/NPS, Doug Stover/CAHA/NPS, Jon Subject: Re: Resource Management Field Summary, May 28 -

June 3, 2006

Thanks to Karen for her ongoing efforts to put out the weekly resources management update. I find the report very helpful and productive. I think it would worthwhile to put the same or similar information out to the public so they can be informed of the variety wildlife activities we are dealing with and tracking.

Toward that end, I asked Mike Stevens in the Solicitor's Office to review the latest weekly resources management report to see if we could routinely release it to the public. Mike reviewed Thayer's version and said the report as written is mostly factual and there is no problem releasing factual information since it essentially would be available under FOIA. Mike expressed concerns about including any opinion or internal communications, such as "more \_\_\_\_\_\_ needed," since that kind of information is typically redacted (i.e., marked out) in a FOIA response.

Based on Mike's feedback, I edited two minor sections in Thayer's draft and consider it the final, releasable information. Let's prepare the weekly report with the intent of releasing it to the public. If we need to have internal communications about operational adjustments, support needs, etc., let's use other forms of communications for that, such as notifying responsible supervisors, conference calls, ICS resource requests, etc..

I share this background information with all of you so we can all pay attention to wording and content in future weekly updates. Here is the final version, which can be released.



RM Field Summary May 28-June 3.doc

Mike Murray Superintendent Cape Hatteras NS/ Wright Brothers NMem/ Ft. Raleigh NHS (w) 252-473-2111, ext. 148 (c) 252-216-5520 fax 252-473-2595

## CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

This message is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This communication may contain information that is proprietary, privileged or confidential or otherwise legally exempt from disclosure. Thayer Broili

Thayer Broili 06/05/2006 01:12 PM EDT To: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS@NPS cc: Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Mark Hardgrove/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Subject: Resource Management Field Summary, May 28 -June 3, 2006

I made a minor verbiage change on the summary. Unless management (Mike and Mark) has other changes, this should be considered the "official" report.



RM Field Summary May 28-June 3.doc

Thayer Broili Chief of Resource Management Cape Hatteras National Seashore Phone 252-473-2111 ext.137 Fax 252-473-2595

# Second Piping Plover nest of the season located on South Beach, May 29, 2006!!!!!!



Nest found as a full clutch



Nest with predator exclosure around it

# Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; May 28 – June 3, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	0	0	0	0	2	2	2
Cape Point	3	1	3	6	6	6	5
South Beach	1	2	1	1	1	2	1
Hatteras Inlet	0	NS	NS	0	0	0	NS
Hatteras breach	0	NS	NS	NS	0	0	NS
S. Ocracoke	No	No	No	1	1	No	No
5. Octacoke	data	data	data	1	1	data	data

NS=not surveyed

#### Comments:

Oregon Inlet: 2 adults foraging, exhibiting territorial behavior

Cape Point: Nest #1 hatched; another pair making scrapes

South Beach: Nest incubating; adult got hung up in netting of predator exclosure (6/1),

found and released quickly - uninjured - both adults are back to incubating nest

<u>Hatteras Inlet</u>: Area needs monitoring <u>Hatteras breach</u>: Area needs monitoring

S. Ocracoke: Single bird obs flying from dunes, no nest located, needs monitoring

#### Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

<u>Green Is</u> – 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; 0 fledged \*Bodie Is – 10 nests to date; 2 incubating; 7 lost; 1 hatched; 1 chicks; 0 fledged

Hatteras – 12 nests to date; 4 incubating; 2 lost; 6 hatched; 11 chicks; 0 fledged

Ocracoke - 8 nests to date; 2 incubating; 3 lost; 3 hatched; 8 chicks; 0 fledged

\*Nests at Oregon Inlet are being predated by fox quickly after being laid

#### Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- 1.4 m S of R23 (60+ pair LETE) & 0.3 m S of R27 (100+ pair LETE)

Hatteras- Cp Pt (200+ nests BLSK, COTE, LETE); N of R34 (20-24 LETE); So-Be (100+ nests

2 LETE colonies); Isabel Inlet (20+ nests LETE); Hatteras Inlet (LETE)

Ocracoke - Approx 100 birds @ Ocracoke Inlet (GUTE, COTE, LETE); Least tern nest

located 1.3 m N of R72

## Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> – To date: 0 nests - 0 digs – 0 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> – To date: 0 nests - 0 digs – 2 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated

Ocracoke - To date: 2 nests - 2 digs - 1 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated

### Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: 1 loggerhead; 1 kemps

<u>Hatteras:</u> 1 loggerhead <u>Ocracoke:</u> 1 loggerhead

Marine Mammals: No reports

# Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- New closure 2-2.1 m N of R49 for LETE (5/27)
- New closure 1.7 m N of R70 for LETE (6/2)
- Modification for AMOY nest @ Oregon Inlet (5/27)
- Modification for LETE @ 0.4 m S of R27 (5/27)
- Modification for LETE @ Cp Pt closure (5/28)
- Modification for PIPL @ Cp Pt closure (6/1)

#### Closure violations:

	Bo	die Isla	ınd	Hatteras			Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other
Bird closure	1	17*	3	2+	14+	4**	0	5	0
Turtle closure	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0	0
Other	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	3	17	3	2+	14+	4**	0	5	0

NA = not applicable

# Predator control: 2 traps at Cape Point

- Feral cat removed (5/30)
- \* Predation by fox evident at Oregon Inlet

# In other news:

- Shorebird surveys completed
- Wilson's plover pair obs at Oregon Inlet
- Continue to loose signs at all full beach closures @ tideline

<sup>\*</sup>total includes group of 12 people playing volleyball inside of Oregon Inlet bird closure - all ticketed

<sup>\*\*</sup>other violations include 3 horses & 1 dog in bird closure

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; June 4 - 10, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

## **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cape Point	5	6	4	7	7	5	8
South Beach	2	1	1	2	1	2	2
Hatteras Inlet	0	NS	0	0	NS	NS	0
Hatteras breach	0	NS	NS	0	NS	1	0
S. Ocracoke	NS	2	0	3	NS	3	NS

NS=not surveyed

#### **Comments:**

Oregon Inlet: pair of birds observed earlier may be flying to Pea Island

Cape Point: Pair #1 with brood of 3 – foraging at ephemeral pools & at ocean tideline;

Pair #3 observed copulating & scrape making

<u>South Beach</u>: Adults incubating nest. <u>Hatteras Inlet</u>: Area being monitored.

<u>Hatteras breach</u>: Piping plover foraging at overwash fans. <u>S. Ocracoke</u>: 3 adults observed on flats – nest scrapes found

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

<u>Green Is</u> – 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Bodie Is</u> – 8 nests to date; 2 incubating; 5 lost; 1 hatched; 1 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Hatteras</u> – 12 nests to date; 3 incubating; 2 lost; 7 hatched; 11 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Ocracoke</u> – 8 nests to date; 1 incubating; 4 lost; 3 hatched; 7 chicks; 0 fledged

# Colonial waterbirds:

<u>Bodie Is-</u> 2 LETE colonies between R23 & R30 with over 140 pairs combined <u>Hatteras-</u> BLSK, COTE & LETE colony active @ Cape Point – some raccoon predation; Salt Pond Rd LETE colony – hatching; LETE colony N of Avon – active; LETE colony on So-Be – active; LETE colony @ Isabel Inlet active; Small colony of LETE & COTE at Hatteras Inlet – active.

Ocracoke - Few BLSK & GUTE @ Ocracoke flats; LETE nest between R68 & R70

#### Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 1 nests - 0 digs — 1 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 3 nests - 0 digs — 3 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 2 nests — 3 digs - 2 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: 1 loggerhead

Ocracoke: 1 Kemp's ridley, 1 loggerhead

Marine Mammals: No reports

# Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

6/4 closure modified 0.8 m S of R55 for hatching AMOY nest, night time restrictions in place on 6/7 from 7 pm to 7 am (Note: Closure modified again on 6/11 to original nesting closure – night time restrictions lifted)

- 6/5 closure modified between Salt Pond Rd & R45 for expectant hatching plover nest
   & least tern colony both Salt Pond Rd & R45 are currently closed
- 6/6 closure modified 2 m N of R49 for AMOY chicks

## Closure violations:

Violation type	Bo	<b>Bodie Island</b>			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	other	ORV	Ped.	Other	
Bird closure	1	1	*3	2	11	**3	0	0	0	
Turtle closure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals	1	1	3	2	11	3	0	0	0	

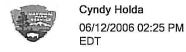
NA = not applicable

Predator control: traps at Cape Point

• No results

<sup>\*3</sup> boat landings within closure @ Oregon Inlet

<sup>\*\*</sup>signs broken off and burned



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)
Subject: Fw: CAHA Resource Management Weekly Field
Summary Report - June 4 - 10, 2006

# To All Interested Parties:

The CAHA Resource Management Weekly Field Summary Report is part of our on-going efforts to provide more information about bird nesting activity, ORV management issues and access to sections of beach in Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

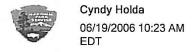
We hope you find this report helpful and provides some insight to the variety of wildlife activities that keep park staff very busy this time of year!

If you are not interested in receiving this information, please "reply to sender" and let us know.

Thank you for your interest in Cape Hatteras National Seashore.



Cape Hatteras NS -RM Field Summary June 4 -10.doc



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)
Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary Report for June 11-17, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary June 11-17.doc

# CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; June 11 - 17, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	0	1	1	4	4	NS	NS
Cape Point	7	7	7	5	7	6	7
South Beach	1	1	2	1	1	0	0
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	0
Hatteras breach	NS	1	NS	NS	NS	NS	0
S. Ocracoke	1	0	2	NS	2	NS	NS

NS=not surveyed

# **Comments:**

Oregon Inlet: Plover pair exhibiting breeding behavior, aerial displays & scrape making.

<u>Cape Point</u>: Pair #1 with brood of 3 – foraging at ephemeral pools & at ocean tideline; Pair #3 nest located, predator exclosure in place.

South Beach: Nest hatched 6/13/06 during stormy weather. One adult & chicks unaccounted for.

<u>Hatteras Inlet</u>: Area only surveyed once this week due to storms & PIPL chicks <u>Hatteras breach</u>: Area only surveyed twice this week due to storms & PIPL chicks <u>S. Ocracoke</u>: Pair at South Point exhibiting breeding behavior, making scrapes.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

<u>Green Is</u> – 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Bodie Is</u> – 8 nests to date; 1 incubating; 5 lost; 2 hatched; 3 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Hatteras</u> – 14 nests to date; 3 incubating; 2 lost; 9 hatched; 16 chicks; 0 fledged

Ocracoke - 8 nests to date; 1 incubating; 4 lost; 3 hatched; 7 chicks; 0 fledged

## Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- 2 LETE colonies between R23 & R30 are hatching, chicks present

<u>Hatteras</u>- Least tern chicks hatched @ Cape Point – nest predation by raccoons continues on other CWB nests; Salt Pond Rd LETE colony – hatching; LETE colony N of Avon – active; LETE colony on So-Be – hatching; LETE colony @ Isabel Inlet dispersed – cat tracks through dunes; Small colony of LETE & COTE at Hatteras Inlet – active.

Ocracoke BLSK & GUTE @ Ocracoke flats - hatching; LETE nest between R68 & R70

#### Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 2 nests - 0 digs - 1 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated<u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 5 nests - 0 digs - 4 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated<u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 4 nests - 3 digs - 5 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: Live loggerhead transported to rehabilitation facility

Hatteras: 2 loggerhead & 1 leatherback

Ocracoke: 1 loggerhead

Marine Mammals: No reports

### Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- Modification 0.3 m S of R27, full beach closure for LETE & AMOY chicks, (6/12)
- Modification at Oregon Inlet for Piping Plover breeding activity (6/17)
- Modification 1.4 m NE of R67, full beach closure for AMOY chicks (6/15)
- Modification 3.2 m SW of R59 for AMOY chicks(6/11)
- Modification 0.8 m S of R55, AMOY chick lost, night driving restriction lifted (6/11)
- Modification Hatteras Inlet, extend shoreline closure for AMOY chicks (6/12)
- Modification 1.05 m N of R34, full beach closure for AMOY chicks (6/16)

# **Closure violations:**

	Bodie Island	Hatteras	Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	otherORVPed.other ORVPed.Other		
Bird closure	6	4	30301*0		
Turtle closure	0	0	00100*0		
Other	0	0	00000*0		
Totals	6	4	303401*0		

\* High pedestrian traffic reported near or within closures

# **Predator control:**

- No result to report for trapping efforts at Cape Point. Traps pulled 6/18
- Fox predation continues at Oregon Inlet. Feral cat and raccoon tracks and some evidence of predation (broken egg shells) continue to be observed at most bird nesting areas, including Cape Point, South Beach, Isabel and Hatteras Inlets.

### In other news:

• Park wide beach mile marker project to start this week. Small wood posts will be installed visibly displaying park mileage starting at Ramp 1 on Bodie Island continuing south through Ocracoke. New marker system will assist park staff with resource surveys, as well as aid LE Rangers and other emergency response units when responding to distress & visitor assistance calls. Scheduled completion of marker system is July 1, 2006.



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)

Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - RM Weekly

Field Summary; June 18-24, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary June 18-24, 2006.doc

# CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; June 18 - 24, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	NS	4	0	NS	NS
Cape Point	6	7	5	4	5	NS*	5
South Beach	1	NS	2	NS	NS	NS	NS
Hatteras Inlet	NS	0	1	NS	NS	NS	0
Hatteras breach	NS	0	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
S. Ocracoke	NS	0	6	NS	2	1	1

NS=not surveyed, or \*no notes from technicians.

## Comments:

Oregon Inlet: foraging in bird area.

Cape Point: Pair #1 with brood of 3 – foraging at ephemeral pools & at ocean tideline, some weak attempts of flight observed; Pair #3 incubating 3 egg nest. South Beach: Pair # 2 Nest hatched 6/13/06 during stormy weather, chicks are considered lost as of 6/20 to weather or predators; exact cause is unknown. Pair #2 already displaying renesting behavior in their territory, 3 nest scrapes on 6/20. Hatteras Inlet: On 6/20 during a tern survey we observed 1 PIPL calling and flying.

Hatteras breach: Area surveyed once this week.

S. Ocracoke: Pair #4, 4 egg nest found on 6/22 inside pre-nesting closure area, predator exclosure erected on 6/23.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

Green Is – 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; 0 fledged Bodie Is - 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 3 hatched; 4 chicks; 0 fledged <u>Hatteras</u> – 14 nests to date; 3 incubating; 5 lost; 9 hatched; 16 chicks; 0 fledged

Ocracoke – 8 nests to date; 1 incubating; 4 lost; 3 hatched; 9 chicks; 0 fledged

## Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- 2 LETE colonies between R23 & R30 are hatching with chicks present, colony forming at Oregon Inlet in northwest part of closure, 30 plus least terns.

Hatteras- Least tern chicks hatched @ Cape Point – nest predation by raccoons continues on other CWB nests; Salt Pond Rd LETE colony diminished, LETE colony N of Avon – active; LETE colony on So-Be active with chicks near south boundary of closure– Small colony of LETE & COTE at Hatteras Inlet – active.

Ocracoke- BLSK, COTE, GUTE @ Ocracoke flats – hatching, chicks and nests present.

#### Sea turtle nests:

Bodie Is – To date: 2 nests - 0 digs – 1 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated Hatteras – To date: 14 nests - 0 digs – 12 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated Ocracoke – To date: 7 nests – 4 digs - 14 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated

Sea turtle strandings:
Bodie Is: no reports
Hatteras: Unknown
Ocracoke: Unknown

Marine Mammals: No reports

#### Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- Modification of closure at Oregon Inlet, night time closure (6/23) for AMOY adult & chick moved to pond area. Removal of closure. (Re-opened 6/27)
- Removal at 1.3 mile south of Frisco pier, LETE colony abandoned. (6/25)
- Removal at 1.05 m N of R34, full beach closure, lost AMOY chicks (6/22)
- New Closure for AMOY nest on soundside of Hatteras Inlet Coast Guard base. (6/18)

#### Closure violations:\*

	<b>Bodie Island</b>	Hatteras	Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	otherORVPed.other ORVPed.Other		
Bird closure	3	12	0990150		
Turtle closure	0	0	0000000		
Other	0	0	0000000		
Totals	3	12	000150		

<sup>\*</sup> incomplete records

#### **Predator control:**

• USDA trappers are working selected areas at both Bodie and Hatteras Island. Fox, feral cat, raccoon, and opossum have been trapped. Effort will end June 30.

#### In other news:

Temporary park wide beach mile marker project completed this week. A

permanent markers system will be based on theses temporary markers.



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)
Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - RM Weekly
Field Summary Report; June 25 - July 1, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary June 25 - July 1, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; June 25 – July 1, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	0	2	0	2	3	1	1
Cape Point	7	4	4	5	5	5	3
South Beach	NS	NS	0	1	NS	NS	0
Hatteras Inlet	0	NS	0	NS	NS	NS	1
Hatteras breach	0	NS	0	NS	NS	NS	NS
S. Ocracoke	2	2	3	2	6	1	2

NS=not surveyed

# Comments:

Oregon Inlet: Birds observed foraging at pond as well as ocean tide line.

Cape Point: Pair #1 with brood of 3 – foraging at ephemeral pools & at ocean

tideline, flights are getting stronger. Pair #3 incubating 3 egg nest.

South Beach: Single bird roosting on upper beach, flew down to tide line to

forage.

Hatteras Inlet: 1 adult observed foraging at tideline. Flew into shell bed.

Hatteras breach: No observations

S. Ocracoke: Nest has lost 1 egg (3 eggs present). Adults are incubating. Foraging

at both ocean tideline and on sound mudflats.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

<u>Green Is</u> – 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; #? fledged <u>Bodie Is</u> – 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 3 hatched; 4 chicks; 1 fledged <u>Hatteras</u> – 14 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 9 hatched; 16 chicks; 1 fledged

Ocracoke – 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 4 lost; 4 hatched; 11 chicks; 2 fledged

# Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is- 2 LETE colonies between R23 & R30 are hatching with chicks present,

colony at Oregon Inlet in northwest part of closure have begun laying eggs. <u>Hatteras</u>- Cape Point colony re-establishing, BLSK, COTE, and LETE all present. Mating and courtship behavior noted. LETE chicks present; Salt Pond Rd LETE colony is hatching; LETE colony N of Avon – active; LETE colony on So-Be active with chicks in all life phases; Colony of LETE, BLSK & COTE at Hatteras Inlet – active.

Ocracoke BLSK, COTE, GUTE @ Ocracoke flats – hatching, chicks and nests present.

## Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 2 nests - 0 digs - 1 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 18 nests - 0 digs - 13 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 8 nests - 4 digs - 15 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: 1 species unidentifiable

Hatteras: 3 loggerheads

Ocracoke: 1 Kemp's & 1 green

Marine Mammals: No reports

# Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- 6/25 Closure at Isabel Inlet **removed**
- 6/27 Closure removed N of Buxton, AMOY chick fledged
- 6/27 Closure **modified** at Ocracoke Inlet (0.7 1 m S of R72) for nesting Piping Plover
- 6/27 Night time driving restrictions at Oregon Inlet removed
- 6/28 Hatteras Inlet closure **modified**; additional 600 ft of pedestrian access opened at the inlet/spit proper
- 6/28 Closure **removed** 3.2 miles S of R59
- 6/29 S.Beach closures modified; Salt Pond Rd & R45 opened, approximately 1.2 miles of ORV access opened
- 6/29 Closure **removed** 1.4 m S of R27 access between ramps still impeded by a different closure located at 0.2 miles S of R27
- 6/30 Closure removed 0.6-0.9 miles N of R67, AMOY chicks fledged
- 7/1 Closure **modified** 1.4 m N of R70, expanded to 1.6 m N of R70 for new chicks

# Closure violations:

	Bodie Island	Hatteras	Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	otherORVPed.other		
Bird closure	0	7	*1 923*101*2		

Turtle closure	0	0	0000000
Other	0	0	0000000
Totals	0	7	19231012

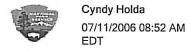
<sup>\*</sup> other violations were dogs off leash in bird closures

# Predator control:

• USDA trappers are working selected areas at both Bodie and Hatteras Island. Fox, feral cat, raccoon, and opossum have been trapped. All traps have been removed and trappers have completed their contract as of June 30, 2006.

# In other news:

• Oregon Inlet AMOY chick lost to unknown reasons. Adults observed making new nest scrapes.



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)

Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras NS - RM Weekly Field Summary

Report, July 2-8, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary July 2-8, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; July 2 – 8, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

# **Piping Plover:**

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	0 -	NS	1	1	0	0	NS
Cape Point	4	6	2	6	ND	ND	3
South Beach	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	0	0	0	NS	NS
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	NS	0	0	NS	NS
S. Ocracoke	ND	ND	ND	5	1	2	ND

NS=not surveyed

ND=no data (surveyed but data not readily available)

Oregon Inlet: Foraging at pond.

Cape Point: Three chicks from Nest #1 have fully fledged. Nest #3 – still

incubating.

South Beach: Several surveys were conducted in and around tern colonies in the

South Beach area. Incidental observations of PIPL not recorded.

Hatteras Inlet: No plover observed during brief surveys.

Hatteras breach: No plover observed during brief surveys.

S. Ocracoke: Nest #4 incubating – 4 eggs. Banded plover observed (signifying migration). Nesting adults are foraging on both the ocean and sound side.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

Green Is – 2 nests to date; 1 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; # fledged unknown

Bodie Is - 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 3 hatched; 4 chicks; 1 fledged Hatteras – 14 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 9 hatched; 16 chicks; 3 fledged

Ocracoke - 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 4 lost; 4 hatched; 12chicks; 2 fledged

## Colonial waterbirds:

# Bodie Is-

2 active colonies of LETE on southern beaches between R23 & R27. Both

in various stages of development with eggs in nest and chicks.

Oregon Inlet LETE colony active.

## Hatteras-

- LETE colony N of R34 hatching.
- BLSK colony on E beach at Cape Point was re-forming early in the week. Copulation observed, nests being incubated (7/2, 7/3). Illegal fireworks occurred in this area on 7/4. On the morning of July 5, 17 pedestrian tracks were discovered through the colony birds gone. LETE nests located on the southern end of closure.
- 2 LETE colonies on South Beach active. Chicks and incubating nests present.
- Hatteras Inlet colony active (BLSK, LETE). BLSK observed copulating. Chicks and incubating nests present

## Ocracoke-

- South Point colony active GUTE, BLSK, & LETE
- LETE pair N of R67

#### Sea turtle nests:

 $\begin{array}{lll} \underline{Bodie\ Is} - & To\ date:\ 2\ nests\ - \ 0\ digs\ - \ 2\ false\ crawls\ - \ 0\ hatch\ - \ 0\ excavated \\ \underline{Hatteras} - & To\ date:\ 22\ nests\ - \ 0\ digs\ - \ 16\ false\ crawls\ - \ 0\ hatch\ - \ 0\ excavated \\ \underline{Ocracoke} - & To\ date:\ 11\ nests\ - \ 7\ digs\ - \ 25\ false\ crawls\ - \ 0\ hatch\ - \ 0\ excavated \\ \end{array}$ 

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: 1 loggerhead <u>Hatteras:</u> 1 loggerhead <u>Ocracoke:</u> 1 loggerhead

## Marine Mammals: No reports

#### Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- 7/2 Salt Pond Rd-R45 closure modified for LETE nests & chicks
- 7/3 New shoreline foraging corridor posted adjacent to plover nest 0.8 m S of R72
- 7/3 Closure removed 1.4 m N of R67
- 7/4 Closure modified at Oregon Inlet for nesting LETE
- 7/5 Closure 0.6 m S of R68 modified to include shoreline closure for AMOY chicks
- 7/6 Closure 1.2 m S of R38 removed
- 7/7 Closure 0.5 m N of R34 modified to include shoreline closure for LETE chicks
- 7/7 New closure 1.3 m S of R38 for nesting LETE
- 7/8 Ocracoke turtle nests NO1 & DO1 expanded for hatching

## Closure violations:

	<b>Bodie Island</b>	Hatteras	Ocracoke
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	otherORVPed.other ORVPed.Other
Bird closure	0	Ȣ	11170031
Turtle closure	0	0	0000000
Other	0	0	0000000
Totals **	0	*	11170031

Other violations include: 1 bicyclist inside bird closure; kite tied off to bird closure sign – disturbing birds.

## Predator control:

No controls currently being implemented.

#### Other Items:

Turtle hatching season is here. Nest expansion beginning.

ORV violation at Hatteras Inlet, July 9, 2006

Vehicle entered closure at the ocean side tideline (past several no entry signs), driving up towards the dunes and through the colonial waterbird nesting area to the inlet proper. Vehicle then turned and drove back through the bird closure to exit at original entrance point.

Tire tracks came within a foot of a black skimmer nest.

<sup>\*</sup> Undisclosed number of visitors contacted inside the Oregon Inlet birds closure retrieving a volleyball

<sup>\*\*</sup> Numbers are not all inclusive. Staff is unable to document incursions at all locations on a daily basis.







To:
cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)
Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - RM Weekly
Field Summary Report; July 16-22, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary July 16-22, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; July 16 – 22, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

PIPL Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	1	1	NS
Cape Point	9	NS	6	NS	NS	NS	NS
South Beach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	2	NS
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	1	NS
S. Ocracoke	5	NS	12	5	6	11	60
Other observations	7/16 3@ Haulo ver Beach 7/21 2 locate north of Buxto n						

NS=not surveyed due to increased monitoring efforts for 2 broods of chicks and poor weather conditions.

<u>Cape Point</u>: Nest #3: 3 chicks hatched on 7/13. 1st chick lost 7/15. 2nd chick lost 7/19. Declared 3rd chick lost 7/20 after the lone male was located without chick. Male from this pair had a distinct thick collar and was easily identifiable.

S. Ocracoke: Nest #4: 1st chick and 3 eggs observed on 7/12. 2 additional chicks hatched on 7/13, but only 2 chicks were ever observed at the same time. On 7/20 only 1 chick observed. On 7/23 no chicks were located. Very heavy rainfall; sand flat area completely flooded leading to the possibility that chick was lost to hypothermia. However, on the afternoon on 7/23 (while trying to locate the chick), a mink walked by the observer who was sitting low in the grass. No observable tracks were left in the area where the mink was seen.

# Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

<u>Green Is</u> – 2 nests to date; 0 incubating; 0 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks; no info on fledging

Bodie Is - 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 3 hatched; 1 chick; 1 fledged

<u>Hatteras</u> – 14 nests to date; 0 incubating; 5 lost; 9 hatched; 16 chicks; 4 fledged\*

Ocracoke – 8 nests to date; 0 incubating; 4 lost; 4 hatched; 11 chicks; 2 fledged \*count includes 1 radio tagged chick that was noted as just starting to fly (weak flight) which was found partially predated on sound side beach (adjacent to ocean side nesting beach)

#### Colonial waterbirds:

## Bodie Island

- 2 active colonies of LETE on southern beaches between R23 & R30. Both in various stages of development with eggs in nest and chicks (~85 pairs total).
- Oregon Inlet colony active with LETE, BLSK, and GUTE (~100 LETE with eggs and chicks).

## Hatteras

- LETE colony N of R34 -10 brooding LETE observed.
- Many least terns in the area of Cape Point.
- 2 LETE colonies on South Beach active.
- Hatteras Inlet colony active (BLSK, LETE, COTE).

#### Ocracoke

- South Point colony active GUTE, BLSK, & LETE
- LETE pair N of R67

## Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 3 nests - 1 digs — 3 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 35 nests - 1 digs — 20 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 15 nests — 8 digs - 33 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated

Closures to be installed from 7/23-29:

7/24: Ocracoke, full beach closure N of ramp 72 (NO2)

7/26: Ocracoke, S of ramp 59 (DO2)

Hatteras, S of ramp 34 (NH1)

7/27: Hatteras, S of ramp 30 (NH2)

Bodie Island, S of ramp 27 (NBH1)

7/28: Ocracoke, N of ramp 70 (DO3)

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none Hatteras: none Ocracoke: none

Marine Mammals: No reports

## Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- 7/12 Closure at Ocracoke Spit modified to full beach closure upon hatching of piping plover nest. Opened to daytime ORV access from 8am-7pm on 7/21 requiring an access pass. Full beach closure in place on 7/22 when chick could not be located.
- 7/20 Two lane bypass for 0.1 mi for CWB @ Oregon Inlet.
- 7/15-7/21: Night time driving restriction in place at Cape Point for piping plover chicks. Beach is opened from 8 am 8 pm. Chick not observed on 7/20 but ORV corridor cleared and opened for daytime use. On 7/21 night time closure removed.

## **Closure violations:**

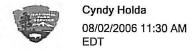
	<b>Bodie Island</b>	Hatteras	Ocracoke
Violation type	ORV	Ped	otherORVPedotherORV PedOther
Bird closure	0	0	0150071 boat attempting to anchor
Turtle closure	0	0	0000032 dogs
Other	8	0	3000030
Totals **	8	0	31500131 boat, 2 dogs

#### Predator control:

No control efforts currently occurring.

# In other news:

- Migratory piping plover surveys are continuing. Key staging areas, including the spits and cape, will be intensely surveyed 2-3 times per week. Incidental observations will be recorded on a daily basis for all other areas in the park.
- International Migratory Shorebird Surveys have begun for Fall migration. Cape Hatteras National Seashore is just one participant amongst many to conduct surveys during spring and fall migration. The purpose of these surveys is to piece together the migration mosaic for many different species. This includes start and end dates of migration, migration routes, and key staging spots for resting and foraging birds along their way. Cape Hatteras has 3 5-mile surveys routes (1 in each district). All shorebirds within the designated survey route are counted every 10 days. Surveys will be conducted through October 31, 2006.



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)
Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - Resource
Management Weekly Field Summary Report



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary July 23-29, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; July 23-29, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

## Piping Plovers (PIPL's)

Piping plover nesting season has officially ended. Courting behavior had been observed in 5 areas in CAHA including: Oregon Inlet, Cape Point, South Beach, Hatteras Inlet, and South Ocracoke. Courting behavior at Hatteras Inlet and Oregon Inlet did not result in nesting. Nests were located for 4 pairs. The first nest at Cape Point successfully fledged 3 young. The chicks at the South Beach nest were lost immediately after hatching. It is unknown if all 4 eggs hatched. The Ocracoke nest hatched 3 of 4 eggs, however, only 2 chicks were ever observed. All chicks were lost by July 23rd. Cape Point (possible re-nest of pair we didn't find early in the season) produced 3 chicks, however, all were lost by July 20th

Migratory piping plover surveys are being conducted. The data below represents transitional data while migratory data collection begins and is incorporated in this report. Key staging areas, including the spits and cape, will be intensely surveyed 2-3 times per week. Incidental observations will be recorded on a daily basis for all other areas in the park.

<b>Migratory PIPL</b>	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Observations	7/23	7/24	7/25	7/26	7/27	7/28	7/29
<b>Oregon Inlet</b>	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	9
Cape Point	NS	NS	NS	NS	4	NS	2
South Beach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	1	NS
S. Ocracoke	NS	29	64	NS	44	NS	NS

NS=not surveyed.

## Am. Oystercatchers (AMOY's):

American oystercatcher nesting season has officially ended with the fledging of the chick from Bodie Island District south of Ramp 27. A total of 22 pairs produced 30 nests (excluding Green Island). A total of 70 eggs were laid of which 33 produced young. A total of 7 oystercatcher chicks successfully fledged.

<u>Bodie Island District</u> – 7 nests (6 pairs) of which 3 nests produced young. Four of the 11 eggs hatched and 2 chicks successfully fledged.

<u>Hatteras District</u> – 14 nests (11 pairs) of which 9 nests produced young. Sixteen of 35 eggs hatched and 3 chicks successfully fledged. Soon after fledging 1 radio tagged chick was found partially predated on a sound side beach across the highway from the ocean side nesting beach.

Ocracoke District – 9 nests (5 pairs); 4 nests produced young. Thirteen of 24 eggs hatched and 2 chicks successfully fledged.

<u>Green Island</u> – 2 nests (2 pairs); both nests were known to have produced young. 2 chicks of different ages were observed prior to fledging. Boat access required so we were unable to closely monitor chicks to fledging.

## Colonial waterbirds (CWB's):

## **Bodie Island District**

- LETE colony at 1.4 mi S of R23-1 chick being fed by 2 adults remaining for entire colony.
- LETE colony at 0.3 mi. S of R27-active colony with  $\sim$ 100 adults (10 chicks observed and an additional 15 birds on nests).
- Oregon Inlet colony active with LETE (and 15 chicks observed and an addition 25 LETE on nests).

## Hatteras District

- LETE colony N of R34 –LETE chicks (~4) and adults (~20) observed.
- Many least terms roosting in the Cape Point area.
- LETE colony N of R49 (on South Beach) active (2 LETE nests and 2 chicks observed).
- LETE colony between R 45 and Salt Pond Road fledged all chicks and is no longer active (not displaying territorial behavior).
- Hatteras Inlet colony active (BLSK, LETE, COTE). Three chicks were observed and several nests.

## Ocracoke District

• South Point colony active –2 BLSK nests observed after flooding with ~50 BLSK observed in the area.

## Sea turtle nests:

Bodie Is Dist— To date: 4 nests - 1 digs - 3 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0 excavated

Hatteras Dist— To date: 40 nests - 1 digs - 21 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0

excavated

Ocracoke Dist— To date: 17 nests - 9 digs - 34 false crawls - 0 hatch - 0

Ocracoke Dist – To date: 17 nests – 9 digs - 34 false crawls – 0 hatch – 0 excavated

Closures to be installed from 7/30-8/5:

8/3: Ocracoke, full beach closure 0.2 mi N of ramp 72 (NO3)

8/4: Ocracoke, full beach closure 2.75 mi S of ramp 59 (NO4) (in day-use, not ORV area)

An updated turtle closure information sheet is contained at the end of this report.

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is Dist: none
Hatteras Dist: none
Ocracoke Dist: none

Marine Mammals: No reports

## Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- 7/23-7/25 Closure at Ocracoke Spit closed to all ORV traffic when PIPL chick could not be located. On 7/26 shoreline was opened from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. On 7/27 ORV beach access was restored.
- 7/28 Cape Point ORV beach access restored except for 0.1 miles of beach. A 0.1 mi ORV corridor was established around one of the ephemeral pools on the shoreline.

## Closure violations:

	Bodie Island	Hatteras	Ocracoke
Violation type	ORV	Ped	otherORVPedotherORV PedOther
Bird closure	0	0	02100001 dog
Turtle closure	0	0	0000003 dogs
Other	0	0	000000
Totals **	0	0	02100004 dogs

# Predator control:

No control efforts currently occurring.

## In other news:

• International Migratory Shorebird Surveys have begun for Fall migration. Cape Hatteras National Seashore is just one participant among many to conduct surveys during spring and fall migration. The purpose of these surveys is to piece together the migration mosaic for many different species. This includes start and end dates of migration, migration routes, and key staging spots for resting and foraging birds along their way. Cape Hatteras has 3 5-mile surveys routes (1 in each district). All shorebirds within the designated survey route are counted every

10 days. Surveys will be conducted through October 31, 2006.

# 2006 Season Sea Turtle Nesting Activity Proposed Closed Areas Requiring DUNE to SURF closure in ORV areas

Location Reopen	Expec	ted Close	Act	ual Close	Exp	ected Reopen	Actual
0.2 mi. north of Ramp	72	7/19/06		7/24/06		8/9/06	
0.5 mi. south of Ramp	p 59	8/03/06				8/24/06	
0.86 mi north of Ram	p 38*	9/03/06				9/24/06	
2.07 mi north of Ram	p 43*	9/16/06				10/7/06	
2.19 mi south of Ram	p 30	9/16/06				10/7/06	

<sup>\*</sup> Village area scheduled to reopen to ORV traffic during hatching period.

Temporary closures at each site may last three weeks, but more typically about two weeks, depending on when the sea turtles hatch. The average incubation period is 63 days, but some nests will hatch before or after this average. Sites remain closed for an average of three days after the actual hatching to allow all hatchlings to emerge before park personnel excavate the nest to determine the hatch success rate. Park staff will monitor the nests closely and reopen the beach as soon as possible.

THESE ARE COMPLETE CLOSURES TO ALL THROUGH TRAFFIC. CLOSURES EXTEND FROM LOW TIDE TO THE CREST OF THE DUNE. DUE TO SURF CONDITIONS SIGNS AND MARKINGS DO NOT EXTEND BELOW HIGH TIDE, BUT THE CLOSURE EXTENDS TO THE SURF.



To

cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)

Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - RM Weekly Field Summary; July 30 - August 5, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary July 30 - August 5, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; July 30-August 5, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

## Non-breeding Piping Plover survey results:

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	7/30	7/31	8/1	8/2	8/3	8/4	8/5
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	NS	9	NS	NS	16
Cape Point	4	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	22
South Beach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	7
Isabel Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	0
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	0
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	3
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	NS	58	NS	NS	75

NS=not surveyed.

## American Oystercatchers:

As previously noted, nesting and fledging season is completed. No activity will be reported during the remainder of this year except by exception.

## Colonial waterbirds:

## Bodie Island

- LETE colony at 0.3 mi. S of R27-colony still very active (at least 10 chicks and  $\sim$ 100 adults present with  $\sim$ 15 birds on nests).
- Oregon Inlet colony active with LETE (chicks present and incubating adults observed).

#### Hatteras

- LETE colony N of R34 still active ( $\geq$ 4 chicks observed and  $\sim$ 20 adults observed).
- Many least terms roosting in the Cape Point area.
- LETE colony N of R49 (on South Beach) active (~50 adults and 4 chicks observed).

• Hatteras Inlet colony active (BLSK incubating, LETE incubating/chicks present).

## Ocracoke

No observations reported.

## Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 4 nests - 1 dig — 3 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 41 nests - 1 dig — 21 false crawls — 0 hatch — 0 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 18 nests — 10 digs - 34 false crawls — 1 hatch — 0 excavated The first turtle nest of the season hatched on Ocracoke (nest #NO1) from August 3-6 producing ~30 hatchlings. The crawl date for this nest was May 18, 2006.

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none Hatteras: none Ocracoke: none

Marine Mammals: No reports

#### Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

- 8/6 Least tern closure removed from 1.4-1.8 miles S of ramp 23
- 8/6 Least tern closure removed from 1.3 miles S of ramp 38

#### **Closure violations:**

	<b>Bodie Island</b>	Hatteras	Ocracoke
Violation type	ORV	Ped	otherORVPedotherORV PedOther
Bird closure			171 (dog)
Turtle closure			144 (dog)
Other			
Totals	0	0	0171144

## Predator control:

No control efforts currently occurring.

#### In other news:

• International Migratory Shorebird Surveys have begun for Fall migration Cape Hatteras National Seashore is just one participant amongst many to conduct surveys during spring and fall migration. The purpose of these surveys is to piece together the migration mosaic for many different species. This includes start and end dates of migration, migration routes, and key staging spots for resting and

foraging birds along their way. Cape Hatteras has 3 5-mile surveys routes (1 in each district). All shorebirds within the designated survey route are counted every 10 days. Surveys will be conducted through October 31, 2006.

• Status of dune to surf sea turtle nest closures in ORV areas is noted below.

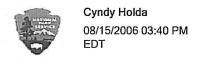
# 2006 Season Sea Turtle Nesting Activity Proposed Closed Areas Requiring DUNE to SURF closure in ORV areas

Location Reopen	Expect	ed Close	<b>Actual Close</b>	Expected Reoper	Actual
0.2 mi. north of Ramp	72	7/19/06	7/24/06	8/9/06	
0.5 mi. south of Ramp	59	8/03/06	8/3/06	8/24/06	
0.86 mi north of Ram	p 38*	9/03/06		9/24/06	
2.07 mi north of Ram	p 43*	9/16/06		10/7/06	
2.19 mi south of Ram	p 30	9/16/06		10/7/06	

<sup>\*</sup> Village area scheduled to reopen to ORV traffic during hatching period.

Temporary closures at each site may last three weeks, but more typically about two weeks, depending on when the sea turtles hatch. The average incubation period is 63 days, but some nests will hatch before or after this average. Sites remain closed for an average of three days after the actual hatching to allow all hatchlings to emerge before park personnel excavate the nest to determine the hatch success rate. Park staff will monitor the nests closely and reopen the beach as soon as possible.

THESE ARE COMPLETE CLOSURES TO ALL THROUGH TRAFFIC. CLOSURES EXTEND FROM LOW TIDE TO THE CREST OF THE DUNE. DUE TO SURF CONDITIONS SIGNS AND MARKINGS DO NOT EXTEND BELOW HIGH TIDE, BUT THE CLOSURE EXTENDS TO THE SURF.



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)

Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - Resource
Management Weekly Field Summary; August 6-12,

2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary August 6-12, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; August 6-12, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

Piping Plover: Migration has started

Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
4	8/6	8/7	8/8	8/9	8/10	8/11	8/12
Oregon Inlet	NS	NS	NS	13	9	12	0
Cape Point	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	2	NS
South Beach	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	0	NS
Isabel Inlet	NS	3	NS	NS	NS	3	NS
Hatteras Inlet	0	4	0	NS	NS	0	NS
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	0	NS	4	3	NS
N. Ocracoke	NS	NS	NS	NS	0	NS	NS
S. Ocracoke	NS	NS	NS	NS	93	NS	NS
Other observations							

NS=not surveyed

## Am. Oystercatchers Update:

Green Island was surveyed by NC WRC on 8/6/06. Both pairs of AMOY were present (bands G10 & G11), each with one fledged chick.

## Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is: Terns still active at Oregon Inlet & between R27 - 30

Hatteras: Least tern colonies north of R34 & on South Beach are still active with

some unfledged chicks. Skimmer nests at Hatteras Inlet hatching.

Ocracoke: South Point colony dispersing.

## Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 5 nests - 1 digs – 4 false crawls – 1 hatch – 0 excavated <u>Hatterss</u> — To date: 44 nests - 0 digs – 23 false crawls – 2 hatches – 0 excavated

Ocracoke – To date: 19 22 nests - 10 7 digs\* - 35 false crawls – 4 hatches – 2

excavated

<sup>\* 3</sup> of the 10 digs have been confirmed as nests

Nests prepared for hatching: NH5, NB1 (8/6); DO4 (8/7); NH6 (8/8); NO5, NO6 (8/9); NH7 (8/11); NH8, NH9 (8/12)

NH9 (3.12 m N of R43, N of Buxton village) was relocated on 8/6/06 due to storm caused beach erosion. Nest cavity had been exposed and eggs were washing out. 131 eggs were recovered and relocated in the same area but further back on the beach.

NH17 (0.13 m N of R430) was relocated on 8/12/06 due to storm caused beach erosion. Nest cavity had been exposed and eggs were washing out. 76 eggs were recovered and relocated in the same area but further back on the beach.

# Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none <u>Hatteras:</u> none <u>Ocracoke:</u> none

Marine Mammals: none

## Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

 Hatteras Inlet bird closure was modified to allow greater ORV access on the ocean side and additional pedestrian access of the inlet proper via the sound.
 Approximately 0.25 mile of shoreline remains closed for nesting CWB and unfledged chicks.

## Closure violations:

	<b>Bodie Island</b>	Hatteras	Ocracoke
Violation type	ORV	Ped.	otherORVPed.other ORVPed.Other
Bird closure	0	0	05+5+0030
Turtle closure	0	0	0110002 dogs
Other	0	0	06+00000
Totals **	0	0	012+6+0032

NR=no report from staff

## **Predator control:**

No removal effort currently in effect.

## In other news:

• Turtle nest excavations are being coordinated with interp staff and open to the public when in high visitor use areas (i.e. villages, day use areas)



cc: (bcc: Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS)

Subject: Fw: Cape Hatteras National Seashore - RM Weekly

Field Summary, August 13-19, 2006



Cape Hatteras NS - RM Field Summary August 13-19, 2006.doc

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; August 13-19, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

## **Migratory Piping Plovers:**

Observations	Cum	Mon	Tues	Wad	Th	Ti	C-4
Observations	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	8/13	8/14	8/15	8/16	8/17	8/18	8/19
<b>Oregon Inlet</b>	NS	NS	0	0	2	1	2
Cape Point	NS	NS	3	NS	NS	9	NS
South Beach	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	0	NS
Isabel Inlet	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	0	NS
Hatteras Inlet	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	0	NS
Hatteras breach	NS	NS	0	NS	NS	0	NS
N. Ocracoke	NS	NS	2	NS	NS	NS	NS
S. Ocracoke	NS	69	52	NS	NS	NS	34
			(3 banded)				

NS=not surveyed

Note: On 8/15, 3 banded PIPL were observed at South Ocracoke. One was banded orange over light green (lower left) and light green (lower right) making it a PIPL from the Great Lakes population. The second PIPL had a long metal sleeve on its lower left leg and a regular FWS band on its lower right leg signifying it was banded in Canada making it part of the Atlantic Coast population. The third bird was banded with a regular FWS band on its lower right leg making it a PIPL of unknown origin.

## Colonial waterbirds:

Bodie Is: Terns still active at Oregon Inlet (2 chicks/~60 adults) & between R27 – 30 (1 chick/57 adults)

Hatteras: Least tern colonies north of R34 & on South Beach are still active with some unfledged chicks. One skimmer nest and one tern chick observed at Hatteras

Ocracoke: South Point colony dispersed.

## Sea turtle nests:

Bodie Is - To date: 6 nests - 1 digs - 4 false crawls - 1 hatch - 1 excavated

<u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 45 nests - 2 digs — 24 false crawls — 10 hatches — 6 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 23 nests - 7 digs\* - 36 false crawls — 6 hatches — 2 excavated \* 3 of the 10 digs have been confirmed as nests

**Turtle nests prepared for hatching**: NH10, NH11 (8/13); NH12, NH13, NH14 (8/14); NH15 (8/17); NO8, NH17 (8/18); NH16 (8/19).

#### Note:

NH9 (3.12 m N of R43, N of Buxton village) was relocated on 8/6 (day 44) due to storm caused beach erosion. 131 eggs were recovered and relocated in the same area but further back on the beach. On 8/16 (day 54), the first hatchlings emerged. The nest was excavated on 8/19 and 23 live hatchlings (without yolk sacs) were removed and released in the early PM. Based on the eggshell count (and live hatchlings), 74 hatchlings were produced from this nest.

NH33 (2.64 m S of R55, southernmost nest on Hatteras Island) was discovered washed out on 8/16. The transponder ball for this nest could not be located on 8/17. The 2 stakes closest to the ocean had been washed out and there were ORV tire tracks going over where the nest had been located (100 feet from marker B). This nest was discovered late in the day on 7/19 and under normal circumstances (if the nest had been located in the A.M.) would have been relocated.

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: none <u>Hatteras:</u> 1 <u>Ocracoke:</u> none

Marine mammal strandings: none

## Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

No changes from last report.

#### Closure violations:

	Bodie Island	Hatteras	Ocracoke OtherORVPed.Other ORVPed.Other		
Violation type	ORV	Ped.			
Bird closure	0	14	1 dog 1 bicycle660000		
Turtle closure	0	0	0704 dogs047		
Other	0	0	0000000		
Totals **	0	14	21364047		

NR=no report from staff

## Predator control:

No removal effort currently in effect.

# Seabeach Amaranth:

Bodie Island was surveyed (8 total hours) for seabeach amaranth and no plants were located.

LeAnn Cauthen 08/22/2006 02:33 PM EDT To: Angela Woody/CAHA/NPS@NPS cc: Thayer Broili/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Marie Reed/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Sandra Singletary/CAHA/NPS@NPS

Subject: 5196-5000-UOC

Angela,

## FOR THE "YEAR END ACTION/COMPLETED BOX:"

I noticed there is \$483.64 expended in account # 5196-5000-UOC (Museum Backlog Cataloging). Looks like it was for charge card activity (Reed & Flores) between Oct-April. That is a FY 05 account, and should have been deactivated, I believe. I suspect the remaining charges should be "moved" to account 5196-6000-UOC (the FY06 account). Can you verify that, and if that is a correct assessment on my part, "move" the \$486.64 to the '06 account? (Have Sandra deactivate the '05 account, as necessary). There is currently only \$1,295.61 left in the '06 account (leaving a remaining balance of only \$811.97 if the \$483.64 charge needs to be "moved"), and we don't want the RM division to accidentally overspend that, do we?

Thayer & Marie, I am copying these budget messages about your division to you, since you may need to know how to do these things next fiscal year.

LeAnn Cauthen

Thayer Broili 08/30/2006 08:40 AM **EDT** 

To: Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS cc: Britta Muiznieks/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Karen

Sayles/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Jon

Altman/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Marie Subject: Resource Management Report, Aug 20-26 (Last of

the season)

See attached. This will be the last report of the season for public distribution. We will continue the report for internal information purposes and likely broaden the topics to include other activities being performed by RM, including cultural resources and curator activities. We will also work on reformatting for both internal use and for external distribution beginning next spring.



RM Rpt Aug 20-26.doc

Thayer Broili Chief of Resource Management Cape Hatteras National Seashore Phone 252-473-2111 ext.137 Fax 252-473-2595

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore Resource Management Weekly Field Summary; August 20-26, 2006 (Bodie Island, Hatteras, and Ocracoke Districts)

THIS IS THE LAST WEEKLY FIELD SUMMARY OF THE 2006 SUMMER SEASON. SIGNIFICANT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PROTECTED SPECIES WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE PUBLIC AND INTEREST GROUPS VIA PRESS RELEASES AND/OR DIRECT CONTACT UNTIL WEEKLY FIELD SUMMARIES ARE INITIATED NEXT SPRING.

## **Migratory Piping Plovers:**

SCA intern J. Maxfield is conducting shorebird surveys following the protocols for Migratory, Wintering, and Beached Shorebird Monitoring at Southeast Coast Network Parks. The field work she is conducting fulfills our obligation for wintering and migratory shorebird surveys as required in US Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion.

#### Colonial waterbirds:

<u>Bodie Is</u>: No chicks observed at Oregon Inlet on 8/26. Between R27 - 30, 6 chicks observed on 8/20 and no chicks were observed on 8/24 and 8/26.

<u>Hatteras</u>: Least tern colony on South Beach is still active with three unfledged chicks. The skimmer nest at Hatteras Inlet was lost either to disturbance and/or predation (mink tracks observed near nest site).

## Sea turtle nests:

<u>Bodie Is</u> — To date: 6 nests - 1 digs — 4 false crawls — 2 hatched — 2 excavated <u>Hatteras</u> — To date: 45 nests - 2 digs — 24 false crawls — 10 hatches — 9 excavated <u>Ocracoke</u> — To date: 24 nests - 7 digs\* - 36 false crawls — 9 hatches — 8 excavated \* 3 of the 10 digs have been confirmed as nests

**Turtle nests prepared for hatching**: NH18, DO5 (8/20); NO9 (8/21); NO11 (8/22); NH19, N10 (8/23); NH20 (8/24); DO6, DO7 (8/25); NO12 (8/26).

## Sea turtle strandings:

Bodie Is: 1
Hatteras: none
Ocracoke: none

## Marine mammal strandings: none

#### Closures - additions/modifications/removals:

Hatteras Spit ORV corridor was modified on 8/24-8/25. The beach closure at False
Point has been removed and is now open to pedestrians and ORVs. The beach closure
was replaced by an interior resource closure. An ORV SAFETY closure (~0.2 mile long)
at the Rip remains in effect and is only open to pedestrian traffic.

# Closure violations:

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped.	Other	ORV	Ped.	Other	ORV	Ped.	Other
Bird closure	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Turtle closure	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals **	0	3	0	1	4	0	0	1	0

## Predator control:

No removal effort currently in effect.

# Seabeach Amaranth:

Cape Point and Hatteras Inlet were surveyed for 3 and 2 hours (respectively) and no plants were located. Bodie Island was surveyed for an additional 2 hours (10 hours total) and no plants were located.