

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of May 17-24, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Two PIPLs were observed foraging on Bodie Island Spit on 5/16, 5/19, and 5/22. On 5/22, territorial aggression was observed from 2 males, including horizontal threat displays, chasing, calling, and scraping. No female PIPL has been identified in breeding habitat during this week

**Hatteras District  
Cape Point**

Nest 1: As previously reported, a 2-egg nest was lost during the Nor'easter of May 5-7, 2007.

Nest 2: As previously reported, a 1-egg nest was found near Nest 1 after the Nor'easter of May 5-7. Nest 2 was subsequently lost.

Nest 3: As of 5/17 the single-egg nest appeared to be abandoned. On 5/20 the enclosure was removed. No predator tracks were observed around the nest and the nest cup with the single egg had filled in with sand. No PIPL had been observed at the nest since 5/12.

Nest 4: A one-egg nest was discovered 5/17 in what was thought to be the eastern PIPL pair's territory. The nest is within 40 yards of last year's Nest 3. The nest was thought to be lost on 5/20 since it could not be found (PIPL nests are well camouflaged in the sand), but on 5/23 it was relocated and had 4 eggs. An enclosure was installed on 5/23 and incubation by both the male and female was observed after installation of the enclosure.

Nest 5: A 2 egg nest was discovered on 5/23 in what is thought to be the westernmost pair's territory. The nest is out on the open beach. The birds are very aggressively defending their territory and have been observed wing feigning to distract an AMOY, as well as the monitor that discovered the nest. Parallel running, aerial flight and alarm calls have also been observed.

Behavior has been observed that indicates renesting efforts for the pair from failed Nest 1 (and 2). Aerial displays, territorial defense and scrapes (immediately adjacent to original nests) were observed during the past week. As of 5/23 visual evidence (i.e. enlarged, darkened cloacal area) indicates they are laying eggs or will be in the very near future.

One male continues to be observed doing elliptical flight and scraping north of Salt Pond Road.

**South Beach**

A male was seen doing elliptical flight on 5/23 north of Ramp 45. Scrapes were found on 5/17, but a female was not observed, although both a male and female had been observed the previous week.

Two PIPL have been seen several times foraging along the shoreline north of Ramp 49. A shoreline foraging closure was installed on 5/23. Both PIPL appear to be males. One of the PIPL was seen foraging along an ephemeral pool within the South Beach closure, south of Ramp 45, and is probably the male that is scraping within the closure.

**Hatteras Inlet**

Two different PIPL have been observed foraging at both the inlet and the overwash closure areas. Aerial flights were observed on 5/19 and 5/22, but no additional breeding behavior has been observed.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

Although five PIPL have been seen in previous weeks, only three PIPL are consistently being observed foraging along the north end during this week. Some territorial behavior has been observed south of Ramp 59. PIPL have been observed both north and south of Ramp 59 but no scrapes have been found in the limited habitat. A male and female PIPL pair was observed roosting inside the shoreline foraging closure north of Ramp 59 on 5/16 (see photo below).

**South Ocracoke**

A minimum of five PIPL were observed foraging on 5/23, and observations included aerial flights, horizontal threat displays, and other courtship behaviors. Another distinctly colored PIPL has been observed at different times earlier in the week, so a total of 6 PIPL have been observed in South Ocracoke in the past week. As of 5/23, there continues to be a nice scrape territory in the shell beds in the dunes (near last year's nest location), as well as scrapes near the northern end of the pre-nesting closure. It appears there are two pairs with territories now using this area. A single bird was observed false brooding on 5/24 in the isolated dunes at the very southern end of the pre-nesting closure.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)  
31 total nests to date; 13-14 active; 16 lost; 2 hatched; 3 chicks; \_\_\_\_\_ fledged

**Comments (include information on territorial establishment and/or courtship and area/waypoint and/or landmark or reasons for nest or chick loss):**

**Green Island: 1(possibly 2) active nests**

**Bodie District: 4 active nests/6 nests lost** –2 active nests at Oregon Inlet discovered on 5/17 and 5/22 and two re-nests between Ramp 27 and 30 on 5/23 and 5/24. 6 nests lost-two lost during Nor'easter May 5-7, 3 due to predation (suspected cat) on 5/15.

**Hatteras District: 6 active nests/2 hatched nests/4 nests lost.** 1 nest lost during Nor'easter of April 14-16, one during Nor'easter of May 5-7, one lost due to unknown causes on 5/15, one lost to predation on 5/22 (plastic garbage bag near nest may have scared AMOYs off and attracted crows to the area leading to predation). Of the 4 original hatchlings, currently there is believed to be 3 remaining. Two chicks began 2.9 mi south of Ramp 38, but have moved .5 mi north, and 1 of 2 in the Hatteras Inlet pre-nesting resource closure. The lost chick's transmitter was found near a ghost crab hole, but it is unknown if it was actually a ghost crab which took the 5-day-old chick, another predator, or the chick at the time of this report is just remaining out of view.

**Ocracoke District: 2 active nests/6 nests lost-** 1 during Nor'easter of April 14-16 and 2 during Nor'easter of May 5-7, 3 lost due to disturbance and/or avian predation.

**Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)****Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds:**

Common (COTE) and least terns (LETE) are staging throughout the seashore. Courting, scraping, copulating, and fish passing has been observed. Also, a few black skimmers and gull-billed terns have been resting on the beach.

**Bodie Island**

No CWB have been observed in the Oregon Inlet pre-nesting closure.

There are currently two colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District. One is 0.1 mi S of Ramp 37, and the other is 0.8 mi N of Ramp 30. Several scrapes in both colonies contain eggs.

**Ramp 34**

There are ~50 LETEs scraping and/or sitting in scrapes approximately .1 miles north of Ramp 34. A resource closure was installed 5/21.

**Cape Point**

Several LETE scrapes and a few nests were discovered inside the Cape Point pre-nesting closure on 5/23 and there is at least one single-egg LETE nest. A few COTE are scraping and courting there as well, but no nests have been documented yet.

**South Beach**

The LETE colony north of Ramp 45 continues to grow east, and now includes the Salt Pond Road beach area. Also, an extensive LETE colony, mixed with COTE and at least one Gull-billed Tern pair, was discovered approximately 2 miles NE of Ramp 49 and the closure was installed on 5/16.

**Hatteras Inlet**

LETE nests with eggs and many scrapes have been documented inside the pre-nesting closure.

**Ocracoke**

Five COTE nests have been documented in the isolated dunes at the southern end of the South Point resource closure. A few LETE are resting in the area. No nests or scrapes have been located. A survey is currently ongoing for the rest of Ocracoke Island.

**Sea Turtles**

**Nests:** None this week. Running “to date” totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 0 nests

Hatteras – To date: 0 nests

Ocracoke – To date: 1 nest on 4/18 (leatherback)

**False Crawls:** None this week. Running “to date” totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 0 false crawls

Hatteras – To date: 0 false crawls

Ocracoke – To date: 0 false crawls

**Strandings (this week only):**

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: 1 Loggerhead on 5/22

Ocracoke: none

**Other Information****Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 23 active closures including the pre-nesting closures
  - 6 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 10 Hatteras District
  - 6 Ocracoke District

**Closure violations:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	0	0	1	3	1*	0	0	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0

Weekly Totals	0	0	0	1	3	1*	0	0	0
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\* Dog in resource closure

**Predator control:**

Wildlife Services trapped on Ocracoke and Bodie Islands from 5/13 to 5/23. Their final report has not yet been submitted, but at least 14 feral cats and 6 fox were removed from Ocracoke and Bodie Districts, although 2 of the cats from Ocracoke were accidentally released in Bodie District after they escaped while being fed and watered.

**Marine Mammals:**

None during this period.

**This is the first Resource Management Weekly Field Summary of the 2007 shorebird and sea turtle breeding season.**

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
2007 Field Season Summary through 05/17/07**

**Piping Plovers (PIPLs)**

**Breeding vs. Migratory PIPLs**

The large numbers of PIPLs observed during April after installation of pre-nesting closures were the result of through migration. The majority of migratory PIPLs should have left the area by mid-May. The PIPLs that currently remain at CAHA should be resident birds.

**Bodie District**

Since 4/23 the number of PIPLs observed at Bodie Island spit has been steadily decreasing. On 4/23 (when 16 PIPLs were present) and 4/24 (when 8 PIPLs present) low gliding runs were observed. On 4/30 when only 4 birds were present, a horizontal threat display was observed. On 5/14, three PIPL were observed (one possible pair and a single individual). A single note alarm call was documented. In previous weeks some territorial behavior has been observed.

**Hatteras District**

**Ramp 34**

A pair of PIPLs was observed foraging north of Ramp 34 for two days in a row (5/2 and 5/3). Storm recovery efforts (e.g. closure repairs and modifications) hindered our ability to monitor this location immediately after the storm. The pair has not been recently observed in the area and may have been migratory. The area will continue to be observed for the next week to determine if the pair returns.

**Cape Point**

Pair 1: Copulation and territorial behavior was observed from April 26-29. A one egg nest was found near the center of Cape Point closure (west of the Salt Pond opening) on 5/3. The nest had two eggs as of 5/5. After the Nor'easter of May 5-7, the original nest was gone but there was a single egg in a scrape ~2 feet from the original nest (on 5/8). The PIPLs were continuing to tend and maintain their nest after the storm. During the nest search on 5/10, the egg was missing. Loss of the egg was probably due to avian predation.

Pair 2: A one egg nest was found on 5/10 in the morning. Because of the loss of both nests from pair 1, an enclosure was installed on the same day that this nest was discovered. No PIPLs were in the vicinity during installation of the enclosure. A PIPL returned to the nest immediately after we left the area and settled into the nest. On 5/12 the nest scrape was cleaned out and the egg turned. On 5/14 nest was checked and no additional eggs were found in the nest. Anne Hecht and David Rabon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, were consulted to help us try to interpret what is going on with the PIPL pairs at Cape Point. **It is possible (based on timing) that this is the fourth egg from Pair 1.** Since none of the birds are banded and none of them have distinct individual markings, it is difficult (if not impossible) for us to distinguish the pairs in question. As of 5/17 the single-egg nest appears to be abandoned.

Pair 3: A one-egg nest was discovered 5/17 in what was thought to be the eastern PIPL pair's territory. The nest is within 40 yards of last year's Nest 3.

**South Beach**

A pair of PIPL was seen exhibiting breeding behavior north of Ramp 45 within the South Beach closure. An aerial display was observed and a scrape was found on 5/14. It is possible these birds relocated from Cape Point area, but that has not been confirmed.

A single PIPL was seen foraging along an ephemeral pool within the South Beach closure, south of Ramp 45, on 5/12. PIPL tracks and scrapes were found outside and inside the existing closure 5/15. The closure has been extended to include the PIPL scrapes, along with several LETE scrapes, on 5/16. Although two PIPL were foraging along the shoreline north of Ramp 49, they have not exhibited behaviors indicating they are a pair.

### **Hatteras Inlet**

A single PIPL has been observed sporadically at both the inlet and the overwashes, but no breeding behavior has been observed.

### **Ocracoke District**

#### **North Ocracoke**

A maximum of five birds have been seen on different occasions in the same area. Some territorial behavior has been observed (horizontal threat displays, parallel runs and low gliding runs). Birds have been observed both north and south of Ramp 59. The territorial behaviors have only been seen south of Ramp 59. An obvious pair was observed roosting north of Ramp 59 on the shoreline foraging/roosting closure on 5/16.

#### **South Ocracoke**

One breeding pair has been observed scraping on the oceanside of the dunes (south of ramp 72 inside the pre-nesting closure) near where the pair nested last year. Tilt display and high-step tattoo behavior was observed on 5/2 and 5/4. Two well defined scrapes were found on 5/2. Up to 5 PIPLs have been seen foraging on flats at the SW end of the south closure. A few single birds have also been observed foraging on the east shoreline, north of the foraging closure. Horizontal threat displays have been observed inside the foraging closure.

As of 5/17, there continues to be a scrape territory in the shell beds in the southern dunes (near last year's nest location). There is also a bird and/or pair of birds foraging north of the shoreline foraging closure and a single scrape has been discovered outside, to the north, of the pre-nesting closure.

### **American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)  
24 total nests to date; 9 active; 14 lost; 1 hatched; 2 chicks;      fledged

**Comments (include information on territorial establishment and/or courtship and area/waypoint and/or landmark or reasons for nest or chick loss):**

**Green Island: 1 active nest**

**Bodie District: 1 active nest** at Oregon Inlet discovered on 5/17. All previous nests have been south of Oregon Inlet. **5 nests lost**-two lost during Nor'easter May 5-7, 3 likely due to predation (cat tracks observed) on 5/15.

**Hatteras District: 6 active nests/1 hatched nest/3 nests lost.** One nest lost during Nor'easter of April 14-16, one during Nor'easter of May 5-7, one lost due to unknown causes).

**Ocracoke District: 1 active nest/6 nests lost**-one during Nor'easter of April 14-16 and 2 during Nor'easter of May 5-7; one due to disturbance and/or avian predation on April 13; two to unknown causes on April 18 and May 2 respectively.

### **Colonial Waterbirds**

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds:**

Common and least terns are staging throughout the seashore. Courting, scraping, copulating, and fish passing has been observed.

#### **South Beach**

The first least tern (LETE) nest (single egg) of the season was discovered between Ramp 45 and Salt Pond Road on 5/3. After the Nor'easter the nest had 2 eggs that were partially buried in the sand. No incubation was observed and no adults

present after the Nor'easter leading us to conclude that the nest had been abandoned as a result of the storm. An extensive LETE scrape area was discovered approximately 2 miles NE of Ramp 49 and the closure was installed on 5/16.

**Cape Point**

The second least tern nest of the season was discovered inside the Cape Point pre-nesting closure on 5/10. Fourteen skimmers observed at Cape Point on 5/11.

**Sea Turtles**

**Nests:**

Bodie Is – To date: 0 nests

Hatteras – To date: 0 nests

Ocracoke – To date: 1 nest on 4/18 (leatherback)

**Other Information**

**Closures - additions/modifications/removals:**

- Pre-nesting closures were installed on the following dates:
  - March 26-Bodie Island (Oregon Inlet)
  - March 27-Cape Point/South Beach
  - March 28-Hatteras Inlet & Overwash fans
  - March 29-South Ocracoke
- Currently there are 19 active closures including the pre-nesting closures
  - 4 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 8 Hatteras District
  - 6 Ocracoke District

**Closure violations:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	5	4	11*	4	2	12**	5	8	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0
<b>Other</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	5	4	11	4	2	12	5	8	0

11\*: 5 dogs, 6 kiteboarders

12\*\*: 5 dogs, 7 kiteboarders

**Predator control:**

In addition to trapping that was conducted by Wildlife Services in early March, park staff has removed 1 grey fox, 7 cats, 14 opossums, and 6 raccoons from Hatteras and Bodie Districts. No trapping by park staff has occurred on Ocracoke.

Wildlife Services is currently trapping on Ocracoke and Bodie Islands.

**Sea turtle strandings:**

Bodie Is: 2 Loggerheads

Hatteras: none

Ocracoke: none

**Marine Mammals/Turtle Strandings**

Date	Species	Location	Resolution
4/2/07	Right whale	Ramp 34	Necropsied and buried by NOAA

4/??/07*	Atlantic white-sided dolphin	South Beach	NOAA euthanized the animal and removed the entire carcass
4/??/07*	Beaked whale	South of Ramp 45	NOAA came and removed skull for Smithsonian
4/28/07	Harbor seal	Ramp 4	"Fenced in" and returned to sea
5/1/07	Bottlenose dolphin	Ramp 59	NOAA freezer, awaiting necropsy
5/1/07	Dolphin	Frisco-soundside, end of Cardinal St.	NOAA coming on 5/3 to check it or pick it up
5/5/07	Dolphin	1 mi. N of Ramp 23	NOAA responded
5/7/07	Dolphin	Sandy Bay	NOAA notified, coming on 5/8 if possible
5/7/07	Dolphin	Salvo	NOAA notified, coming on 5/8 if possible
5/12/07	Bottlenose dolphin-baby	~1/4-1/2 mi. N of Buxton	NOAA notified, coming on 5/13
5/14/07	Bottlenose dolphin-baby	1/2 mi. N of Buxton	NOAA notified but had already been washed back to sea with the tide. Possibly same indiv. as reported on 5/12

\* No dates available for discovery of Atlantic white-sided dolphin and beaked whale.



**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of May 25-31, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

One to two PIPLs continue to be observed foraging near the bait pond at Oregon Inlet. No breeding or territorial behavior has been observed in the last week.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest 4: This nest continues to be incubated and the nest check of 5/26 showed no signs of predator tracks around the enclosure. Monitors have observed both adults incubating.

Nest 5: A 2-egg nest, discovered on 5/23, became a 4-egg clutch on 5/27/07, and an enclosure was erected around the nest the same day. The adults accepted the enclosure and both have been observed incubating.

Nest 6: A 2-egg renest of pair one was discovered on 5/26. As of 5/31 it remained a 2-egg nest and no adults have been observed incubating, although copulation by the pair was observed in the morning of 5/30.

One male continues to be observed doing elliptical flight and scraping east of Salt Pond Road.

**South Beach**

Two PIPLs, possibly a breeding pair, were observed near the 2005 and 2006 nest sites on 5/28. Elliptical flight and scrapes were also observed. Also, PIPL continue to be observed foraging along the ocean shoreline east of Ramp 45, inside and just outside the closure. A PIPL was seen west of Ramp 45, on the dunes inside the closure.

The shoreline closure 0.5 miles north of Ramp 49 was utilized by a single PIPL 5/25 – 5/27, over the busy holiday weekend, and on 5/30 a PIPL was observed foraging on the shoreline east of the current closure.

**Hatteras Inlet**

One to two PIPLs continue to be seen at both the inlet and/or the overwash fans (5/25). No territorial or breeding behavior has been observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

There has been one PIPL observed (5/25 & 5/26) in the resource closure on the north end of the island. No PIPLs have been observed in the shoreline or full-beach resource closures this week.

**South Ocracoke**

Nest 7: A three-egg PIPL nest was discovered 5/29/07 in the northern dunes of the South Point pre-nesting resource closure. Monitoring efforts are hampered by the location of the nest so it was determined to wait until the nest becomes a full clutch before installing an enclosure.

There continues to be observations of at least two other scrape territories in the South Point closure, one to the north of the existing nest and one in the southern dunes. Based on observations of previous weeks there may be one more pair of PIPLs, if not two, on the southern end of Ocracoke.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY)

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)  
34 total nests to date; 15 active; 16 lost; 3 hatched 4 chicks; \_\_\_\_\_ fledged)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 1(possibly 2) active nests**

**Bodie District: 6 active nests/6 nests lost** – 2 new renests discovered, one north and one south of Ramp 27.

**Hatteras District: 6 active nests/3 hatched nests/4 nests lost** – One nest in the Cape Point resource closure hatched 5/29 and there were no new nests/renests. There is one AMOY chick at Hatteras Inlet, one north of Buxton, and two in the Cape Point resource closure. One chick was lost 5/29 or 5/30, north of Buxton to an unknown predator.

**Ocracoke District: 2 active nests/7 nests lost** – A new renest discovered 5/25 in South Point closure.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds:**

Common terns (COTE) and least terns (LETE) are staging throughout the seashore. Only a few black skimmers and gull billed terns have been seen in the area.

**Bodie Island**

One COTE nest has been found in the Oregon Inlet nesting closure.

There are currently two colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30). One is 0.1 mi S of Ramp 37, and the other is 0.8 mi N of Ramp 30. Incubating and egg-laying continues.

**Ramp 34**

LETE continue to be observed inside the closure but a nest survey has not been conducted.

**Cape Point**

A census was conducted on 5/31, and 13 LETE nests and numerous scrapes, and 4 COTE nests were found in this colony. A LETE chick was found, still in the scrape of the nest that was found on 5/10.

**South Beach: Ramp 45**

There are at least 31 LETE nests between Salt Pond Ramp and Ramp 45.

**South Beach**

There are more than 13 LETE nests west of Ramp 45, in the western end of the South Beach resource closure.

**Hatteras Inlet**

This colony is small but probably will expand as it has in recent years. There are a few LETE scrapes and one nest.

**Ocracoke**

There are a minimum of 13 COTE nests, one LETE nest and black skimmer scrapes in the southern end of the South Point resource closure.

Special Shorebird Sightings

Three roseate terns were observed resting outside the Cape Point closure the morning of 5/26. The birds were displaced later in the morning and have not been seen since then. The northeastern population of the roseate tern was listed as endangered in 1987, with nesting pairs distributed from New York to Canada.

Two Wilson's plovers were observed on South Ocracoke 5/25.

Sea Turtles

**Nests:** None this week. Running “to date” totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 0 nests

Hatteras – To date: 0 nests

Ocracoke – To date: 1 nest on 4/18 (leatherback)

**False Crawls:** Two on South Beach on 5/28 and two on Ocracoke on 5/29.

Running “to date” totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 1 false crawls

Hatteras – To date: 2 false crawls

Ocracoke – To date: 2 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: none

Ocracoke: 2 Loggerhead - 5/24 (late entry not in last week’s report) and 5/26

Other Information**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 23 active closures including the pre-nesting closures
  - 6 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 10 Hatteras District
  - 6 Ocracoke District

**Resource closure violations: as of the week of 5/24-31**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	0	1*	0	59	5**	0	13	2*
<b>Turtle closure</b>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	0	1*	0	59	5**	0	13	2*

\* Dog in resource closure

\*\* Dog in resource closure (4), Kiteboarder (1)

**Predator Control:**

Park staff have trapped and removed 4 cats, one opossum and one raccoon in the last week.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

A dead bottlenose dolphin was discovered on the ocean beach, 5/28/07 just north of Hatteras.

**Note of Interest:**

A black bear sighting was confirmed by LE staff on Ocracoke. On 5/31 RM staff observed bear tracks going into the water at the north end of Ocracoke and then returning to shore and heading south.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of June 1-7, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

Weather Note: Remnants of Tropical Storm Barry brought strong winds (47 mph gusts), heavy showers and high tides throughout the area on 6/2 and 6/3. Low lying areas, especially at Oregon Inlet and South Ocracoke, were inundated with water. Monitoring efforts were reduced during this weather system.

**Bodie District**

One to 4 PIPLs continue to be observed foraging at Oregon Inlet. Territorial defense was observed and alarm calls were heard from a pair in a scrape area located on 6/2. Scraping and territorial displays were observed on 6/7.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest 4: This 4 egg nest and exclosure were checked on 6/4, and incubation continues.

Nest 5: This 4 egg nest and exclosure were checked on 6/4, and incubation continues.

Nest 6: A 2-egg renest of pair one was discovered on 5/26, but was declared abandoned on 6/4 (2 eggs still present). The eggs were covered by sand during Tropical Storm Barry. The pair was observed in the area on 6/4 and 6/7.

Nest 8: A 1-egg renest of pair two was discovered on 6/7 on the western side of the Cape Point closure.

**South Beach**

A pair has not been confirmed in the South Beach closure this week. It is possible that the pair that had been observed in the area moved slightly east into the Cape Point closure and is the pair with the one-egg nest (Nest 8).

One male continues to be observed doing elliptical flight and scraping west of Salt Pond Road. This is probably the male that was previously scraping just east of Salt Pond Road.

A PIPL was observed foraging along the shoreline north of the current foraging closure north of Ramp 49 on 6/6.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No PIPLs were observed this week. On 6/5, a survey was conducted on North Ocracoke, Hatteras Inlet and D.O.T. Island, but no PIPL were observed during this coordinated monitoring effort.

**South Ocracoke**

Nest 7: A predator exclosure was installed around this nest with 4 eggs on 6/1. Both adults returned to the nest and both were confirmed incubating after installation. Incubation continues after the stormy weather.

Four birds were seen from the soundside on 6/1. Aerial displays were again observed at the single dune near the soundside.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY)

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)  
36 total nests to date; 10 active; 20 lost; 6 hatched (7 chicks; \_\_\_ fledged)

**Comments:** There appears to be an influx of non-breeding birds this past week (many of them unbanded). They may be first year birds scouting out the area or pairs that have lost their nests and have moved on.

**Green Island: 1 active nest/1 hatched nest-** One brood (1 chick confirmed) for G11/UB pair. Also a nest of 3 eggs found 6/1. G10 was originally part of this pair, but the carcass from G10 was found during a survey on 6/1.

**Bodie District: 6 active nests/ 6 nests lost** – Two active nests remain at Oregon Inlet, 3 nests between Ramps 27 and 30, and 1 nest just north of Ramp27.

**Hatteras District: 3 active nests/5 hatched nests/5 nests lost** – The nest at Haulover Beach was abandoned (infertile/undeveloped eggs) after approximately 19 days of incubation. One brood in the Cape Point resource closure had 2 chicks on 6/5. AMOY nest near Ramp 45 hatched a single chick on 6/6. Two unhatched eggs remained in the nest. One nest hatched on South Beach on 6/5 and two chicks were observed. There is one chick at Hatteras Inlet, and one north of Buxton. There are three active nests located north of Ramp 34, at South Beach and at Hatteras Inlet, respectively. The carcass of G23 was found in South Beach closure on 6/6, and was last seen on 4/1 in the South Beach area.

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nests/9 nests lost** – One nest in the southern closure was lost 6/2, and mink tracks were at the nest so it was presumed lost to predators (several tern eggs were also found depredated). The nest south of Ramp 68 was lost 6/1, and mink tracks were at the nest. Two pairs with scrapes are still using the north end of the island.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds:****Bodie Island**

The single COTE nest in the Oregon Inlet nesting closure was destroyed during the storm.

There are currently three colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30). At Ramp 30, a small LETE colony of 5 nests was counted on 6/6. Another colony south of Ramp 27 included 63 LETE nests on 6/6. A third colony north of Ramp 27 included 43 LETE nests on 6/6. No chicks were observed during the census conducted 6/6.

**Ramp 34**

Twenty four LETE nests were counted on 6/5.

**Cape Point**

No thorough census conducted this week but during the PIPL survey on 6/7 4 LETE nests and 4 COTE nests were documented.

**South Beach: Ramp 45**

No thorough nest conducted this week but during the PIPL survey on 6/7 14 LETE nests and 1 COTE nest was documented.

**South Beach**

No nest census this week but the colony is still active.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No nest census this week but the tiny colony is still active.

**Ocracoke**

The colony in the southern end of the South Point resource closure was impacted by the storm and mink. Several depredated eggs and abandoned eggs were found on 6/4. Four COTE nests and one black skimmer nest remained. An additional 3 COTE nests were found 6/4, on small scattered dunelets west of the main colony.

A small LETE colony of 4 nests was found on 6/1 inside the southern pre-nesting closure in the central/oceanside portion of the big flats. All nests were gone after the storm.

**Special Shorebird Sightings**

On South Ocracoke, 6/1, a male Wilson's plover was alert and vocal during a survey of the soundside. A fresh scrape with Wilson's tracks in it was observed near this bird. Two WIPL were seen at this location last week and it appears that a pair is using the area. A male PIPL has been observed at the same location, but no activity from either species has been observed after the storm.

One Wilson's plover was observed 6/4 on Hatteras Island, at the large overwash south of Ramp 55.

**Sea Turtles**

**Nests:** Two nests in Bodie district and one nest in Ocracoke District. Running "to date" totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 2 nests

Hatteras – To date: 0 nests

Ocracoke – To date: 2 nests\*

\*The leatherback nest closure was expanded on 6/7.

**False Crawls:** Two false crawls in Bodie District and one in Ocracoke District.

Running "to date" totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 3 false crawls

Hatteras – To date: 2 false crawls

Ocracoke – To date: 3 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: One live stranding (brought to animal clinic in Manteo) and 3 other strandings (2 loggerheads and one Kemps Ridley).

Ocracoke: none

**Other Information**

**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 23 active closures including the pre-nesting closures
  - 7 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 9 Hatteras District
  - 5 Ocracoke District

**Resource closure violations: during the week of June 1-7**

	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
Violation type	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other
Bird closure	1	1	0	0	15	0	0	1	0
Turtle closure	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0
Weekly Totals	1	1	0	0	15	0	0	1	0

**Predator Control:**

Park staff have trapped and removed two opossum and one raccoon in the last week.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

None documented.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of June 8-14, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

One to three PIPLs continue to be observed foraging, scraping and performing aerial territorial displays at Oregon Inlet.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest 4: This 4-egg nest continues to be incubated and has entered its hatching window as of 6/13. The nest is being observed from a distance for hatchlings in the morning and evening.

Nest 5: This 4-egg nest continues to be incubated and will enter its hatching window as of 6/17 at which point morning and evening observations will begin.

Nest 8: This nest (renest pair two) was discovered as a single-egg nest on 6/7, was a two egg nest on 6/10, but was lost to predation by 6/13. Opossum tracks were observed next to the nest.

Nest 9: This three-egg nest (renest pair one) was discovered being incubated on 6/10 and an enclosure was erected around the nest 6/12. This pair abandoned their last nest on 5/28 and based on that timing the nest should enter its hatching window no sooner than 7/1.

**South Beach**

Aerial displays by a male with a possible mate on the ground near several scrapes were observed on 6/10. On 6/13 a lone PIPL flew in calling “peeplo” during a survey of the area.

The shoreline closure 0.5 miles north of Ramp 49 has not been utilized by a PIPL since 6/6. The shoreline foraging closure was removed on 6/14.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week. The pre-nesting resource closure at the overwashes south of Ramp 55 was removed on 6/12 and a migratory/wintering foraging area was left in place on the sound side. The Pole Road was re-opened as a result of the removal.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

There was one PIPL observed in the resource closure on 6/8, but due to the lack of significant activity, the full-beach closure at Ramp 59 and the foraging closure just north of Ramp 59 were removed 6/13.

**South Ocracoke**

Nest 7: This 4-egg nest continues to be incubated and will enter its hatching window as of 6/21 at which point morning and evening observations will begin.

The pair in the southern dune’s scrape area inside the South Point resource closure was observed exhibiting breeding behavior 6/9 – wing tilts and scraping. No breeding behavior was observed during the survey on 6/12 and the scrape had filled in, however, there were fresh PIPL tracks across the old scrape.

PIPL continue to be observed inside the foraging closure at South Point.



American Oystercatchers (AMOY)

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)  
37 total nests to date; 10 active; 21 lost; 6 hatched (6 chicks; \_\_\_\_\_ fledged)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 1 active nest /1 hatched nest/ 1 lost nest** – On 6/13 a three-chick brood was documented (instead of just the single chick observed a week ago). One three-egg nest continues to be incubated.

**Bodie District: 6 active nests/6 nests lost** – No new activity for this report.

**Hatteras District: 3 active nests/5 hatched nests/5 nests lost** – Two chicks on South Beach were lost to predation by a cat on 6/11. There has only been confirmation of a single chick in the Cape Point resource closure, but there could still be two. The brood's proximity to PIPL nests prevents a thorough search of the area.

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nests/9 nests lost** – No new activity for this report.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

**Green Island**

LETE, GBTE, BLSK continue to incubate, an accurate census was not conducted on 6/13 because AMOY brood was in the area.

**Bodie Island**

There are currently three colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30).

The first is north of Ramp 27. It contains ~ 43 LETE nests. Incubation continues.

The second is south of Ramp 27. It contains ~63 LETE nests and at least one LETE chick. A request for a full-beach closure was submitted and approved on 6/13 and the closure was installed on 6/14.

The third is north of Ramp 30. It contains ~5 LETE nests. Incubation continues.

**Ramp 34**

There are ~36 LETEs incubating and at least two hatchlings in this colony (as of 6/13). A request for a full-beach closure was submitted and approved on 6/13 and the closure was installed on 6/14.

**Cape Point**

No thorough census was conducted this week, but there are LETE (~20-30), BLSK (2) and GBTE (2) in the Cape Point resource closure.

**South Beach: Ramp 45**

There were ~12 LETE nests on 6/10. Mammalian tracks were present and a Fish Crow was observed carrying off an egg on 6/13.

**South Beach**

~ 26 incubating LETEs were observed through profile scan on 6/13. (A "profile scan" is observation of a colony from outside the colony as opposed to walking through the colony and counting nests and chicks.)

**Hatteras Inlet**

One LETE nest documented on 6/9.

**Ocracoke**

There are two separate colonies in the South Point resource closure. One at the southern end has 3 LETE and 2 BLSK nests as of 6/11. The other one in the central flats has ~ 3 LETE re-nests.

**Special Shorebird Sightings**

During PIPL surveys on South Ocracoke, a Wilson's plover was observed in a scrape (6/8 and 6/11).

**Sea Turtles**

**Nests:** A loggerhead nested north of Ramp 27 in the Bodie Island district 6/9. The first loggerhead nest in Hatteras district was found at the northern end of Avon village 6/11. Running "to date" totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 3 nests

Hatteras – To date: 1 nest

Ocracoke – To date: 2 nests

**False Crawls:** One near Frisco Campground 6/10, two on Ocracoke on 6/11, and one on Ocracoke on 6/12. Running "to date" totals below.

Bodie Is – To date: 3 false crawls

Hatteras – To date: 3 false crawls

Ocracoke – To date: 6 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: none

Ocracoke: none

**Other Information****Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 21 active closures including the pre-nesting closures and wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - 9 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 7 Hatteras District
  - 4 Ocracoke District – one Leatherback sea turtle full-beach closure.

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	1	0	0	0	27	1*	1	16	1**
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	1	0	0	0	27	1*	0	16	1**

\* Horse tracks through closure.

\*\* Bicycle tracks through closure.

**Predator control:**

Park staff have trapped and removed one opossum and one raccoon in the last week (6/13).

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

None

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of June 15-21, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

A single-egg PIPL nest was discovered 6/16 in the Bodie Island Spit resource closure. That nest was a two-egg clutch on 6/18. Based on fox and other mammalian and avian predator sign, it was decided to install the enclosure around an incomplete clutch. Upon arriving on 6/19 to install the enclosure, the nest was at three eggs. Both adults were observed incubating within 20 minutes of placement of the enclosure.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest 4: This 4-egg nest hatched 6/16 and was a four-chick brood until the morning of 6/18 when observations revealed two chicks had been lost. A search for predator tracks was conducted and raccoon tracks were in the immediate vicinity of the chicks last known location. Ghost crab tracks were also present in the area. Caution was taken not to disturb the remaining brood during the predator search. The remaining chicks continue to forage in the ephemeral pond flats in the north-eastern corner of the Cape Point closure.

Nest 5: One egg was lost to ghost crab predation 6/19, and incubation of 3 eggs continued through 6/20. The nest hatched on 6/21 and the brood of 2 chicks was observed east of the enclosure. At the time of this report the third egg had not yet hatched. During brood observations on 6/21, PIPL territorial behaviors, such as parallel running and aggression, were observed.

Nest 9: This three-egg nest continues to be incubated. An enclosure check was performed 6/17 and raccoon tracks were found next to the enclosure.

Scrapes continue to be found in the vicinity of the nest (#8) that was lost last week, indicating re-nesting efforts by that pair.

**South Beach**

Three birds were seen near Salt Pond Road. Aerial displays and scraping continue to be observed from east and west of Salt Pond Ramp, and on the beach at Salt Pond Ramp. Although a pair of PIPL with scrapes was observed there, it is uncertain whether this is within the re-nesting pair territory to the east.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**South Ocracoke**

Nest 7: This 4-egg nest continues to be incubated and will enter its hatching window 6/21. The nest is being observed from a distance in the morning and evening.

PIPL continue to be observed inside the foraging closure at South Point.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

40 total nests to date; 4 active; 24 lost; 12 hatched (17 chicks; \_\_\_\_ fledged)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 1 active nest /1 hatched nest/ 1 lost nest** – The island was not surveyed this week.

**Bodie District: 2 active nests/ 3 hatched nests/8 nests lost** – 3 nests hatched, the brood on Bodie Island was lost to unknown causes – one chick was found dead. Two broods with two chicks each, remain between Ramps 27 and 30 and two nests continue to be incubated in Bodie/Hatteras District. One nest, a one-egg re-nest, may fail as it is past the expected hatch date.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests/7 hatched nests/6 nests lost** – There are currently 9 chicks (5 broods) in Hatteras District. Three broods ~ a week or less old, one brood ~2 weeks old, and two chicks from two broods are about to fledge.

**Ocracoke District: 1 active nests/1 hatched nest/9 nests lost** – A re-nest was discovered 6/15 between Ramps 68 and 70, and a two-egg nest was discovered on the dredge spoils by the Ocracoke Ferry dock on 6/15. That nest hatched on 6/16 and at last survey, only one of the two chicks remained. The other was found dead next to the nest scrape of unknown causes.

**Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)**

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, BGTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

**Green Island**

No survey this week.

**Bodie Island**

There are currently three colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30). The first colony is N of Ramp 27. A profile scan revealed 20 incubating birds. Twenty additional birds and 4 chicks were also observed in the area.

The second colony is 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27. A profile scan revealed 13 incubating birds and 6 chicks. Ten additional birds (as well as a chick) were observed down by the water.

The third colony is 0.8 mi N of Ramp 30. A profile scan revealed 3 incubating birds and an additional 5 pair in the area.

**Ramp 34**

There were ~ 29 LETEs incubating in this colony (as of 6/20). Several adults appeared to be brooding chicks, but no chicks were seen during this observation.

**Cape Point**

No thorough census was conducted this week due to proximity of AMOY and PIPL nests/broods, but there continues to be LETE (~20-30), BLSK (2) GBTE (2) and COTE in the Cape Point resource closure. One LETE chick is near fledging, but no other chicks have been confirmed.

**South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

This colony was heavily predated in the past two weeks, but there appears to be at least two active LETE nests and at least one LETE chick just east of Ramp 45. Several scrapes on the beach indicate re-nesting activity is underway.

**South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

Approximately 27 incubating LETEs were observed through a profile scan on 6/20. There were at least two chicks seen during the scan.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No nests or chicks visible as of 6/19.

**Ocracoke**

There are two separate colonies in the South Point resource closure. One at the southern end has 3 LETE and a BLSK nest as of 6/19. The other LETE colony (in the central flats) is showing indications that re-nesting attempts are underway, but no nests have been confirmed.

### Other Shorebird Sightings

Clarification of Wilson's Plover sightings on Ocracoke (6/11 and 6/8): a Wilson's Plover was seen foraging on the soundside of south Ocracoke in the same area where a scrape had been discovered earlier in the season. No fresh scrapes or pair behavior was observed during these recent sightings.

### Sea Turtles

**Nests:** 3 loggerhead nests were found on Ocracoke 6/19, and another was found 6/20. 3 loggerhead nests were found in Hatteras District on 6/21. Running ("to date") totals below:

Bodie Is - To date: 3 nests

Hatteras - To date: 4 nests

Ocracoke - To date: 6 nests

**False Crawls:** One on Ocracoke on 6/14. Three on Cape Point the morning of 6/20. One on Bodie on 6/21. Running ("to date") totals below.

Bodie Is: To date: 4 false crawls

Hatteras: To date: 6 false crawls

Ocracoke: To date: 7 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: none

Ocracoke: 1 immature green turtle

### Other Information

#### **Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 21 active closures including the pre-nesting closures and wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - 9 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 7 Hatteras District
  - 4 Ocracoke District: one Leatherback sea turtle full-beach closure.

#### **Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	1	15	3*	0	15	0	1	5	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	1	15	3*	0	15	0	0	5	0

\* = dog

#### **Predator control:**

Park staff have trapped and removed one cat, three opossums and two raccoons in the last week.

#### **Marine Mammal Strandings:**

None

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of June 22-28, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Nest 10: A three-egg PIPL nest continues to be incubated.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest 4: The second chick from this brood was not observed on 6/27. A single chick remains from this brood. We anticipate that it will fledge between 7/10-7/20.

Nest 5: This nest hatched on 6/21 and a brood of 2 chicks was observed east of the enclosure. Only one chick was observed on 6/22. Frequent territorial disputes were observed between the adults of brood 4 and 5. We believe these disputes resulted in the abandonment of the chick by its parents and adoption of the chick by the male from brood 4. For 2 days this chick was being brooded by the adult male from nest 4. The female from nest four was repeatedly observed pecking at the chick and trying to run it off. The chick disappeared on 6/25.

Nest 9: This three-egg nest continues to be incubated.

Nest 11: A single-egg nest was discovered 6/23 and was exclosed as a three-egg nest 6/28. It is believed this is pair 2 which lost nests 3 and 8.

Breeding behavior (scraping, wing-tilt and aerial displays) was observed (6/27) in the area between Nest 4 and Nest 5 and may be the pair from Nest 5 attempting to renest.

**South Beach**

A lone bird, probably from Nest 11 was seen several times in the area between Salt Pond Road and Ramp 45.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**South Ocracoke**

Nest 7: This 4-egg nest started hatching on the evening of 6/25 and two adults and the brood of four chicks were observed moving toward the sound on the evening 6/26. On the morning of 6/27 only two chicks could be found. As of Thursday, June 28th 2 chicks remained.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)  
41 total nests to date; 4 active; 24 lost; 13 hatched (17 chicks; 1 fledged)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 1 active nest /1 hatched nest/ 1 lost nest** – The island was not surveyed this week.

**Bodie District: 1 active nests/ 4 hatched nests/8 nests lost** – 3 broods with two chicks each. The active nest is well past its expected hatch date, but continues to be incubated.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests/7 hatched nests/6 nests lost** – There are currently 8 chicks (5 broods) in Hatteras District. Three broods are less than 2 weeks old, one brood is ~3 weeks old, and one chick is near fledging. One chick has fledged.

**Ocracoke District: 2 active nests/1 hatched nest/9 nests lost** – A re-nest was discovered 6/25 in the South Point resource closure. The two chicks from the hatched nest were lost.

### Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

#### **Green Island**

No survey this week.

#### **Bodie Island**

A new LETE colony is forming in the flats between the ocean and the bait pond at Oregon Inlet. A one egg nest was discovered and more than 50 scrapes were documented in the area.

There are currently three colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30). The first colony is N of Ramp 27. There are still incubating birds and at least 7 chicks were observed in the area. The second colony is 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27. Seventeen incubating birds and 4 chicks were observed this week. Seven additional birds were observed on the shoreline. The third colony is 0.8 mi N of Ramp 30. There are at least two ~ one week old chicks and at least 8 adults.

#### **Ramp 34**

There were ~ 17 LETEs incubating in this colony (as of 6/28). Several adults appeared to be brooding chicks, and 8 chicks were seen during this observation.

#### **Cape Point**

No thorough census was conducted this week due to proximity of AMOY and PIPL nests/broods, but there continues to be LETE (~20-30), BLSK (6) GBTE (2) and COTE in the Cape Point resource closure. One LETE chick has fledged, but no other chicks have been confirmed.

#### **South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

There appears to be at least two active LETE nests and at least one ~ three-week-old LETE chick just east of Ramp 45.

#### **South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

Approximately 30 incubating LETEs were observed through a profile scan on 6/28. There were at least eight chicks seen during the scan.

#### **Hatteras Inlet**

As of 6/23 single LETE pair continues to attempt re-nest in the closure.

#### **Ocracoke**

There are two separate colonies in the South Point resource closure. One at the southern end has 7 two-egg LETE nests and three one-egg LETE nests as of 6/28. The other colony in the center of the closure has ~5 nests with at least 4 one-egg nests and a single two-egg nest. There's at least one two-week-old LETE chick in the closure.

### Other Shorebird Sightings

1-2 Wilson's Plover continue to be observed on south Ocracoke.

Sea Turtles

**Nests:** On 6/22, 1 nest was found in Bodie; on 6/23, 3 nests were found on Ocracoke; on 6/24, 2 nests were found in Hatteras district; on 6/26, 1 nest was found on Ocracoke; Running (“to date”) totals below:

Bodie Is - To date: 4 nests

Hatteras - To date: 6 nests

Ocracoke - To date: 10 nests

**False Crawls:** One on Ocracoke on 6/14. Three on Cape Point the morning of 6/20. One on Bodie on 6/21. Running (“to date”) totals below.

Bodie Is : To date: 5 false crawls

Hatteras : To date: 7 false crawls

Ocracoke : To date: 10 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: 2 Loggerheads

Ocracoke: none

Other Information**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 21 active closures including the pre-nesting closures and wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - 7 Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - 1 Green Island
  - 6 Hatteras District
  - 4 Ocracoke District: one Leatherback sea turtle full-beach closure.

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	19	2*	4	17	3**	3	6	12***
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	19	2*	4	17	3**	3	6	12***

\* dog

\*\* Sign broken off and used for firewood and two sets of dog tracks, next to human tracks, in closure.

\*\*\* 5 boats landed in closure and 7 dogs (1 loose) inside the closure.

**Predator control:**

Park staff have trapped and removed one nutria, one opossum and three raccoons in the last week.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

None



**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of July 13 – July 19, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Nest 10: Three PIPL chicks hatched Sunday, 7/15. Three chicks were viewed all day Monday, but only a single chick could be located Tuesday 7/17. At the time of this report the chick is still being observed.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest/Brood 4: The single remaining chick from this brood fledged 7/15. A chick is considered fledged if it maintains controlled flight for more than 15 meters.

Nest/Brood 9: This one chick brood has been observed throughout the week. As of 7/19, the chick is 16 days old.

Nest 11: This three-egg nest continues to be incubated and entered its hatch window on 7/18. The nest is now being monitored from distance twice daily for incubation and/or hatching.

There is still breeding activity by Pair 4, from Nest 5, with at least two active scrapes and multiple aerial flights observed. According to the USF&WS Piping Plover Recovery Plan, the latest known nest initiation is July 25 and the latest recorded hatch date is July 31. This pair has passed that hatch window.

**South Beach**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No PIPLs were observed this week

**South Ocracoke**

Three to five migrants and/or formerly breeding PIPLs observed

**Non-breeding migrant PIPLs**

There were as many as six migrant PIPLs on Bodie this week, at least 11 on Hatteras Island, and three to five on Ocracoke.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

39 total nests to date; 0 active; 24 lost; 15 hatched (10 unfledged chicks; 5 fledged chicks)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 0 active nests /1 hatched nest/ 1 nest lost** – The island was not surveyed this week, the two remaining chicks should have fledged by this date.

**Bodie District: 0 active nests/ 4 hatched nests/8 nests lost** – There are currently four chicks in Bodie district (three broods - one with two chicks at 31 days, one chick at 31 days and one chick at 33

days). All four chicks should fledge in the next seven to ten days. The oldest chick had permanent bands put on this week. The bands are (Green) X4.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests/7 hatched nests/6 nests lost** – There are currently three chicks at 34 days and one chick at 33 days old in Hatteras District. All four should fledge in the next seven to ten days. Permanent bands were placed on the three-chick brood this week. The bands are (Green) X1, (Green) X2, (Green) X3. Three chicks have fledged (North of Buxton, Hatteras Inlet and Cape Point).

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nest/3 hatched nests/9 nests lost** – There are two single-chick broods on Ocracoke. (Ages are five days and 11 days old.)

### Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

#### **Green Island**

No survey conducted this week.

#### **Bodie Island**

In the vicinity of Ramp 27, there were 53 LETEs observed incubating and another 67 in and flying over the area on 7/18.

There are currently three colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30). The first colony is 0.1 mi N of Ramp 27, and on 7/18, 24 fledged chicks and one unfledged chick remained in the closure. The second colony is 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27, and on 7/18 there were seven nests, 23 fledged chicks and no unfledged chicks. The third colony is 0.8 mi N of Ramp 30, and on 7/18, three fledged chicks were observed.

#### **Ramp 34**

There were 20 LETEs incubating in this colony (as of 7/18). Twenty-eight fledglings were observed as well as five chicks on the ground.

#### **Cape Point**

There continues to be LETE scrapes and at least one nest. Two chicks and several territorial adults were observed on 7/16. No breeding COTE or BLSK have been observed this week.

#### **South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

There are a minimum of four LETE nests and one fledged chick just east of Ramp 45 (counted on 7/16).

#### **South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

A minimum of nine incubating LETEs and 38 chicks (both fledged and not) were observed on 7/18.

#### **Hatteras Inlet**

No breeding activity observed this week.

#### **Ocracoke**

The four small colonies on South Point appear to have been lost. The causes are unknown, but predation by mink is suspected.

### Other Shorebird Sightings/Events

Sooty tern observed over Salt Pond (7/16) and two at Bodie Island Spit bait pond on 7/15.

### Sea Turtles

**Nests:** Hatteras District had two nests on 7/16, one on 7/17, two on 7/18, and two on 7/19 (weekly total = seven). The nest on 7/17 was the first Green (*Chelonia mydas*) nest of the year. Ocracoke District had one nest on 7/14, 7/15, and 7/19 (weekly total = three). Bodie district had two nests on 7/18 (weekly total = two).

Running (“to date”) totals below.

Bodie Is - To date: 13 nests

Hatteras - To date: 21 nests

Ocracoke - To date: 18 nests

**False Crawls:** Hatteras District had seven false crawls (one Green), Ocracoke District had four, and Bodie District had two (one Green).

Running (“to date”) totals below.

Bodie Is : To date: 8 false crawls

Hatteras : To date: 39 false crawls

Ocracoke : To date: 22 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: none

Ocracoke: none

#### **Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

During the week of July 16, the status of the leatherback turtle nest on Ocracoke Island was well past the “hatch date” window. On July 19, NPS staff excavated the nest and discovered 39 eggs total of which 15 eggs appeared to be “viable” and were reburied in a 30’ X 30’ turtle protection area.

### Other Information

#### **Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 17 active closures including the pre-nesting closures and wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - Seven at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north)
  - One at Green Island
  - Six at Hatteras District (One wintering and migratory bird closure).
  - Three at Ocracoke District (One full-beach turtle nest expansion).

#### **Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	5	0	2	31	0	1	3	1
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	5	0	2	31	0	1	3	1*

\*Sign stolen off of post.

#### **Predator control:**

One grey fox and one red fox were removed by park staff from Bodie Island.

#### **Marine Mammal Strandings:**

None

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of July 20 – 26, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Nest 10: The single surviving chick from this brood continues to forage from the bait pond to the southwest end of Bodie Island Spit. As of 7/26 the chick is 15 days old.

There have been as many as nine migrants observed foraging at Bodie Island Spit.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest/Brood 9: This one chick brood has been observed throughout the week. It has been observed making weak attempts at flight. As of 7/26, the chick is 23 days old.

Nest 11: This three-egg nest hatched one chick 7/21 and one chick 7/22. The third egg did not hatch. Both chicks were observed foraging near the enclosure and to the east until the afternoon of 7/23 when the adults took them through heavy vegetation to the large Salt Pond. One chick disappeared during the traverse to the large pond.

There is has been no breeding activity observed this week.

**South Beach**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**South Ocracoke**

On 7/24 thirty-two migrants were observed foraging at South Point.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

39 total nests to date; 0 active; 24 lost; 15 hatched (5 unfledged chicks; 9 fledged chicks)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 0 active nests / 1 hatched nest / 1 nest lost / 2 fledged** – Not surveyed this week.

**Bodie District: 0 active nests / 4 hatched nests / 8 nests lost / 1 fledged** – There are currently two chicks in Bodie/Hatteras District which haven't fledged, but should within the next few days, and one chick which has fledged.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests / 7 hatched nests / 6 nests lost / 6 fledged** – All but one of the surviving Hatteras District AMOYs have fledged, north of Buxton (one), Hatteras Inlet (one), Cape Point (one), north of Ramp 34 (one), and South Beach (two). One additional chick from the South Beach brood isn't flying proficiently enough for exposure to ORV traffic even though the average fledging period has been reached. It is anticipated that this chick should be fully fledged in the next few days.

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nest/3 hatched nests/9 nests lost** – There are two single-chick broods on Ocracoke. (Ages are 12 and 18 days old.)

### Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

#### **Green Island**

No survey conducted this week.

#### **Bodie Island**

In the vicinity of the Bait Pond, there were 53 LETEs observed incubating and another 67 in and flying over the area last week. On 7/25, two LETE chicks and nine nests were observed. There were numerous fox tracks through the area and past empty LETE scrapes.

There are currently three colonies of LETEs in the Bodie-Hatteras District (from Pea Island to Ramp 30). The first colony is 0.1 mi N of Ramp 27, and on 7/18, 26 fledged chicks and no unfledged chicks or incubating adults were visible in the closure. The second colony is 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27, and on 7/18 there were seven nests, ~30 fledged chicks and 4 unfledged chicks. The third colony is 0.8 mi N of Ramp 30, and no chicks or incubating adults were viewed on 7/23.

#### **Ramp 34**

There were about five LETEs incubating in this colony (as of 7/23). Thirty fledglings and four chicks were observed. There was also a pair of LETEs courting and making scrapes.

#### **Cape Point**

Two LETE chicks and several territorial adults were observed on 7/24. There was also a single COTE chick near the southern end of the resource closure. There is also a single LETE chick on the western edge of the Cape Point resource closure – near Salt Pond Ramp.

#### **South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

Three ~one week-old LETE chicks were observed on 7/25.

#### **South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

No incubating LETEs were observed and 42 fledged chicks, two ~ one-week-old chicks and three, ~ three-week-old chicks were observed on 7/25.

#### **Hatteras Inlet**

No breeding activity observed this week.

#### **Ocracoke**

The four small colonies on South Point appear to have been lost and there have been no re-nesting attempts observed.

### Other Shorebird Sightings/Events

We have been requested by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to document dead shearwaters (a gull-like bird that spends the majority of its life at sea) that are found on the Seashore. NCWRC is trying to keep track of the numbers and locations of dead shearwaters to assess the scope of the die-off that is occurring. We have documented a total of 55 dead shearwaters to date.

### Sea Turtles

**Nests:** Hatteras District had two nests on 7/20, one on 7/22, one on 7/23, and three on 7/24 (weekly total = seven). The nest on 7/23 and one of the nests on 7/24 was from a green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). Ocracoke District had three nests on 7/20 and one on 7/21 (weekly total = four). Bodie District had one nest on 7/20 and one on 7/26 (from a green turtle) (weekly total = two).

Running (“to date”) totals below. Totals are for all species and numbers in parenthesis are for species other than loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

Bodie Is - To date: 15 nests (1 green)

Hatteras - To date: 28 nests (3 green)

Ocracoke - To date: 23 nests (1 leatherback)

**False Crawls:** Hatteras District had ten false crawls, Ocracoke District had one, and Bodie District had four (one green).

Running (“to date”) totals below.

Bodie Is : To date: 13 false crawls

Hatteras : To date: 49 false crawls

Ocracoke : To date: 23 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none

Hatteras: one green turtle

Ocracoke: none

**Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

No documented activity.

### Other Information

**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 18 active closures including the pre-nesting closures and wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - Eight at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north) (Two full-beach sea turtle expansions – one ORV (S of R 23) and one in the Tri-village area, south of Rodanthe Pier.)
  - One at Green Island
  - Six at Hatteras District (One wintering and migratory bird closure).
  - Three at Ocracoke District (One full-beach turtle nest expansion).

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	10	6	1	16	2	1	0	3
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	10	6*	1	16	2**	1	0	3**

\*5 dogs in resource closures and 1 boat (on Green Island).

\*\*Dogs in resource closures.

**Predator control:**

One red fox was removed by park staff from Bodie Island.

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**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

1 live bottlenose dolphin was euthanized by NOAA staff near Ramp 30 on 7/23.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of July 27 – August 2, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Nest 10: The single surviving chick from this brood continues to forage from the bait pond to the southwest end of Bodie Island Spit. As of 8/2 the chick is 19 days old.

There have been as many as 3 migrants observed foraging at Bodie Island Spit.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest/Brood 9: This chick was observed flying a distance greater than 50 yards on 7/29 and is considered fledged. The fledgling and the adult male continue to be seen foraging in the by-pass Salt Pond area.

Nest/Brood 11: This chick and adult male continues to forage at the large Salt Pond.

There has been no breeding activity observed this week.

**South Beach**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**South Ocracoke**

On 7/30, 38 migrants and on 8/1, 57 migrants were observed foraging at South Point. One banded bird from the Great Lake's population was observed on 8/1 and the leg bands are left tibia metal, left tarsus red, right tibia orange, right tarsus no band (X,R:O,-).

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

39 total nests to date; 0 active; 24 lost; 15 hatched (5 unfledged chicks; 11 fledged chicks)

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 0 active nests /1 hatched nest/ 1 nest lost/2 fledged** – Not surveyed this week.

**Bodie District: 0 active nests/ 4 hatched nests/8 nests lost/3 fledged** – All chicks have fledged.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests/7 hatched nests/6 nests lost/6 fledged** – All chicks have fledged. One fledgling was lost on it's fledge date.

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nest/3 hatched nests/9 nests lost** – There are still two single-chick broods on Ocracoke that are currently 18 and 26 days old. AMOYs fledge at approximately 35+ days.



Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

**Green Island**

No survey conducted this week.

**Bodie Island**

In the vicinity of the Bait Pond at Bodie Island Spit, there were at least 40 incubating LETEs and a minimum of 10 chicks observed.

There is an active colony of LETE 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27. On 7/31 there was at least one LETE incubating and eight fledged chicks as well as 29 adults in the area.

**Ramp 34**

There is no tern activity. The closure was removed on 7/30.

**Cape Point**

There were no nests or chicks observed this week.

**South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

There were two LETE chicks and one pair of courting LETE observed on 8/1.

**South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

No incubating LETEs were observed and at least 19 fledged chicks and 8 unfledged chicks observed on 8/1.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No breeding activity observed this week.

**Ocracoke**

No breeding activity observed this week.

Other Shorebird Sightings/Events

We have been requested by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to document dead shearwaters. We have documented a total of 57 dead shearwaters to date.

Sea Turtles

**Nests:** Hatteras District had one nest on 7/28. Ocracoke District had one nest on 7/28, one on 7/29 and one on 7/31. One may have been a green turtle. Bodie had one nest on 8/2.

Running ("to date") totals below. Totals are for all species and numbers in parenthesis are for species other than loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

Bodie Is - To date: 16 nests (1 green)

Hatteras - To date: 31 nests (4 green)

Ocracoke - To date: 26 nests (1 leatherback, 2 green?)

**False Crawls:** Hatteras District had two false crawls, Ocracoke District had two, one possibly a green.

Running ("to date") totals below.

Bodie Is: To date: 13 false crawls

Hatteras: To date: 51 false crawls

Ocracoke: To date: 24 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: one Kemp's Ridley, one green

Hatteras: none

Ocracoke: two greens

**Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

No documented activity.

**Other Information**

**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 14 active closures including the pre-nesting closures, wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - Five at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north) (Three full-beach turtle nest expansions – two ORV (S of R 23) and one in the Tri-village area, south of Rodanthe Pier.)
  - One at Green Island
  - Five at Hatteras District (one turtle nest expansion).
  - Three at Ocracoke District (One full-beach turtle nest expansion).

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	1	7	2*	0	1	0	1	1	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	1	5	0	0	1	0	1	1	0

\*Two boats landed on the soundside shoreline and 4 individuals observed on the shoreline.

**Predator control:**

Park staff removed one raccoon in Hatteras District.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

No strandings this week.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of Aug 3 – Aug 9, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Nest/Brood 10: The single surviving chick from this brood continues to forage from the bait pond to the southwest end of Bodie Island Spit. On 8/8 the chick was observed making flights of as much as 15 to 30 feet. On 8/9 the chick was 26 days old. According to the USF&WS PIPL Recovery plan, a chick in a recreation area is fledged when it achieves sustained flight for 15 meters (about 45 feet) or reaches 35 days. There have been as many as nine migrant PIPLs this week.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest/Brood 11: The chick and adult male continue to forage at the large Salt Pond. As of 8/9 the chick is 20 days old. There have been at least 11 migrant PIPLs foraging on the Salt Pond this week.

**South Beach**

Two migrant PIPLs were observed in the LETE closure, approximately 1.4 mi west of Ramp 45 on 8/7.

**Hatteras Inlet**

No PIPLs were observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

There was at least one migrant observed on 8/6.

**South Ocracoke**

On 8/5 there were at least 105 migrant PIPLs at South Point. This was up from a daily average of about 50 migrant PIPLs. One banded bird from the Great Lake's population continues to be observed in the area - the leg bands are left tibia metal, left tarsus red, right tibia orange, right tarsus no band (X,R:O,-).

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

39 total nests to date; 0 active nests; 24 nests lost; 15 nests hatched

29 total chicks hatched; 2 unfledged chicks; 16 chicks lost; 11 fledged chicks

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 0 active nests /1 hatched nest/ 1 nest lost/2 fledged** – Not surveyed this week.

**Bodie District: 0 active nests/ 4 hatched nests/8 nests lost/3 fledged** – Breeding activity completed.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests/7 hatched nests/6 nests lost/6 fledged/1 fledgling lost** – Breeding activity completed.

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nest/3 hatched nests/9 nests lost** – There is at least one single-chick brood on Ocracoke that is 32 days old as of 8/9. AMOYs fledge at approximately 35+ days. There may still be another AMOY chick south of Ramp 68. The chick has not been observed since 8/5, but one adult is still acting defensive, as if the chick is still present. The other adult's whereabouts cannot be confirmed. That adult was observed with a foot injury – hopping on one leg – in the last week and was last seen on 8/4. The bird's band also appears to have slipped down over its foot. The chick was also banded on 8/4 and appeared malnourished - possibly due to only one adult being able to forage and provide food.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

**Green Island**

No survey conducted this week.

**Bodie Island**

There were three LETE chicks and incubating LETEs observed on 8/8.

There is an active colony of LETE 0.1 mi S of Ramp 27. On 8/8 there were at least two LETE chicks as well as 19 adults in the resource closure.

**Ramp 34**

Breeding activity is complete.

**Cape Point**

There were no nests or chicks observed this week. Breeding activity appears to be complete.

**South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

There were no LETE chicks or incubating adults observed this week.

**South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

On 8/6 there were at least two LETE nests and on 8/8 there was a single chick still in its nest scrape (<1 day old). There were no unfledged birds in sight and fledgling numbers were greater than 10.

**Hatteras Inlet**

Breeding activity complete.

**Ocracoke**

Breeding activity complete.

Other Shorebird Sightings/Events

We have been requested by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to document dead shearwaters. We have documented a total of 57 dead shearwaters to date. No birds were documented this week.

Sea Beach Amaranth

To date, RM staff has spent approximately 26 total man hours searching historic sites and appropriate habitat for sea beach amaranth and have covered approximately 350 acres and 10 linear miles of beach. No plants have been discovered.

Sea Turtles

**Nests:** Hatteras District had three nests, Bodie District had two nests, and Ocracoke had three nests.

Running (“to date”) totals below. Totals are for all species and numbers in parenthesis are for species other than loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

Bodie Is - To date: 18 nests (1 green)

Hatteras - To date: 34 nests (3 green)

Ocracoke - To date: 29 nests (1 leatherback, 2 green)

Total - To date: 81 nests (1 leatherback, 6 green)

**False Crawls:** Hatteras District had five false crawls (two green), Bodie District had one (green), and Ocracoke had seven.

Running (“to date”) totals below.

Bodie Is: To date: 14 false crawls

Hatteras: To date: 56 false crawls

Ocracoke: To date: 31 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: one loggerhead

Hatteras: two greens

Ocracoke: one green

**Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

No documented activity.

**Other Information**

**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 17 active closures including the pre-nesting closures, wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - Five at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north) (Three full-beach turtle nest expansions – two ORV (S of R 23) and one in the Tri-village area, south of Rodanthe Pier.)
  - One at Green Island
  - Four at Hatteras District (one turtle nest expansion).
  - Seven at Ocracoke District (five turtle nest expansions – two of which are full-beach expansions).

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	3	0	0	11	1	0	2	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	3	0	0	12	2*	1	2	0

\*Dog was caught by RM staff inside the PIPL closure at the Salt Pond. The dog, a golden retriever, was placed in the kennel and turned over to law enforcement staff. Someone also broke eight turtle protection signs near ramp 49 and walked through the closure. The nest did not appear to be damaged.

**Predator control:**

Park staff removed one red fox in Bodie District.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

No strandings this week.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of August 10 – 16, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

**Bodie District**

Nest/Brood 10: The chick has officially fledged as of 8/15 and continues to forage in the mud flats and around the tidal pools at the southern end of Bodie Island Spit. The full-beach resource closure was removed.

There were as many as four migrant PIPLs at Bodie Island Spit this week, including a bird banded there in the winter of 2005.

**Hatteras District**

**Cape Point**

Nest/Brood 11: This chick fledged 8/14 and continues to forage at the Salt Pond.

There have been at least 11 migrant PIPLs foraging on the Salt Pond this week.

**South Beach**

No observations this week

**Hatteras Inlet**

There were three migrant PIPLs observed this week.

**Ocracoke District**

**North Ocracoke**

No observations this week.

**South Ocracoke**

There was a high of at least 41 migrant PIPLs observed during this week.

**PIPL Breeding Summary:**

Of the 11 nests found during the 2007 PIPL breeding season, six nests survived to incubation. Seventeen chicks hatched from those nests. Four chicks survived to fledge. With the fledging of the last two chicks this week, the PIPL breeding season is effectively completed.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY)**

**AMOY Update:** (active = # of nests w/eggs (not hatched); hatched= # of nests w/ chicks)

39 total nests to date; 0 active nests; 24 nests lost; 15 nests hatched

29 total chicks hatched; 0 unfledged chicks; 17 chicks lost; 12 fledged chicks, 2 fledglings lost

**Comments:**

**Green Island: 0 active nests /1 hatched nest/ 1 nest lost/2 fledged** – Not surveyed this week.

**Bodie District: 0 active nests/ 4 hatched nests/8 nests lost/3 fledged** – Breeding activity completed.

**Hatteras District: 0 active nests/7 hatched nests/6 nests lost/6 fledged/2 fledglings lost** – Breeding activity completed.

**Ocracoke District: 0 active nest/3 hatched nests/9 nests lost/1 fledged** – The South Point chick has fully fledged and the other chick near Ramp 68 was determined to be lost this week. Breeding activity on Ocracoke is now complete.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)

**Area of colony establishment and estimated number/species of birds (LETE=Least Tern, GBTE=Gull-billed Tern, COTE=Common Tern, BLSK=Black Skimmer )**

**Green Island**

No survey conducted this week.

**Bodie Island**

Breeding activity is complete and the LETE resource closure just south of Ramp 27 has been removed.

**Ramp 34**

Breeding activity is complete.

**Cape Point**

Breeding activity is complete.

**South Beach: Salt Pond-Ramp 45**

Breeding activity is complete.

**South Beach: 1.8 NE of Ramp 49**

The remaining LETE chick was lost to predation this week. Breeding activity is complete and the resource closure has been removed.

**Hatteras Inlet**

Breeding activity complete.

**Ocracoke**

Breeding activity complete.

Other Shorebird Sightings/Events

We have been requested by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to document dead shearwaters. We have documented a total of 57 dead shearwaters to date. No birds were documented this week.

Sea Beach Amaranth

To date, RM staff has spent a total of approximately 50 man hours searching historic sites and appropriate habitat for sea beach amaranth and have covered approximately 1,100 acres and more than 20 linear miles of beach. No plants have been discovered.

Sea Turtles

**New nests during reporting period:** Hatteras District had two nests, Bodie and Ocracoke Districts had no new nests.

**Running (“to date”) totals below.** Totals are for all species and numbers in parenthesis are for species other than loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

Bodie Is: To date: 2 nests

Bodie/Hatteras\*: To date: 16 nests (1 green)

Hatteras - To date: 36 nests (4 green)

Ocracoke - To date: 29 nests (1 leatherback, 2 green)

Total - To date: 83 nests (1 leatherback, 7 green)

**Nest hatchings this week:**Bodie Is : 0 nestsBodie/Hatteras\*: 4 nests (0 green)Hatteras : 3 nests (0 green)Ocracoke: 1 nest (0 leatherback, 0 green)

Total - 8 nests (0 leatherback, 0 green)

\*The Bodie/Hatteras District extends from Pea Island to Ramp 30.

**False Crawls:** Hatteras District and Bodie District had none and Ocracoke had four.

Running (“to date”) totals below.

Bodie Is : To date: 14 false crawlsHatteras : To date: 56 false crawlsOcracoke : To date: 35 false crawls**Strandings** (this week only):Bodie Is: noneHatteras: noneOcracoke: none**Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

No documented activity.

**Other Information****Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 21 active closures including the wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures.
  - Four at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north) (three turtle nest expansions – two of which are full-beach closures.)
  - One at Green Island
  - Seven at Hatteras District (six turtle nest expansions – four of which are full-beach closures).
  - Nine at Ocracoke District (eight turtle nest expansions – three of which are full-beach closures).

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	3	0	0	10	0	1	3	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	3	0	1	10	0	1	3	0

**Predator control:**

Park staff removed one raccoon from Hatteras District.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

No strandings this week.



**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of August 17 – 23, 2007**

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

Efforts were continued to initiate the wintering and migratory shorebird protocol which focuses on PIPL. The current protocol is still in draft form and may be modified and finalized in October 2007. At the time of this report, staff involved in directing this effort were unavailable. Consequently, observations below may not reflect the full observations made during the week. Available observations are as follows.

**Bodie District**

There were at least migrant 3 PIPLs at Bodie Island Spit this week.

**Ocracoke District**

There were no observations on North Ocracoke this week. On South Ocracoke, there was a high of at least 47 migrant PIPLs observed during this week.

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY) and Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)**

Breeding activities are complete for AMOY and CWB. No more observations will be reported this summer.

**Sea Beach Amaranth**

To date, RM staff has spent a total of approximately 50 man hours searching historic sites and appropriate habitat for sea beach amaranth and have covered approximately 1,100 acres and more than 20 linear miles of beach. No plants have been discovered.

**Sea Turtles**

**New nests during reporting period:** Hatteras District had two nests, Bodie and Ocracoke Districts had one new nest each.

**Running (“to date”) totals below.** Totals are for all species and numbers in parentheses are for species other than loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

Bodie Is : To date: 2 nests

Bodie/Hatteras\*: To date: 17 nests (2 green)

Hatteras - To date: 37 nests (5 green)

Ocracoke - To date: 30 nests (1 leatherback, 3 green)

Total - To date: 86 nests (1 leatherback, 7 green)

**Nest hatchings this week:** 4 nests in the Bodie district continued to hatch and were excavated this week, the closures were removed. 3 nests in the Hatteras district starting hatching this week, while the 3 from last week continued to hatch. 5 of those were excavated and closures removed. 2 nests in Ocracoke District hatched, were excavated and closures removed this week.

**Running (“to date”) totals below.**

Bodie Is : 0 nests

Bodie/Hatteras\*: 4 nests (0 green)

Hatteras : 6 nests (0 green)

Ocracoke: 3 nests (0 leatherback, 0 green)

Total - 13 nests (0 leatherback, 0 green)

\*The Bodie / Hatteras District extends from Pea Island to Ramp 30.

**False Crawls:** Hatteras District had 3, Bodie District had none, and Ocracoke had 1.

**Running (“to date”) totals below.**

Bodie Is: To date: 14 false crawls

Hatteras: To date: 59 false crawls

Ocracoke: To date: 37 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: 1 loggerhead

Hatteras: 1 loggerhead

Ocracoke: none

**Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

No documented activity.

**Other Information**

**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 21 active closures including the wintering and migratory foraging areas, and sea turtle hatching closures, one of which is a full-beach closure.
  - Two at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north) (One turtle nest)
  - One at Green Island
  - Nine at Hatteras District (six turtle nest expansions – One of which is a full-beach closure).
  - Nine at Ocracoke District (eight turtle nest expansions)

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	0	1 (dog)	0	10	0	0	2	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	0	0	1	0	31	0	0	2	0

**Predator control:**

All traps are currently closed.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

No strandings this week.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore  
Resource Management Field Summary  
Week of August 24 – 30, 2007**

**\*\*\*Please Note: This is the final Resource Management Field Summary  
of the 2007 nesting season\*\*\***

**Piping Plovers (PIPL)**

Efforts were continued to initiate the wintering and migratory shorebird protocol which focuses on PIPL. The current protocol is still in draft form and may be modified and finalized in October 2007.

**Bodie District**

There were at least six migrant PIPLs at Bodie Island Spit this week.

**Ocracoke District**

There was a single PIPL observed on North Ocracoke this week. On South Ocracoke, there was a high of at least 48 migrant PIPLs observed during the week.

**Hatteras District**

There were at least five migrant PIPLs observed this week (one on South Beach and four on the Salt Pond).

**American Oystercatchers (AMOY) and Colonial Waterbirds (CWB)**

Breeding activities are complete for AMOY and CWB. No more observations will be reported this summer.

**Sea Beach Amaranth**

To date, RM staff has spent a total of approximately 50 man hours searching historic sites and appropriate habitat for sea beach amaranth and have covered approximately 1,100 acres and more than 20 linear miles of beach. No plants have been discovered. A second round of surveys is to begin next week.

**Sea Turtles**

**New nests during reporting period:** No new nests during this period.

**Running (“to date”) totals for nests below.** Totals are for all species and numbers in parentheses are for species other than loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

Bodie Is: To date: 2 nests

Bodie/Hatteras\*: To date: 17 nests (2 green)

Hatteras - To date: 37 nests (5 green)

Ocracoke - To date: 30 nests (1 leatherback, 3 green)

Total - To date: 86 nests (1 leatherback, 10 green)

**Hatching events this week:** There was no hatching activity in the Bodie District this week. 5 nests hatched in the Hatteras district this week, 2 had begun hatching during the last reporting period. 4 of these were excavated and the closures were removed. 2 nests in Ocracoke District hatched, 1 was excavated and the closure was removed.

**Running (“to date”) totals for hatching events below.**

Bodie Is: 0 nests

Bodie/Hatteras\*: 4 nests (0 green)

Hatteras: 10 nests (0 green)

Ocracoke: 7 nests (0 leatherback, 0 green)  
 Total - 21 nests (0 leatherback, 0 green)

\*The Bodie/Hatteras District extends from Pea Island to Ramp 30.

**False Crawls:** There were no false crawls this week.

**Running (“to date”) totals below.**

Bodie Is: To date: 14 false crawls  
Hatteras: To date: 59 false crawls  
Ocracoke: To date: 37 false crawls  
Total: To date: 110 false crawls

**Strandings** (this week only):

Bodie Is: none  
Hatteras: none  
Ocracoke: 2 greens, 1 loggerhead

**Leatherback Turtle Nest status:**

No documented activity.

**Note:** During the excavation of nest NO2 on Ocracoke, approximately 70% of the eggs were infected by an unknown fungus or bacteria. All the infected eggs had bright pink egg yolks. The nest was excavated because it was at the end of its hatching window and had not hatched. North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission is being consulted on the implications of this situation.

**Other Information**

**Closures Status:**

- Currently there are 26 active closures; 2 of which are full-beach closures.
  - Seven at Bodie District (Ramp 30 and north) (six turtle nest expansions – one of which is a full-beach closure)
  - One at Green Island
  - Nine at Hatteras District (six turtle nest expansions – one of which is a full-beach closure with access behind the next via the bypass road)
  - Nine at Ocracoke District (eight turtle nest expansions)

**Resource closure violations during report period:**

Violation type	Bodie Island			Hatteras			Ocracoke		
	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other	ORV	Ped	Other
<b>Bird closure</b>	0	4*	1*	0	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Turtle closure</b>	0	2	0	2	70**	0	0	0	0
Weekly Totals	0	6	1	2	70	0	0	1	0

\*Dog tracks in resource closure and four individuals entered a closure, removed pallets placed for LETEs and burned them – also in violation of Dare County burn ban.

\*\*A volunteer nest sitter reported 20 people entered turtle expansion closure with flashlights. Forty other individuals walked through the same nest expansion (Hatteras Village) while staff was observing. Approximately 10 individuals entered another turtle nest expansion.

**Predator control:**

There are active efforts to trap fox in the Bodie District, nothing was trapped this week.

**Marine Mammal Strandings:**

No strandings this week.