

From: [Larry Hardham](#)
To: [pfield@cbuilding.org](#); [allend@coastalnet.com](#); [cahabusinessallies@embarqmail.com](#); [camerons@coastalnet.com](#); [ccboucher@cox.net](#); [Cyndy Holda@nps.gov](#); [Darrell Echols@nps.gov](#); [davandme@embarqmail.com](#); [david_rabon@fws.gov](#); [hardhead@embarqmail.com](#); [jrylander@defenders.org](#); [Mike Murray@nps.gov](#); [cmheritage@mac.com](#); [rcf@fisherccs.com](#); [Sandra Hamilton@nps.gov](#); [Thayer Broili@nps.gov](#); [wgolder@audubon.org](#)
Subject: Fw: Turtle Regulations
Date: 11/23/2008 04:33 PM

Bob Davis has requested that I forward this to all committee members.

Larry

----- Original Message -----

From: [Ackleybc@aol.com](#)
To: [Allenb@cc.dare.nc.us](#); [DAVANDME@earthlink.net](#); [avon_viking@yahoo.com](#); [BasicPatrick@aol.com](#); [bobeakes@aginet.com](#); [cahabusinessallies@embarqmail.com](#); [ccboucher@cox.net](#); [chris.salp@gmail.com](#); [dagwerksobx@yahoo.com](#); [davisrb@embarqmail.com](#); [dheel@bigfoot.com](#); [djoyner@beldar.com](#); [dr.mike.berry@verizon.net](#); [ffff1@mindspring.com](#); [guitarcouch@earthlink.net](#); [hardhead@embarqmail.com](#); [jkeene@franklineq.com](#); [johnalley@earthlink.net](#); [leew@darenc.com](#); [lylep@charter.net](#); [matt@realkiteboarding.com](#); [obxblondie@aol.com](#); [basicpatrick@aol.com](#); [pdoerr@asafishing.org](#); [ronamsa126@yahoo.com](#); [royatteachs@earthlink.net](#); [avon_viking@yahoo.com](#); [sara.winslow@ncmail.net](#); [scottl@outerbeaches.com](#); [trip@realkiteboarding.com](#); [warrenj@co.dare.nc.us](#); [outten@darenc.com](#); [reddrum@adelphia.net](#); [ronamsa126@yahoo.com](#); [scottl@outerbeaches.com](#); [SONNYDUKE@aol.com](#); [tedsalvo@earthlink.net](#); [trip@realkiteboarding.com](#); [warrenj@co.dare.nc.us](#); [jimandginny@scentarticles.com](#); [longcaster@charter.net](#)
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2008 12:58 PM
Subject: Fwd: Turtle Regulations

From: Ackleybc
To: [mike_murray@nps.gov](#)
CC: [oferguson@cbuilding.org](#), [ccboucher@cox.net](#), [warren@darenc.com](#), [hardhead@embarqmail.com](#), [davisrb@embarqmail.com](#)
Sent: 11/21/2008 12:56:12 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
Subj: Turtle Regulations

Dear Mike,

TURTLE REGULATIONS

Two turtle issues have emerged from the November meeting which need to be ressed.

1. Non-natural hatchlings exhibit lack of vigor and vitality.
2. Need for a night driving ban to prevent "missed turtle nests". Both NCWRC and USFWS claimed that CAHA turtle patrols miss 5-10% of the nests laid. However Britta Muiznieks reported only one nest of 112 this year which is less that 1%. Reviews of CAHA and Pea Island historical data should clarify this issue. It has become obvious that NCWRC and F&WS no longer serve as committee advisors but are staunch supporters of

the unjustified night driving ban and join the Dark Side in putting forth opinions and hypotheses instead of science.

Sandra MacPherson presented very little information to guide this committee other than a “Mother Nature knows best” mantra. The committee needs a crash course on turtle programs. I therefore request presentations to the full committee from:

1. Back Bay Refuge – John Gallegos
2. Pea Island Refuge – Dennis Steward
3. Padre Island N.S. – Donna Shaver or Darrell Echols

These organizations have large differences in programs. Many of their lessons can be applied here in CAHA.

- a. Beach conditions and ORV usage
- b. Volunteer programs
- c. Turtle patrol
- d. Relocation procedures and equipment
- e. Predator control
- f. Success: quality and quantity

Personal presentations would be preferred with examples of cages, protective fencing, predator control, hatch release techniques, data forms, and personnel training requirements.

Michelle Bogartes should also address the committee as to our past and future programs for management compared to these other locations.

The easiest field data that can be gathered is the number of eggs laid on our beaches and the number of hatchlings that enter the water. Our past programs have never determined the hatchling beach survival data. Incubation temperatures can provide estimates for sex ratios but requires further investment of equipment and manpower. If our goal is to increase nest laying in CAHA we need to increase the number of female hatchlings into our waters.

With regard to night driving, I would propose a positive program as part of the Permit System. In order to drive at night the permit holder would be required to carry a functioning cell phone and turtle flag. Upon discovering a turtle, crawl, or nest, the permit holder would call a turtle watch hotline and place the flag along side of the highest portion of the crawl. Part of the permit process would include education on turtle nesting and flag placement. Flags would be the inexpensive wire and plastic used by surveyors and utilities and stamped with a turtle icon.

Night driving should be encouraged to reduce the ghost crab predation and serve as additional eyes on the beach to capture more turtle events. Any increase in public participation for resource protection would certainly be more desirable than the escalating antagonism fostered by DOI/NPS management.

Sincerely,

Bob Davis

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