

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Resource Management Field Summary for April 8 – April 14, 2010
(Bodie, Hatteras and Ocracoke Districts)**

Piping Plover (PIPL) Observations:

Observations	Thurs 4/8	Fri 4/9	Sat 4/10	Sun 4/11	Mon 4/12	Tues 4/13	Weds 4/14
Oregon Inlet	3	0	1	2	5	0	0
Cape Point	2	0	5	4	10	9	4
South Beach	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hatteras Inlet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hatteras Overwash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. Ocracoke	4	0	8	1	0	5	4
S. Ocracoke	3	2	10	2	0	6	3

Bodie District:

Bodie Island: Up to five PIPLs have been observed. All have been observed foraging near the Bait Pond within the Bodie Island pre-nesting closure. No breeding activity was observed.

Bodie/Hatteras (Rodanthe to Ramp 30): No PIPLs have been observed.

Hatteras District:

Cape Point: Up to ten PIPLs have been observed at one time. On 4/13 a monitor observed behaviors indicating the potential for a nest being on the ground and a walk-through led to the discovery of the first nest of the year, the earliest documented nest for the seashore. Multiple instances of territorial and breeding behaviors continue to be observed and it appears there may be at least five additional scrape territories, but the exact number of breeding pairs cannot yet be established.

South Beach: On 4/14 one PIPL was observed foraging 2.3 miles E of Ramp 49. PIPL scrapes were documented on 4/11.

Hatteras Overwash/Hatteras Inlet: No PIPLs have been observed.

Other Beaches: On 4/11 a lone PIPL was observed foraging along the shoreline of Sandy Bay within the mid-section of the Sandy Bay closure.

Ocracoke District:

North Ocracoke: Up to eight PIPLs have been observed foraging and/or roosting.

South Point: Up to ten PIPLs have been observed along the oceanside and inlet shorelines, as well as within the mudflats. Territorial displays have been observed and scrapes within the pre-nesting area have been documented. The number of breeding pairs has not yet been established.

PIPL Breeding Summary:

Total Nests to Date	Active Nests	Total Nests Hatched	Total Nests Lost	Total Eggs Hatched	Unfledged Chicks	Lost Chicks	Fledged Chicks
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Nests/Expected hatch dates:

Nest 1 – Cape Point. This nest was discovered as a single-egg nest on 4/13. If a complete clutch is achieved and incubation is initiated, hatching should occur on or near 5/14.

WIPL Update:

Ocracoke District: Wilson’s plovers have been observed on South Point within the pre-nesting closure. No breeding behavior or territorial displays have been noted.

American Oystercatchers (AMOY):

2010 Breeding Pairs:

Bodie District:

- Green Island: Both AMOY pairs from 2009 have returned. Two AMOY scrapes were found on 4/10, one on the south end and one on the north end.
- Bodie Island: Two of four breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. One AMOY scrape was found outside of the pre-nest closure on the Bait Pond point on 4/10. One pair has not been observed since 4/5.
- Bodie/Hatteras District (Rodanthe to Ramp 30): Three of four breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. One pair is on territory and scrapes were documented on 4/10 and 4/13. One pair has not been observed since 3/31 and another pair has not been observed since 4/6.

Hatteras District: Nine of nine breeding pairs from 2009 have returned, but one pair has not been observed for more than a month. Eleven pairs have been documented with scrapes documented for ten of these pairs.

Ocracoke District: Four of four breeding pairs from 2009 have returned. Breeding behavior from two of these pairs has been observed. This week new scrapes were found for both pairs, resulting in one new closure and the expansion of an existing closure. The other two pairs continue to be observed.

Colonial Waterbirds (CWB):

- Bodie District:** No activity observed.
- Hatteras District:** No activity observed.
- Ocracoke District:** No activity observed.

Sea turtle nests: None

Sea Turtle Strandings:

Bodie District:

- 4/13- Loggerhead sea turtle was found dead 1.2 mi N of Rodanthe Pier.
- 4/14- Loggerhead sea turtle was found dead 1 mi N of Avon Pier.

Marine Mammals:

Several seals have been observed on the Seashore, particularly north of Buxton.

Bodie District:

- 4/10- A live male harbor porpoise was found 0.2 mi S of Ramp 2. The animal had been pushed back in by a visitor, but re-stranded soon afterward. Due to the animal’s poor condition, it was euthanized under the guidance of NC State Veterinary School and NOAA. A necropsy was conducted.

Hatteras District:

- 4/10 – A severely decomposed, male common dolphin was found on the soundside of Hatteras Spit.
- 4/12 – A dead, male neonate bottlenose dolphin was located 0.6 mi SW of Ramp 49 near Frisco Village.
- 4/13 – A harbor seal was found dead at Ramp 34 north of Avon.
- 4/13 – A severely decomposed, male common dolphin was found on the south end of Sandy Bay Day Use Area (soundside).

Ocracoke District:

- 4/13 – A dead, neonate bottlenose dolphin was found 2 mi. SW of Ramp 72 on Ocracoke Island.

Closures – additions/modifications/removals:

Closure #	Location	Species	Date Installed
Bodie District			
BI10-001A	Small point on S end of bait pond	AMOY	4/10/2010
Hatteras District			
HI10-008	1.7 S of Ramp 38	AMOY	4/11/2010
HI10-009	1.5 mi S of Ramp 30	AMOY	4/12/2010
HI10-003-A	1.1 SW of Ramp 55	AMOY	4/13/2010
HI10-002-E	2.1 mi E of Ramp 49	AMOY	4/13/2010
HI10-009-A	1.3 mi S of Ramp 30	AMOY	4/13/2010

HI10-002-F	2.1 mi E of Ramp49	AMOY	4/14/2009
Ocracoke District			
OI10-005	0.4 miles S. of Ramp 59	AMOY	4/11/2010
OI10-003-B	1.6 miles NE of Ramp 70	AMOY	4/13/2010

Closure intrusions

Bodie District:

4/8 – One set of dog and pedestrian tracks were observed within the Bodie Island pre-nesting closure. The tracks extended ~10 meters within the closure.

4/11 – One set of dog and pedestrian tracks were observed within the Bodie Island pre-nesting closure. The tracks extended ~10 meters within the closure.

4/12 - One set of pedestrian tracks were observed within the Bodie Island pre-nesting closure. The tracks extended for ~60 meters towards the big dunes before the individual turned around and exited the closure.

Hatteras District:

None observed.

Ocracoke District:

4/13 – A pedestrian walking a dog off-leash was found in the South Point pre-nesting closure. The man was contacted and left the area. The man reported that he had walked beneath the string and flagging and had not read the signs. The incident was reported to law enforcement.