

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Oct 15, 2010 | dna results

the DNA reports are now available on sea turtle.org. the results will blow your mind

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Oct 15, 2010 | sad surprise

season has officially ended nest 108 was inventoried this morning. Surprise was that 2 eggs had hatched so two turtles made it out. feared that this nest was a total dud after being washed over so much.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 27, 2010 | nest 111

nest 111 inventoried today 80 hatched 3 unhatched 13 dead in nest 1 live possibly last baby of the season . after few swimming lessons he/ she finally swam away

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 23, 2010 | pip and a boil and a rescue

after seeing nest 111 had pipped this morning small pipping. when checked this afternoon after work it was a big pip. decided to come back around 8 to see a boil. should've come at 7:45 cuz just saw the tell end of the boil but was able to put fear into raccoon who thought he had an easy supper. all turtles made it to the water. inventory for nest 111 set for monday

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 22, 2010 | wed update

no activity today just inventory nest 109 76 hatched 18 unhatched 3 live ones

By: Diane | Date: Sep 21, 2010 |

Looks like we may have some interlopers who think it's funny to report erroneous data. Dears, if you don't know what you're talking about, you just sound like idiots.  
(note from webwitch: posts deleted. Cyndi)

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 20, 2010 | update for sun and monday

nest 109 zone 3 hatched sun . inventory set for this wed.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 18, 2010 | update 9/18

no activity friday  
on sat nest 106 and nest 66 in zone 3 were inventoried. no nest emergence for sat .  
2 nests left 109 111 both zone 3

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 16, 2010 | update

no activity today on a thursday

By: Bonnie | Date: Sep 15, 2010 | 5 Visitors join Wednesday's Team

It was a pleasure to have four Georgia visitors and one New Yorker accompany the Wednesday team with nest monitoring and inventory of Nest#105 in Zone 3. All were delighted that we had 85 hatched and only 5 unhatched eggs out of the 90 total.  
GA & NY gals....we welcome a return visit next turtle season.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 14, 2010 | tues 9/14

nest 106 zone 3 hatched

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 13, 2010 | nuda monday

no activity on a monday

By: Diane | Date: Sep 12, 2010 | It may have been a stampede

Thanks for checking my instincts, Buddy. No tracks because of the rain but lots of evidence of herd-like movement at 105.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 12, 2010 | nest 105

nest 105 zone 3 hatched . sharp eyes of volunteers saw evidence of emergence.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 11, 2010 | update for 9 10 and 11 sept

9 inventory of 3 nests

nest 102 zone 5 103 hatched 13 did not.

nest 48 had good hatching but we missed it also had some decaying problems. bad for nest really bad for people who inventoried it . it was 81 days old.

nest 46 was a washout nest . but by relocating it (after wash out ) one turtle survived hatched an emerged.  
10 and 11 was just walks on the beach no activity

By: Gretchen | Date: Sep 8, 2010 |

Annette Marchetti, Dick Geier and I inventoried Nest #103 in Zone 1. 84 hatched, 11 eggs not hatched + 1 little guy who we set free. He was escorted by Jordan, a visitor from the campground. She made sure no seagulls or raccoons came near - thanks for your help!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 7, 2010 | leather back nest results

inventory of nest 101 zone 1 today.

77 hatched 3 unhatched 0 live 0 dead.

leatherback nest inventoried tonite 7 pm.

all 81 eggs did not hatch. Gretchen Cole from DNR thinks they may have been unfertilized. leatherback

specially new moms go thru the whole nesting process before they do mating like a dry run, sort of practice lay.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 6, 2010 | nada nuttin

nothing today

By: Nick Norris | Date: Sep 6, 2010 | Quit Smoking Today

My sons and I went to the park to feed the ducks, and there was a family of turtles eating all of the bread we were throwing in the lake. It was rpetty funny considering the turtles got more bread than the ducks. It was great!

By: Diane | Date: Sep 5, 2010 | Lord and Ladies of the Flies

We had plenty of volunteer helpers Sunday a.m. By the time Sara and I got done with our task of checking for activity on section 3, all 4 nests had been inventoried. A good thing, too, as biting flies decided we were the best thing on the beach and attacked us by the hundreds. We were covered in them. We trekked back in the water as much as possible just to keep them from biting our feet.

By: Bonnie | Date: Sep 5, 2010 | Sunday partial report

Helped Sunday's team with nest monitoring today. Hooray! Nest #103 in Zone 1 boiled last night at high tide. By the look of tracks all babies had a short distance to the sea.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 4, 2010 | fri sat update

no hatching friday but two inventorys.  
sat nest 101 in zone 1 hatched.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 2, 2010 | good news ,bad news

nests 98 93 94 zone 3 hatched  
nest 96 zone 4 hatched  
nest 100 zone 6 hatched

96 was attacked by raccoons , good news is all but one turtle was already gone . so coons just got rotten eggs. one turtle(left in bottom of nest) watched to the water swarm off to greet Earl.

Earl pushed high waves over many nests, at least 6 nests washed over .we will have to wait to see if the nests survived.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Sep 1, 2010 | double sevens

97 and 87 both hatched. 97 was a boil

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 31, 2010 | early riser

nest 90 had one turtle emerge made it to the sea .

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 30, 2010 | weekend and mon happening

no activity on monday nest 82 boiled after several came out on sat morning.  
on sunday nest 89 an 74 hatched.

Thanks Jim for all your help . extra set eyes helps on the beach, especially this time of year.

By: Diane | Date: Aug 29, 2010 | Still heading to sea

Section 3, we found two hatchling tracks headed to the sea from nest 74 and 97 has pipped, but no sign of emergence.

By: Jim Davidson | Date: Aug 27, 2010 |

I would just like to thank everyone for the welcome and for including me so generously in turtle patrol. I had a wonderful experience and hope to be able to come back some day and join you again.

Jim

By: Karen M | Date: Aug 26, 2010 | Inventory of Nest 73

Jane Ann, Karen, and I inventoried nest 73 today. It was an in situ nest with 118 total eggs - 112 hatched and 6 unhatched and one live baby in the nest. Our sabbatical visitor Jim watched over the little guy as he safely made his way to the water.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 25, 2010 | hatching day

nests hatching today

75 zone 3

79 zone 4

81 zone 4

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 24, 2010 | two more hit beach go for the water

nest 70 , nest 63 both hatched

By: Diane | Date: Aug 24, 2010 | only 10 off

Karen corrected me on the Sunday boil; it was nest 61, not 71. My walkie-talkie hearing wasn't, I guess.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 24, 2010 | monday report on tues a.m.

nests 73,80, and 54 hatched

By: Diane | Date: Aug 22, 2010 | Babes on the beach

The folks who took the south end of 4 got a treat this morning. 71 was in full boil at 7 a.m. and they guarded at least 100 babies to the water. In the meantime, Sara and I worked our way through the bolts and cage on 51 to inventory. Of 79 eggs all but 13 hatched--no live or dead babies in the nest.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 21, 2010 |

nest 68 hatched

Im happy the Burton family got to see a hatchling . Thanks for doing the right thing an let the hatchling crawl to the water on its own. what great memory.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 20, 2010 | zone 6 hatching

nest 64 in zone 6 hatched well boiled to be exact. lots of tracks no dead babies

By: Burton Family | Date: Aug 20, 2010 | Nests 63 and 71 hatched

Nest 63 hatched 8-18, just missed it at 4:30am. Nest 71 hatched before we got there 8-19, 5:30am. However, one lone turtle remained for us to gaze in amazement as he crawled out to sea. Our girls crawled along and sang Happy Birthday. We named it Metto.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 19, 2010 | a hatching we will go

nest 59,71 and 51 hatched

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 18, 2010 | nada,nuttin

no activity today :(  
but inventory program went well . but no live hatchlings.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 17, 2010 |

nest 47 hatched

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 16, 2010 |

nest 52 hatched

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 15, 2010 | update clarification

no leatherback nest has not hatched . it was nest 49 hatched fri night. caused the confusion. nest 45 zone 3 hatched on sun

By: Diane | Date: Aug 15, 2010 | All's Quiet

Small crew Sunday morning but no crawls all week, so a guess folks decided to sleep in. No activity on our part of the beach and we didn't hear of any before we left. One of our Sunday crew said the leatherback nest may have hatched a few days ago. Any verification?

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 14, 2010 | better late then never for a update

fri nests 57, 43 hatched  
sat nests 49, 58 hatched

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 12, 2010 | life always finds a way

nest 108 was inventoried. if any recalls nest 108 was washed out. not washed over like these recent nests. this nest was plowed over, cage was knocked 15 ft behind nest. 6 to 8 inches of sand was swept off the beach around the nest. after much probing an GPS we found relocate the nest. no clear sign of emergence . so after 80 days we inventoried . 109 eggs unhatched 1 egg hatched . so one turtle survived an made it out of nest an to the water. also nest 63 hatched

By: Diane | Date: Aug 12, 2010 | Ducks limited

Lolita and Vicki Anne, Charleston has a rubber duck race for charity in June, so I imagine your ducks have drifted from there. Rubby Ducky, your the one...♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

By: Lolita | Date: Aug 12, 2010 | nesting ducks???

Vicki, you found my rubber ducky!! Just kidding..I think we found one last year...wonder if it's a season migrational episode?? the high tides are certainly causing havoc BUT the good thing is, the babies that do make it, SOMETIMES don't have so far to crawl...thanks for all you do to help get the message out that a clean beach is next to godliness!!  
So are we still at 111 nests???

By: Vicki Anne Nestor | Date: Aug 12, 2010 | Litter Control Director

I, Vicki Anne, found a yellow rubber duckie in zone two today. It was behind all the beautiful downed trees between the bathhouse and the cut. It pays to pick up trash. Also, thank you turtle volunteers for all the trash you have picked up this season. The beach looks wonderful. Thank you for all your efforts.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 11, 2010 | nest 41

nest 41 had hatched , but wind hid the hatching. raccoon decided to inventory nest for us, but forgot to tell us the results. perhaps they were too upset cuz didnt get any hatchlings.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 10, 2010 | better word from me then none at all

nest 50 hatched no other activity

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 9, 2010 | close call

just got back from beach nest 38 hatched right before waves hit it . babies got out didnt have far to go to water.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 9, 2010 | one two punch of moon and wind

nest 84 was completely lost last nite. washed away . monday team relocated 4 nests that had been washing away. nests were taken up to zone one next to nest 62.these nests may already be "lost" but atleast they have a chance, no matter how slim. storms and high tide are a part of nature. sea turtle have been dealing with for millions of years. this is why they lay so many nests. hopefully higher tides will recede before we lose anymore nests.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 8, 2010 | nest 39 zone 2

nest 39 got washed away . found the eggs an relocated them to zone one . nest to where nest 25 was.

By: Diane | Date: Aug 8, 2010 | A stroll on the beach

Nothing much going on for the Sunday crew. We're not used to a simple stroll down the beach. Nest 57 on section 4 has started to pip. Cyndi found one nest on 2, south of the cut, washed out, but I couldn't hear which one.

Found a couple Southern Moon jellies washed up on shore along with others. Tide was high and lots of surfers.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 7, 2010 | nest 37 hatches

nest 37 hatched that is the nest located on the inlet side of the lagoon in zone 6 . all hatchlings appear to have made it to the water.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 6, 2010 | turtles a poppin

nests 33,32,36 hatched in zone 4  
nest 29 zone 3

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 5, 2010 | better add 111

nest 111 in zone 3 today

By: lolita | Date: Aug 5, 2010 | updated #s

Thanks for all the good data, you guys..can someone update the daily chart to 110?

By: Karen M | Date: Aug 5, 2010 | Inventory for Nest 25

Karen, Theresa, Vicki Ann and I inventoried nest 25 in zone 1 this morning. Total of 111 eggs - 9 unhatched, 102 hatched, and 1 dead baby in the nest - a good hatch! Thanks to the gentleman on sabbatical who has been walking with us these past weeks and helped us count the eggs (sorry I didn't get his first name. We also had a couple of false crawls - 1 in zone 3 and 1 in zone 5 or 6? So they are still out there...

By: Diane | Date: Aug 5, 2010 | Raccoon rage

Thanks, Buddy. Good to know the raccoon didn't get anything of value (but the cage).

By: turtlebuddy | Date: Aug 4, 2010 | questions questions and answers answers

stranded green was a female classified as a juvenile. may guess is if she was human she be comparable to a 13 15 y.o. . nest 20 hatched all baby got to water . raccoon missed his supper / breakfast. made raccoon very mad he took out on cage. pissed off raccoon is a determine raccoon. worked at cage many places till he found a weak weld in wire . got half body into cage and destroyed all eggshells an any unhatched eggs. so at inventory nothin but torn tiny pieces. but no dead hatchlings so he left pissed off

By: Reed & Anne | Date: Aug 4, 2010 |

any news on the DNA of nest # 86 ? Buddy, how about the inventory we talked about ? Thanks

By: Diane | Date: Aug 4, 2010 | Nest 20 questions

So what happened with nest 20? Did the raccoons/foxes get through the cage? Had we removed the cage because we'd seen baby tracks and the critters got in later?

By: Gretchen | Date: Aug 4, 2010 |

No crawls or nests today, but two inventories. Nest #28 in Zone 3 yielded 62 hatchlings & 53 unhatched. Nest #20 in Zone 4 was destroyed by raccoons and fox, so no count could be taken. Nest #34 in Zone 3 hatched last night; tracks were seen and 3 dead babies were at the high tide mark.

By: Abby | Date: Aug 4, 2010 |

What was the results of the autopsy of the green turtle found in Zone 5?

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Aug 2, 2010 | not singing yet

two more non nesting emergence(false crawl) zone 4 and zone 3 .

By: Carol Welch | Date: Aug 2, 2010 |

Just a note of interest. According to Sunday's team notes, they found #19 on 6/6 and noted that the nest



appeared to be "Stumpy's" nest. They were also fortunate enough to inventory that same nest on 8/1, and found a hatchling with underdeveloped or deformed flippers. Maybe he or she will make it just like their Mama Stumpy did! This is interesting stuff, huh?

By: Diane | Date: Aug 2, 2010 | Double Duty

Found out from Karen M this a.m. that Thursday's team started to inventory nest 19 but found 8 live babies, so they removed some clearly non-viable eggs and 2 bodies and re-covered the nest for us to inventory Sunday. Not a 100 percent hatch rate after all.

By: Diane | Date: Aug 1, 2010 | Good news/bad news

We inventoried nest 19 this morning. Didn't find a single unhatched egg! 2 dead babies and 1 barely live little hatchling with a couple of flippers that didn't want to work. Tried putting it in soft sand, hard sand and tide. The flippers worked better in the water, so Cyndi took it beyond the breakers and we'll keep our fingers crossed. Boy scouts gave us a round of applause for our efforts.

Nest 110 today, but all the eggs were lost to raccoons.

By: MaryAnn | Date: Jul 31, 2010 |

This morning there was a false crawl in zone 5; also, nest 24 hatched. We were able to witness 10 of those babies coming out of the nest and slowly make their way to the water. It was a very long crawl for them, but they made it as some of the team deprived the birds of a meal.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 30, 2010 | fri July 30

nest 109 in zone 3

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 29, 2010 | fat turtle still aint singing

5 ya 5 false (non nesting emergences) today.

2 in zone 5

1 zone 1

2 zone 4

By: Bonnie | Date: Jul 28, 2010 | Stormy Wednesday

Storm passed just before morning patrol. Nice breeze and comfortable temp No new nests this morning. Nest#17 in zone 3 hatched. Saturday's team to inventory #17 & Nest#3. All teams stay alert to fox activity in and around South Beach.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 26, 2010 | nature handled it 2

still have not located the wild nest in zone 1/2. ghost crab hole just had ghost crab ( big, now pissed off) and his turkey neck dinner. monday zone 1/2 team searched but found no evidence of tracks or nest. babies may have come from nest 25 . its been very windy an tracks may have been erased. but Roberta's point

was right on . I found a wild nest in 6 on sun morning. babies went through whole process without any human influence .

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 26, 2010 | aint over till fat turtle sings  
nest 108 today also nest 6 (FINALLY) and nest 19 hatched

By: Deana Sherline | Date: Jul 26, 2010 |

Would like to become a Friend of Hunting Island. What do I need to do?

By: Laurel, John, Cyndi & Skyler | Date: Jul 25, 2010 | Nest #106

Just when we thought it was nest monitoring, hatching, & inventory time, a momma in these crossover weeks showed us!

As Karen & her crew were doing inventories of #9 & #11 in Zone 4 (& Buddy down in 6 with #14), a false crawl in Zone 3 was followed further up the beach by a real nest, #106, left in situ. We even had a cage to use that kept the critters out of #11 ealier.

They might keep laying into the 1st week of August...

By: Roberta | Date: Jul 25, 2010 | Nature handled it!

This morning we found a wild nest in zone #1. Campers on the beach told us they saw a baby turtle make its way to the water this morning. So we got pretty excited. Then we saw a group of people at the edge of the water and just managed to see from a distance a second hatchling enter the water. After much searching, and Gerry Mueller's keen eyes, we found what looked like a ghost crab hole. But it had hatchling tracks to the water, so we knew it had to be the nest. It was pretty humbling to know that even though we humans missed their nest, those babies managed to survive and make it to the water. We don't know if the rest of the babies went out last night, or if they are still down there, waiting for tonight.

By: Cyndi | Date: Jul 24, 2010 | Saturday, second message

No new nests or crawls in Zone 4 (or 1,2,5,6) either. But Nest # 18 hatched, so Tuesday will have inventories to do.

Wasn't quite so hot with an early offshore breeze.

By: MaryAnn | Date: Jul 24, 2010 |

The turtle teams and the area surfers were at the park bright and early this morning.

Nest #19 has pipped and Nest #7 hatched last night.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 23, 2010 | mommas not done yet

nest 105 zone 3 today non nesting crawl in 4 we tried to get 106 but its now up to sat or sun. nest 13 also hatched

By: mommakaren | Date: Jul 23, 2010 |

Hi guys, Please remember to bring water with you and take it to the beach with you. It is HOT OUT THERE.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 22, 2010 | 7/22

nests 9 11 zone 2 hatched  
nest 14 zone 6 hatched  
nest 2 an nest 10 both had 64% hatch rate

By: Karen M | Date: Jul 22, 2010 | More Hatchings

No crawls but we had several hatchings in zone 4 today - nests 9, 11, and 15. Sad note - nest 15 only had 2 tracks out and one ended in a dead baby on the beach. Also possible hatchings for nests 12 and 18. Sunday's inventory team will be busy! An inventory and training was done in zone 4 but I don't have all the numbers so hopefully someone else will blog it.

By: Bonnie | Date: Jul 21, 2010 | Inventory of Nest # 5

No nesting activity for Wacky Wednesday. Nest #5 inventoried in Zone 1 by Team D. How thrilling and rewarding to find and release 12 little hatchlings safely to the ocean. Thanks to Don Gregory for assisting with inventory and all for seeing these little babies safely to the ocean. With so many nests, keep a sharp eye volunteers for signs of hatching as it could become hot and heavy. Seeing these babies make it to the ocean makes morning patrol all worthwhile. Hope you are able to see the photos.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 20, 2010 | return of mommas

a crawl in zone 4 today thatssss alll folks

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 19, 2010 |

nests 2 an 10 hatched  
no other activity

By: Jim Davidson | Date: Jul 19, 2010 | Helping on HI

I am staying on Fripp for six weeks and would like to help with this program. I do understand that this would be in a completely observatory role. However, I did this several years ago while visiting and absolutely loved it.

I tried using the email feature with this site, but was unsuccessful. If someone could contact me, I would greatly appreciate more information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Jim Davidson  
jimdavidson1961@yahoo.com

By: Diane | Date: Jul 18, 2010 | Baby Tracks Today

I believe this is the first Sunday without at least one nest since the first week. I guess the girls had to take a break after all the activity this past week. We had reports, however, of the first baby tracks at two nests! I know one of the nests was #5 but I did not hear the number on the other one. Hooray!

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: Jul 17, 2010 | Add another nest!

Team Saturday had a nest, #104, in zone 3. Also, there was a false crawl in zone 4.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 16, 2010 | update

nest 102 zone 5

nest 103 zone 1

By: mommakaren@islc.net | Date: Jul 16, 2010 |

In checking the records the largest number of nest for HI was 130 in 1992.

By: Melissa | Date: Jul 15, 2010 |

Thank you all to have responded to my post. I can't wait to meet you all. Looks like Tuesday will work best for me. We are camping so I guess I will meet the group that leaves from there.

By: Dean Hewitt | Date: Jul 15, 2010 | Day leader

We passed 100 on July 15 and we're still counting! Thursday's team found Nest 100 in Zone 6 next to the Zone 6/5 sign and Nest 101 in Zone 1. No problem with critters and both were left in situ. The mamas are still out there!

By: Melissa | Date: Jul 14, 2010 |

I have been visiting Hunting Island for 5 years now and every year I want to learn more and more about the turtles. I am an elementary school science teacher and was wondering if I could tag along on one of your patrols. I follow the blog every year and love hearing all about the turtles. Please let me know if this is possible. I will be camping there next week from July 18th and we leave on the 22nd. If any of this is possible you could email me the details at [MelissaJ19@hotmail.com](mailto:MelissaJ19@hotmail.com)

Thanks! Keep up the hard work of protecting the turtles! Can't wait to be there next week!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 14, 2010 | yes lolita there was a green turtle

was green turtle an adult found stranded on south end of zone 4 . she unfortunly was deceased. she was missing her front left flipper. DNR picked her up an a necropsy was done today should have results soon . there is pics but wont post them here. anyone wants them just ask

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 14, 2010 | wednesday goes beyond wacky right to ludicrous

day was one for the record books two strangest crawls I ever saw . ask me on the beach will tell the tale there. five nests

95 zone 4

96 zone 6

97 98 99 zone 3

diane thats bout right cept add 95 to raccoons an 99 to ghost crab

By: Lolita | Date: Jul 14, 2010 |

I saw where Buddy posted the news about the two nests on Tuesday but he didn't share the sad news of finding what is believed to have been a green turtle...according to one of the cabin occupant, it washed up during the night and was quite DOA by the time we found it in Zone4...DNR is reportedly doing tests to determine the cause of its death...so sad..and we had so hoped to see a turtle on the beach but not that way! Good news about #99!!

By: Diane | Date: Jul 14, 2010 |

Must have been a great day! As I count, we've lost 8 nests entirely to predators and 11 partly to them. Is that about right, Buddy and Karen?

By: Gretchen | Date: Jul 14, 2010 |

The Wednesday team is working hard to catch up to everyone else. Today nests #'s 95 through 99 were found. Unfortunately, one was totilly destroyed by racoons and another was apparently disturbed in process so only 5 eggshells were found. Thanks to all our teams for their hard work!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 13, 2010 |

nest 93 and 94 both in zone 3

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 12, 2010 | update 7/12

nest 90 in zone 3

nest 91 in zone 4

nest 92 in zone 2

By: Diane | Date: Jul 11, 2010 | 88 and 89

Nest 88 in section 3, sounded like near the lighthouse. Someone else will have to blog the details because we found 89 on 4 shortly after and didn't hear much more. After some discussion with Buddy, decided to leave 89 in situ. Mama crawled well up onto a dune and tucked her nest into tall grass. Still no sign of babies.

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: Jul 10, 2010 | Nest #87

Nest 87 located in Zone 3 (in-situ). There were also 4 false crawls- 2 in zone 3 and 2 in zone 5.  
Nest 87 was finally located by Buddy. There were two crawls which were side-by-side. Examination of the tracks indicated that they were from two different turtles-one laid and the other did not.  
Please make sure that you have drinking water with you on the beach. You never know how long you may be walking, probing, digging, etc. as we left the beach near 10 AM.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 9, 2010 | day off well almost

turtles took day off but one got message late crawled in zone one by the bird sanctuary . she must got text message cuz she turned around went back in the water. maybe tomm

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 8, 2010 | nest 85 & 86

nest 85 zone 5  
nest 86 zone 3

By: Karen M | Date: Jul 8, 2010 | Nest 84 in Zone 2 - Stumpy??

Team B found nest 84 in zone 2 north of the cut. Mama made 2 attempts. The first set of tracks dead-ended right into a tree. Then just a few feet north was a good crawl and a nest, well situated near another tree so we did not move the nest. The tracks and nest were rather shallow - could this have been Stumpy?

By: Bonnie | Date: Jul 7, 2010 | Nest # 83 Raccoons almost destroyed

Zone 4 before first cabin had a crawl with typical body pit . Ken probed and probed before determining non-nesting crawl. At end of zone 4 just before 5 Nest #83 devastated by raccoon. My grandchildren (Charlotte and Jacob) helped me count the destroyed eggs before relocating only 14 remaining eggs to dunes north of Paterson cabin at South beach. Thanks to Buddy and Team A coming to our rescue with bucket and GPS.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 6, 2010 | update july 6

nest 82 today zone 5

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 5, 2010 | hooray for numbers eighty an eighty one

well we went in done it we beat last year. 2 more nests today zones 2 and 4. nest in 2 wouldve been sight to see her nest she went under a big fallen oak. volunteers had crawl on hands and knees to get to the body pit with the eggs in it. an the nest in 4 momma was being deceptive. she did a body pit with a open empty egg chamber. then crawled back over her crawl an nested.

zone 2 nest 80  
zone 4 nest 81

By: Diane | Date: Jul 4, 2010 |

I should have looked at the stats. 79 was the second on 5

By: Diane | Date: Jul 4, 2010 | Street mama

Nest 79 was on section 5 (maybe the first on 5 this season?). Mama must have needed to put them somewhere fast because she found the tiniest section of dry sand left, tucked where the pavement on cabin road has crumbled. Sara, who pulled out the eggs, said the opening was very narrow and mama even had to arrange some of them on side shelves to have room. Had we left them in situ, it would have been the only nest with police tape surrounding the street side. The eggs were moved to section 4 just south of the bath house.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 3, 2010 | nest 2

nest 2 is showing no signs but with the wind the last two days its hard to see if it did hatch. nest 3 is over 45 days and nest 5 goes 45 mon nite

By: Carol Welch | Date: Jul 3, 2010 |

Hey, just wondering how nest #2 in zone 4 is looking. Any signs of movement? Thanks!

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: Jul 3, 2010 | Nest # 77 and 78

A very beautiful morning on the beach with high winds and waves. We had one nest in Zone 6 and a nest in Zone 3. The Zone 6 nest, in situ, also had a lot of racoon tracks aong with a dead copperhead. Because of the very high winds, the tracks in Zone 3 looked as if they had been their a few days; however, they were fresh. Sad to say, a fox and a racoon feasted on all of the eggs - approximately 88 eggs lost.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 2, 2010 | zone 3 hot zone

nest 74 75 76 all in zone 3 today

By: Reed and Anne | Date: Jul 2, 2010 |

so amazed to read that we have reached 70 + nests. Last year Reed and I were very fortunate to assist with # 51 exactly a year ago. We will be making our way to Hunting Island this week-end ! Keep up the good work !

You are all doing an awesome job ! We appreciate all of you !

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jul 1, 2010 | update

dna tells the tale lolita  
nests today  
71 zone 1 - (finally)  
72 zone 4  
73 zone 4

By: Lolita | Date: Jul 1, 2010 | busy mom

hey Buddy, how did you know Mama #11 is the same one on HH? Does that mean she laid two nests in one season?

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 30, 2010 | more turtle CSI news

turtle that laid Hunting Island nest 11 on May 30 laid her first nest of the season on north end of Hilton Head it was HH nest 2

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 30, 2010 | wednesday gets wacky again

nests today

nest 67 zone 4

nest 68 zone 6

nest 69 zone 4

nest 70 zone 3

I know 70 nests only 10 away from lasts year total. who wooda thunk it. case anyone wonderin we had nest 70 on july 16 of last year.

By: Cyndi | Date: Jun 30, 2010 |

Hi everyone! I will miss seeing y'all and the turtles this weekend, but will keep up the blog as I can...please give the zone for each nest number, thanks!

Wow, Karen! Busy Tuesday!

By: mommakaren | Date: Jun 29, 2010 |

there were 5 nest today. 3 in zone 3. 1 in zone 2 and 1 in zone 6 Thank you Tuesday's team. great job everyone. So the next nest will be #67. we also had 5 non-nesting crawls. Please remember it is hot out there and take your water to the beach.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 29, 2010 |

Cool, Buddy, thanks.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 28, 2010 | first results are in

momma turtle that laid nest 2 also laid nest 14. her genetic id is CC000341. she nested 14 days apart. both her nests were laid in zone 6.

momma that laid nest 3 also laid nest 12 . her id number is CC000342 . she nested 12 days apart. both her nests were in zone 4.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 28, 2010 | update 6/28

nest number 61 zone 4



By: Diane | Date: Jun 28, 2010 | Sea Turtle eggs relocated from Gulf to Atlantic

A sea turtle egg relocation project has been started in hopes of keeping hatchlings out of the oil that's spreading through Gulf of Mexico.

Henry Cabbage of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said they have started digging up sea turtle eggs in nests in Florida's Panhandle.

The eggs are being moved to a secure facility in Cape Canaveral, Florida, where the turtles will be released in the Atlantic Ocean once they're hatched. Cabbage said the fear with leaving the eggs on the Gulf Coast is "the turtles will ride the current into the oil."

The eggs will be collected three times a week from now until November.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 28, 2010 | Badge of honor

Laurel, so nice to see little Marshall out there already. I think you should sew a tiny loggerhead patch on his turtle shirt for everyone he finds.

By: Laurel | Date: Jun 28, 2010 | Marshall's first nest

Thanks for pitching in on Sunday, everyone! It was great to see everyone yesterday morning and introduce my son, Marshall to turtle patrols. We patrolled zone 3, and then went down to help with one of the crawls in zone 4. Our first nest this season was #60 in zone 4 and we left it in situ. Thanks to the Wrights, and John Dittmer and friends for helping!

By: mommakaren | Date: Jun 27, 2010 | information

To all day leaders and team members we must monitor the nest as we are walking our zones not on the way back. nest #2 reaches 45 days June 29 and the hatching season starts. we are looking at 50 to 55 days because of the warm weather. Look for the wonderful tracks that we look for each year to see how well we have done. There will be inventory sign up sheets in the radio box for you to sign if you want to continue on your morning patrols to help with the monitoring of the nest for the season and we still have a long way to go before our mother turtles stop laying. so please consider helping. Our season does not end on August 1st. thank you

By: mommakaren | Date: Jun 27, 2010 |

There were 3 nests today. and several false crawls. 2 nests were found in zone 4 and 1 in zone 6. all are now in zone 4. DNR flew over today as they usually do on Sunday's just wave.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 27, 2010 | Nests in the usual places

Hmmm, my note disappeared, so I'll try again. Nothing on sections 1/2 my group patrolled today, but we heard about a couple of crawls farther south. When we were pretty sure 1 and 2 were clear, Charlie headed down to help probe. Based on the number, they found nests, but someone else will have to fill you in.

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: Jun 26, 2010 | NUMBER 57!

A beautiful crawl and nest in zone 4 this morning- #57. The nest was moved to the dune area in zone 4, between the last two groins.

By: Ardena | Date: Jun 26, 2010 | trash on the beach

In zone 3 today we found nothing but lots of trash. The pesky raccoons had patrolled all the nests ahead of us but they didn't disturb anything this time. Can't say the same about ghost crabs, who had tunneled into three nests. Among the trash: chairs, towel, shirt, book, several flip-flops, a few lost toys, and COUNTLESS cigarette butts.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 25, 2010 | update 6/25

nest 54 zone 4 , nest 55 zone 2, nest 56 zone 3.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 25, 2010 | Hoodoo?

Heard that last year but couldn't find anything online about a Gullah or Voodoo traditional Spring ceremony. Doesn't really fit Wiccan either, but it was close.

By: when "false " crawl becomes a nest | Date: Jun 24, 2010 | voila' nest 53

crawl in zone 3 was nest 53 . head ranger Jeff Cucinella and the Harrells ( light house host and fellow fohi turtlers) saw her on the beach wed night at 930 . an it aint wicca its voo doo . very very bad juju to mess with it .

FYI - we got nest 53 on the fourth of July last year.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 24, 2010 | Wicca, perhaps?

Karen, we had the same items last year on the beach on a Sunday. It's a couple days late to have anything to do with the summer solstice but maybe whoever does it can't get to the beach on the right night.

By: Karen M | Date: Jun 24, 2010 | Two false crawls and watermelon

Thursday's team had one false crawl in zone 3 and one just into zone 5 from 4 near a cabin. We also found a circle of watermelons, coconuts, and bananas in zone 4 - an offering to the gods ? The deer and raccoons seemed to like them based on the number of tracks!

By: Gretchen | Date: Jun 23, 2010 | Nests 51 & 52

Wednesday is working hard to catch up to the rest of the week. This a.m. a nest was found in Zone 3 just North of the S. Beach bath house. Unfortunately the team of Tim & Frances Bruner, and Carol & Alan Welch had to clean up after a hungry raccoon. The thief had feasted on 40 eggs; 79 were saved and relocated a little further up the beach.

Meanwhile, Frances Bruner & I walked the rest of the Zone and found another nest. We probed and dug, but no luck until Tim came along and found the nest with no problem. It was left in situ.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 22, 2010 | update tuesday 6/22

3 non nesting crawls today . two in zone 3 one in zone 5. wed group may have two nests tomm.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 21, 2010 | update june 21

nest 49 in zone 4 nest 50 in zone 6 ( nest missed sunday) stumpy was false crawl in 2

By: Chris | Date: Jun 21, 2010 |

Where were #49 and 50 today???Buddy did you think that crawl in zone 1 was Stumpy again???

By: Jen M | Date: Jun 21, 2010 |

WOW! Cyndi and Buddy - you are the best. It was a great Sunday and I am glad to have helped. Thanks to you both for continuing to probe those nests in Zone 3...those girls were busy Saturday night! And thanks Sara for coming back down the beach and helping me with #44!

By: Diane | Date: Jun 20, 2010 | Cyndi

Cyndi, it's good to know you're not dead of exhaustion on zone 6. We couldn't reach you on the walkie and figured you were beyond the air waves. Had a sneaking suspicion those other two were just well-hidden, but you had to be so many places at once. Thanks for all your hard work this morning. We gotta have more probers on Sunday.

By: Cyndi | Date: Jun 20, 2010 | More on today's nests...

(Who would think I would run out of room to blog it all?!)

Finally back to John's crawls in Zone 4. 1st one south of the bathhouse & groin was non-nesting. The next one, south of the first cabin was #48! Finished caging that one at quarter to eleven.

I came home tired, but happy to be a part of this great turtle team! Again, don't forget extra water on these hot, busy mornings!

By: Cyndi | Date: Jun 20, 2010 | Up to Nest #48!

Well, here's an update to Diane's great post. Total today 10 (or 11?) emergences with 5 (count them-- 5)nests.

#44: I found it quickly, and Jen moved it farther up the lighthouse beach.

#45: as Diane blogged, she moved predated nest at the other end of Zone 3. Fox!

Thanks to the nice renter who gave me a lift back to my car, I ran up to Stumpy's false crawl at the north end of the Island - Zone 1. Gerry & Denise were sure she had nested, but we couldn't find any eggs.

Then, Buddy sent me down to Zone 6 where another turtle had come ashore in the dunes, but I couldn't find any eggs there, either... Maybe recheck tomorrow, Tony?

So, back to Zone 3; #46 & #47 were turn around crawls that Buddy rechecked for me and located eggs.

(Jen, you would have been right about the location of eggs under the outgoing crawl on those two...) It was well after 9 am so we caged them in situ.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 20, 2010 | sunday strikes back

not to be out done by sat sun team had 5 nests .  
4 nests in zone 3  
1 nest in zone 4

By: Diane | Date: Jun 20, 2010 | Nest digger

To other Team A members. My favorite digger (shaped like a turtle flipper) keeps ending up in the Team A bucket. You are welcome to use it, but I do want it back, as it is my favorite thing to dig with. Thanks.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 20, 2010 | How to drive a prober crazy 44/45

Wow, it wasn't Saturday's haul, but it was close. We had 7 false crawls (Buddy was in the process of re-checking 2, just in case we missed something) and 2 nests. With only one prober and 7 total patrollers, it was quite a morning. Poor prober Cyndi was everywhere. We had 4 total crawls with 2 nests on section 3. 44 was right at the light house and 45 was almost at the bath house but was heavily predated by a fox, losing 55 eggs but saving 66. We also had 2 false crawls on 2 south of the cut--and that was just Team A! Stumpy had yet another false crawl, this time on section 1, and 2 false crawls on 5. We hadn't heard from Cyndi as we were finishing up (she'd headed to 6--maybe she just lay down to rest or ran away screaming.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 19, 2010 | answer

both 38 north of cut  
39 south of cut

By: Ardena | Date: Jun 19, 2010 |

thank you Carrie for the details

By: Carrie | Date: Jun 19, 2010 |

Saturday nest count:  
#40 in Zone 3 and was destroyed, no eggs  
#41 in Zone 4, left in-situ  
#42 in Zone 4, left in-situ  
#43 in Zone 4 and that one we moved and like MaryAnn said, it had 133 eggs.

Good luck Sunday - you could have a busy day and maybe see a mama on the beach. It looked like a couple of the crawls, we just missed seeing her on the beach.

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: Jun 19, 2010 | A Very Busy Saturday!

Wow, what a busy morning...which is a good thing! Hopefully I have the stats correct. We had 8 false crawls and 4 new nests! Our girls were very busy last night. Only one nest was relocated- 133 eggs.

It appears that one nest in zone 3 was previously missed and the varmints destroyed it.

The next nest will be #44.

Please take water with you on patrols as it is very hot and you may be on the beach like we were this morning until 10 AM.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 19, 2010 | 38/39 question

North or south of the cut, Buddy?

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 18, 2010 | stumpy alert an update for 6/18

stumpy came back but didnt nest looks like sat or sun . zone 4 had 5 non nesting crawls. nest 38 and nest 39 found in zone 2

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 17, 2010 | just when you think you got them figured out

stumpy crawlws 3 days early just to prove that she is unpredictable. just like a female

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 17, 2010 | last blog for busy thursday

nest 36 zone 4 thursday teams are to be congratulated . showed real team work today kudos

By: lolita | Date: Jun 17, 2010 | what to do...what to do....

Doggone those 'coons...any sign that putting logs around the cages does any good?? wonder if we should start our walks earlier...like 4 a.m.?? or midnight?

By: LarryT | Date: Jun 17, 2010 | Thursday Team D

Found nest 35 this morning in Zone 3 but unfortunately the raccoons beat us to it. We did save 43 eggs and relocated the nest. Had a total of 4 false crawls with one being "Stumpy", according to Buddy based on unique look of the crawl.

By: Karen M | Date: Jun 17, 2010 | Crazy Mama - Nest 37

After finding one false crawl in zone 6, we found a really crazy crawl at the very end of the zone on the inlet. Mama may have even come on shore twice as one set of shorter tracks criss-crossed with a much longer crawl. The long crawl had 3 body pits way up on the dunes with nest 37 being in the last one. We caged the nest and surrounded the cage with small logs as there were many very big and very fresh raccoon prints all around.

There was a false crawl in zone 5 and at least 2 other nests today so I hope another team member will blog on the other nests.

By: Gretchen | Date: Jun 16, 2010 |

Nest # 34 was found in Zone 3. Master prober, Ken Wright ably assisted by Bonnie, Dick Geier, & Don Gregory. 107 eggs found and relocated within Zone 3.

Keep it up Wednesday team!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 15, 2010 | update tues 6/15

nest 33 today in zone 6 . plus 4 more non nesting crawls. 3 in zone 2 "followed" turtle south in zone 2 . she come back tonite or tomm night depends how tired she is from her 3 crawls. first crawl she hit the old campground road, last two crawls she hit trees.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 14, 2010 | busy day ahead for tues and wed

five non nesting crawls this morning . at least two turtles tried to nest last night.each of the crawls were just exploratory(short). So Tues n Wed groups lucky you.

By: Cyndi | Date: Jun 13, 2010 | Nest #32 Moved

Nice crawl 300 yds south of #31 in Zone 4 turned out to be Nest #32. It took 3 probers, but we found it, and since Momma didn't get up the berm, we moved it to the dunes further north. 120 eggs.

By: Diane | Date: Jun 13, 2010 | Ravaging Raccoon can't get 'em all/Nest #31

We found nest #31 about half way down section 4 near the first cabin. Although it was heavily predated by a very large raccoon (based on track size) who had been checking out all the cages along our route, we found undisturbed eggs at the bottom of the nest. Cleaned out the shells and a few yolks and decided to leave what was left of the nest where it was, nestled in a dune. The rest of the team moved on to check the rest of the section while 2 of my tag-along neighbors and I dug the trench and fitted the cage. The traveling team found nest 32, also on 4. I know it was moved but someone else will have to blog the details. My neighbors were so excited, they're ready to retire, move here full-time and join FOHI.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 13, 2010 | nest #30

no nothing saved in nest #30. nest completely lost. 4th nest this season totally lost to predators.

By: ardena | Date: Jun 13, 2010 |

anything at all saved in nest #30?

By: MaryAnn | Date: Jun 12, 2010 | SATURDAY PATROL

The Saturday team was busy with a false crawl in Zone 1 and a nest in zone 4. Unfortunately, the nest was ravaged by raccoons.

By: Ardena | Date: Jun 12, 2010 |

watching from afar. Exciting week. Keep 'em coming Saturday team!!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 11, 2010 | update june 11

nest #28 zone 3

nest #29 zone 2

we had 13 nests in 10 days.

By: Reed & Anne | Date: Jun 11, 2010 |

That's right Bonnie! We want to hear the news. We love Buddy's updates but would love to hear from the rest of the teams. Save some nest for us in a couple of weeks !

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 10, 2010 | raccoons strike back with ferocity

raccoons retake the probing lead from Karen. but they work for eggs an are not volunteers. both nests today #26 and #27 depredated 108 eggs lost but 95 saved between the 2 nests.

nest #26 zone 4

nest #27 zone 3

By: Gretchen | Date: Jun 9, 2010 |

Finally!! Wacky Wednesday strikes!! We got our first nest in Zone 2; prober was Trudy Flanagan, ably assisted by Sue Cheatham, Pat Leber & Barbara Weitfield.

Now we're on a roll!

By: Bonnie | Date: Jun 8, 2010 | Whoray! - first every leatherback nest on HI

Hey yall how come buddy is doing so much of the blogging??? Come on folks.... we should have at least one blogger from each team for every day or at least one person from each day. Your fellow turtlers are anxious to hear the daily activities. Folks all over the country are hooked on our turtle blog. Let them share in your excitement.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 8, 2010 | WHOA MOMMA BIG!!!! SUPRISE

tuesday had busy day and BIG!!!!!!! suprise 4 nests an nest 21 first of the day was not laid by a loggerhead watch here for AWESOME crawl pics.

nest #21 zone 4

nest #22 lost to raccoons zone 3

nest #23 zone 6

nest #24 zone 5

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 7, 2010 | update June 6

nest #20 was found in zone 4 today . We got nest 20 on June 5 of last year FYI

By: lolita | Date: Jun 7, 2010 | keeping count

Hey Buddy, nest 16, on June 1...did you find that or did one of the Tuesday teams find it?

By: Jen M | Date: Jun 7, 2010 | Crazy Crawl

No luck on the crazy crawl in Zone 4 - Lauren and Karen joined us and we probed and dug in all three locations without any luck. Something must have really annoyed her because it was clear she wanted to nest!

By: Diane | Date: Jun 6, 2010 | Another busy Sunday - #18

We left #18 in situ nicely tucked into a dune just south of the bathhouse on 4. Mama was even good enough to deposit her eggs within easy distance of a waiting cage. Not so our next crawl. Nest Notes will have to wait for Charlie or Laurel or Jen, for the tale of the third nest or lack of one. Charlie probed all 3 body pits and was on his second round.

On my way back I used my most official voice to get two dogs leashed.

By: Roberta Gunderson | Date: Jun 6, 2010 | Stumpy returns!

Our Sunday C team found a beautiful nest (#19) in zone #3 dug by the famous Stumpy exactly 14 days since her last nest. The nest was just above the storm tide line, but since Stumpy lays shallow nests, we decided to move it higher behind a dune. We moved 111 eggs. Stumpy broke a few during her efforts. Good teamwork by Denise Moore and Gerry Mueller and of course Buddy.

By: Madelyn Confare | Date: Jun 5, 2010 | Nest #17!

I found nest #17! Well, I had some help since I'm only 5 but I told my dad that I found it. The nest was by the bathrooms right at the start of Zone 3 and was a little hard for my mom to find since it had rained really hard last night. We left it and put a cage over it, my first nest of this year and I can't wait to find more!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 4, 2010 | 12 an counting

we have had 12 non nest crawls (false crawls) since our last nest. some day soon is gonna get alot of nests. no before you ask none was stumpy. 6 had crazy wackest crawl ever seen. like the girls was little tipsy. ask me about some time n pics of the crawls r coming soon  
ps Reed and Anne hope to cya soon thanks for the interests

By: Reed & Anne | Date: Jun 4, 2010 |

We just can't wait to come to Hunting Island in early July ! Thanks for keeping us informed on the already exciting 2010 season... Hunting Island has the best turtle patrol teams! See you soon

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 3, 2010 | more non nest crawls

thurs had 4 non nesting emergences. 2 in zone 5. 2 in zone 6. girls are finding out what we already know aint much sand in 5 an 6 got washed pretty good by last weeks storm tide.



By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 2, 2010 | wednesday 6/2

no nests but 3 non nesting crawls . thursday or friday should be busy

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 1, 2010 | Stumpy update

Stumpy hits the 12 to 14 day renesting interval this weekend. so you might see her this weekend.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: Jun 1, 2010 | update June 1 - Nest #16

nest #16 in zone 3. left in situ

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 31, 2010 | update May - 15 nests

nest #15 was found today by Team Silvestri.  
last year on May 31 we had 10 nests.

By: Cyndi | Date: May 30, 2010 | Nests #11, #12, #13, & #14

Wow! Two in situ nests #11 & #12 in Zone 4. The mommas did a great job getting up on the dunes. A Girl Scout Troop (and parents) from Lexington, SC watched me probe and helped with cages...great educational moment.

Karen found Crazy Crawls on Zone 6, and two were nests. #13 moved to Zone 4 with 98 eggs. #14 left in situ on the beach across from Fripp.

There were also 3 false crawls in Zone 5 and the wild one in 6.

By: Diane | Date: May 30, 2010 | Message in a Bottle

No nests on section 1 today, but we did find a very romantic message in a bottle--the writer must be a fan of Nicholas Sparks. Unfortunately, no date or location on the note, so we don't know if it just drifted over from Harbor Island, down from Edisto, or from farther away.

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: May 29, 2010 | False Crawls

Five false crawls this morning!! There were three crawls in Zone 5 and two in Zone 4. So look for their "return trips" on Monday or Tuesday.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 28, 2010 | nest 10

nest 10 in zone 2 . just to the south of northern most beach entrance.left in situ

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 27, 2010 | raccoon generosity??

nest 9 today raccoons were generous today . they left us half the eggs. 51 for us 44 for them

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 26, 2010 | no nests

nothing tues or wed

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 26, 2010 | Close call

tragedy was averted this morning. nest 8 ( see blog from mon) was washed over today . no more like bulled over . the cage was washed 15 ft off the nest. at least 8 inches of sand was removed from the nest . 6 looks totally differant from tues morning. storm tide on top of spring tide does lots of damage. thanks to persistence, GPS and the grace of God .We found the eggs . safely relocated the eggs to 3 . because of this the turtle who laid the nest will be called Grace

By: Diane | Date: May 25, 2010 |

Thanks for posting the new photos. You should also post the extraordinary incoming crawl on 7. (Who has a photo? C.)

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 24, 2010 | No Cyndi momma 6 didnt go to 3 :)

momma on 6 from sat returned on monday . came to a spot 30 yards from sat site. this time she nested. left in situ cuz the heavy downpour wouldve drowned the eggs.

By: Indiana | Date: May 23, 2010 |

Please excuse my intrusion: Would the Turtle Patrol allow visitors to tag along as they search for or check nests and document their observations? Is possible to arrange a special educational up-close experience for a small family group? Wouldn't this be a great way to inspire the joy and concern for turtles in the next generation? Please email me (done). Thanks for considering my request.

Mary in Indiana

By: Cyndi | Date: May 23, 2010 | Nests #6 & #7

The false crawl momma on 6 yesterday perhaps came in on 3 to lay. Nothing out on 6 today.

Charlie's plundered Nest 3 still has ~40 eggs. Buddy will try to make it raccoon proof...

Finally, we think it was our dear Stumpy near the South Beach bathhouse at nest 7; slow moving (still there at 6 am), shallow nest (she can't dig so deep), and that distictive crawl...

By: Diane | Date: May 23, 2010 | Crazy Crawlers

Two nests (#6 & #7) at either end of Zone 3 this morning-one just south of the lighthouse, one just north of the bathhouse. The first had 2 potential body pits, but one was the obvious nest area because of sand and track patterns. The 2nd had 3 possible body pits. Luckily, Kelly spotted mama still on the beach, so the prober had a good idea which one to go for (it also had the wettest sand pile). 146 and 145 eggs.

Unfortunately, raccoons demolished the cage on Vest 3 last night and got most of those eggs. Karen threatens barbed wire next.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 22, 2010 | FYI leather back nest

Folly beach had leatherback nest last nite . hopefully HI get one this year too.

By: Cyndi | Date: May 22, 2010 | False Crawl

I'm back from my trip and right into it with a likely looking crawl in 6...an hour of probing and a blister on my probing hand--but no egg chamber we could find. Mebbe she come back tomorrow...

Click the nest total box at top to go to SeaTurtle.org - cool stuff and you can join for free.

The zone and day challenge is on! I think I got the zones right (Buddy?) But for sure the Saturday girls are laying this year.

By: Ardena | Date: May 22, 2010 | [CLICK HERE FOR PHOTOS OF #5](#)

Photos of Nest #5 at my Picasa. Click link above.

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: May 22, 2010 | ADD one more! (#5)

Great morning! Nest #5 was located in Zone one(1). It was a truly beautiful crawl. Also there was a false crawl in Zone 6.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 21, 2010 | another sad day (#4)

nest four(4) was found unfortunately, by the raccoons first. total lost.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 20, 2010 |

non nesting crawl in 2 no other activity

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 19, 2010 | take it easy

another day off for the girls

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 18, 2010 | A birthday nest (#3)

nest number 3 found today a raccoon took 39 eggs for breakfast but thankfully left 80. nest was relocated to Zone 4. Charlie Harrell (lighthouse host) was prober. this was Charlies birth day nest. Happy birthday Charlie

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 17, 2010 | day off

girls took day off no nests no crawls

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 16, 2010 | post for Jim from May 7

sorry took so long to respond Jim been a wee busy. just visit or contact the Hunting Island Nature Center for info. Hope to see ya this summer.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 16, 2010 | turtles even the score

add to Diane post: Nest 2 momma gave her all - her first attempt at nest chamber she hit a buried log. so she backtracked and nested about 8 ft above shtl. raccoon came after she left but didnt find the eggs. way go girl GOOD JOB.

By: Diane | Date: May 16, 2010 | Nest #2

A false crawl on 4, but just as we were about to leave, got a call that Buddy found Nest 2 on 6 and needed a nest dug on 4. It must have been in a difficult spot because the bucket didn't arrive for quite a while. 117 eggs safely reburied just south of the bath house.

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: May 15, 2010 | NEST # 1

The nest was in Zone 3 near the handicap parking/shower area. It was a great find by Susan Reynolds as "she" came in with the tide last evening and was just about two feet above the high tide line - barely visible tracks. The sad news is that the nest was completely destroyed by racoons. Buddy selected part of a shell for the DNA research project and we sadly collected all of the pieces of the shells.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 14, 2010 | not friday maybe saturday

no crawls no nests, we'll hang in there lolita  
SC now has 7 nests fyi

By: Lolita | Date: May 14, 2010 | They're coming

Hang in there, Buddy...we'll get ours soon! thanks for posting!

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 13, 2010 | maybe tomorrow ????

getting tired writn this no nests no crawls so girls n u know which ones I mean come on NEST please - oh Harbor Island Had false crawl this mornin

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 12, 2010 | same same

no nests no crawls like ipod stuck on replay

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 11, 2010 | procrastinating sea turtles

no crawls no nest looks like a late year

By: t | Date: May 10, 2010 | always tomorrow

no nests no crawls no mammas maybe tomorrow

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 9, 2010 | cycle broken

no momma days nest this year bummer

By: MaryAnn Waldrop | Date: May 8, 2010 |

Not sure what happened to the note I entered this morning as it was there and now, tonight, it is gone!  
We had a beautiful sunrise and no crawls, no nests.  
Hopefully we will have some crawls and a nest or two in the next few days.

By: Bonnie | Date: May 8, 2010 | New Arrival for Sunday's turtle team

Just got word Laurel Weeks Rhoten had her baby on Friday. Could this be an omen for a Mother's Day nest for the Sunday team?  
Congrats to the Rhoten family.:~)

By: Jim | Date: May 7, 2010 |

I am going to be visiting Hunting Island from July 17 through August 28. I would like to assist with the program, both in the morning and evening. Who do I need to contact about this? I did this several years ago and absolutely loved doing so. Thanks for your help and suggestions.

By: TurtleBuddy | Date: May 7, 2010 | friday May 7

Friday was last of training days . thank God . getting close to mothers day time for a nest .

By: LarryT | Date: May 6, 2010 | Thursday Team D

First patrol of the 2010 season for Thursday's Team D. We had the distinction of finding the first crawl of 2010 in zone 6. Unfortunately it was probable a small terrapin since the tracks were only about 6 inches wide. Got to see first hand the cabin destruction from erosion in zones 5 and 6. Otherwise a great day on the beach.

By: Jacqueline | Date: May 5, 2010 | '09 Nest Notes

What became of that potential green turtle nest late last season? *(Web witch edit: Please click the link above to go to last year's blog...)*

By: MaryAnn | Date: May 1, 2010 | Saturday Day Leader

The Saturday teams watched the DNR video and received all the information for this season. Thanks to everyone who turned out. Good luck to the rest of the Day Leaders.

By: Cyndi | Date: Apr 25, 2010 | Prober Training

Prober Training this week. Earlier in the week on Monday for about half of us. And today Buddy and Karen ran us through the paces. We had three brand-new probers!

By: Cyndi | Date: Apr 25, 2010 | Friendly Neighborhood Webwitch

The 2010 Turtle season approaches... The Turtle Committee: Buddy, Karen, Gretchen, MaryAnn, and Laurel, as well as Mitch: have been organizing responsibilities and communications. Watch this space...