

Sea Turtle Nesting

Sea Turtle Nests by Year and Species 2001 - 2015 (Includes south Brevard County, Sebastian Inlet State Park, and north Indian River County)															
	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Loggerhead	14,123	15,103	13,155	18,809 (record year!)	11,841	14,468	10,374	11,410	7,902	10,828	11,085	9,138	12,598	14,209	15,645
Green	14,152 (record year!)	1,812	12,846	3,419	6,023	4,479	1,332	3,138	4,490	1,609	3,638	982	670	2,970	198
Leatherback	58	79 (record year!)	49	51	77	59	41	29	74	19	68	19	53	19	47
Kemps Ridley	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

2010 Sea Turtle Nest Distribution			
	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County	12,233n /9,904fc	4,093n /5,847fc	34n /3fc
Sebastian Inlet State Park	702n /627fc	109n /310fc	9n/0fc
North Indian River County	1,533n /1,657fc	277n /609fc	16n/2fc
Total	14,468n	4,479n	59n
<i>*Footnote: n=nest, fc=false crawl</i>			

2009 Sea Turtle Nest Distribution

	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County	8,668n/8,170fc	1,184n/1,605fc	23n/4fc
Sebastian Inlet State Park	598n/424fc	52n/69fc	11n/0fc
North Indian River County	1,108n/1,136fc	96n/91fc	7n/0fc
Total Nests	10,374	1,332	41

Footnote: n=nests, fc=false crawl

Comments: Nest depredation for 2009 - 8 raccoons, 4 ghost crab, 70 coyotes

2008 Archie Carr N.W.R. Sea Turtle Nest Distribution

Figures in red are false crawls.

	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County as of Oct 18	9502	2772	20
Sebastian Inlet State Park as of Sept 18	7734	3564	2
North Indian River County as of Sept 11	654	137	5
	445	111	3
	1252	214	4
	986	202	0
Total	11,408	3,123	29

Daytime Nesting of a
Leatherback Sea Turtle
Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge
April 15, 2003



2007 Archie Carr N.W.R. Sea Turtle Nest Distribution

Figures in red are false crawls.

FINAL	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County	6,405	3,963	52
	6,268	5,876	2
Sebastian Inlet	538	214	9
State Park	414	180	2
North Indian River	959	313	13
County	826	382	2
Total	7,902	4,490	74
	7,508	6,438	6

n = nests; fc = false crawl

Leatherbacks:

New high record for leatherback sea turtles this year at 74 nests! Leatherbacks nested into July this year. Leatherbacks former high year was in 2005 with 68 nests in the Refuge.

Greens:

New high record for Greens this year at 4,490 nests. Previous high record in 2005 yielded 3,638 nests in the Refuge.

Loggerheads:

Loggerhead sea turtle nesting is down this year.

2006 Sea Turtle Nest Distribution

Figures in red are false crawls.

	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County	9,018	1,383	12
	8,890	1,860	0
Sebastian Inlet	619	74	1
State Park	551	58	0
North Indian River	1,191	152	6
County	1,067	241	0
Total Nests	10,828	1,609	19
	10,508	2,159	0

Noteworthy:

There was a green turtle nest laid north of the Refuge in the CBSA study site on 11 Nov. This may be the latest green turtle nest on record in Florida.

In South Brevard County:

Last leatherback nest on 19 June

Last Loggerhead nest on 16 September; last false crawl on 17 September

Last Green nest on 21 October; last false crawl on 9 November

2005 Sea Turtle Nest Distribution

Figures in red are false crawls.

	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County	8,854	3,117	43
	12,935	6,093	6
Sebastian Inlet State Park	867	238	8
	668	216	0
North Indian River County	1647	223	17
	1,645	444	0
Total Nests	11,085	3,638	68

- **Loggerhead nesting** - first nest April 24, last nest Sept 11, peak nesting, last week June
- **Green nesting** - first nest June 4, last nest Oct 5, peak nesting last week July
- **Leatherback nesting** - first nest March 21, last nest June 25, peak nesting 3rd week June

2004 Sea Turtle Nest Distribution

	Loggerhead	Green	Leatherback
South Brevard County	7557	791	12
Sebastian Inlet State Park	492	66	2
North Indian River County	1089	125	5
Total	9138	982	19

Some 2005 Photos

At the beginning of the summer, we had lots of rainfall and cloudy conditions on the beach, which seems to have affected hatching because some nests were taking over 65 days to emerge. The average time for loggerhead turtles to emerge is 53-55 days. What's really interesting about these reptiles, is that once the weather cleared up and we experienced the usual hot "dog days" of Summer, we were able to see incubation and emerging time speed up to around 45 days.



Photos by: Jennifer Lorenzo, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
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