

Outline for Annual Project Report
Due November 30 of Each Year

NOTE: All topics listed below need to be addressed in your report. The following outline should be used as it provides a more complete and standardized description across all the projects.

I. PROJECT SUMMARY REPORT (generated from online database)

A. Complete the project summary report

1. Run a flag and error report and correct any errors
2. Correct errors in red font at the top of the Project Summary Report page
3. Follow final instructions at the top of the Project Summary Report to ensure its accuracy and check the box to submit it

II. NESTING

A. Coverage

1. Method of patrolling beach (ATV, walk, etc.)
2. How coverage of beach is divided among workers (one team or in groups, how many in each group. If beach is divided into sections, what are the boundaries, how many probes in each section)

B. Locating/Relocating

1. Methods used to locate egg cavity
2. Criteria for relocating (e.g., Why relocated?)
3. Criteria for selection of artificial nest location (e.g., How new location is selected?)

C. Methods of marking nests

1. Type of marking system used; Is a secondary marker used?
2. Information listed on nest stake or marker

D. How often nests are monitored for problems

III. HATCHING

A. Determination of emergence activity

1. On what day of incubation do you begin checking nests on a daily basis?
2. What field signs do you use to determine emergence activity?

B. Methods used to inventory nests

1. Do you inventory all of your nests or just a sample? How did you select your samples?
2. Do you recount eggs during inventory if previously counted during relocation?

C. Time of day inventories performed

IV. PROBLEMS

A. Predators

1. Type of predators and number of complete and partial clutches affected by each predator type (e.g., raccoon, fox, coyote, etc.).
2. When is the depredation occurring for each type of predator? Specifically, it is occurring on the night that the nest is laid, during incubation, during hatching or emergence or after inventory?
3. Types of protection and deterrents used (e.g., screening types, design, and material).
4. Are predators able to prey on eggs after screen or other protection has been applied? If so, how are the predators doing this? Are they lifting, digging through top or tunneling under the screen?
5. Number of predators removed and method of removal (provide for each predator type).
6. Measures taken to control fire ants. If an insecticide is used, how of the product is used? When it is

applied and how frequently? Do you broadcast it around each nest proactively or do you use it only after ants are seen? How many nests did you treat?

B. Artificial Lighting

1. Please list sources of lights that have caused disorientations. Have there been any actions taken to reduce or remove this artificial light?
2. Does a local or country ordinance exist? Is it enforced?
3. Number of nests disoriented?

C. Storms, Over-wash and Erosion

1. Number of nests lost to each type of event: storm, tidal inundation and erosion
2. Number of nests over-washed
3. Are over-washes recorded daily during the tidal event?
4. Number of emergency/secondary relocations?

D. Crowd management

1. Describe the typical crowd present during an inventory. Types of problems
2. Crowd control mechanisms employed
3. Amount of information about individual nests made available to the public (other than on nest stake or marker)
4. Do permitted members of your project watch soon-to-hatch nests at night?

E. Beach obstructions (tents, beach lounging furniture, holes)

1. Types of problems
2. Measures taken to address reoccurring obstructions

V. EDUCATION

- A. Types of educational programs conducted
- B. Types of printed materials produced (please include a sample of each item)
- C. Types of media articles and TV spots produced (please include a copy of each article)
- D. Number of public awareness turtle walks/watches and hatchling emergence observations conducted. Provide information on the number of people at each of these events.

VI. PROJECT ORGANIZATION (Please give enough detail so that a new leader would know how to organize the daily patrols)

- A. Level of training (range of years of experience) of the project leader and project participants
- B. Level of involvement: number of individuals that perform each of the following:
 1. Only patrol and notify if crawl seen
 2. Probe nests
 3. Patrol and move eggs
 4. Inventory nests
 5. Perform data analysis and prepare the report
- C. Communication: Can communication between the project leader and project participants be improved?

VII. CONCERNS, COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Project concerns
- B. Technical concerns and needs
- C. Opportunities for next season

VIII. ADDITIONAL RESEARCH OR MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

Mail to: SCDNR Sea Turtle Program, PO Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422; Email to: coastbio@dnr.sc.gov