



**FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FISH AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
SEA TURTLE NESTING SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR 2007**
(Fill in **Blue** shaded areas)

Submittal
Deadline:
Nov. 30,
2007

1. PRINCIPAL PERMIT HOLDER INFORMATION

Principal Permit Holder: Sheryan Epperly-Chester		Permit Number: 030	
Organization:	NMFS/SEFC/Miami Laboratory		
Address:	Protected Resources Div., 75 Virginia Beach Drive		
	Miami, FL 33149		
County:	Miami-Dade	Email Address:	sheryan.epperly@noaa.gov
Day Telephone (include area code):	305-361-4207	Night Telephone:	
Beach Name:	Virginia Key		
Point of Contact:	Sheryan Epperly-Chester/Wendy Teas	Telephone & Email Address: (if different)	wendy.teas@noaa.gov, (361-4595)

2. GENERAL SURVEY INFORMATION

Survey Boundary Information: Please describe survey boundaries geographically. If boundaries have changed, please fill in the **blue shaded** area with new boundaries. Be specific and use known landmarks that can be found on a map (or include a marked map).

North Survey Boundary:	Norris Cut		
South Survey Boundary:	Bear Cut Bridges		
Beach Length (include KM or MI):	2.5 mi	Is beach length estimated or measured?	measured

Was this the **exact** same survey area as last year? **Yes / No** **Yes**

IF NO, please explain the specific differences AND why the survey area changed:

Start Date of Survey (mm/dd):	4/27/07	End Date of Survey (mm/dd):	9/23/07
Time of Day Surveyed: Start (include AM or PM)	7:30 AM	Finish (include AM or PM)	9:00 AM
Number of Days Per Week Surveyed:	7		
Total # of Days Surveyed in 2007:	150		

If you did **not** survey seven (7) days per week, describe how nests are counted on the day(s) surveys are resumed:

at NW end of survey area is cut off by channels and was only surveyed approx every 10-14 days; there have been no crawls			

Was there any variation in the number of days surveyed per week or was the entire beach surveyed the same number of times every week of the nesting season? **SAME** or **VARIABLE** **Same**

If VARIABLE , please explain the specific variation:			

Were all non-nesting crawls (false crawls) counted during your survey? **Yes or No** **Yes**

How many people were involved in surveying the nesting beach this season? **3 primary;**

3. NESTING BEACH MANAGEMENT INFORMATION	
If nests were RELOCATED, were they relocated Individually (Ex: simply moving the nest directly landward of the original location or otherwise maintaining natural nest spacing) or in a Group (i.e., self-releasing and/or restraining hatchery) with other beach relocated nests?	Individual
Please give reasons for relocating nests. (Example: nest located below high tide line, in high foot traffic area, etc.)	
1 nest partially depredated by raccoons when laid (103 of 126 eggs relocated); 2 nests laid below high tide line	
If a HATCHERY was used, please give reasons AND specific location:	
N/A	
If predator control methods other than screening/caging were employed, please describe below:	
N/A	
How many MARKED nests were negatively affected by predators other than humans during the course of the season? <i>Note: this includes both partially and completely predated nests.</i>	11
List all non-human predators documented predated nests this season:	
raccoons - 2 nests completely depredated when laid; 1 nest partially depredated when laid; 2 nests partially depredated during hatch (6 dead hatchlings found); 6 nests dug up after hatch (hatchling tracks to water, no bodies on beach)	
How many MARKED nests were negatively affected by another nesting sea turtle ?	0
How many MARKED nests were negatively affected by roots (i.e., damaged eggs, impeded hatchling emergence)?	3
How many MARKED nests were negatively affected by erosion, accretion, inundation, and storm-related events ? <i>Note: this does not include stake removal/loss.</i>	1
Please give details:	1 nest washed over at least twice (a week apart), much sand accretion, hatchlings did not emerge, nest excavated at day 70 - 97 unhatched eggs, 1 dead pipped, 28 live (weak, thin)-still 18-24" below sand surface
How many MARKED nests were taken or disturbed by humans (Example: nest dug into, eggs removed, etc.)?	1
Please give details:	Crawl and nest mound had been "wiped" or obscured, apparently with a large stick found nearby - nest hatched successfully (86.7 % emergence success).
Were hatchling disorientation events documented this season? Yes or No	Yes
If YES, have all disorientation reports been submitted to FWC? Yes or No	No; 1 form included w/this report
I certify the above information to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.	
/s/ Sheryan Epperly-Chester	11/29/2007

Principal Permit Holder

Date

Email Forms to: Beth.Brost@MyFWC.com

Please submit form by November 30, 2007