



# North Carolina Sea Turtle Project



The NC Sea Turtle Project, run by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission's *Division of Wildlife Management*, is committed to monitoring NC's sea turtle population. This project would not be possible without the help of hundreds of volunteers, as well as many organizations and agencies. This site serves to facilitate information exchange among Project participants and Project biologists with the NCWRC, as well as provide information on NC's sea turtles to the general public.

[Overview of Project](#)

[Resources for Project Participants](#)

[How You Can Help Sea Turtles](#)

[Links](#)

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## News and Events

Updated 22-April-2011

[Blog for Wendy](#)

**Genetics update:** Our first confirmed hybrid sea turtle in North Carolina!



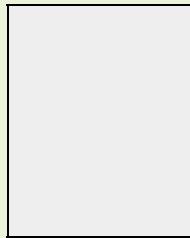
This turtle was found live stranded in Cape Lookout National Seashore in 2008. Several members of the NC Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network thought this turtle looked a bit "different." A small tissue sample was collected and analyzed by Kelly Stewart, Amy Frey & Peter Dutton at the NOAA-SWFSC-Marine Turtle Genetics Program in La Jolla, California. They were able to confirm that this turtle was indeed a hybrid green-loggerhead sea turtle. Moreover, they were able to tell us that its mother was a loggerhead and the father was a green turtle. This turtle,



aptly named Prius, was successfully rehabilitated and released by the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center on Topsail Island in 2010.

**Sea Turtle Strandings** --After a quiet March, the water temperatures are warming up fast, which means more turtles are coming back to visit North Carolina. In April, there have been more than 2 dozen stranded turtles observed in North Carolina, mostly south Ocracoke Island. For more information on strandings, click [here](#).

[Report a sea turtle stranding \(STRAND\)](#)



**Sea Turtle Nesting** -- The 2010 nesting season was a pretty good year. In addition to 847 loggerhead nests, we've recorded 2 leatherback, 2 Kemp's ridley, and about a dozen green turtle nests. Preliminary data from our multi-state [genetics project](#) is coming in -- click [here](#) for some of the results. For more information on nesting activity, click [here](#).

[Online nest reporting \(STNMS\)](#)



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*The mission of the Division of Wildlife Management is to monitor the health and status of wildlife populations, develop and administer programs for their management and wise use, and when necessary help resolve human-wildlife interactions in a manner which will assure a diverse wildlife resource for future generations of North Carolinians.*

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