

2008 ANNUAL REPORT
INSTALLING AND MAINTAINING TRAFFIC BARRICADES

Section 2

Installing and Maintaining Traffic Barricades

Purpose

Installing traffic barricades on vehicular access ramps will spatially and temporally separate sea turtles and AIBM from vehicular activities. Impenetrable barricades drastically reduce unauthorized public vehicular access to the beach.

Relevant ITP Condition - G.2.a.

- a. Installation, Maintenance, and Operation of Traffic Barricades.** “The Permittee shall maintain and/or enhance all existing traffic barricades on public beach access ramps to ensure they effectively exclude public vehicle traffic when closed. The Permittee shall install and maintain additional traffic barricades at locations where vehicles have regularly accessed the beach illegally. The Permittee shall close the traffic barricades to limit public vehicle access as described in Conditions 11.G.1.b and c.”

HCP Performance During 2008

Implementation: During 2001 and 2002, St. Johns County Division of Beach Management installed impenetrable steel gates at all public vehicular access points excluding Surfside vehicular access ramp. At the time Surfside was being renovated and had an existing chain and lock mechanism. Prior to the 2008 nesting season and following the renovation a steel gate was installed. In addition, bright orange signs were installed on the beachside of the steel gates (Object 1) providing a phone number to the Sheriff’s department to those locked on the beach after hours.

Object 1.



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During the 2008 nesting season, only the Fort Matanzas access ramp was severely damaged as the result of a vehicle ramming directly into the gate to obtain access to or from the beach.

The following information was obtained from sea turtle patrol, Toll Booth operators, and Beach Maintenance staff regarding gates that were either vandalized or remained unlocked throughout the night:

Table 3. Reporting of vandalized gates

Gate	Day	Date	Damage	Reported By
Usina	Monday	5/5/2008	Chain Cut	Staff
Surfside	Tuesday	5/6/2009	Locked overnight	Staff
Mary Street	Thursday	5/22/2009	Vandalized	Turtle patrol
Matanzas Avenue	Thursday	5/22/2009	Vandalized	Turtle patrol
Crescent Beach	Wednesday	6/11/2009	Lock cut	Turtle patrol
Matanzas Avenue	Tuesday	6/24/2009	Unlocked	Turtle patrol
Mary Street	Tuesday	7/22/2009	Lock cut	Staff
Fort Matanzas	Tuesday	10/7/2009	Gate rammed by vehicle	Sheriff

Assessment: In 2008, only 8 reports of vandalism or carelessness were documented regarding vehicular access gates. In 2007 a total of 12 reports were made regarding the gates.

Program Improvements: There are no program improvements scheduled at this time.