

Account: South Carolina State Parks

Content type: Facebook Page - Timeline posts

Record ID: 20120523South-Carolina-State-ParksTimeline-posts52748_10150911471178166



South Carolina State Parks

at 13:56:25 on 5/23/2012 UTC · 🌐

TIDBIT! Will Stumpy, our dedicated mother, return this year?

Our State reptile, the Loggerhead Sea Turtle, is a special treasure. Starting around mid-May, the Loggerheads begin returning to the beach to lay their eggs.

Here at Hunting Island we have a special Loggerhead Sea Turtle who is missing half of a rear flipper. We believe that her injury was the result of a shark attack in her youth. We named her Stumpy.

The first time she was spotted on Hunting Island was 2001, again in 2004, 2007 and 2010.

Stumpy has a very unique crawl making her nest easy to identify. Female Loggerhead Sea Turtles use both their rear flippers to dig their nests, a very labor intensive ordeal. With only one rear flipper intact, Stumpy manages to continue her mission of sojourning back to Hunting Island to lay her eggs. She typically nests late in the morning and is usually seen at least once in her nesting year. Stumpy averages 2 clutches of approximately 120 eggs and then becomes inactive for three years. If she avoids all the hazards of the sea, she is expected to return in 2013....but we look for her each and every year!



Bonnie Wright In 2007 volunteers did inventory on Stumpy's nest and we discovered two of her hatchlings were missing the same rear flipper.

at 18:58:15 on 5/23/2012 UTC