

SEA TURTLE REPORT

Rising Tides and Sea Turtles

By Maria Lamb

During the month of July, the expected heavy rainfall along with high tides are beginning to impact nesting sea turtles in Marco Island. According to sea turtle experts, excessive rain can lead to flooding and erosion, which may disrupt and also affect hatchling survival. For July 2026, expected King tides occur around the new moon (July 5) and on July 20 (full moon).

King Tides are the highest tides of the year and can lead to coastal flooding and may affect nesting sites for sea turtles. It can inundate nesting areas, potentially over washing away nests and affecting hatchling survival rates. Many of the sea turtles on Sand Dollar Island nest at the bottom of the newly repaired berm, and heavy rain and high tides can completely cover or wash away sea turtle nests, making it hard for eggs to survive.

Once again, Marco



Photo by J. Jewett

Once again, Marco was visited by a Green Sea Turtle who false crawled into Sand Dollar Island and left its symmetrical flipper marks characterized by a central tail drag mark – which helped sea turtle monitors JJ and her husband Robert identify her.



Photo by Arsenio Nunez

Heavy rainfall along with high tides are beginning to impact nesting sea turtles in Marco Island.

Sea Turtle Activity July 6 - 12, 2026

Beach	Nests		False Crawls		Hatched Nests		
	This Year	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	Disoriented
Barefoot	218	266	230	254	19	18	4
Delnor Wiggins	57	62	61	93	0	4	0
Vanderbilt	182	256	215	193	11	23	1
Parkshore	219	196	169	262	12	12	1
City of Naples	268	243	252	210	10	11	4
Keewaydin Is.	553	490	776	694	25	35	0
Sea Oat Island	31	15	30	17	1	0	0
Marco Island	154	99	234	288	4	4	0
Kice and Cape Romano	155	160	268	202	6	0	0
10,000 Islands	129	139	155	157	16	6	0
Collier County Totals	1966	1926	2390	2370	104	113	10

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