

## APPENDIX B - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge (ACNWR):** The nation's only refuge specifically designated to protect marine turtles. The ACNWR, established in 1990 in honor of Dr. Archie F. Carr, Jr. for his contribution and dedication to the conservation of marine turtles, stretches approximately 20 miles along Florida's central Atlantic coast (in Brevard and Indian River Counties). This area attracts more marine turtle nesting than any other place in the U.S.

**Armoring:** The use of structures such as sea walls, rock revetments, sandbags/sand tubes, and other rigid structures to protect coastal property from erosion.

**Artificial Lighting:** Light sources that are produced by humans.

**Backstop:** An approximately 45° incline made in the sand as sand is pushed back with the rear flippers during the excavation of the primary body pit. Such a steeply inclined backstop is not present in the secondary body pit.

**Beach Nourishment:** Beach nourishment is a process involving the mechanical dumping or pumping of sand onto an eroded beach. Although beach nourishment is a preferred alternative to armoring, the suitability of the renourished beach for marine turtle nesting is dependent on the quality of sand being placed on the beach and the method used to deposit it.

**CITES:** The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), is a multinational agreement that regulates international trade in certain plant and animal species in order to prevent their overexploitation.

**Clutch:** The number of eggs laid in a single nest, excluding 'yolkless' eggs (yolkless eggs should be counted and reported separately). Extra large and multi-yolked (double or chain-form) eggs can actually contain viable embryos and should be counted as part of the clutch.

**CMTTP:** Cooperative Marine Turtle Tagging Program, a centralized tagging program developed to distribute tags, manage tagging data, and facilitate exchange of tag information managed by the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research (ACCSTR) at the University of Florida.

**Crawl:** Tracks and other signs left on a beach by a marine turtle.

**Disorientation:** Loss of orientation. Being unable to maintain constant directional movement. For hatchling and adult marine turtles on the beach, travel in random directions due to orientation to artificial lighting along or on the beach.

**Egg (normal):** Spherical, white and comprised of a pliable shell, a capsule of albumen and a yolk..

**Egg (abnormal):** Extra large (greater than ¼ larger in diameter than normal eggs of that species, multi-yolked (double or chain-form) or very small (less than ½ the diameter of normal eggs of that species) when compared to the other eggs in the clutch. Extra large diameter eggs typically contain

two yolks. The very small eggs are commonly termed ‘yolkless’ eggs that contain mostly albumen and a few granules, or more, of yolk encapsulated by a shell but no embryonic disc.

**Egg Chamber:** The vase-shaped cavity excavated by the rear flippers of a nesting turtle into which the turtle deposits a clutch of eggs.

**Emergence:** A female turtle exiting the water onto the beach, or hatchlings exiting the nest.

**Escarpment:** The perimeter of the secondary body pit where the front flippers have cut away a small cliff into the surrounding sand.

**False Crawl:** An aborted nesting attempt (emergence onto a beach) by a marine turtle. A more correct term is “non-nesting emergence”.

**Fibropapillomatosis (FP):** Tumor-like growths commonly found on green turtles but observed on all species of marine turtle. FP can result in reduced vision, disorientation, blindness, physical obstruction to normal swimming and feeding, an apparent increased susceptibility to parasitism by marine leeches, and an increased susceptibility to entanglement in monofilament fishing line.

**Hatch Success:** The proportion of eggs in a nest that produce live hatchlings.

**Misorientation:** Orientation in the wrong direction. For hatchling marine turtles on the beach, travel in any direction other than the general vicinity of the ocean.

**Nesting Crawl:** A crawl resulting from a nesting attempt in which eggs were deposited.

**Nest Success:** The portion of nesting attempts by a marine turtle (emergences onto the beach) that result in eggs being deposited.

**Non-Manipulation or “hands off” Management Strategy:** This is a proactive type of management strategy used to protect a resource from potential threats by eliminating or minimizing the threat. For example, on beaches where artificial lighting is a problem, instead of moving the nests to a darker beach (and potentially harming eggs during the relocation process or placing them in a less suitable site), attempts should be made to have offending lights shielded, redirected or turned off.

**Post-Emergent Nest:** A nest in which the majority of hatchlings have emerged through the surface of the sand.

**Primary Body Pit:** The excavation made by a turtle on the beach just prior to digging the egg chamber.

**Pipped egg:** An egg that has been pierced by the turtle embryo initiating the hatching process. Eggs are considered pipped from the time that the first tear is made in the shell [by the embryo] until it has completely escaped its eggshell (when it becomes a hatchling).

**Secondary Body Pit:** An excavation made by a nesting turtle primarily using the front flippers following the deposition of eggs. The spoil from the secondary body pit covers the primary body pit and the egg chamber with sand.

**Take:** An act that potentially harasses, injures or kills a protected species.

**TED (Turtle Excluder Device):** TEDs are used on commercial shrimping vessels to allow marine turtles the ability to escape the trawl net. The TED is a grid of metal bars with an opening either at the top or the bottom. The grid fits into the narrow part of the shrimp trawl. When a large animal like a turtle hits the grid bars they will flow through the opening. Smaller animals like shrimp will pass through the bars and be caught in the net. Today, all U.S. shrimpers are required to put TEDs in their trawl nets.

**Yolkless eggs:** [Usually smaller than normal] eggs that do not contain yolk. Yolkless eggs are commonly deposited with yolked eggs by leatherback, hawksbill and occasionally loggerhead turtles.