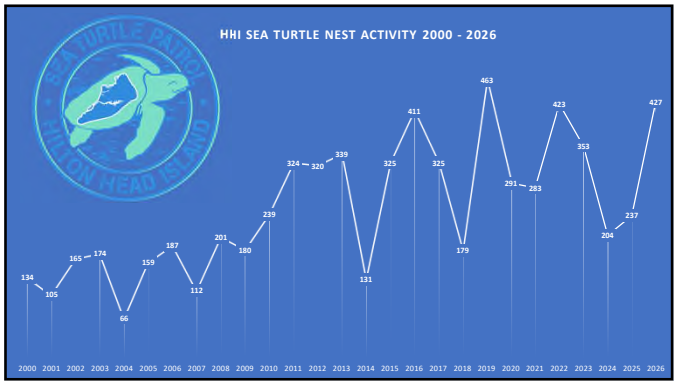
The information provided here is for informational and educational purposes and current as of the date of publication. The information is not a substitute for legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy position of the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Consult your attorney for advice concerning specific situations.



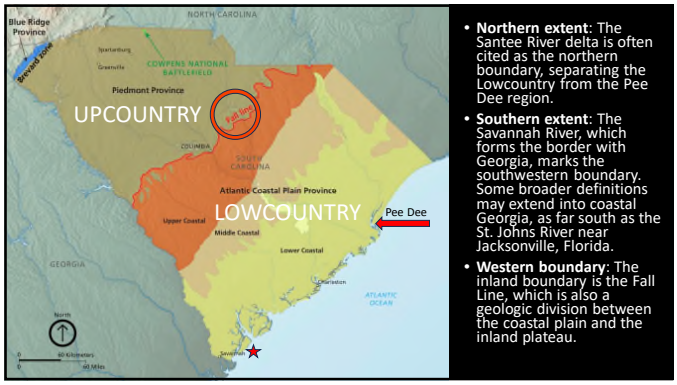




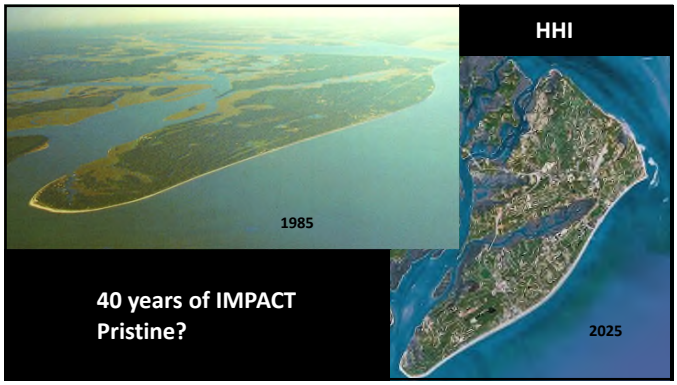
The *Ebb and Flow* of
Sea Turtle Conservatio
SAVING SEA TURTLES
AMBER KUEHN
Director, Sea Turtle Patrol HH




Sea Turtle Nesting
Season MAY - OCT
Off-Season?




- **Northern extent**: The Santee River delta is often cited as the northern boundary, separating the Lowcountry from the Pee Dee region.
- **Southern extent**: The Savannah River, which forms the border with Georgia, marks the southwestern boundary. Some broader definitions may extend into coastal Georgia, as far south as the St. Johns River near Jacksonville, Florida.
- **Western boundary**: The inland boundary is the Fall Line, which is also a geologic division between the coastal plain and the inland plateau.






**Environmental Challenges**

**Lowcountry elevation**
**Development/rain runoff**
**Crazy weather patterns**
**Rain Bombs**
**Climate Change**
**El Niño- High Temp**
**Boat strikes**
**Invasive species – Coyote**
**Beach Renourishment**
**Beach slope/tilling**
**Coastal Squeeze**




HHI Renourishment Years

**1990** (Lighting Ordinance)
**1997**
**2006**
**2012**
**2016** (Matthew)
**2017** (Irma)
(2020 Covid, Holes/PPP)
**2025/2026**



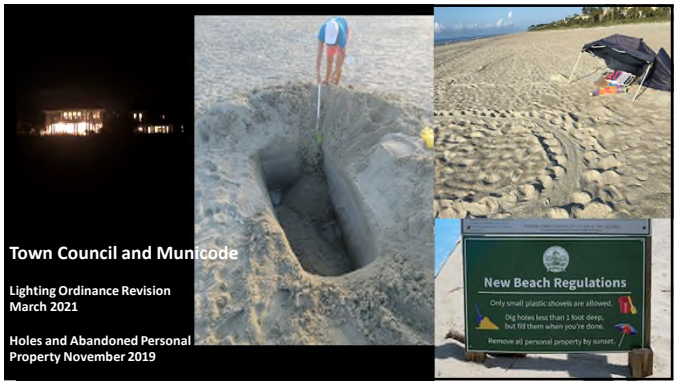




SEA TURTLE FRIENDLY CERTIFIED RESORTS
SEA TURTLE FRIENDLY
CERTIFIED
• Beach House Hilton Head Island*
• Hilton Grand Vacations Hilton Ocean Oak Resort*
• Hilton Resort and Spa HHI
• Marriott's Barony Beach Club*
• Marriott's Grande Ocean
• Marriott's Monarch*
• Marriott's Surfwatch*
• Omni Hilton Head Ocean Resort
• Sonesta Resort Hilton Head
• Westin Hilton Head Island Resort and Spa*
* Designates resorts that offer a resort guest Turtle Talk
SEA TURTLE SAFE STAY RENTALS
SEA TURTLE SAFE STAY
SEA TURTLE PATROL HHI
• Beachside Getaway
• Destination Vacation
• Host & Home Luxury Vacation Rentals
• Island Rentals of Hilton Head
• Island Time
• Palmetto Dunes Oceanfront Resort
• RMC Resort Management
• Sea Turtle Getaways
• Vacation Company


It Wasn't Me


RETURN THE BASKET


Town Council and Municode
Lighting Ordinance Revision
March 2021
Holes and Abandoned Personal
Property November 2019
New Beach Regulations
Only small plastic shovels are allowed.
Dig holes less than 1 foot deep,
but fill them when you're done.
Remove all personal property by sunset.


2020
BEFORE
AFTER


COLLABORATE AND SUPPORT
SEA TURTLE PATROL
HILTON HEAD ISLAND


Curriculum - Grades 1-5


UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
USCB HHI/STPHHI GENETICS LAB
Perivitalline Membrane
Paternity DNA extraction
Maternity DNA extraction
USCB
TODAY


SPARTINA the LOGGERHEAD
Formerly known as CC00422


What will you name her?
Stay connected to Hilton Head Island and keep her close to your heart
She will return…


Sea Turtle Patrol Hilton Head Island
Lowcountry Environmental Center
Est. October 30, 2026


SEA TURTLE PATROL
HILTON HEAD ISL
The future is bright…