



## SAVING SEA TURTLES AND THEIR HABITAT

### END OF SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON 2013

These are the final numbers for the 2013 season and they may differ from earlier reported numbers. Those earlier reports may not have been as accurate because we mark anything that might be a nest, even if we were unable to find the eggs. If the eggs aren't found the area is still marked and counted as a nest. We then wait and watch for the nest to hatch, with the idea it is better to mark a nest that does not exist than to not mark an actual nest. The numbers below are reported to Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC).

Miramar area (from Okaloosa county line to Top Sail Preserve)

6 Loggerhead nests

4 Loggerhead false crawls

4 major lighting disorientation events, Pompano Joes, Hidden Dunes, Sandestin (2)

West area (from end side of Top Sail Preserve to Grayton Beach State Park)

16 Loggerhead nests

2 Loggerhead false crawls

2 major lighting disorientations, 75 Fort Panic St., Sanctuary by the Sea

Middle Area (from end side of Grayton Beach State Park to Camp Creek Lake)

14 Loggerhead nests

10 Loggerhead false crawls

1 major lighting disorientations, One Sea Grove Place

East area (from Camp Creek lake to Bay County Line)

18 Loggerhead nests

18 Loggerhead false crawls

0 major lighting disorientations

There were a total of 54 loggerhead nests, 34 false crawls and 7 major lighting disorientation events.

SWTWG has worked very hard in all areas and we have submitted a great number of complaints on lighting and items left on the beach to beach code enforcement. Working with the various vendors and helping them get on the beach as early as possible has been a major goal. Education; getting people to shield or turn off their beachfront lights, and getting them to use red emitting flashlights are also important goals as we work to protect these rare and endangered sea turtles.