

Beach Cleaning Permit Conditions Within Monroe County

(8/15/96) (06/12/02)

SPECIAL PERMIT CONDITIONS

Field Permit No.

Pursuant to Rule 62B-33.005(11), F.A.C.

1. During the marine turtle nesting season (May 1 to October 31), mechanical beach cleaning activities shall be confined to daylight hours (sunrise to sunset).
2. During marine turtle nesting season (May 1 to October 31), the permittee is responsible for ensuring that a daily marine turtle nest survey, protection, and monitoring program is conducted throughout the permitted beach cleaning area. Such surveys and associated conservation measures shall be completed after sunrise and prior to the commencement of any mechanical beach cleaning. The marine turtle survey, protection, and monitoring program shall be conducted only by individuals possessing appropriate expertise in the protocol being followed and a valid F.A.C. Rule 68E-1 Permit issued by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).
3. All nests left in place shall be marked with a circle of tape or string having a radius of at least three (3) feet, centered at the approximated location of the clutch. An additional marker shall be placed in a landward location to ensure that future location of the nest will be possible should the on-beach markings be lost. No mechanical cleaning equipment shall be allowed to occur inside of this circle. However, careful removal of material by hand shall be allowed. All equipment operators should be briefed on the types of marking utilized and should be able to easily contact the individual responsible for the nest survey to verify any questionable areas.
4. In the event that mechanical beach cleaning occurs prior to completion of the marine turtle nest survey, protection, and monitoring program, mechanical beach cleaning shall not occur landward of the wrack line on that beach until 65 days have passed or after November 30, whichever is earlier. The permittee shall contact the Marine Turtle Permit Holder prior to reinitiating mechanical beach cleaning in that area.
5. In the event that on-beach nest markers are lost for any reason, including vandalism or high water conditions, no mechanical beach cleaning shall be conducted until the marine turtle permit holder identifies the nest and restores the markers. In the event that the nest cannot be found and may have been lost during high water conditions, the permittee shall contact the DEP to determine if mechanical beach cleaning can resume. All marine turtle protection conditions shall remain in effect unless specifically waived in writing.
6. In order to avoid adverse impacts in the event that cleaning accidentally occurs over a nest, this permit authorizes the use of a vehicle with a maximum tire pressure of 10 p.s.i. and a rake or cleaning apparatus which limits penetration into the surface of the beach to a maximum of two inches. Box blades and front or rear mounted blades are not authorized. No other types of vehicles may be operated on the beach pursuant to this permit. Mechanized beach cleaning shall be accomplished so that no ruts are formed on the beach.
7. Burial or storage of any debris (biotic or abiotic) collected is prohibited seaward of the 50 foot setback. Removal of accumulated debris from the beach must occur immediately after cleaning has been performed.
8. Operators of mechanical beach cleaning equipment shall avoid all native, salt tolerant dune vegetation by a minimum of 10 feet.