

Thompsons Beach



2023 By the Numbers

Overturned Crabs: 1,584

Man-made Impingement: 104

Natural Impingement: 56

Overwash Impingement: 11

Total Rescued Crabs: 1,755

Rescue Walks: 13

Total Crabs per Walk: 135.0



Quick Facts

Total Distance – 1.38 km

- Section 1 - 0.25 km:** Farthest section to west. Marked by a mostly inaccessible marsh on western end and an outcrop of land that has large amounts of rubble on both sides. To access you will leave the beach and walk through the marsh. Includes Hazard A and one side of Hazard B.
- Section 2 - 0.50 km:** This section is between outcrop with rubble and old house foundation and pilings. Includes Hazard C and one side from Hazard B and D.
- Section 3 - 0.43 km:** Between old house foundation and east end. Includes one side of Hazard D.
- Section 4 - 0.20 km:** Farthest section to east and includes Hazard E.
- Key hazard areas** (Use the letters above on the datasheet)

Closed: Closed from May 7-June 7

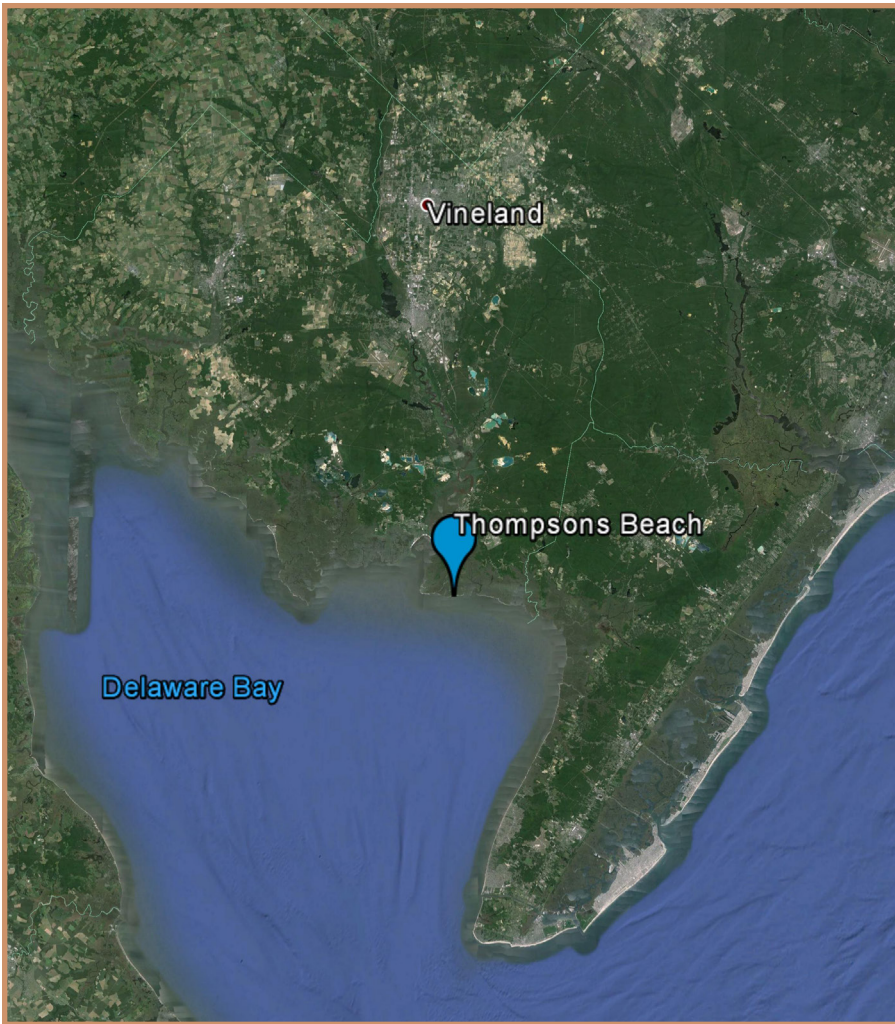
Sponsoring Organization: Horseshoe Crab Recovery Coalition

Ownership: State, Maurice River Township

Other activities: Horseshoe crab spawning surveys and tagging, shorebird research, large-scale restoration project, egg density surveys.

Safety or other Concerns: The road out to this beach from the parking lot is closed. It is a 0.7 km walk from the parking lot to the beach. Please check with beach coordinator **ahead of your visit** for information about key to unlock the gate **if access by vehicle is required**. This gravel road will flood up to a foot on the high tide.

Known impingement hazards: This beach received sand replenishment in 2015. This led to a significant reduction in impingement hazards. However, most of the sand is now gone and rubble is strewn along Section 2. There are also concrete blocks, pilings, rubble, and other remnants of the former homes that may trap crabs. **Key hazard areas are noted with letters on the map and described on the next page.**



Directions:

From South: Take NJ-47 N. When NJ-347 N splits with NJ-47 N, turn left to follow NJ-47-N. From the split, travel 5.7 miles to Glade Rd. Turn left onto Glade Rd.

From North: Follow NJ-55 S to NJ-47 S in Maurice River. Stay on NJ-47 S where road splits into NJ-347 S and NJ-47 S. From the split, travel 5.3 miles to Glade Rd. Turn right onto Glade Rd.

After 1.9 miles on Glade Rd. Turn left onto Thompsons Beach Rd. Travel to the end of the road. Park in the parking lot at the gate.

Note: There are multiple ways to get to Thompsons Beach. These directions are the easiest for people new to the area, but you will see signs on NJ-47 for other routes to Thompsons Beach. Ignore those signs if you are following these directions.

Watch for nesting American Oystercatchers in the dune and wrack line.

There may be symbolic fencing (post and string) marking some of the nests to reduce disturbance to the eggs and the chicks.



Exposed rubble on the high tide line where the road ends at the beach.



Unlike many Bayshore beaches, at Thompsons Beach the parking is 0.70 km away from the beach. This gives volunteers a lovely walk through the salt marsh to get to the beach. Please check with beach coordinator **ahead of your visit** for information about key to unlock the gate **if access by vehicle is required.**

Hazards

- » **Hazard A:** peat outcrop, natural impingement
- » **Hazard B:** concrete rubble at point between section 1 and section 2
- » **Hazard C:** concrete rubble at the end of the parking lot
- » **Hazard D:** foundation of old house between section 2 and section 3
- » **Hazard E:** peat outcrop, natural impingement between section 3 and 4

Contact Information:

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