

Reeds Beach



2024 By the Numbers

Overturned Crabs: 25,499
Man-made Impingement: 846
Natural Impingement: 81
Natural Overwashed: 131

Total Rescued Crabs: 26,557
Total Rescue Walks: 74
Total Crabs per Walk: 358.9

Beach Information

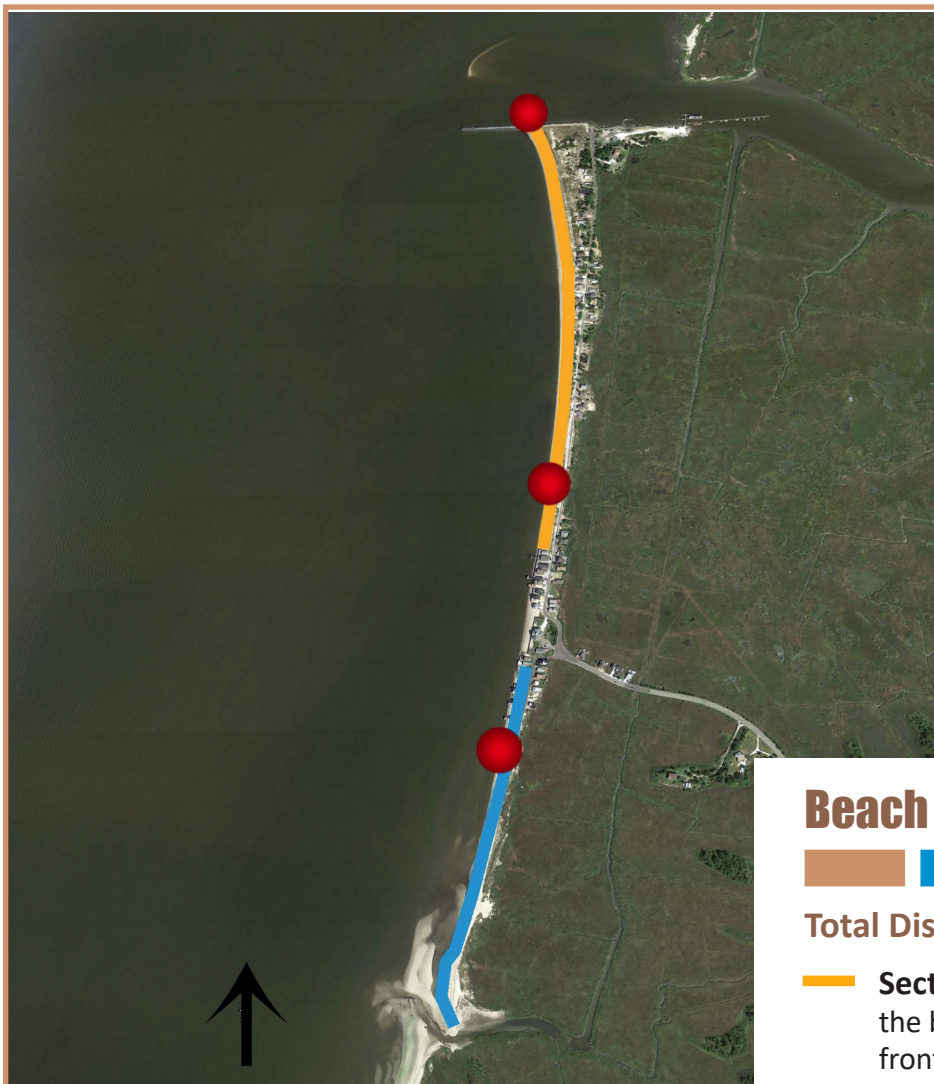
Total Distance – 1.56 km

Section 1- 1.0 km: Jetty to the bulkhead that cuts the beach off. This transect will take you directly in front of several houses, and ends at the bulkhead (associated with a house) which is only passable at very low tides. The jetty is the meeting location for public RTF walks.

Section 2- 0.70 km: This section starts where the road splits with a bulkhead the north. Section ends at the creek to the south. Some of this section is very close to homes. This section may have overwash hazards.

● Key Hazard Areas

Safety: Do NOT enter private property without permission. Obey ALL private property signs and do not cross over dunes. Be watchful for wildlife (nesting and hatchling terrapins on roads, mammals). The jetty is dangerous and slippery- be careful when rescuing crabs between the rocks. Be courteous to residents and properties when parking and conversing near homes, especially at night. .



Closed: All of this beach is closed from May 7-June 7

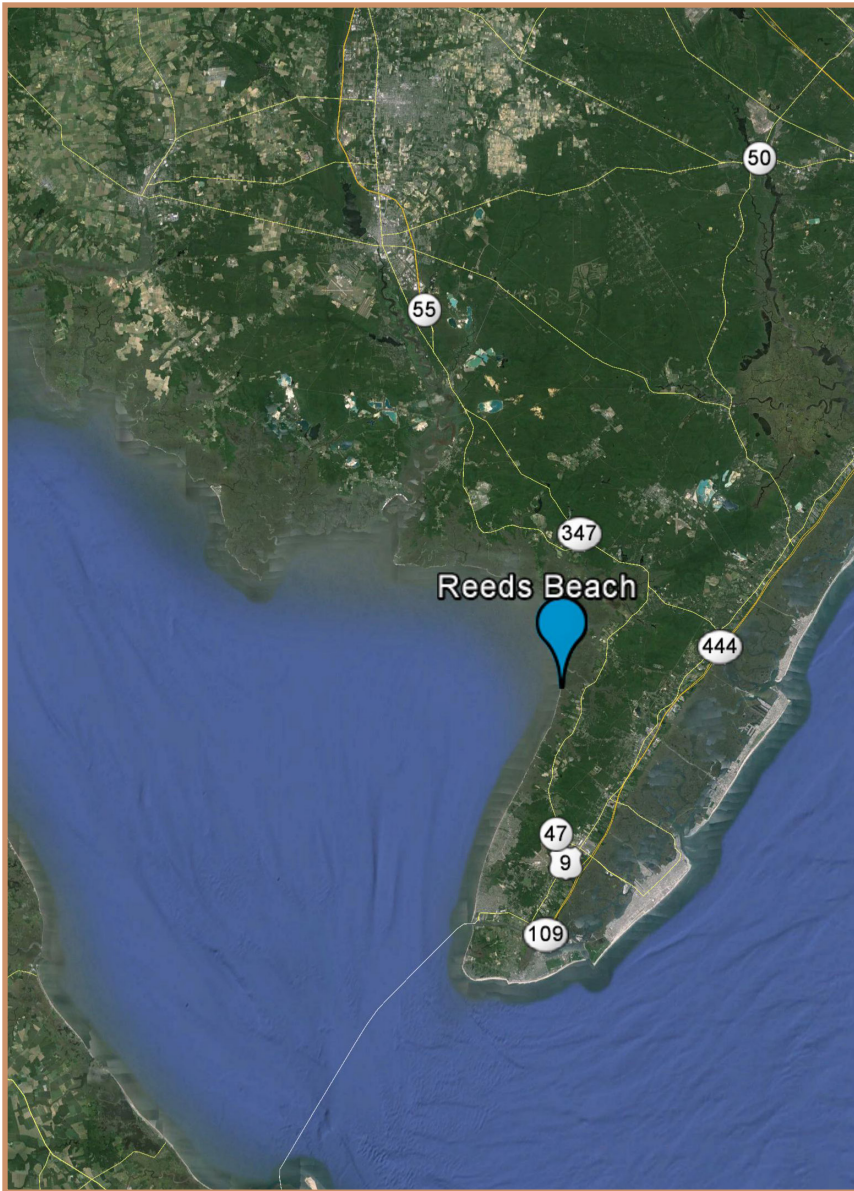
Sponsoring Organization: The Wetlands Institute

Ownership: Township of Middle, Cape May National Wildlife Refuge, State of New Jersey, private ownership.

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

Known impingement hazards: The jetty at the north end traps many crabs. Mulch-like natural wrack piles up at the north end jetty, and sometimes hundreds of crabs are hidden beneath this natural hazard. The jetty also often has large amounts of monofilament stuck in the rocks. A pocket knife will be useful to cut it free.

Home structures along the beaches often trap crabs, as do old, out-of-use structures. Known key hazard areas are marked with a red dot.



Directions:

From Route 47: Turn onto Reeds Beach Road (look for a brown sign denoting where to turn). To get to the north end of Reeds Beach and the parking area, continue until the road dead-ends, and take a right hand turn to follow that road until the end. To get to the south end, take a left at the fork. There is limited parking at the southern end of Reeds Beach Rd.



Crabs frequently get trapped under homes and in fence.



Hazards on Beach 2 in between houses. Some boards and debris have been removed, but hazards remain.



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