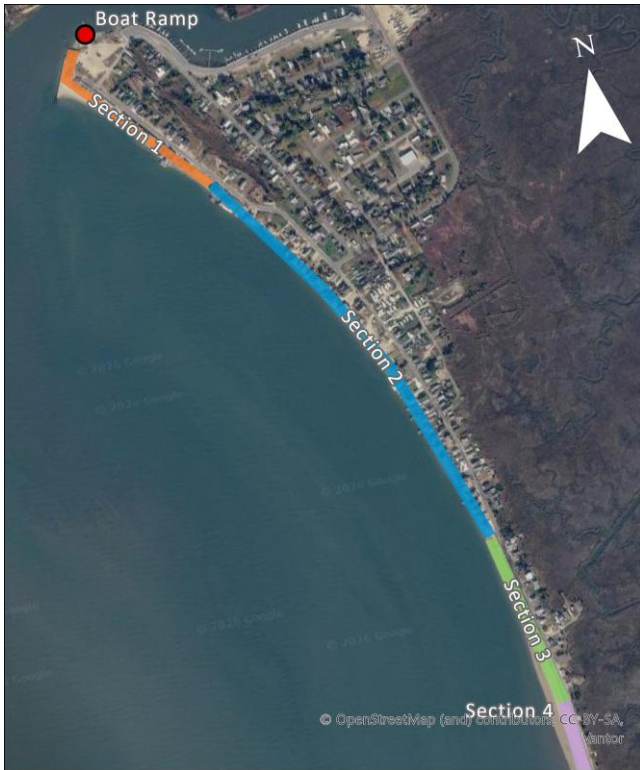


# Fortescue Beach

**Access: Moderate Walkability: Difficult Effort: Difficult**  
**This beach is known for a large number of both overturned and impinged crabs with various hazards.**



## Beach Information

**Access:** Open and closed sections

**Sponsoring Organization:** RTF

**Ownership:** State, Natural Lands Trust, Downe Township

**Other Activities:** Spawning surveys and tagging, large and small-scale restoration projects, shorebird research, horseshoe crab egg density surveys, ERDG Community Horseshoe Crab Sanctuary

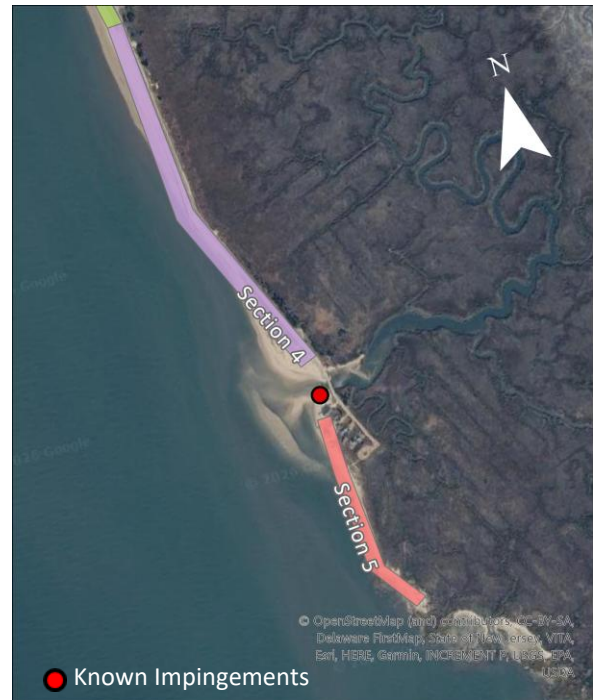
## Open Beach Sections

Total Distance: 1.15 miles

**Section 1 – 0.31 mi:** Northern-most section that includes the boat ramp and ends at second section of houses.

**Section 2 – 0.62 mi:** Main length of beach in front of the homes that is only accessible on low tides.

**Section 3 – 0.22 mi:** The public beach directly in front of the parking lot, extending from one end of the lot to the other.



## Closed Beach Sections

Total Distance: 0.75 mile

**Section 4 – 0.47 mi:** End of the large parking lot to the end of the road before the small bridge over the creek.

**Section 5 – 0.28 mi:** Raybins Beach, from the other side of the bridge to the next creek.

## Directions:

**From South:** While heading north on Rt 553/Main St, turn left on to 732/Methodist Rd just after the Downe Township Municipal Building. Where Rt. 732 meets Landing Rd and Baptist Rd, turn left. Make a quick left onto Fortescue Rd/Rt. 637 at the blinker.

**From North:** Follow 553 South from Cedarville to Rt. 629. Turn right onto Rt. 629. Turn right at the T onto Rt. 656/Baptist Rd. Travel one long block to turn left onto Fortescue Rd/Rt. 637 at the blinker.

**From Millville/Rt. 55/Rt 49:** Turn off Rt. 49 onto Cedarville Rd (Cedar St) at the blinker just west of the Maurice River Bridge in Millville. Follow Cedarville Rd past the airport across Buckshutem Rd and shortly after take the left fork at the 'big oak tree' onto Newport-Centre Grove Rd/Rt. 629. Continue on this road, crossing over Rt. 553. When the road ends at Rt. 656/Baptist Rd, turn right. Travel one long block to turn left onto Fortescue Rd/Rt. 637 at the blinker.

**From the blinker for Fortescue Rd:** Once on Fortescue Rd/Rt. 637, travel to the split at Rt. 643/Newport Rd and Fortescue Rd/Rt. 637, continue to follow Fortescue Rd until you cross over the bridge at Higbees marina.

## Courtesy:

In some sections you will be passing by private homes. Please be quiet and respectful of their privacy. Do not rescue on private property without permission.

## Contact Information:

reTURN the Favor  
info@returnthefavornj.org  
Beach Captain: Sandy Anderson  
Email: sja64@aol.com



## Getting around Fortescue/Parking:

**Section 1 and boat ramp:** Make an immediate right onto Creek Ave. To get to the boat ramp you will drive through the parking lot at the end of the road on the creek side. The best place to access Section 1 is to park along Delaware Ave and use one of the beach entrance ramps.

**Section 2:** Contact the beach captain.

**Section 3-5:** From the bridge, continue onto Downe Ave until you reach New Jersey Ave which parallels the Bay. Turn left onto New Jersey Ave.

•**Section 3:** There is a large parking lot immediately behind it. Park anywhere to access this beach.

•**Section 4:** Begins at the end of the parking lot.

•**Section 5:** You will need to park on New Jersey Avenue just before the final houses and the small bridge. Do not drive across the bridge. Walk across the bridge to the end of the road and use the foot path through the dune to the beach. Be sure not to trespass on private property.

## Safety:

Use caution when rescuing around the man-made hazards.

## Note:

Watch for nesting American Oystercatchers and keep a safe distance.

## 2025 Summary

Total rescued crabs	15,796
Total rescue walks	61
Total crabs per walk	259
Overturned crabs	10,196
Impingements	5,600
Boat ramp	1,827
Jetty/groin	1,457
Bin blocks/riprap	1,074
Natural - Overwash	410
House	329
Rubble	310
Natural - Veg/peat above high tide line	82
Natural - Veg/peat below high tide line	80
Marine debris	31