

Amelia Island Sea Turtle Watch 2026 Season Summary (as of 10/20/26)

AISTW:

298 nests (290 CC, 8 CM), 198 false crawls (194 CC, 4 CM)
Near record nests, nearly matching 2019 (294 CC, 7 CM)
As of today, one nest left on beach. First nest was 5/8
265 excavation inventories, all time record (exceeding 232 in 2019)
23,440 hatchlings emerged, all time record
29,076 total eggs counted, all time record (exceeding 25,454 in 2019)
61 excavations posted AISTW/AIP, several thousand attended
8 adult, 35 emergence disorientations, well above 10-yr average (16)
Average excavated nest size 110 eggs.
16 nests lost (13%), about 10 yr average (12%)
61 CC eggs collected 6/1-15 for genetic research
17 human disturbances, highest on record
56 nests located in county beach driving areas
79 nests located in 2025 renourishment area, more than 20 in 2025
All time records are since 1985, when AISTW was established.

Total Island:

AISTW 298 nests
Fort Clinch St Park 49 nests
Al State Park 9 nests
356 total island

Unusual nests:

JEL29, green laid 10/2, latest nest on record (was 9/29)
Lost to high-surf erosion on 10/8

For more statistics, see:

<https://www.ameliaislandseaturtlewatch.com/aistw-historical-data.html>