Cold Stunned Kemp’s Ridley
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Cold Stunning

When water temperatures dip below 50 degrees Celsius, turtles become cold stunned. As the body temperatures of the turtles decrease, they lose the ability to swim, their metabolism slows, and organs begin to shut down. This leads to various health problems, including hypothermia, pneumonia, starvation, parasites, drowning, and algae growth.

Goals
❖ Research why sea turtles were getting cold stunned
❖ Find them before the process occurs and their physical situation worsens
❖ Find potential solutions and try to apply them

Sea Turtle Open House
November 24, 2018

Sea Turtle Stranding*
Kemp’s Ridley: 503
Green: 14
Loggerhead: 8
Total: 525

*As of November 24, 2018

Tools for the Future

Permissions
❖ Improves collection of beached turtles.
❖ Cheap method of public awareness.
❖ Signs get washed away by weather.

Satellite Tracking
❖ Improves collection of turtles prior to being beached.
❖ Very expensive.
❖ Many juveniles too small for satellite tags.

Mark Recapture
❖ Good estimation of population size.
❖ Can include juveniles.
❖ Data analyzed after recapture.

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References