

Red Tide Related Beach Cleaning Best Management Practices

1. During marine turtle nesting season (March 1 to October 31), red tide related beach cleaning activities should be coordinated with the Marine Turtle Permit Holder (MTPH) for the area being cleaned. Please contact the FWC's Imperiled Species Management Section at (561) 575-5407 or (850) 922-4330 for the specific MTPH in your location. After hours and on weekends please email MTP@myfwc.com for MTPH information.
2. All beach cleaning activity shall be confined to daylight hours.
3. During the marine turtle nesting season, beach cleaning of red tide debris should only be conducted seaward of the average high tide line or debris line.
4. All equipment should access the beach at existing beach access locations and equipment should transit the beach seaward of the average high tide or debris line.
5. All beach cleaning equipment operators should avoid all marked marine turtle nests during debris removal.
6. Staging areas for beach cleaning related equipment or materials should be located off the beach.
7. In the event a sea turtle nest is inadvertently excavated during debris removal activities, the FWC should be contacted at 1-888-404-3922.
8. If a sick, injured, or dead sea turtle or marine mammal is found during debris removal activities please leave in place and report it to 1-888-404-3922.
9. If the entity conducting the red tide related beach cleaning activities has a valid Beach Cleaning Permit from the Department of Environmental Protection, the entity should abide by the conditions of that permit.