

Stone Harbor, NJ Patron Survey

Management of Drivers and Turtles on Stone Harbor Boulevard Causeway



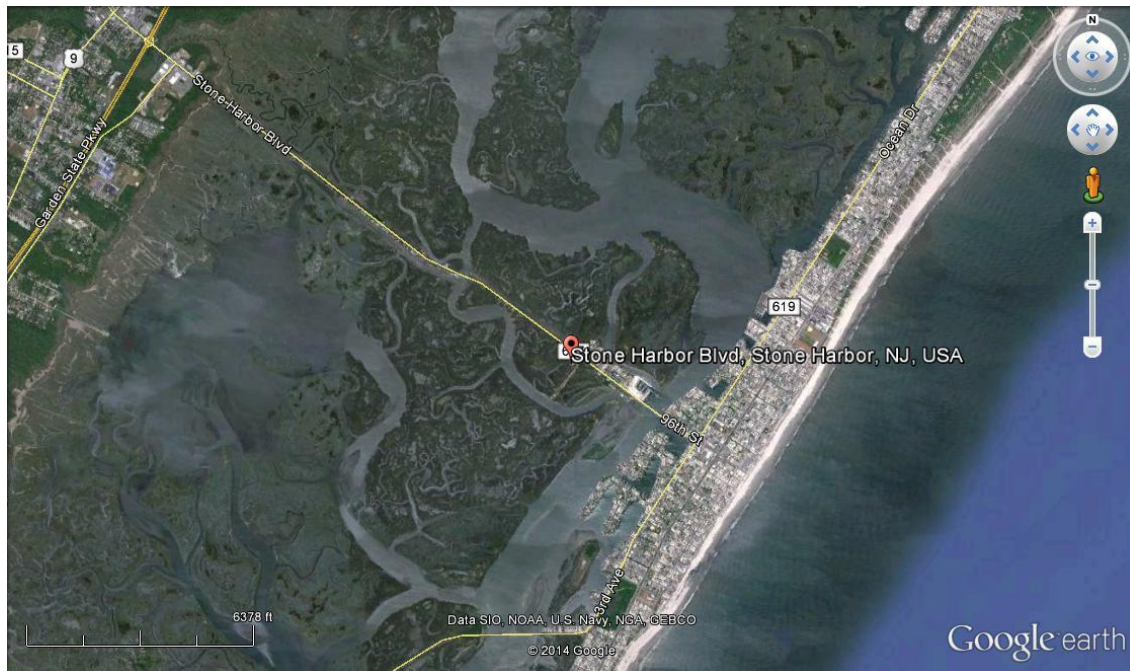
CONSERVE WILDLIFE
FOUNDATION OF NEW JERSEY

2014

Funds for this project generously donated by



You have been randomly selected as a traveler of the Stone Harbor Boulevard Causeway (the road you came in on) to participate in this survey. If you are less than 18 years old, please do not complete the survey.



We want you to get your bearings. The figure above is an aerial view of the Stone Harbor Boulevard Causeway (County Route 657), which is the 2-lane road that connects the Garden State Parkway and U.S. Route 9 with Stone Harbor, New Jersey.

The diamondback terrapin (pictured on the front cover) is a small to medium-sized species of turtle that lives in coastal salt marshes, including the marsh near the Stone Harbor Boulevard Causeway. Adult terrapins are commonly struck by vehicles while attempting to cross causeways, and terrapin eggs are eaten by raccoons and other mammalian predators. Currently, the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ is working with other researchers and organizations on the best way to protect wildlife and satisfy people's needs that visit, live, or work in Stone Harbor and other parts of the State and we would like to get **your opinion**. Your participation is totally voluntary, and your answers will be anonymous.

****Please note that no additional management is currently being proposed or will be proposed on the Stone Harbor Boulevard Causeway based on the results of this survey.**

We thank you for your input.

Section A: Past experience with Stone Harbor, New Jersey

A1. What best describes your connection with Stone Harbor, New Jersey? (*Check ONE answer*)

- Visitor
 Resident (*Skip to A3*)
 Employee (*Skip to A3*)
 Resident AND Employee (*Skip to A3*)

A2. Including this trip, how many times have you recently visited Stone Harbor?

_____ # trips over last 12 months _____ # trips over last 3 years

A3. Which of the following activities do you typically do in Stone Harbor? (*Check ALL that apply*)

- Beach activities Downtown shopping
 Fishing Biking
 Wildlife viewing The Wetlands Institute
 Restaurants/Bars Other _____

A4. Please answer the following questions. (*Check ONE box per ROW*)

	No	Unsure	Yes
Could you identify a terrapin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you witnessed a terrapin hit on Stone Harbor Boulevard (referred to as the Causeway)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you hit a terrapin on the Causeway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A5. Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. (*Circle ONE number per ROW*)

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neither Disagree or Agree 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5
The number of terrapins living near the Causeway has declined in recent years.	1	2	3	4	5
Road mortality is leading to fewer terrapins in the wild.	1	2	3	4	5
Nest predation is leading to fewer terrapins in the wild.	1	2	3	4	5
We should protect terrapins from being struck by vehicles on the Causeway.	1	2	3	4	5
I would drive slower if I knew terrapins were on the road.	1	2	3	4	5
We should protect terrapin nests from raccoon and other mammalian predators.	1	2	3	4	5
Protecting terrapins should NOT be a priority when managing the Causeway.	1	2	3	4	5

Section B: Causeway management and wildlife

Of many potential management options, you may not be familiar with the following:

- Creating roadside barriers would intercept adult terrapins before they cross the road. These may detract from scenic marsh views.
- Clearing roadside hedges/grasses would increase marsh views and give terrapins more nesting habitat.

B1. How acceptable is it for the following management actions to occur on the Causeway?

(Please circle ONE number per ROW)

	Highly Unacceptable	Unacceptable	Neither Unacceptable or Acceptable	Acceptable	Highly Acceptable
	1	2	3	4	5
Reduce speed limit	1	2	3	4	5
Install speed bumps	1	2	3	4	5
Install flashing yellow lights to warn drivers of terrapins on the road	1	2	3	4	5
Place short fences (1-ft in height) along roadsides	1	2	3	4	5
Place concrete barriers along roadsides	1	2	3	4	5
Clear roadside hedges/grasses	1	2	3	4	5
Relocate raccoons or other mammalian predators	1	2	3	4	5
Lethally (humanely) remove raccoons or other mammalian predators	1	2	3	4	5
Do nothing	1	2	3	4	5

B2. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. *(Circle ONE number per ROW)*

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree or Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
	1	2	3	4	5
Terrapins are a valuable part of nature.	1	2	3	4	5
Terrapins are an important component to Stone Harbor's scenic beauty.	1	2	3	4	5
Protecting terrapins is important to preserve the natural integrity of Stone Harbor.	1	2	3	4	5

I think it is inhumane to kill terrapins on the Causeway.	1	2	3	4	5
Terrapins have as much right as people to exist.	1	2	3	4	5
Management should focus on doing what is best for island patrons over what is best for terrapins.	1	2	3	4	5

B3. How concerned would you be for the following if you were in a wildlife-vehicle collision?

(Please circle ONE number per ROW)

	Not Concerned at All	Not Really Concerned	Neither Concerned Nor Unconcerned	Concerned	Extremely Concerned
	1	2	3	4	5
Impact to human safety	1	2	3	4	5
Damage to vehicle	1	2	3	4	5
Impact to wildlife	1	2	3	4	5

B4. How upset would you be if you struck each of the following animals while driving?

(Please circle ONE number per ROW)

	Not Upset at All	Not Really Upset	Neither	Upset	Extremely Upset
	1	2	3	4	5
Bear	1	2	3	4	5
Deer	1	2	3	4	5
Raccoon	1	2	3	4	5
Snake	1	2	3	4	5
Turtle	1	2	3	4	5
Bird	1	2	3	4	5
Squirrel	1	2	3	4	5
Dog	1	2	3	4	5
Cat	1	2	3	4	5

Section C: Demographics

These questions will help us to ensure that the people we are surveying are representative of all people that travel on the Stone Harbor Boulevard Causeway. **All answers will be kept strictly confidential.**

C1. What is your age? _____years

C2. What is your gender? _____Male _____Female

C3. Which of the following category best describes your race/ethnicity? (*Check ALL that apply*)

Caucasian

Asian or Pacific Islander

African American

American Indian

Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish

Other

C4. What is your highest level of education? (*Check ONE answer*)

High school not
completed

High school
completed

Some college or
technical school

College degree or
higher

C5. What is your zip code? _____

Please use the space provided below for any additional comments.

Thank you for completing this survey. If you have any additional questions, please contact:

Stephanie Egger, Wildlife Biologist, Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ – (215) 350-6827;
stephanie.egger@conservewildlifenj.org