

Lights Out for Sea Turtles - Annual Notice to All SLD 45 Organizations, Tenants & Residents

All Space Launch Delta 45 organizations, tenants and residents are reminded that the mandatory exterior lighting restrictions for sea turtle nesting season officially begin on 1 May and continue through 31 October.

The beaches at CCSFS and PSFB are prime nesting habitat for loggerhead, green and leatherback sea turtles. Artificial lighting negatively affects nocturnal sea turtle behavior of both adults and hatchlings.

Disorientation occurs when sea turtles crawl toward inland light sources rather than the ocean. To minimize injury or death to sea turtles protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), all nonessential lighting must be extinguished between 2100 and 0600 hours during nesting season (1 May-31 Oct). Exterior lighting that is not mission-, safety-, or security-essential will be extinguished during this time frame. Interior lighting that is visible from the exterior of the facility, creating a glow, shall be extinguished and/or shielded as well.

The Space Wing Instruction (SWI): 45 SWI 32-7001, *Exterior Lighting Management*, 23 Apr 18, addresses exterior lighting requirements at all SLD 45 installations. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with this SWI at the following link:

http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/45sw/publication/45swi32-7001/45swi32-7001_final.pdf

Questions regarding the requirements of the SWI or concerns relating to sea turtles and lighting should be directed to SLD 45 Civil Engineering Installation Management Flight (45 CES/CEIE) at 853-6822 or 853-0964.

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