

Project Report  
**ENDANGERED SPECIES MONITORING**  
Calcasieu River and Pass  
Bar Channel  
Maintenance Dredging  
01-1-CAL

Operations Technical Support Branch  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
504-862-2504



November 4, 2000, a dead Kemp's Ridley sea turtle was sighted floating outside the navigational channel. The body was retrieved and examined by on-board sea turtle observers.

Throughout the dredging work both biological and non-biological debris was recovered from the screens. The biological material collected included ~~skates~~, croaker, red drum, black tip shark, catfish, shark eyes, rays, eels, whelks, flounder, blue crabs, spider crabs, and redfish. The majority of the non-biological debris consisted of ~~assorted~~ trash, clay, plastic, cloth, textiles, netting, wood, and rope. The results of the screen monitoring are summarized in table 1.

Water temperatures ranged from a maximum surface water temperature of 77 degrees F (25 degrees C) to a minimum surface water temperature of 65 degrees F (18.3 degrees C). Below mid-depth water temperatures ranged from a maximum of 78 degrees F (25.5 degrees C) to a minimum of 69 degrees F (20.5 degrees C). On the day of the sea turtle take, the below mid-depth water temperature was 78 degrees F (25.6 degrees C).

Bridge monitoring was conducted opportunistically.

### **Discussion**

One sea turtle take was recorded during this dredging event. On November 4, 2000, a dead Kemp's Ridley sea turtle was sighted floating outside the navigational channel. This sea turtle mortality was recorded as an incidental take for FY 01. Temperature conditions during the maintenance event were well within range of sea turtle tolerances.

Table 3. Calcasieu FY 01 C0002 Sea Turtle Observer Reports

DATE	DREDGE	NOTES
7 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: debris, 1 small croaker, 10-20 shark eyes Below Mid-Depth Temp: 76 F Surface Temp: Weather: overcast, drizzle, lt. wind Other:
8 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: debris, 8 small hardhead catfish, 30-40 shark eyes Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74 F, 78F Surface Temp: Weather: overcast, cloudy Other:
9 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: debris-rope, plastic, cloth, 6-7 hardhead catfish, 1 small croaker, 1 small red drum ~ 30 shark eyes Below Mid-Depth Temp: 70-72 F Surface Temp: Weather: calm Other:
10 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 5-6 hardhead catfish, debris, ~10 shark eyes, textile & plastic debris, red seaweed, 1 red drum Below Mid-Depth Temp: 70 F Surface Temperature: Weather: partly cloudy Other:
11 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: textile and plastic debris, netting, lumps of clay, 2 hardhead catfish, 1 croaker, 1 large red drum Below Mid-Depth Temp: 69 F Surface Temp: 66 F Weather: sunny, calm, wind W @ 8, BSS 2 Other:
12 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 1 lg. hardhead catfish, plastic & textile debris, chunks of clay, 2 hardhead catfish Below Mid-Depth Temp: 70 F Surface Temp: 67 F Weather: BSS 2, lt. breeze, 1-3 kts, clear, NNW wind @ 8, BSS 1-3 Other:
13 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 70 F Surface Temp: 68 F Weather: BSS 3, gentle breeze, WNW 7-10 kts Other:
14 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: can, excessive debris, hardhead catfish Below Mid-Depth Temp: 70 F Surface Temp: 70 F Weather: rain, p/cloudy, SE 5-20 K, BSS 2-4' Other:
15 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: debris, hardhead catfish, ½ disc & ventral spine of stingray, carpace only of spider crab Below Mid-Depth Temp: 70-71 F Surface Temp: 68-70 F Weather: clear, wind SSE 7-11 kts, BSS 3-4 Other:

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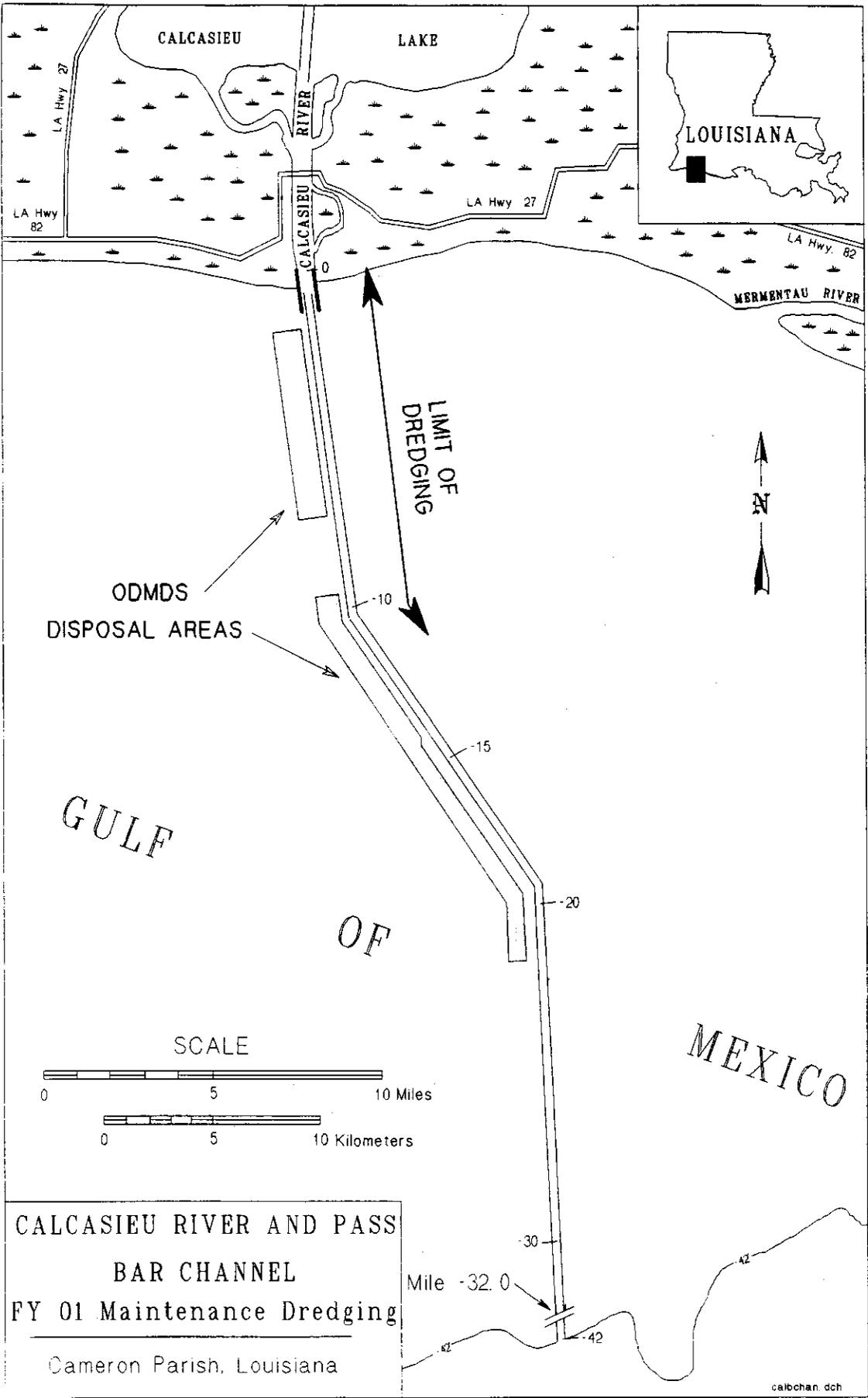
DATE	DREDGE	NOTES
16 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: debris (textiles plastic wood, metal, fishing line), 1 small stingray Below Mid-Depth Temp: 72-73F Surface Temp: 69-70 Weather: clears, SSW 6-10 kts, BSS 2-3 Other:
17 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: portion f disc & anterior region of S. Stingray, 1 large red drum (deteriorated & decomposed) Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74 Surface Temp: 73 Weather: clear, winds W 8 kts, BSS 3-4 Other:
18 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: excessive debris, no biological findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74 Surface Temp: 72 Weather: winds N @ 9 kts, BSS 3-4 Other:
19 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no sightings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 72-73 Surface Temperature: 70-71 Weather: BSS 3, NNW at 9 kts Other:
20 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 2 moderately decomposed S. Stingray and debris, plastic , cloth, plastic, tires, crab pots, cables, etc. Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74-75F Surface Temp: 72F Weather: overcast, winds SE at 8 kts. BSS 3 Other:
21 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: excessive debris Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74 Surface Temp: 72 Weather: overcast, winds ESE 12-17 kts, BSS 4, cloudy, some rain Other:
22 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: excessive debris Below Mid-Depth Temp: 75 Surface Temp: 73 Weather: cloudy, winds SE 15 kts, BSS 5 Other:
23 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 1 lightening whelk, several shark eyes, 2 spider crabs Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74 Surface Temp: 72 Weather: clear, winds SE 11 kts, BSS 4 Other:
24 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 2 spider crabs, excessive debris Below Mid-Depth Temp: 75 Surface Temp: 73 Weather: clear, winds SE 8-10 kts, BSS 3 Other:

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DATE	DREDGE	NOTES
25 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 1 hardhead catfish (alive) in forward landard, excessive debris Below Mid-Depth Temp: 75 Surface Temp: 73 Weather: clear, winds SE 6-8 kts Other:
26 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 75 Surface Temp: 73 Weather: BSS 5, winds SE 17-20 kts, clear, some fog (late) Other:
27 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 4 spider crab, 4 S. Stingrays (caught in standard draghead and port hinge points, and forward landard) Below Mid-Depth Temp: 76 Surface Temp: 74 Weather: BSS 3, winds SE 10 kts Other:
28 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: 8 S. Stingrays (caught in starboard & port draghead hinge points and forward landard) Below Mid-Depth Temp: 76 Surface Temperature: 74 Weather: clear, BSS 2-3, winds SE 10 kts Other:
29 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 73 Surface Temp: 75 Weather: BSS 3, winds 10-15 kts, clear, muggy Other:
30 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 75 Surface Temp: 75 Weather: BSS 2, winds 5-10 kts, warm, muggy Other:
31 October 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 72 Surface Temp: 73 Weather: muggy, winds SE 12 kts, BSS 4 Other:
1 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: very little debris Below Mid-Depth Temp: none listed Surface Temp: 72 Weather: BSS 5, winds SW 1 kts, rainy Other:
2 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: not much debris, no significant biological findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 78 Surface Temp: thermometer broken Weather: BSS 3, winds SE 12-15 kts, muggy Other:

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DATE	DREDGE	NOTES
3 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: excessive debris in dragheads, 1 S. Stingray Below Mid-Depth Temp: none listed Surface Temp: none listed Weather: BSS 3, winds S 10 kts, clear Other: ***Found dead Kemp's Ridley turtle 9:30 a.m floating outside ship channel (dead for 48 to 72 hrs not dredge related)
4 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 78 Surface Temp: Weather: BSS 3, winds SE 10 kts, raining Other:
5 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 77 Surface Temp: 77 Weather: BSS 3-6, rain winds N 20 kts Other:
6 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 77 Surface Temperature: 77 Weather: BSS 4, winds NNE 19 kts, sunny Other:
7 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 77 Surface Temp: BSS 4, winds NE Weather: BSS 5, NE 11-13 kts, cloudy Other:
8 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: one 20 in. black tip shark (alive & released), one 14 in. red drum Below Mid-Depth Temp: 74 Surface Temp: Weather: BSS 5, winds NE 20 kts, clear and sunny Other:
9 November 2000	Lindholm	Screens: no significant findings Below Mid-Depth Temp: 77 Surface Temp: Weather: BSS 5, winds NE 20 kts Other:



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 BAR CHANNEL  
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 Cameron Parish, Louisiana