ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge: Bayport

Project: York Spit

DAILY REPORT

Date 9 / 13 / 02 Load Numbers 190, 191, 194

Area(s) Worked Sections 128-198

Weather Conditions (incl. sea conditions) Air temp 74-75°, clear skies, wind SSW 5-10kts → SE 5-10kts, Swell East 1-2ft.

Range of Water Temp., Surface 75°F. Below Mid-Depth 74°F

Condition and Effectiveness of Screening Good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? (YES) NO

Comments (details of turtle takes or whale sightings, dredged material, screening, biological by-catch, etc.):

A Kemp's Ridley seaturtle was found in the fore, starboard in-flow box. While initially alive, the turtle's carapace and plastron were extensively damaged. The turtle was handed over to the Virginia Marine Science Museum who informed us that due to the damage, if the animal was still alive, it would have to be euthanized. See attached incident report for details. Chris Slay was notified, who then notified NMFS.

Other biological bycatch:

horseshoe crabs - 5

flatfish - 2

whelk - 1

Material dredged consisted of silt/mud.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Animals	Time / Location / Comments
None sighted		

Observer(s) on duty J. Gedamke

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge: Bayport

Project: York Spit

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates 9 / 13 / 02 - 9 / 19 / 02 Load Numbers 190, 191, 194, 197, 200, 203-207, 210, 213, 216, 217, 220, 221, 224

Range of Water Temp., Surface 75-76°F Below Mid-Depth 74-76°F

Areas Worked (lat/longs, stations) Stations 60-276

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? **YES** **NO**

Comments (turtle takes, whale sightings, effectiveness of screening, by-catch, material, other info):

Two turtles were taken this week. Both were fresh kills. On 9/13/02, load 190 a Kemp's Ridley (Lepidochelys kempii) was found in an inflow box, alive but with extensive damage to the carapace and plastron. It died shortly afterwards and was turned over to the Virginia Marine Science Museum. After load 224 on 9/18/02 a small portion of the carapace and plastron of a loggerhead (Caretta caretta) was found in the inflow box screening with the stomach, intestines and a lung. Dredging was halted after this take due to 4 turtles taken in 30 days. Dredging will resume in approximately 48 hrs when a trawler arrives to trawl for turtles in front of the dredge. See incident reports for more details on the turtle takes.

Dredged material was mud/silt. Biological bycatch included 67 horseshoe crabs, 18 blue crabs, 19 whelks, 5 flatfish, and 3 skates. Abiotic material included rocks, glass, wood, plastic and wire.

Bridge Watch Summary

Date	Various Species and Respective Number	Comments
/	None sighted	
/		
/		
/		
/		
/		
/		

Observers on duty Jason Gedamke