ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Project: Bayport- York Spit

INCIDENT REPORT OF SEA TURTLE TAKE BY DREDGING ACTIVITY

Date 9 / 25 / 02 Time(24hr) 1945

Species of Turtle Taken Caretta caretta - Loggerhead

Dredging Site (channel, port, etc.) York Spit

Location of Take: Latitude ~37° 13.4'N Longitude 76° 08.4'W

Vessel Name and Company Bayport

Type of Dredging Activity Hopper dredge - Maintainance dredging

Load # 272 Times: Start 1814 End 1935 Dump 2010

Sampling Method (overflow, inflow,etc.) Inflow

Samples Recovered From Starboard fore inflow box

Condition of Screening Good

Draghead Deflector? Yes ✓ No ____

Condition of Deflector Good

Weather Conditions Air temperature 78°F, Winds ENE 15 knots, Seas ENE 2-4' Tide Ebb 0.6'

Water Temperature: Surface 76° Column 75° C or (F) (circle one)

Condition of Specimen(s) Sampled Only two relatively small pieces of the carapace were found with some connective and fatty tissue attached. The tissue was not necrotic, had no odor, and there were live barnacles on both dorsal and ventral surfaces of the carapace, indicating a fresh kill.

Measurements--

Give estimate of entire carapace dimensions, as well as fragments sampled (in metric when possible, indicate if not):

Head Width ____

Plastron Length ____ Width ____

Carapace S. L. Length ~72cm S.L. Width ~56cm

Carapace O.C. Length ____ O.C. Width ____

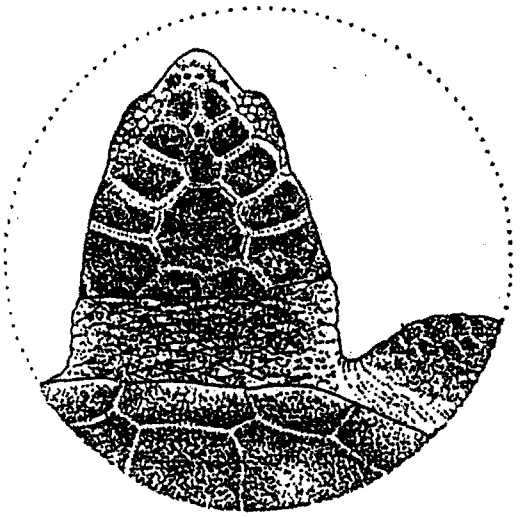
Turtle Tagged? Yes ____ No ✓ (but mammal parts found) Tag # ____ Tag Date / /

Comments Carapace length and width are only very rough approximations based upon the small fragments sampled (see attached for dimensions)

Observer's Name Jason Gedamke

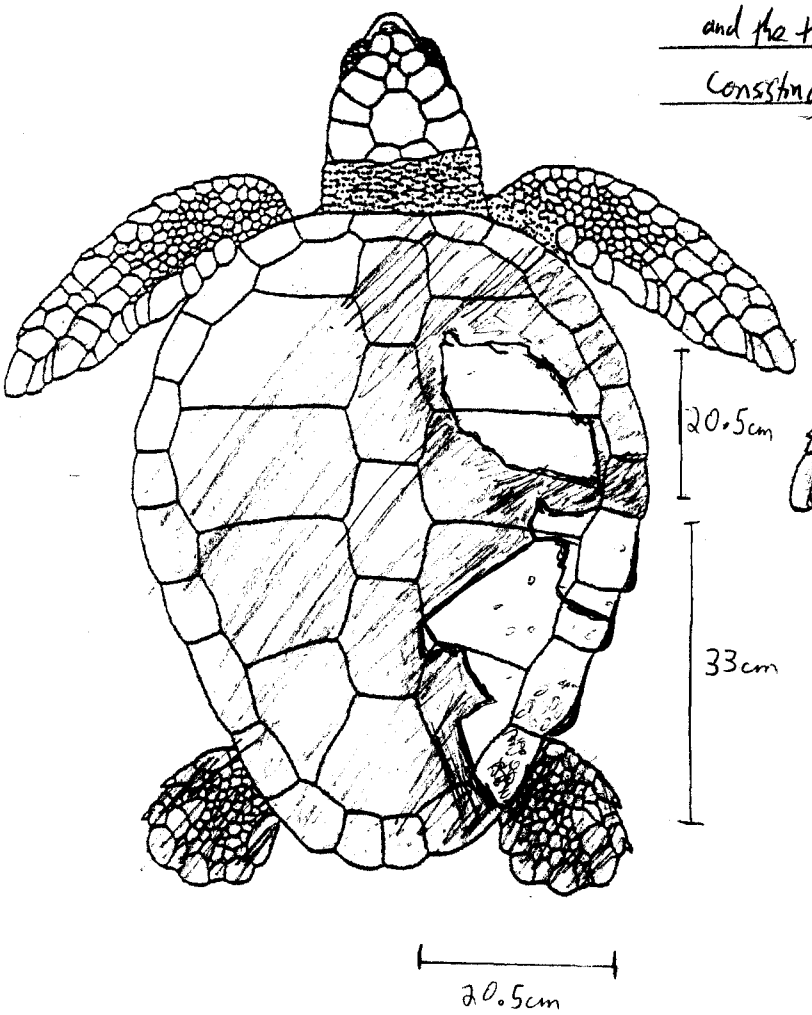
Caretta caretta (loggerhead)

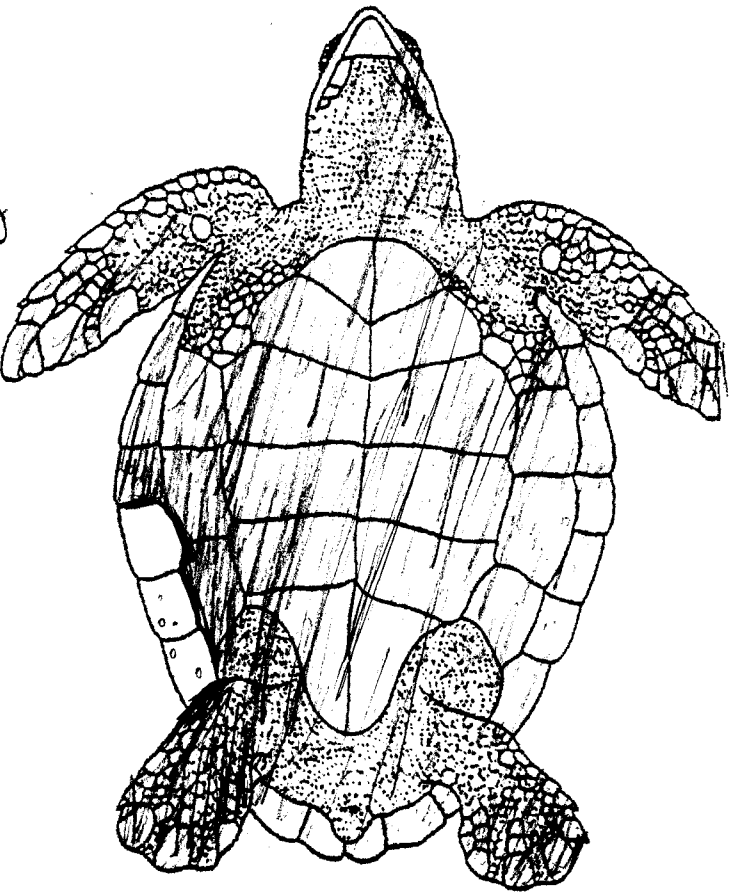
Shade areas of turtle that are missing. Sketch cracks and lacerations.



Comments:

Only 2 small pieces of carapace were found but they had the distinct reddish-brown coloration and the flared, rounded posterior edges of the marginal scutes characteristic of a loggerhead. There were live barnacles on both dorsal and ventral surfaces, and the connective and fatty tissue attached had no odor and were not necrotic indicating it was a fresh kill. The positions of the two pieces of carapace indicated below are approximations based on the thickened posterior edge of the larger portion, and the thickened ribs on the [redacted] edge of the piece consisting solely of costal scutes





Diagrams by Tom McFarland