

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Gulf Coast Trailing Co.- Dredge Mermentau
Palm Beach Harbor, FL 1994/1995

DAILY REPORT
page one

Date: 02 / 10 / 95 Loads: 158-160

Area Worked: Stations 67+00-76+93-25+00-61+00

Conditions: Clear, Winds Variable light airs to 20 knots, Seas 2-4, H2O 72

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes No

Comments: Durning load 159 a green turtle was sampled in

the starboard lander. After digging to overflow in section
67+00-76+93 observer went to clean lander screens as dredge
moves to the outside section to dig. Half of a fresh juvenile
green turtle carapace was found in the lander with some
rock, trash and grass. Carapace was 25cm in length and 20cm
in width. Carapace was cut off at the 5th and 6th marginal
scute from the rear of the turtle. Both rear flippers attached
measuring 5cm X 10cm. No internal organs left in carapace.

Remains photographed and put on ice awaiting disposition.

Turtle was taken from stations 67+00-76+93 this area inside
there is no overflow. So when dredge turns or backs up
white water is put through the overboard discharge pipes
and screens. Pumps are also slowed down when draghead is
not on the bottom digging.

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Bridge Watch Summary

Species	No. of animals	Comments
See next page		

Observer(s) On Duty: Eric Westerman, Meg Hoyle, Buzz Botts

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DAILY REPORT

Date: 02 / 10 / 95 Loads: 158-160

Area Worked: _____

Conditions: page Two

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes x No _____

Comments: On load 159 dredge was back and filling and only
digging with the starboard dragarm. So when observer found
turtle in the lander this means turtle had to have been
taken during the loading cycle and not when the dredge
was backing up. Turtle would of been sampled in the overboard
discharge screen if it was taken when dredge is backing up,
pumps are also slow down when backing up. Turtle taken on the
12-6 watch, dragtender Gary, new dragtender.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	No. of animals	Comments
<u>Tm</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Manatees</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Observer(s) On Duty: Eric Westerman, Meg Hoyle, Buzz Botts

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WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 02 / 05 / 95 - 02 / 11 / 95 Loads: 144-161

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes X No

Comments: Load 159 a juvenile green turtle was sampled in
the starboard lander. The posterior half of the turtle
was found at 1530 while observer was cleaning out rocks
and debris from station 67+00-76+93 while dredge moved
to the next digging area. Turtle was photographed and
measured then put on ice awaiting disposition. The turtle
must of been taken during the digging cycle. Dredge was
back and filling in this section and using the overboard
discharge. The pumps are cut back while backing up. So
if turtle was taken any other time besides digging in
this section turtle would of been sampled in the starboard
overboard discharge screen. This section is also the first
area dug in the cycle due to no overflow allowed in this
area.

The screens have been repaired daily this week
due damaged received by the large quantities of rocks
sampled. Other samples include wood, trash, speckled crabs,
stargazers, horseshoe crabs, sea stars, shell, catfish,
grass, old turtle bones and old partial dolphin skull.
Water temperatures have ranged from 72-76 degrees.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	No. of animals	Comments
<u>Tm</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>Manatees</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Observers On Duty:
Eric Westerman
Meg Hoyle
Buzz Botts