ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/20/91 Day Loads: 2 - 8

Area Worked: Section 5 Station 440 - 550 (Red)

Conditions: p. cloudy, wind SE 5-10 kts, seas <2' H 1503 7.2 L 2126 0.7

Incidents: First day in the Savannah Channel, all screens in place. Digging fine sand on north slope at outer end of the channel. Not much being screened other than sea squirts.

No incidents

Most overflow through lateral screens.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
Athens, GA 30601
404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/21/91 Day Loads: 19 - 23

Area Worked: Section 5 station 470 - 500 (Red)

Conditions: clear, wind SE 10 kts, seas 2' L 1022 H 1645

Incidents: Dredging Fine sand along red toe. Lateral screening being replaced with new screen.

No incidents while observer onboard.

Turtle ~1830 hrs, Load #28 Turtle take - see Daily Report for 6/22.

Program Contractor:
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404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/22 - 6/23 Day/Night **Loads:** 39 - 56

Area Worked: Section 5 station 420-500 (Red + Green)

Conditions: p. cloudy wind ~S 10-15 kts, seas 2-4' L 1111 L 0002 H 1736 H 0539

Incidents: Turtle taken on 6/21, Loud "28, 1830 hrs. Found by dragtender (Darryl) in the port draghead. The loggerhead (Caretta caretta) was jammed carapace up and was still moving its flippers though its carapace was severely cracked in several places with entrails trailing out. The turtle was photo'd by Trey (COE Inspector) and placed on the stern where I was able to examine it when I boarded this morning. Much of the viscera had been sucked out and the mesentery and lungs were ruptured. Measurements and more photos were taken - Carapace: length (oc) 25" *, width (oc) 23", skull width 5". Plastron: lenght 17.5", width 21". / I also found 4 pieces of turtle intestine‡ measuring ~75" in the lateral screens - presumed from above mentioned turtle. Turtle taken between stations -425 and -500, material mostly mud.

* represents sub-adult

‡ intestine contained crab shell

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/23/91 Day Loads: 57-63

Area Worked: Section 5 Stations -500-425 (Red Toe)

Conditions: clear, wind S 10-15 kts, seas 2-4' ~86° tide: L 1158 H 1824

Incidents: Digging sand along "red toe". Clean bottom today.

No incidents.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/24/91 Day Loads: 74 thru 80

Area Worked: Sect. 5, Stations -460 to -400 (Red side)

Conditions: Overcast; Winds, NE 15-20 kts; Seas, 3-5'; 77-80°F

Tide: L 1243 0.3
H 1908 7.3

Incidents: No incidents

Material fine dark sand from red tve. Benthic organisms few from these areas.

Turtle

2200 hrs. Load = 84. Dragtender notices intestine in lateral screens and saves it for observer inspection. Pete Smith (COE) very helpful in preserving specimen on ice. I examined this 48" piece of intestine and found it was indeed sea turtle, prob. loggerhead (caretta caretta). Contents: small amount of fecal matter, little else. Specimen photo'd. Also found a piece of mesentery and fat tissue in lateral screens, surely associated with the intestine, also photo'd. 6/26 0900 hrs.
C. Slay

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
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404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/25/91 Loads:

Area Worked:

Conditions:

Incidents: Slay off on medical leave. 50% coverage remains intact by adding another night shift this week

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer On Duty:
Chr Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/26 - 6/27 Day/Night **Loads:** 108 - 121

Area Worked: Section 5 stations -380 - -460 (Red Tee)

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind NE 10-15 kts, seas 3-5', -80° tide: L 1409 L 0257 H 2031 H 0841 (subsiding)

Incidents: Upon boarding, I examined 48" section of intestine recovered from the lateral screens the night before last. It was sea turtle. For details see Daily Report 6/24/91. I also found a piece of mesentery and fat tissue in stbd. lateral screen prob associated with intestine. *

Still dissing. Fine sand / silt.

Station -380 - -400 - soup / mud - more sea life in screens.

Water temp. 82° F

Observer working to re-screen lateral screening.

No Incidents -

* mesentery tissue appeared to have been in screen for at least 24 hours -

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:

Ch Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/27/91 Day Loads: 123 - 128

Area Worked: Sect. 5, Stations -460 to -380 (Red side)

Conditions: P. cloudy; Wind light, variable; 82 - 90°F tide: L 1448 0.4 H 2107 7.3

Incidents: No incidents to report

Material varies from a dark sand/silt to one of primarily sand.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Fuel - day

Date: 6/28-29/91 (night) Loads: 137 - 144

Area Worked: Sect 5, Sta. -400 to -380

Conditions: Clear - P. cloudy; N 5-10 kts; Seas 2-4'; Temp. 78-80°F

tide: H 2143
L 0412

Incidents: No incidents during observation period.

Note: No observation period during the day, vessel fueling.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
Athens, GA 30601
404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:

Robert Overman

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/29/91 (day) Loads: 145 - 147

Area Worked: Sect. 5, Stations -495 to -460 (Red side)

Conditions: P. cloudy; Winds, NW 0-5 knts; Seas 2-3'; 82-85°F

tide: 0959 H
1606 L

Incidents: No incidents to report.
Some repair is needed on the port skimmer screens. Work is to be completed tomorrow.

Small shark seen in port skimmer during load #147 was observed as it disappeared through opening in screen which needs to be repaired. cs

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Joseph Ferris

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/30/91 Day Loads: 153 - 155

Area Worked: Section 5; Stations -495 to -380 (Red side)

Conditions: P. cloudy; Seas calm; Winds, 0-5 NE; 84-88°F

Incidents: No incidents to report

Material mostly fine sand. Working along slope and toe.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer On Duty:
Joseph Ferris

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 6/20 - 6/30 1991 Loads: 2 - 155

Areas Worked: Stations -380 to -550 (mostly along red toe)

Incidents: Turtle taken on 6/21/91, load # 28 1830 hrs. A loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta) was found lodged in the port draghead - barely alive, soon died. Specimen was saved for observer who boarded the next morning. For details see Daily Report 6/22.

Turtle taken on 6/24/91, load # 84, 2200 hrs. Large piece of intestine was recovered from lateral screen by dredge personnel and saved for observer examination. Intestine measured 48" and was definitely sea turtle, probably loggerhead (Caretta caretta). A piece of mesentery with fat tissue was later found by observer in the screens - presumed from the same turtle. For details see Daily Report 6/24.

Note: Both incidents discovered and reported by crew - such cooperation is invaluable to our program.

This summary covers the first 11 days of this job; subsequent summaries will cover 7 days beginning and ending 0800 Mondays.

All screening in place and functioning well since this job began.

Observer Coverage This Period - 131/246 hours - 53%

Program Contractor:
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Observer(s) On Duty:
Chris Slay
Jane Fleetwood
Joe Ferris

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/1 - 7/2 1991 Day/Night Loads: 162 - 169

Area Worked: Section 5 Station -460-380 (Red Toe)

Conditions: clear, wnd light, seas 1-2', 80's, tide H 1130 L 1740 H 2345 L 0615

Incidents: Turtle taken 7/2, load #169, 0610 hrs. Large sea turtle, adult loggerhead (Caretta caretta) found lodged in the stbd. dragshead. The crew brought the carcass up on deck where observer Fleetwood was able to photograph and get measurements. Most of the carapace had been torn loose and most of the viscera was gone - Top of the skull also missing. Est. carapace length (oc) ~43" / width ~34" Flipper length ~14". Also associated with this take: small piece of intestine in the lateral screen and a scapula w/ cartaledge in one of the skimmer screens. No "poor mixing" through skimmers this load. Material in work area mostly fine sand, Fairly clean sampling - a few blue crabs.

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Observer On Duty:
Joe Ferris
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/2/91 Day Loads: 170 - 173

Area Worked: Stations -405 to -380 (Red Tue)

Conditions: clear, wind light, seas <2', 87° tide: H1203 L1707

Incidents: I examined this morning's take upon boarding (see Daily Report 7/1 - 7/2 Day/Night). Carcass was disposed of at the dumpsite after weighting it with scrap iron. COE (Trey Meyer) notified before doing this.

Fairly clean digging - sampled blue crabs and a few benthic fish.

No other incidents to report -

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/3/91 Day Loads: 178-182

Area Worked: Stations -380 to -400 (Red Toe)

Conditions: p cloudy winds S 15 kts, seas 2-4', 90° tide: L 0700 H 1300

Incidents: Turtle taken on 7/3, load #178, 0800 Recovered two fresh pieces of sea turtle intestine, probably from a loggerhead (caretta caretta), in the stbd. lateral sampling screens. Each piece was apprx. 15" in length. Intestines were absent in screens when checked upon boarding - 0735. Turtle must have been taken on the last cut. Material being dredged mostly sand - Very little sample in screens - a few blue crabs and sand dollars - Intestine was frozen for future reference and observer training.

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/4-7/5 1991 Day/Night Loads: 186 - 190

Area Worked: Stations -400 to -380 (Rad Toe)

Conditions: p. cloudy, wind sw 15 kts, seas 4', 85° Tide: H 1400 L 2000
(t' storms)

Incidents: Dredge inoperable most of the day with equipment failure. Dug only one load during daylight from 1334 - 1545. No incidents.

No incidents during the night.

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/5/91 Day Loads: 191 - 192

Area Worked: Station -370 to -340, Red Toe + Slope

Conditions: p. cloudy, winds S 10-15 kts, seas 1'-3', 87° tide L 0230 H 1445

Incidents: Long cycle times. All screens checked periodically during the loading process. Clean diggings.

No incidents

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/6/91 Loads: 198 - 201

Area Worked: Stations -360 to -400

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind SE 10 kts, seas 1-3' 88° tide: L 0917 H 1531

Incidents: Very clean diggin -

No incidents

Drag arm lost after observer departure -

Program Contractor:
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173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer On Duty:
Gina Gore

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/7/91 Day Loads: 204 - 208

Area Worked: Station -400 to -380

Conditions: p. cloud, wind light, seas 1-2', 88° tide: L 1118 H 1633

Incidents: one-arm digging - long cycle times. Screens checked periodically during loading. Clean sand -

No incidents.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
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Observer On Duty:
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 7/1 - 7/7 1991 Loads: 162 - 208

Areas Worked: Outer Channel, Stations -340 to -460

- Incidents: Turtle taken 7/2, load # 169, 0610 hrs. Adult loggerhead (caretta caretta) found crushed in stbd. draghead. Associated with this take were a small piece of intestine found in lateral screening and a scapula found in the skimmer screen. Specimen well photo'd and measured. See Daily Report 7/1-7/2 and 7/2 for details.

- Turtle taken 7/3, load # 178, 0800 hrs. Two fresh pieces of sea turtle intestine (probably C. caretta) were recovered from the lateral sampling screens. Samples frozen. See Daily Report 7/3 for details.

Most dredging has been on the "red" toe and slope, mostly clean sand.

Program Contractor:
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Observer(s) On Duty:
Chris Slay
Jane Fleetwood
Gina Gore
Joe Ferris

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/8/91 (Day) Loads: 208 - 210

Area Worked: Stations -380 to -400 (Red side)

Conditions: clear, wind NW light seas <2' ~90° tide: L 1118 H 1733

Incidents: Diggins fine sand. No lateral overflow. All overflow is through the skimmers. Little to no sample.

No incidents.

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/9/91 (Day) Loads: 213

Area Worked: stations -405 to -500 (Red)

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind SW light, seas calm L 1219 H 1834

Incidents: No incidents.

NOTE: 7/10/91 Dodge Island goes to the dock for repairs.

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/11 - 7/12 (Day/Night) Loads: 215 - 219

Area Worked: Stations - 407 to - 500 (mostly green)

Conditions: clear, wind var. 10-15 kts, seas 2-4', tide: L 1417 L 0302 H 2028 H 0858

Incidents: Turtle taken, Load # 215, 1100 hrs., C. caretta. Observer retrieved flipper from stbd. skimmer and ~105" of intestine and other viscera from port lateral screen. There was a 5' piece of intestine in the port skimmer which was not retrieved until night watch came on. Dredge was working Green Side when turtle was taken. All viscera was frozen.

Most of the overflow is through the skimmers. Material is mud and sand with some shell.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/12/91 (Day) Loads: 220 - 222

Area Worked: stations -400 to -500 (green + red)

Conditions: clear, wind W 5-10 kts, seas <2', 92° Tide: H 0858 L 1512

Incidents: Digging mostly sand - Little lateral overflow. Screens stay clean -

No incidents involving endangered species -

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/13/91 (Day) Loads: 227 - 228

Area Worked: Stations -500 to -406 (red toe)

Conditions: clear wind W to SE, 10 kts, seas 1-2', 93°, tide: H 0954 L 1606

Incidents: Digging fine sand. No lateral overflow. Skimmer screens catching a few crabs and sea squirts.

No incidents -

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer On Duty:

Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/14-7/15 (Day/Night) Loads: 232-237

Area Worked: Station -380 to -405 (Red)

Conditions: p. cloudy, wnd var. 10 k+s, seas 1-3', 90° tide: H L H L

Incidents: Turtle taken 7/14, Load # 230, 0330 hrs, C. caretta. Dragtender retrieves head with some plastron and viscera attached from the port draghead - "skin + shell" described as yellow and from the description of the viscera it was "definitely fresh" (dragtender says with a grimace). Sample was set aside on the main deck for observers and was seen by the COE Inspetor just after daylight however, before he was able to photograph it and before observers boarded, it mysteriously went overboard - Dredge was working stations -406 to -500 green side at the time of take-

Inboard side of the port skimmer screen was demolished during the night. Capt, welder and observer work to fix it. Screened better than before -

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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay
June Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 7/8 - 7/14 1991 Loads: 208 - 237

Areas Worked: Stations -380 to -5000 (Green + Red sides)

Incidents: Turtle taken 7/11, Load # 215, 1100 hrs, C. caretta. Observer retrieved Flipper from skimmer, as well as 165" of intestine from the lateral screens and skimmers. See Daily Report 7/11-7/12 for details.

Turtle taken 7/14, Load #230, 0330 hrs. C. caretta Dragtender retrieves head with portion of plastron and viscera attached from the port dragheud. Sample placed on main deck for observers but was gone when observer bourded. COE Inspector did see sample shortly after daylight and from all descriptions species ID was made. See Daily Report 7/14.

Both turtles were taken on the "green side" of the channel where mud and shell are prevalent in the substrate.

For most of the week the Dodge Island's overflow has been through the skimmers only which may reduce sampling effectiveness.

Program Contractor:
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173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer(s) On Duty:
Chris Slay
Jane Fleetwood
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/15/91 (Day) Loads: 238 - 239

Area Worked: Stations -30800 to -40500 (Red)

Conditions: p. cloudy, wind light & var., seas 1', -86° tide: H 1146 L 1750

Incidents: No incidents.

Digging mostly fine sand. No lateral overflow. Skimmer screen needs minor repairs. Capt. said he'd have it taken care of. Conger repaired lateral screen.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/16/91 (Day) Loads: 243 - 244

Area Worked: Stations - 40500+0 - 38000 (Red)

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind ~S 5-10 kts seas 1-3', ~86° tide: H 1243 L 1844

Incidents: No incidents

Dipping sand. No lateral overflow.

Stbd skimmer screen replaced.

Obsever port lateral sampling screen -

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/17 - 7/18 (Day / Night) Loads: 247 - 254

Area Worked: 405-38000 Red 38000-34000 GRN

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind NE 10-20 kts, seas 2-4', 88° tide: H 1336 H 0142 L 1940 L 0754

Incidents: No turtle incidents - Most of sampling from lateral screen, horse shoe crabs, blue crabs, sand dollars, sea cucumbers, catfish, jellyfish. At about 1000 HRS skimmers were filling with as many as 70 sea squirts which were clogging the outlets. Baskets were blown out after observer looked at them. Holes were cut in the skimmer screening to give an outlet for sea squirts. Rains most of day, clearing in PM. A sand/silt mix most of PM. Lateral screen port side repaired by Conger.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
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Observer On Duty:

L. Conger DAY

J. Fleetwood night

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/18/91 (Day) Loads: 255 - 257

Area Worked: stations -34000 to -38000 (Green)

Conditions: p. cloudy, wind-SE 5-10 kts., seas 1-2' 86° tide: H 1429 L 2041

Incidents: No incidents.

Digging sand + mud. No lateral overflow. Skimmers clogged with sand dollars, Observer cleared them.

No coverage: 7/19/91

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
Athens, GA 30601
404-543-6859

Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/20 - 7/21 (Day/Night) Loads: 278 - 285

Area Worked: stations -30000 to 39500 (Red)

Conditions: p. cloudy, wind light + var, seas <2', ~95° tide: L 0941 L 2239 H 1611 H 0414

Incidents: No incidents.

Dredging fine sand. Very little lateral overflow. Horseshoe crabs are the prominent sample in the skimmers.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Longer
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/21/91 (Day) Loads: 286 - 287

Area Worked: Stations -39500 to -30000 (Red)

Conditions: clear, wind w 10 kts, seas <2', ~90° tide: L 1036 H 1700

Incidents: Clean-up dredging, very little lateral overflow. Various species of crabs are the predominant samples in the screens. Screening maintained - minor repairs

No incidents with turtles.

Program Contractor:
Chris Slay
173 Virginia Ave.
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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 7/15 - 7/21 1991 Loads: 238 - 287

Areas Worked: stations 30000 to 40500 (Red + Green)

Incidents: No incidents.

Dodge digging mostly Fine sand. Sample typical of sand slope digging: sea squirts, sand dollars, horseshoe crabs, etc.

See Daily Reports for details.

Program Contractor:
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Observer(s) On Duty:
Lisa Conger
Jane Fleetwood
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/22/91 (Day) Loads: 291 - 293

Area Worked: 5 stations 40600 to 41000 (Green side)

Conditions: clear, winds 5 kts, seas <2', tide H 1126 1753

Incidents: No incidents.

Very little lateral overflow - All sampling is done through skimmers.

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/23/91 (Day) Loads: 300 - 304

Area Worked: Stations 27500 to 38000 (Red side)

Conditions: m. clear, wind S 10 kts, seas <2', ~90°, tide: L 1214 H 1842

Incidents: No incidents.

Very little lateral overflow - Depending on skimmers for sampling.

Observer replaced large sections of lateral sampling screens.

Program Contractor:
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Observer On Duty:
Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/24/91 (Day) Loads: 310 - 312

Area Worked: Stations 27500 - 32000 & 8000 to 11000 (inside jetties)

Conditions: m. clear, wind S 5 kts, seas <2' (smooth inside) tide: L 1301 H 1927

Incidents: No incidents.

Dodge Island not using lateral overflow very much. Sampling done through skimmers which began clogging with wood debris when the dredge began working new area inside jetties.
Load # 311 - one arm digging

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Lisa Conger

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/25-7/26 (Day/Night) Loads: 319 - 326

Area Worked: stations 8000 to 11000 (center to red)

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind SW to SE 10 kts, light chop, tide: L 1344 L 0229 H 2007 H 0817 (inside jetties)

Incidents: No incidents.

Digging mud/silt. Dodge now using lateral overflow. Screens are staying packed with wood debris, spartina, mud. They had to be cut away and the coaming cleared with the fire hose. Screen replaced or repaired. Screens cleaned every load with hose. Horseshoe crabs, blue crabs are primary samples.

Note: Night shift scheduled for Sugar changed to Dodge to keep up with debris build up on screens and because of the likelihood of encountering turtles in the new dredging area.

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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay
Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/26 - 7/27 (Day / Night) Loads: 327 - 336

Area Worked: Stations 8000 to 11000 (center to red)

Conditions: p. cloudy (showers), wind ~SE 10 kts, light to mod. chop (inside jetties), tide: H 0817 H 2044 L 1425 L 0308

Incidents: Two turtles taken, Load # 327, 0845 hrs, & 0915 hrs. Both C. caretta. First turtle found when draugheads were raised between cuts. It was crushed in the stbd. draghead. Rear ¼ of carapace ripped away. Carapace length (over-curve) 22", width 21.5", skull (base): 4". Carapace fragments were found in each skimmer screen along with pieces of intestine. Intestine also found in lateral screens. A total of 80" of intestine was recovered.

Also found in stbd. skimmer screen: Anterior section of head (maxilla/"beak") of a second loggerhead including skin and eye socket. Fresh. When compared with head of other turtle it was slightly larger but still considered a juvenile.

Screens require repairing. Crabs prevalent in sampling. Digging fine sand / mud.

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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay
Charles Maley

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/27/91 (Day) Loads: 337-339

Area Worked: stations 7600 to 11000

Conditions: clear, wind light, seas calm, tide: H 0856 L 1505
(t'storms late afternoon)

Incidents: No incidents.

Digging Fine sand/silt - lots of wood debris. Crabs (blue + horseshoe) primary sample.

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Observer On Duty:
Gina Gore

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/28 - 7/29 (Day / Night) Loads: 346 - 354

Area Worked: Stations 11000 - 16000

Conditions: m. clear, wind S 10 kts, seas < 2' tide: H 0941 L 1544

Incidents: No incidents.

Observer found several small pieces of unidentified tissue on loads 351 and 354. From their condition it's not suspected that they're associated with fresh turtle take.

Still digging silt with lots of wood debris. Cleaning lateral screens keeping observers busy.

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Jane Fleetwood

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 7/22 - 7/28 1991 Loads: 291 - 354

Areas Worked: Stations 27500-38000 and 8000-16000

Incidents: Two Turtles Taken, 7/26, Load #327, 0845 hrs + 0915 hrs. Both C. caretta.

First take: Turtle found crushed in stbd. drag head when drag arms were raised between cuts. It was a juvenile.

Second take: Observer found anterior section of head, C. caretta, in stbd. skimmer. Fresh. Specimen slightly larger than the head on the turtle found in the drag head. Also found several pieces of intestine and two carapace fragments in the skimmer screens. Intestine found in lateral screens. See Daily Report 6/26-6/27 for details of both takes.

Areas inshore, near jetties are silt and debris laden, keeping us busy cleaning screens.

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Lisa Conger
Jane Fleetwood
Charles Maley

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/29/91 (DAY) Loads: 355 - 358

Area Worked: Sta. 11000 - 8000

Conditions: scattered showers, wind calm, seas 1'-2' tide L 1624 H 1008

Incidents: Most loads full of wood debris and sand built up in lateral screens. Also a few blue crabs, shrimp, horse shoe crabs, grasses various small fish.

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M. Cubb

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7/30/91 (DAY) Loads: 363 - 365

Area Worked: sta. 5000-3000 B/G

Conditions: HAZE, wind lt+variable, seas calm, 86° tide H 1049 L 1703

Incidents: no incidents

This area was full of wood debris and sand which clogged the skimmers and lateral screens. The crew had to cut larger holes (7") in the skimmer screens so the sand and large pieces of wood could get through. Lateral screens were cleaned by hand and fire hose. Screening in the port skimmer was only ½ efficient because half the screen collapsed under the weight of sand build-up. After the larger holes were cut flow through was complete. These larger holes however, cut down considerably the accuracy of the sample.

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 7-31/8-1-91 DAY/NIGHT Loads: 370 - 376

Area Worked: sta 5000 - 3000 B/G (DAY) sta. 34500 - 31000 channel (2ED)
H 1130 H 2348

Conditions: overcast - rain, seas 1-3', wind 5+ kts, tide L 1745

Incidents: no incidents

Lateral screens were cleaned with fire hose and by hand. Most overflow was through the skimmers. Captain tried to get the Port skimmer screen fixed, but repair was not possible due to heavy rain most of the day. Night shift was uneventful with no lateral overflow.

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M. Cribb

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/1/91 (DAY) Loads: 377-378

Area Worked: sta. 3400 - 2800 R/G ; 34500 - 3100 (RED)

Conditions: cloudy scattered showers, seas 3-7', wind 20 knts + tide H 1228 L 1832 86°

Incidents: no incidents

digging sand. Heavy scattered showers all day with rough 7' seas. No lateral overflow most of day. All flow was through skimmers. Skimmers still not repaired because of rain + rough seas. Dredge moved to inside channel sta. 11000 to 30000 at 1650 HRS. Trawler "Dammit" arrived about 1500 HRS + started trawling for turtles in area of dredge.

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 3-4 AUG 91 (DAY/NIGHT) Loads: 389 - 399

Area Worked: 1400-2300

Conditions: CLEAR WITH EXCEPTION OF AFTERNOON STORM
WINDS CLOCK FROM W to S 5-10 (15+ DURING STORM)
SEAS CALM, BUILD W/ STORM

Incidents:

NO INCIDENTS

DIGGING MUD/SAND. 30 MINUTE LOAD TIMES THROUGH OUT. LATERAL SCREENING IMPACTED WITH SAND/MUD EVERY LOAD. FIRE HOSE USED EACH LOAD. MUCH WOOD, ALSO MANY HORSESHOE CRAB & BLUE CRAB, CONGERS, VARIOUS SHRIMP & FISH, SEA SQUIRTS. SCREENS REPAIRED AS NEEDED

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M CRIBB

L CONGER

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 4 AUG 91 Loads: 400 - 404

Area Worked: 1400 - 1900 (GREEN)

Conditions: SUNNY, CLEAR LOWER 90's SEAS 1'-3' WIND SSW 5-10 KTS

Incidents:

NO INCIDENTS

TRAWLER "DAMIT" REPORTED CATCHING 2 CARETTA DURING LAST NIGHTS TRAWLING. RELOCATED TO WASSAW SOUND. MANY HORSESHOE & BLUE CRABS, SEA SQUIRTS, WOOD, & VARIOUS OTHER. FIRE HOSE USED EACH LOAD. REPAIRS MADE AS NEEDED.

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Observer On Duty:

M CRIBB

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO

Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 29 JULY – 4 AUG 91 Loads: 355 → 404

Areas Worked: STAS 1400-2300 / 2700-2900 / 3000 - 3400

Incidents: NO INCIDENTS

DIGGING MOSTLY SAND / MUD. LATERAL OVERFLOW IMPACTED SCREENING W/ WOOD, MUD, SAND. SAMPLING MOSTLY HORSESHOE + BLUE CRABS, SEA SQUIRTS, SHRIMP & VARIOUS FISH. SKIMMER SCREENS WERE NOT WORKING AT FULL POTENTIAL DURING 1ST PART OF WEEK. DURING THAT TIME, LOADS 371-378 WERE DUG USING NO LATERAL OVERFLOW, SAMPLING ONLY THROUGH THE INEFFICIENTLY SCREENED SKIMMERS. (* EVERY EFFORT WAS MADE BY VESSEL CREW TO REPAIR AS WEATHER PERMITTED)

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Observer(s) On Duty:

J. FLEETWOOD

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/5/91 (DAY) **Loads:** 412 - 415

Area Worked: 31000 - 25000 [GRN] (AM) ; 19000 - 14000 [GRN] (PM)

Conditions: hazy, wind - light S ~2 kts, seas - very calm < 1', 88°

tide H 1611 L 0956

Incidents: No incidents

Digging in mud with some sand and substancial amount of shell.

Lateral screening packed with wood debris causing them to hold substancial amounts of material. Mud and sand are building behind this solid screen of debris requiring cleaning with ship's fire hose after every load.

observer repaired holes in stbd skimmer screen. It is now functioning at 80%

Most of sample consisting of horse shoe crabs, blue crabs, eels, pink - grey shrimp, catfish, cockles and sea pork

During load # 412 there was poor mixing between cuts.

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Observer On Duty:
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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/6 - 8/7 (Day-Night) **Loads:** 423 - 425; 427 - 433

Area Worked: Stations 14000 - 18000 (Green)

Conditions: clear, wind SE 4-8 Kts, seas <1', 90° L 1102 H 1715

Incidents: Turtle taken during loads 426-427, between 1530 and 1825. Observer found piece of Caretta caretta plastron with flipper tissue attached (9" x 4.5") in port lateral aft screening. Specimen was fresh. The piece of turtle was weighted with scrap iron and discarded on the following dump run.

Observers cleaned lateral screening with fire hose after almost every load (fire hose pump down being the exception). Screens were packed with wood debris and usual sample specimens.

Digging in mud/silt heavy with shell

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Observer On Duty:
CONGER (DAY)
CRIBB (NIGHT)

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/7/91 **Loads:** 436 - 438

Area Worked: 23000 - 14000 GRN

Conditions: clear, wind SW 5-8 kts, seas ~2', 90° 1207 L 0.4 1819 H 8.3

Incidents: No turtle incidents.

Digging in mud/silt with a lot of wood debris. Build up of material required cleaning of lateral screens with firehose after every load.

Note: No coverage 8/8/91.

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Observer On Duty:
CONGER

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/9-8/10 1991 (Day/Night) **Loads:** 453 - 459

Area Worked: Stations 14000 - 32000 + 4460 - 3000

Conditions: p cloudy, wind SW 10 kts, seas <2' ~95° tide: L 1402 L 0202 H 2012 H 0841

Incidents: No incidents.

Digging nasty areas - screens staying clogged with wood debris, detritus, horseshoe crabs, etc. Spent most of the day re-screening and repairing screens.

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Observer On Duty:

Slay

Farnsworth

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/10/91 (Day) **Loads:** 460-462

Area Worked: Stations 18000-23000 + 11000-14500 (Green)

Conditions: M. clear, wind W 10 K+s, seas <2', ~90° tide: H 0841 L 1457

Incidents: No incidents.

Usual inshore debris, horseshoe crabs, etc -
Re-screening entire hopper -

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Observer On Duty:
Chris Slay

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/11/91 (Day) **Loads:** 468 - 470

Area Worked: Stations 11000 - 16000 (Green)

Conditions: clear, wind W 5-10 kts, seas <1' ~90° tide: H 0933 L 1529

Incidents: No incidents.

Usual catch of crabs - still digging silt. Re-screening of hopper in progress -

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 8/5 - 8/11 1991 Loads: 412 - 470

Areas Worked: Stations 11000 - 32000 (mostly green side)

Incidents: Turtle Taken 8/6/91, Load# 427, 1920 hrs., C. caretta. Observer found fresh piece of plastron with a portion of the flipper attached in the port lateral screenings.

Skimmer screens functioning at approx. 80% most of the week. They will be entirely re-screened before the end of next week. Observers began re-screening entire hopper; it has been maintained at 90+ %.

Note: Measurements of plastron scutes indicate this turtle was probably a sub-adult.

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Marji Cribb
Chris Farnsworth

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/12 - 8/13 1991 (Day/Night) **Loads:** 478 - 485

Area Worked: Stations 11000 - 16000 (mostly green)

Conditions: p.cloudy, wind S 10 kts, seas 1-2', ~90°, tide: H 1026 H 2234 L 1038 L 0500

Incidents: No incidents.

Loading fast and furious. lots of mud, debris, horseshoe crabs, etc. Screens cleaned with fire hose. Some repairs made to lateral screens.

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Observer On Duty:
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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/13/91 (Day) **Loads:** 486 - 488

Area Worked: Stations 13000-16000 (Green)

Conditions: clear, wind W 5-10 kts, seas 1' tide: H 1116 L 1728

Incidents: No incidents.

Approx. 15 horseshoe crabs per load, plus usual silt/debris. Completed re-screening of hopper. Ready for Charleston -

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Savannah River Entrance Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 8/14/91 **Loads:** 493 - 495

Area Worked: Stations 11000 - 23000 (Green side)

Conditions: clear, wind light, seas <2', 86° tide: H 1208 L 1816

Incidents: No incidents. Trawler "Dammit" reports catching 6 loggerheads between 0530 - 1130 hrs., at least twice their usual catch. This trawling, concentrated on the dredge area, may very well be effective, since there has been only one turtle taken in the two weeks the trawler has been working and the dredge has been in good turtle habitat during that time.

Dodge Island leaves for Charleston after load #495 ~1630 hrs.

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO

Savannah River Entrance Channel

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 8/12 - 8/14 1991 Loads: 478 - 485

Areas Worked: Stations 11000 - 23000 (mostly green)

Incidents: No incidents.

Continued digging inshore areas characterized by silt, wood debris and large numbers of horseshoe crabs. Hopper re-screened.

Dodge Island departs 8/14, ~1630 hrs.

Note: Only one loggerhead turtle was taken during the last two weeks, although the dredge was working an area which seems to be a prime turtle feeding ground. This may be an indication that the work of the trawler "Dammit", which has been catching turtles daily in the dredge area, is somewhat effective.

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