ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge Dodge Island/NATCO
Brunswick Channel

DAILY REPORT

Date: 4-29-91 **Loads:** 259-261

Area Worked: Cedar Hammock

Conditions: Scattered Clouds, S.E Winds 10-15 Kts, 3-5' swells, 82°F

Incidents: The observer boards dredge and finds 3 pieces of intestine (with fat tissue attached), 2 undeveloped eggs (?), a small piece of fatty tissue (in the port and star board "lateral sample screens"). The intestines measured 1 piece 46", 1 piece 18" and 1 piece 16". The intestine was checked for content and found only some green liquid which was unidentifiable. The eggs (?) are yellow with many veins along their surface and they are about 1" in diameter.

Load 261. Three pieces of intestine, their measurements are 1 piece ~60", 1 piece ~24", and one piece at ~4". These are placed with the other parts and taken to observer quarters to be further analysed (as to animal of origin). Note that, prior to boarding dredge, observer and crew boat operator R. Beechum retrieved a (floating) dead Cicaretta near the St. Simons Pier. The DNR was notified and photos taken.

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Observer On Duty:
E. Cane
Ed Cane

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WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 4/29 - 5/4 1991 Loads: 259 - 302

Areas Worked: Cedar Hammock (sta 150-212)

Incidents: Undetermined 4/29 Load 259-261 The observer recovered approx. 168" of intestine and 2 eggs (not fully developed). Eggs were yellow, outer surface covered by vascular network and measured approx. 1" in diameter. The structure of the interior wall of the intestine didn't look like typical turtle intestine though the eggs were the right size and shape. Dept. of Natural Resources biologists were also intrigued yet unsure about these specimens and want to send them to the NMFS lab in Charleston, SC. This incident will not be considered a take until lab results are in.

Incident - Turtle take 5/3/91 From the lateral screens I recovered 4' of intestine, most of a lung (8" long), a piece of what appears to be liver, mesentery and other connective tissue. All pieces were fresh and determined to be sea turtle. Intestine was empty - probably was clean during the dredging process. Lung yielded fresh blood when cut and had approx 1" of the bronchial tube attached. All specimens photographed, bagged and frozen.

Note: Reconstruction of skimmer screens begun. They had been demolished by rocks shot into skimmers with "poor mix". Stbd skimmer completed 5/4.

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see reverse