

PROJECT: SAVANNAH HARBOR ENTERANCE CHANNEL

INCIDENT REPORT OF SEA TURTLE MORTALITY AND DREDGING ACTIVITIES

Species: LOGGERHEAD (Caretta caretta)  
Date: 02/02/2002  
Time: 24 hour clock: 2012  
Geographic Site: BETWEEN R8/R8A + R10  
Location: Latitude: N 32,00.00 Longitude: W 84.47.5  
Vessel Name: BAYPORT  
Type of Dredging Activity: HOPPER  
Load #: 175  
Sampling Method: INFLOW SCREENING BOXES  
Location Specimen Recovered: STARBOARD FORWARD BOX  
Draghead Deflector?  YES IN USE  NO \_\_\_\_\_  
Condition of Deflector: GOOD WORKING CONDITION  
Weather Conditions: ROUGH, 3-6' WINDSEEN, NE 10-20KTS, ↑ GUSTS  
Water temp: Surface: 58°F Column: \_\_\_\_\_  
Head Width: 4"  
Plastron Length: 16 1/4"  
Carapace S.L. Length: 20" → 21"  
Carapace S.L. Width: 15"  
Carapace O.C. Length: SHELL TOO FRAGMENTED TO TELL  
Carapace O.C. Width: 17 1/2"  
Condition of Specimen: HEAD, PLAGSTRON, FLIPPERS INTACT, CARAPACE BROKEN  
Turtle Tagged? YES \_\_\_\_\_  NO \_\_\_\_\_  
Tag #: \_\_\_\_\_ Tag date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments/Other: INTERNAL ORGANS AND INSIDE PARTS GONE  
Observer's Name: ZACK KLYVER

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF LOGGERHEAD SEA TURTLE  
TAKE ABOARD DREDGE BAYPORT, SAVANNAH GA.

AT THE END OF LOAD # 175 AT APPROX. 2012  
A YOUNG FEMALE LOGGERHEAD (Caretta caretta) WAS  
FOUND DEAD IN THE FORWARD STARBOARD INFLOW  
SCREENING BOX. HER SHELL WAS SHATTERED AND BROKE  
INTO FRAGMENTED PIECES THAT REMAINED ATTACHED  
TO THE REST OF THE BODY. MOST OF THE TURTLES  
VITAL ORGANS AND INTERNAL PARTS WERE WASHED  
AWAY. HER HEAD, FLIPPERS, AND PLASTRON WERE  
IN GOOD CONDITION AND REMAINED CONNECTED TO THE SHELL.

CHRIS SLAY (CWC) WAS CALLED IMMEDIATELY AND  
PROMPTLY NOTIFIED THE SAVANNAH CORP OFFICE. THE  
CAPTAIN WAS TOLD AND ALSO GAVE PERMISSION TO FREEZE  
+ STORE THE REMAINS ONBOARD. BOTH OBSERVERS WORKED  
TOGETHER TO TAKE 24 PICTURES SHOWING RELEVANT  
IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS, CLOSE UP FEATURES, AND  
LENGTH MEASUREMENTS. THE TURTLE WAS THEN  
TIED TOGETHER WITH A NYLON ROPE AND BAGGED  
FOUR TIMES BEFORE BEING PLACED IN ONE OF THE  
SHIP'S FREEZERS FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTION.  
(SEE INCIDENT REPORT FOR FURTHER DETAILS.)

OBSERVER ZACK KLYVER