

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge WHEELER - Freeport, TX
USACE, Galveston District - Maintenance Dredging

DAILY REPORT

Date: 6/28/96 Loads: 1-15; (cumulatively 6-20*)

Area(s) Worked: Freeport Harbor channel bays "G7" to "G5" & stations 0° to 50°

Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy w/ light showers, clearing. Winds SE @ 7-10 knots → E @ 3
Sea > 2-3'

Range of H₂O Temperature: Surface 25°C Below Mid-Depth

Condition of all screening apparatus: FINE

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

Comments (type of material being dredged, biological specimens, etc.):

* As regards loads, the ship's crew does not keep track of them on a cumulative basis: each day begins w/ Load 1.

In load #4 we discovered the left rear flipper & small portion of the left side of the plastron of a loggerhead sea turtle. See incident report attached. The incident report was completed and faxed to NMFS, Tampa, FL, Corps officials in Galveston, Tx., &

Material dredged is a dense, grey, somewhat sticky mud, w/ a good deal of clay on certain loads. We also clean out pieces of wood, misc. trash (rope, net, plastic, cans...) and several large rocks. The only other biological specimens were some blue c.

Dredging activities halted after the captain was notified of the turtle so that the turtle deflectors could be inspected. ~ 0600 hrs.

Dredging activity ceased again ~ 2200 hrs. & the Wheeler dropped down to make some engine room repairs.

Bridge Watch Summary



Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
T. truncatus	6	? 12+	- I'm sure I'm seeing the same individual over & over again, in & about the channel.
? shark	1	1	

Observer(s) On Duty: Brett Johnson, John Knecht