ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Project: Freeport Harbor Channel · Maintenance Dredging, Freeport, Tx.

INCIDENT REPORT OF SEA TURTLE TAKE BY DREDGING ACTIVITY

Date 7 / 13 / 96 Time(24hr) discovered @ 1450 Hrs

Species of Turtle Taken Caretta caretta (Logger head)

Dredging Site (channel, port, etc.) Freeport Harbor Channel, stations 26+00 - 0+00

Location of Take: Latitude 28° 55'.66 N Longitude 95° 17'.25 W

Vessel Name and Company Army Corps of Engineers dredge "Wheeler"

Type of Dredging Activity maintenance

Load # 9 (171 cumulative) Times: Start 1346 End 1422 Dump 1445

Sampling Method (overflow, inflow,etc.) inflow screen

Samples Recovered From 2 pcs shell, 1 handful viscera - port side forward; intestine removed from Stbd forward

Condition of Screening excellent

Draghead Deflector? Yes X No

Condition of Deflector Excellent - solid, fixed, plow type deflecter

Weather Conditions mostly clear & sunny, S wind ~10 knots, seas 2-3' Tide start Ebb, +1.5 @ 1400

Water Temperature: Surface 30° C Column 28°C (hopper) (C) or F (circle one)

Condition of Specimen(s) Sampled very mangled, 2 pieces carapace 25cm x 16cm, & 24cm x 15cm, 1 small hand full of misc. viscera, & 53cm intestine (no contents) another portion of intestine remains out of reach, forward of the port side forward screen.

Measurements--

Give estimate of entire carapace dimensions, as well as fragments sampled (in metric when possible, indicate if not):

Head Width /

Plastron Length / Width /

Carapace S. L. Length / S.L. Width /

Carapace O.C. Length / O.C. Width /

Turtle Tagged? Yes ? No Tag # Tag Date / /

Comments color of carapace reddish brown on pale yellow. Judging from scute sizes, this was a good sized turtle. (adult) Remains photographed & frozen. Fresh, red blood on underside of carapace, no foul smell indicate a fresh kill. (Ctr. Draghead not in use)

Observer's Name J Knecht