ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 03 / 96 Loads: 1 – 10

Area(s) Worked: 23°N 21°W -20,000 to -14,000

Weather Conditions: Mostly to partly cloudy; NE winds 15-20 kts; Seas moderate to rough 4 to 6'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface too rough to record Below Mid-Depth

Condition of all screening apparatus: good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

Endangered or protected species: There were no sightings or incidents.
Biological samples: None
Abiotic samples: plastic, rope, wood, cement blocks, shoes, bricks, metal, shells*, rock, netting

No observation was made for Load #7 due to problems with port pump.

*Shells included knobbed whelks, horse conch

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	4	13	All sightings in Matagorda Pass Channel between Buoys 2 & 4, one sighting near Buoy

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10/04/96 Loads: 11-19

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -17,000 (23°N 21°W)

Weather Conditions: Partly to mostly cloudy, NE winds 15-20 knots, Seas rough 6-12'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface too rough to determine Below Mid-Depth

Condition of all screening apparatus: good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

No endangerd or protected species were taken or sighted.
Biological samples taken: 1 unidentified fish, 1 unidentified eel (possibly a whipeel), shells (knobbed whelk, horse conch, scallop, moon snail)
Abiotic samples taken: plastic, wood, rope, netting, crab trap, mesh bag, tire pieces, cloth, cement blocks, coated wire, mud, rocks, plywood, fishing line, cable

After Load #15 was dumped AB (w/observer assist) cleared center overflow screen. After Load #19 was dumped both observers cleared forward discharge screen of rope, plastic, mesh bag, fishing line, cable, and wood. Due to rough seas spawned by approaching tropical storm Josephine dredging ceased after Load #19 was dumped. The dredge headed for safe harbor and docked at the Port of Port Lavaca-Point Comfort. As of 2359 the dredge remained in port.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
None sighted			

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10/05/1996 Loads: No Loads

Area(s) Worked:

Weather Conditions:

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface Below Mid-Depth

Condition of all screening apparatus:

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? **Yes** **No**

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

Due to tropical depressions producing rough seas no dredging activity took place this day. As of 2359 we are docked at the port of Port Lavaca - Point Comfort.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Salcas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 106 196 Loads: No Loads

Area(s) Worked:

Weather Conditions:

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface Below Mid-Depth

Condition of all screening apparatus:

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No____

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

Tropical depressions just off the coast are still producing rough seas. No dredging activity occurred this day. As of 2359 we are still in port.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 10 103 196 - 10 106 196 Loads: 1 - 19

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface too rough to record Below Mid-Depth

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -14,000 (23°N 21°W)

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

Comments:

There were no incidents or sightings involving endangered species. There were no incidents involving protected species. Sightings listed below.

Biological samples: 1 unidentified fish, 1 unidentified eel (possibly a whip eel) shells (knobbed whelk, horse conch, scallop, moon snail)

Abiotic samples: plastic, wood, rope, netting, crab trap, mesh bag, tire pieces, cloth, cement blocks, coated wire, nut, rocks, plywood, fishing line, cable

After load # 15 was dumped AB (w/observer assist) cleaned center overflow screen. After Load #19 was dumped both observers cleaned forward discharge screen of rope, plastic, mesh bags, fishing line, cable and wood.

Due to rough seas spawned by tropical depressions, dredging activity ceased after Load #19. The dredge remained in port at Port Lavaca - Point Comfort through 10/06/96 2359 hours.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	4	13	All sightings in Matagorda Pass Channel between Buoys 2 & 4, one sighting near Bu

Observers On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 07 / 96 Loads: 20 - 30

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -14,000 (23°N 21°W)

Weather Conditions: Clear skies w/scattered clouds, NE winds 5-10 Knots, Seas moderate (Clam) 2-4'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 26°C Below Mid-Depth 25°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

No endangered species were sighted or taken.
No protected species were taken. Sightings listed below.

Biological samples: 2 unidentified eels, shells, 1 jelly fish

Abiotic samples: rope, cable, mesh bags, wood, tire pieces, cloth, logs, plastic, netting, shoe, hat, mud

The center overflow screen is being cleaned after almost every load by observers and AB's.

An extraordinarily large number of jelly balls (Stomolophus meleagris) were seen near ICW marker 19.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	4	14	All sightings were in channel at various buoys. One group of 3 adults & 1 baby rode the bow wave for 10 minutes.

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 08 / 96 Loads: 31 through 59 (28°N 9

Area(s) Worked: Loads: 31-39 & 41-59 -20,000 to -14,000 Load 40: -14,000 to -9

Weather Conditions: Clear skies w/scattered clouds to partly cloudy, NNE to WNW winds 2-5 Knots, moderate to calm <1' to

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 26° C Below Mid-Depth 26°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

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

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

There were no sightings or incidents involving endangered species today. There were no incidents involving protected species. Sightings are listed below.

Biological samples taken included 4 mole crabs, 4 eels, 1 sole, 1 flounder, 1 anemone, 3 jelly balls, 2 unidentified fish, 1 menhaden

Abiotic samples taken included mud, wood, clay, rope, netting, plastic, fishing line, foam rubber, rocks, wire, mesh bags, boot, log

The Center Overflow screen was cleaned every 3rd or 4th load by observers and AB.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	2	17	Just off rock jetty & south of Buoy 2

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 09 / 96 Loads: 61 - 94

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -14,000 (28°24'N 96°18'W)

Weather Conditions: Clear skies, NNE winds 4-10 knots, Sea calm to moderate

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 25°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

There were no sightings or incidents involving endangered or protected species today.

Biological samples: 9 conger eels, 1 tongue fish, 1 unidentified fish, 2 marine worms, 4 lady crab, 1 Gulf butterfish, 1 whiting, 2 mantis shrimp, 3 jelly balls, grass

Abiotic samples: mud, wood, cloth, mesh bags, plastic, rope, foam rubber, large link chain, shoe, fishing line, netting

Center Overflow Screen was cleaned after Loads 64, 71, 81, 83 & 85.

Forward Inflow Screen was cleaned after Load 78.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Ø			

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

28°23.45N
96°17.40W

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 10 / 96 Loads: 94 - 116

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -14,000 except Load 106 at -14,000 to -9,000

Weather Conditions: Clear skies, SSE-NNE winds ~5knots, Seas calm < 1'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good - Port Dragheed TED was repaired after Load # 105 (reported on Load # 101).

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

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

There were no incidents involving endangered or protected species. An adult Kemp's Ridley was sighted at ~1525 by Mate, John Streett and Dragtender, Rafael Calaya. (Observer at screens did not see it) There were no sightings or incidents involving protected species.

Biological samples: 10 catfish, 2 unidentified fish, 1 calico crab, 3 ornate crabs, 4 conger eels, 1 mole crab, 4 blue crabs, 2 marine worms, 2 anemones, 1 white shrimp, 2 mantis shrimp, 1 sea pansy, 3 jelly balls, 1 whiting, grass (large concentrations of jelly balls in channel

Abiotic samples: log, cloth, plastic, rubber, wood, netting, rope, mud, tire, metal grating, mesh bags, clay, sand

Dredged material is mud/clay. (Sand and mud dredged on Load # 106)

Observer & AB cleaned center overflow screen after Loads # 90, 106, 108, 110 112, 114 & 116. The forward discharge screen was cleaned after Load 111.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Lepidochelys kempi	1	1	Turtle surfaced twice and then swam out to sea.

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 11 / 96 Loads: 117 - 130

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -14,000 (except Load # 124: -14,000 to -9,000) 28°23.45N 96°17.4

Weather Conditions: Clear skies, N-NE winds 5-10 Knots, Seas moderate w/chop 2-4'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

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

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

There were no sightings or incidents involving endangered or protected species.

Material dredged was mud/clay mostly in Section 1. Sand, shell, grass as well as mud/clay dredged in Section 2.

Biological samples: 1 skate, 1 blue crab, 10 catfish, 7 jelly balls, shells (empty, of various species), 1 shrimp, 1 eel, grass, 1 anemone, 1 whiting, 1 flounder

Abiotic samples: mud, rope, rubber, fishing line, wood, plastic, log, boot, shoes, mesh bags, netting, metal scraps,

Large concentrations of jelly balls (Stomolophus meleagris) present in channel.

Center Overflow screen was cleaned after Loads # 119, 122, 127 & 129.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Ø			

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

28°23.45N
96°17.40W

Date: 10 / 12 / 96 Loads: 131 through 142

Area(s) Worked: -20,000 to -14,000 except Loads # 135 & 136 -14,000 to -9,000

Weather Conditions: Clear skies w/scattered clouds, SE to NE winds 4-10 Knots, Seas mod. 2-4'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24° C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good - After Load # 134 the Port Dragheam TED was repaired. Two horizontal cross pieces of chain had pulled away forming holes larger than the 4" X 4" minimal requirement. It was reported after Load # 133.

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

Comments (type of material being dredged, biological specimens, etc.):
There were no sightings or incidents involving endangered species today. There were NO incidents involving protected species. Sightings are listed below.

Dredged material was of mud and clay in Section 1. In Section 2 the dredged material was sand, grass and mud.

Biological samples: 2 catfish, 8 eels, 1 blue crab, 2 jelly ball, 1 flounder, 2 whiting, 1 unidentified fish, shells (empty)

Abiotic samples: logs, mud, wood, plastic, mesh bags, cloth, rope, tree trunk sections, shrimp net chaffing, fishing line, metal scraps, boots, shrimp net & chain

The Center Overflow Screen was cleared after Loads # 131, 134, 137, 140 & 142. Large concentrations of jelly balls (Stomolophus meleagris) in channel.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	3	12	All sightings in channel. One was observed jumping in front of a freighter as it rode the bow wave.

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 13 / 96 Loads: 143 through 157

Area(s) Worked: -14,000 to -9,000 excepts Loads# 143 & 144 [28°23.40 96°17.10]

Weather Conditions: Clear to partly cloudy, ENE to NNE winds 3-15 Knots, Seas moderate

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: good

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

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

One Loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta) was taken in the starboard draghead visor. Judging by the size, it was a subadult. The right side of the body was caught in the visor indicating the turtle became lodged while the draghead was on the bottom.
No sightings of other endangered species or incidents involving protected species occurred today. Sightings of protected species are listed.

Dredged material was mud and clay in Section I, in Section II sand & shell.

Biological samples: 2 catfish, 2 ecks of jellyballs, 1 stingray, 1 flounder, 1 whiting, 1 blue crab (Callinectes sapidus), 1 purse crab (Persephone sp.),

Abiotic samples: rope, mud, shrimp net, clay, plastic, wood, shrimp net float, cable, glass, foam rubber, logs, fishing line.
Overflow screen was cleaned after Loads# 143, 144, 146, 149, 151 & 153. After Load #153 one section of overflow screen was lifted to relieve constant clogging.
Large concentration of jelly balls (Stomolophus meleagris) were seen in the channel from 0835 to 1022.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	1	3	Sightings near Buoys 7 & 8. Attempted to ride bow wave. Ship moving too slowly for a ride.

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Salcas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 10/07/96 - 10/13/96 Loads: 20 through 157

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 26°-24°C Below Mid-Depth 26°-24°C

Area(s) Worked: Section I (-20,000 to -14,000) & Section II (-14,000 to -9,000) 28°23N 96°17W

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

Comments: On Sunday 10/13/96 at 1707 one subadult Loggerhead (Cc) sea turtle was caught in the Starboard Draghead Visor. Its head, front right flipper and right margin of shell were recovered. It apparently became trapped while the draghead was on the bottom of the channel. One Kemp's Ridley (Lk) sea turtle was observed by Dragtender, Rafael Zalaya & Mate, John Streett. (Observer was checking screens and did not see it.) The Ridley surfaced twice and then swam towards the open ocean.
Center/Overflow screen was cleaned every 1 to 3 Loads during the entire week. Dredged material was mud and clay in Section I. In Section II sand, grass, mud & clay were dredged.
One of four segments of the Overflow screen was removed to alleviate clogging on the 13th.
Biological Samples: 24 catfish, 30 eels, 23 jelly balls, 1 stingray, 4 flounders, 6 whitings, 5 mole crabs, 1 purse crab, 7 blue crab, 1 calico crab, 1 lady crab, 1 sea pansy, 1 skate, 3 unidentified fish shells (various, empty), 1 sole, 1 anemone, 1 menhaden, 1 tongue fish, 2 marine worms, grass, 1 Gulf butterfish, 2 mantis shrimp, 1 shrimp, 3 ornate crabs (Callinectes ornatus).
Large concentrations of jelly balls (Stomolophus meleagris) observed in channel 11th-13th.
Abiotic samples: rope, mud, shrimp net, clay, plastic, wood, cable, shrimp net float, glass, foam rubber, logs, fishing line, mesh bags, cloth, tree trunk sections, shrimp net chaffing, metal scraps, boots, shrimp net chain, rubber shoes, netting, tire, metal grating, sand, large link chain, rocks, wire, hard hats

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Lk	1	1	Kemp's Ridley surfaced twice & swam out to sea.
Tt	10	46	Sightings in channel near various buoys. Three sightings involved riding the bow waves of this vessel and another freighter.

Observers On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 14 / 96 Loads: 158 through 165 [28° 23N / 96° 18W]

Area(s) Worked: Section I (-20,000 to -14,000) & Section II (-14,000 to -9,000)

Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy to Overcast, NE winds 5-10 knots, Seas moderate 2-4

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

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

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

The rest of the Loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta) picked up on 10/13/96 Load #154 was picked up today by the Starboard Draghead on Load #163. It was definitely the same turtle. No sightings of endangered species today nor incidents involving protected species. Sighting of protected species is listed below.

Dredged material is mud & clay.

Biological samples: 4 conger eels, 6 marine worms, Lightening whelks & Horse conchs (empty shells), grass, 1 flounder

Abiotic samples: Wood, rope, plastic, mud

During Load #158 the Port Dragarm winch failed suspending dredging from 2114 on 10/13/95 to 0117 today. Due to cracks in Port Draghead and the need to offload winch for repairs, dredging was suspended from 1056 to 2204 while we transited to and from and docked at Port O'Conner - Point Comfort dock.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	4	1	Two mother/calf pairs were swimming in the channel near ICW 74

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10/15/96 Loads: 166 through 187
Area(s) Worked: Section II -14,000 to -9,000 [28°23N 96°18W]
Weather Conditions: Overcast w/showers, E to SE winds 5 to 15 knots, Seas moderate to rough 2-5'
Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 25°C
Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

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

Comments (type of material being dredged, biological specimens, etc.):
No sightings or incidents involving endangered species occurred today. No incidents involving protected species occurred today. Sightings listed below

Dredged material was mud and clay. We continue to dig only with the Starboard Dragarm.

Biological samples: grass, 1 whiting, 1 heart cockle (live), 1 jelly ball

Abiotic samples: mud, plastic, wood, net, rope, chain, tire pieces, battery, clay, cable, mesh bag, fishing line, plastic crate

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	4	9	In channel near Buoy 4

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 16 / 96 Loads: 188 to 209

Area(s) Worked: section 2 (-14,000 to -9,000) 28°23N 96°NW

Weather Conditions: seas moderate to rough 2-5', winds SE-NE 5-15 knots, overcast to partly clou

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 25°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: Good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

No sightings or incidents involving endangered or protected species today

Dredged material was mud & clay.
Dug only with starboard draghead, port disabled

Biological samples: grass, roots, 1 menhaden, lightening whelk, jellyball, 1 flounder,

Abiotic samples: clay, mud, plastic, wood, rope, fishing line, net, tire, metal, cable

A few jellyballs present in channel 1130 – 1545

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
TT	3	6	near buoy 4

Observer(s) On Duty: L. Sprague, C. Sa[illegible]

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10/17/96 Loads: 210 to 233

Area(s) Worked: -14,000 to -9,000 (sec. 2) 28°23'N 96°18'W

Weather Conditions: scattered clouds - clear, winds S-W < 10 knots, seas calm - moderate

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: good

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

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

There were no incidents involving endangered or protected species.
There were no sightings of endangered or protected species.

Dredged material was mud and clay with grass and shells.

Port Dragarm is disabled. Dredging with Starboard Draghead only.

Biotic material: grass, catfish, pear whelk, lightening whelk, roots

Sparse concentrations of jellyballs (*Stenolepinus melagris*) present in channel.

Abiotic material: clay, mud, rope, net, plastic, wood, metal, chain, mesh bag

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Ø			

Observer(s) On Duty: L. Sprague, C. Sukas

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10/18/96 Loads: 234 to 242

Area(s) Worked: -14,000 to -9,000 28°25N 96°12W

Weather Conditions: seas moderate 1-5', wind SW-N 5-25 knots, clear-overcast

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 24°C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

Dredged with Starboard dragarm only until 1730, when Port dragarm was enabled & we dredged with both arms thereafter.

Dredged material: clay, mud

Biotic material: grass, lightening whelk (empty), roots

Abiotic material: mud, clay, wood, plastic, rope, net, fishing line, belt, metal

*Dredging ceased from 0405 to 1529, while Port dragarm was repaired & replaced at the dock - Point Comfort.

There were no incidents or sightings involving endangered species. There were no incidents involving protected species. Sightings of protected species listed.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	3	11	1 mother/calf pair
			-all sightings were in transit
			from dock to dredge site.

Observer(s) On Duty: L. Sprague, C. Sakas

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10/ 19/96 Loads: 243 to 256

Area(s) Worked: SECTION 2 (-14,000 to -9,000) 28°23N 96°18W

Weather Conditions: clear to mostly cloudy, winds NW-ESE 5-20 knots, Seas 2-

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 26° C Below Mid-Depth 24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: good

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

Comments (type of material being dredged, biological specimens, etc.):
Material dredged was sand/mud/clay

Biotic samples: lightning whelks (empty), horseconch (empty), grass, 1 tongue fish, 1 flounder, 6 catfish, roots

Abiotic samples: metal, rope, wood, mesh bag, wire, cable, plastic, crabtrap, net, fishing line

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tursiops truncatus	3	9	between barge 3 & 4 and 1 & 2

Observer(s) On Duty: L. Sprague, C. Sakas

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 20 / 96 Loads: 257 to 267

Area(s) Worked: 28°23N 96°18W

Weather Conditions: Overcast to mostly cloudy, wind SSW ~20 knots, seas 4-8ft

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 23-24°C Below Mid-Depth 23-24°C

Condition of all screening apparatus: good - a few breaks in port overflow screen + stbd overflow screen.

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

Material dredged was sand, mud, clay

One-third of overflow screen was removed due to clogging up with mud & grass - one-third of screen remains.

Biotic material: grass, various shells, lightning whelk

A few jellyfish (Stomolophus meleagris) present in channel near buoy 1 (1047 - 1208)

Abiotic material: sand, mud, rope, wood, clay, metal, plastic, net, ribbon, cable, wire, foam rubber, fishing line

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	4	19	near buoys 152 and 354

Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 10/14/96 - 10/20/96 Loads: 158 to 267

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 23° to 26°C Below Mid-Depth 23° to 25°C

Area(s) Worked: Section I (-20,000 to -14,000) & Section II (-14,000 to -9,000) 28°23' 96°18'

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X*

Comments: *On 10/13/96 Load #154 a part of one Loggerhead (Caretta caretta) was taken up in the Starboard Draghead. On 10/14/96 the rest of that same Loggerhead was taken up in the Starboard Draghead. The incident was reported for for the week of 10/8/96 to 10/13/96.

- Dredged material was sand, mud and clay.
- The second third of the Overflow screen was removed on 10/20/96 to prevent clogging as we dug the final loads of this assignment.
- Loads #158 through #239 were dug with the Starboard Dragarm only due to failure of the Port Dragarm winch. Repairs were made, and both Dragarms were in use as of Load #240.
- Sparse concentrations of jelly balls (Stomolophus meleagris) were present in the channel on the 16th, 17th and 20th.
- Biotic samples taken included: Grass, 4 conger eels, 6 marine worms, lightening whelks (empty), horse conchs (empty), 3 flounder, 1 whiting, 1 heart cockle, 1 jelly ball, 1 menhaden, 7 catfish, pear whelk, roots, 1 tonguefish, various shells
- Abiotic samples taken included: sand, mud, clay, rope, wood, metal, plastic, net, ribbon, cable, wire, foam rubber, fishing line, mesh bags, crabtrap, belt, chain, tire, battery, plastic crate

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
TT	18	58	Near Buoys 1 & 2 and 3 & 4

Observers On Duty: Leslie Sprague, Cathy Sakas

ENDANGERD SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM
Dredge *OUACHITA* - Matagorda Bay, TX
Gulf Coast Trailing Co./USACE, Galveston District

DAILY REPORT

Date: 10 / 21 / 96 Loads: 267 through 270
Area(s) Worked: Section II -14,000 to -9,000 28°23N 96°18 W
Weather Conditions: Mostly cloudy, SW winds 15 to 20 knots, Seas moderate to rough
Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface not taken Below Mid-Depth not taken
Condition of all screening apparatus: Good - Starboard and Port Overboard Discharge Screen have separated at corner seam.

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? Yes____ No X

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

Dredged material was sand, clay and mud.

No biotic samples were noted today.

Abiotic samples taken included: net, rope, strap, wood, fishing line, cable

Dredging stopped at 0652. The last load was not dumped. We are holding it as ballast while we lay at anchor in building seas until further notice.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
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Observer(s) On Duty: Cathy Sakas, Leslie Sprague