ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Project: SABINE PASS

INCIDENT REPORT OF SEA TURTLE TAKE BY DREDGING ACTIVITY

Date 03 / 26 / 97 Time(24hr) 0813 HRS.

Species of Turtle Taken LEPIDOCHELYS KEMPI

Dredging Site (channel, port, etc.) SABINE PASS PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS

Location of Take: Latitude 29° 38.2' N Longitude 93° 49.4' W

Vessel Name and Company DREDGE MERMENTAU GULF COAST TRAILING COMPANY

Type of Dredging Activity MAINTENANCE DREDGING

Load # 376 Times: Start 0720 End 0805 Dump 0813

Sampling Method (overflow, inflow,etc.) INFLOW SCREENING

Samples Recovered From PORT AFT LANDER

Condition of Screening GOOD

Draghead Deflector? Yes X No ____

Condition of Deflector GOOD

Weather Conditions OVERCAST SKIES; WINDS NORTHERLY 20KTS; SEAS 3' Tide 2.39

Water Temperature: Surface 19° Column 19° (C) or F (circle one)

Condition of Specimen(s) Sampled FRESH KILL, LEFT ANTERIOR DORSAL AND VENTRAL SECTIONS MISSING, BODY CAVITY WAS EMPTY, EXCEPT FOR LINING, SOME STILL INTACT. FRESH BLOOD WAS PRESENT WITH LINING PURPLE, LIGHT PURPLE, RED, AND BLUISH IN COLOR. NO FOUL ODOR.

Measurements--

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

Head Width NA

Plastron Length NA Width SEE ATTACHED

Carapace S. L. Length SEE ATTACHED DIAGRAM OF MEASUREMENTS S.L. Width " "

Carapace O.C. Length OF SECTION REMAINING 30 CM. O.C. Width OF SECTION REMAINING 15.3 CM

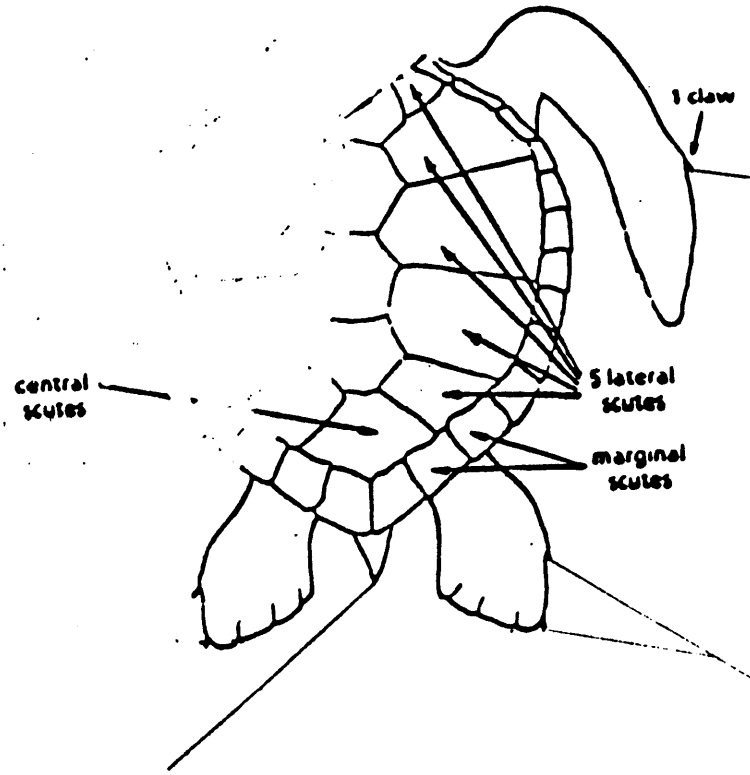
Turtle Tagged? Yes ____ No X Tag # ____ Tag Date / /

Comments CARAPACE BLACK TO OLIVE-GREY IN COLOR; PLASTRON WHITE TO YELLOWISH IN COLOR. CARAPACE OVAL IN SHAPE. PLASTRON HAD THREE CRACKS. SEE ATTACHED DIAGRAM.

Observer's Name BRETT JOHNSON

Sabine Pass
Port Arthur, Texas
Sampled fresh dead
03-26-97
Lepidochelys kempii
Load # 376

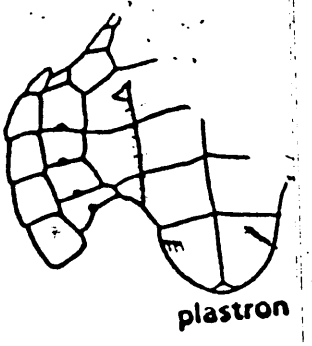
Left dorsal anterior and posterior missing.



Single claw .8 c.m. length

Two claws, curved
distal 1.30m
proximal 1cm

Tail of specimen would not be visible as pictured – too short to extend beyond posterior scutes. Tail covered by shell by 1.2 cm.



Body cavity: The body cavity was empty, except for the lining, which remained intact. Fresh blood was present and the lining was purple, light purple, red, and bluish in color. No foul odor was present.

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ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Project: SABINE PASS

INCIDENT REPORT OF SEA TURTLE TAKE BY DREDGING ACTIVITY

Date 03 / 26 / 97 Time(24hr) 1801 HRS.

*Species of Turtle Taken LEPIDOCHELYS KEMPI

Dredging Site (channel, port, etc.) SABINE PASS, PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS

Location of Take: Latitude 29° 38.2' N Longitude 93° 49.4' W

Vessel Name and Company DREDGE MERMENTAU GULF COAST TRAILING COMPANY

Type of Dredging Activity MAINTENANCE DREDGING

Load # 385 Times: Start 1707 End 1755 Dump 1801

Sampling Method (overflow, inflow,etc.) INFLOW SCREENING

Samples Recovered From PORT AFT LANDER

Condition of Screening GOOD

Draghead Deflector? Yes X No _____

Condition of Deflector GOOD

Weather Conditions CLEAR SKIES; WINDS NORTH 15-20 KTS; SEAS 2-3' Tide 2.07

Water Temperature: Surface 20° Column 20° (C) or F (circle one)

Condition of Specimen(s) Sampled RECOVERED SECTION OF TURTLE TAKEN DURING LOAD # 376. RECOVERED LEFT DORSAL ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR INCLUDED HEAD, LEFT FRONT FLIPPER, TRACHEA, AND ATTACHED VISCERA AND LINING. FRESH BLOOD PRESENT. NO FOUL ODOR.

Measurements--

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

Head Width 7.5 CM

Plastron Length 22 CM Width 20 CM

Carapace S. L. Length 29 CM S.L. Width 27.4 CM

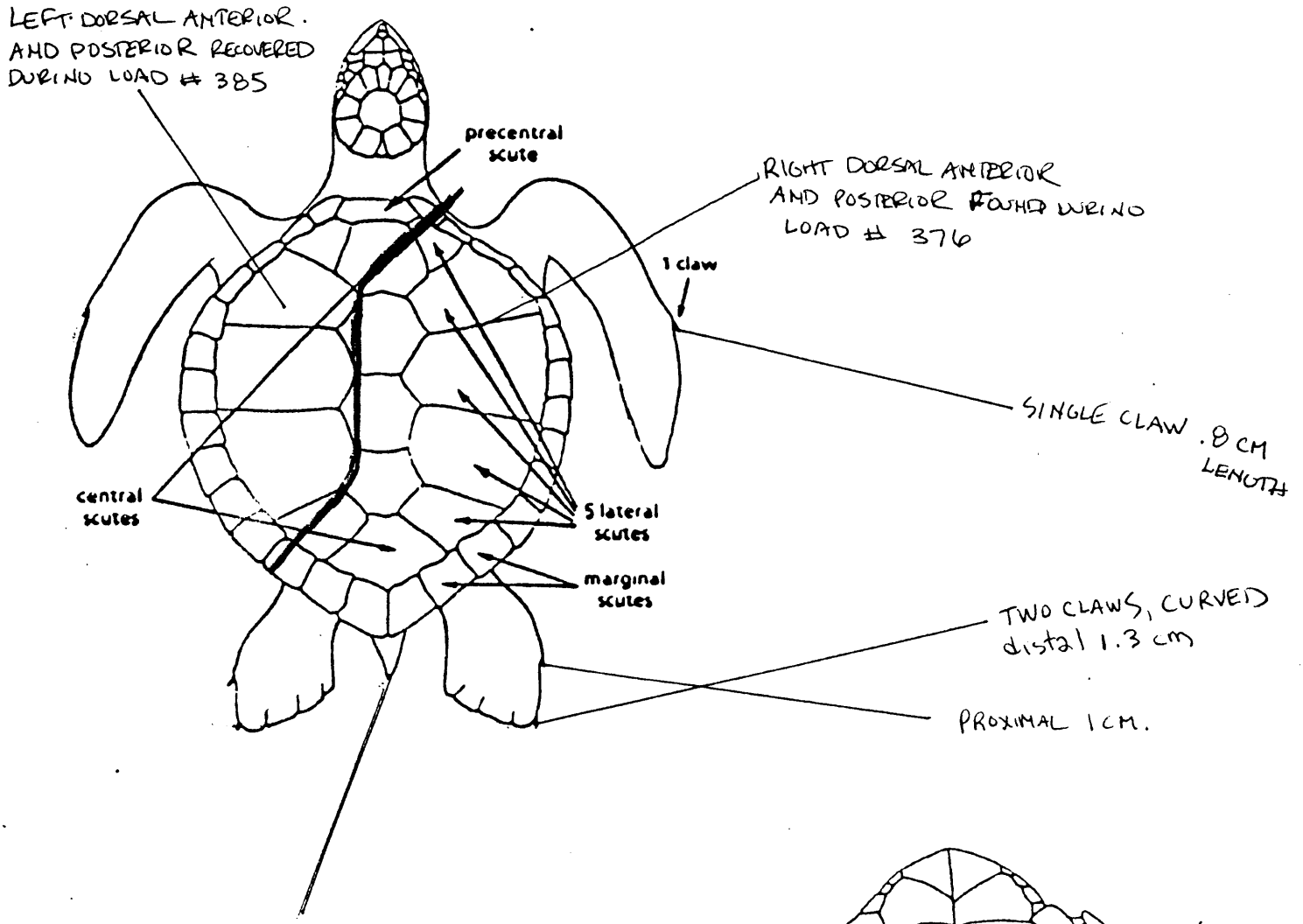
Carapace O.C. Length 30 CM O.C. Width 30 CM

Turtle Tagged? Yes _____ No X Tag # — Tag Date / /

Comments * THIS IS SECTION OF TURTLE TAKEN DURING LOAD # 376. THIS IS NOT A NEW TAKE. TURTLE PARTS FROM LOAD # 376 AND LOAD # 385 TAKEN SAME DAY AND CONSIDERED AS ONE TAKE. SEE ATTACHED DIAGRAM.

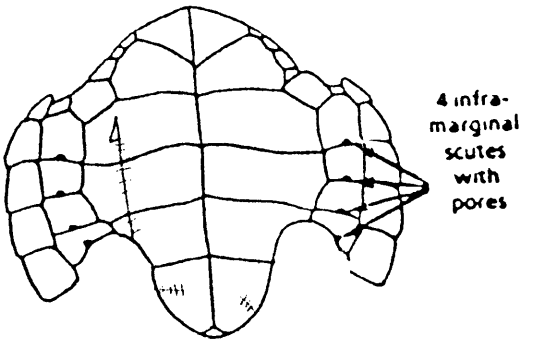
Observer's Name CHARLOTTE CATES, BRETT JOHNSON

DREDGE MERMENTAU
SABINE PASS PORT ARTHUR, TX
SAMPLED FRESH DEAD
03/26/97 DIAGRAM #2
LEPIDOCHELYS KEMPI
PART TAKEN IN LOAD # 376
REST TAKEN IN LOAD # 385



TAIL OF SPECIMEN WOULD NOT BE VISIBLE AS PICTURED - TOO SHORT TO EXTEND BEYOND POSTERIOR SCUTES. TAIL COVERED BY SHELL 1.2 cm

BODY CAVITY: THE BODY CAVITY WAS EMPTY, EXCEPT FOR THE LINING, WHICH REMAINED INTACT. FRESH BLOOD WAS PRESENT AND THE LINING WAS PURPLE, LIGHT PURPLE, RED, AND BLUISH IN COLOR. NO FOUL ODOR WAS PRESENT



Fractured