State plane NAD83
Texas South Central
Northing - 13,530244.19
Easting - 3162789.89

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Project: Freeport Entrance Channel, Texas

INCIDENT REPORT OF SEA TURTLE TAKE BY DREDGING ACTIVITY

Date 8 / 10 / 00 Time(24hr) 05:20

Species of Turtle Taken Loggerhead Sea Turtle (Caretta caretta) (subadult male)

Dredging Site (channel, port, etc.) Freeport Entrance Channel, Texas

Location of Take: Latitude 28°54′N Longitude 95°16′W

Vessel Name and Company Dredge Stuyvesant - Bean Stuyvesant

Type of Dredging Activity maintenance

Load # 207 Times: Start 04:33 End 05:17 Dump 06:13

Sampling Method (overflow, inflow,etc.) overflow

Samples Recovered From port overflow screening

Condition of Screening excellent

Draghead Deflector? Yes ✓ No _____

Condition of Deflector good

Weather Conditions clear sky, NE winds @5-10, seas=2-3 Tide 1.8′ slack

Water Temperature: Surface 29°C Column 29°C (C) or F (circle one)

Condition of Specimen(s) Sampled The turtle was alive upon initial discovery, but had a crack approximately 30 cm long by 3cm wide on it's carapace, just to the right of it's backbone. It also had a heavy abrasion on right posterior edge of it's carapace. The turtle subsequently died.

Measurements--

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

Head Width 12.5 cm

Plastron Length 52 cm Width 54.6 cm

Carapace S. L. Length 69.0 cm S.L. Width 54.2 cm

Carapace O.C. Length 72.0 cm O.C. Width 66.0 cm

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

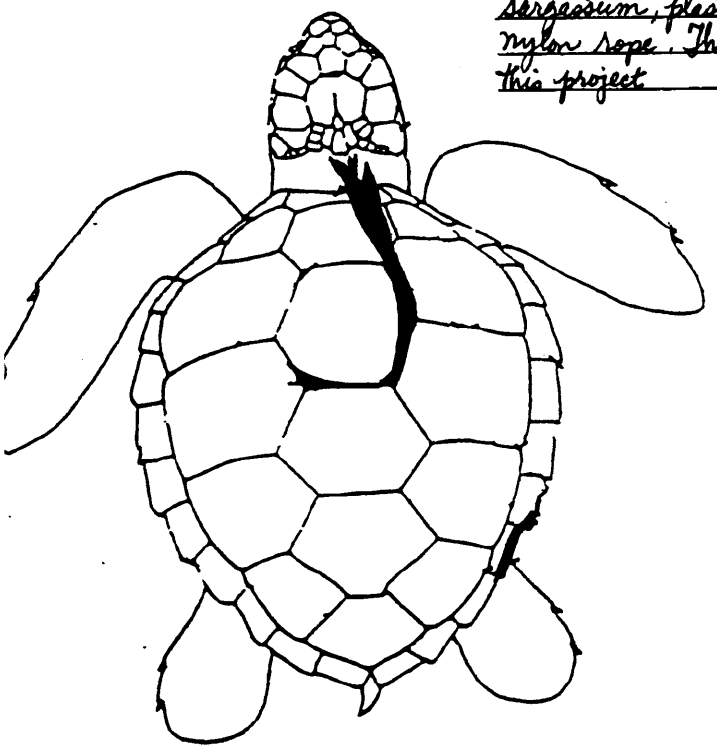
Comments The turtle was taken to NMFS in Galveston, where a necropsy was performed by Andrea Cannon, aided by Ann Kidwell (also of NMFS) and turtle observer Meghan Piercy. This was conducted 5½ hours after the turtle was first discovered. It was determined that the turtle died of bleeding as a result of a laceration to the liver. It also sustained damage to the left lung. Digestive tract included: sargassum, plastic, barnacles, sea squirts, nylon rope.

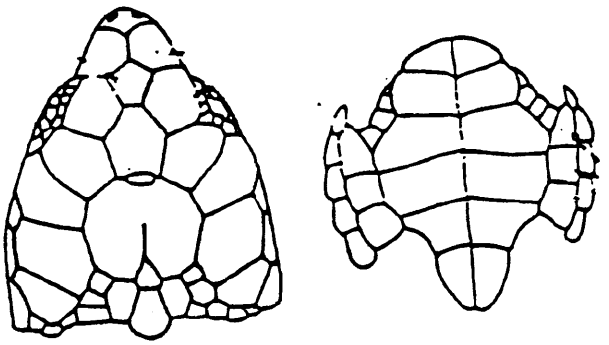
Observer's Name Meghan Piercy, Rick Woods

'aretta caretta (loggerhead)

ıade areas of turtle which are missing. Sketch cracks and lacerations.

Comments: 8/10/00
Dredge Stuyvesant
Freeport Entrance Channel, Texas
Load # 207
Individual was brought to NMFS in Galveston and necropsied within 5 hours. It was found to be a male (subadult) and to have died from internal bleeding caused by a laceration to the liver. The left lung also sustained injuries. Contents of the digestive tract included: large amounts of sargassum, plastic, barnacles, sea squirts and nylon rope. This was the first turtle caught on this project





Head and plastron were fully intact.