ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge: Stuyvesant

Project: Freeport Entrance Channel, Texas

DAILY REPORT

Date 8 / 15 / 00 Load Numbers 283-298

Area(s) Worked section 4

Weather Conditions (incl. sea conditions) ESE winds @ 10-20, p/c sky, seas = 3'-6'

Range of Water Temp., Surface 30°C Below Mid-Depth 30°C

Condition and Effectiveness of Screening Good - same as usual - 100% overflow coverage while inflow screen doors are open

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? YES NO

Comments (details of turtle takes or whale sightings, dredged material, screening, biological by-catch, etc.):

A sample of a Loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta) was retained in load #295 at 19:30 hours. This included the posterior section of the animal only including: both rear flippers intact, anal scutes of the plastron, pygal scutes of the carapace, and the tail. Species identification was based on flippers color being yellowish orange and pygal scutes being reddish brown. This was a fresh kill.

Dredged material consist of mud and clay

Biota retained in screening included: sargassum, catfish, whelk egg cases, ribbonfish, flatfish and wood.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Animals	Time / Location / Comments
Tursiops truncatus	5	0930 / section 4
Tursiops truncatus	30	1130 / @ the end of the jetties
Tursiops truncatus	3	1520 / section 4
Tursiops truncatus	6	1600 / riding bow wake of passing tanker

Observer(s) on duty Meghan Piercy, Rick Woods

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge: Stuyvesant

Project: Freeport Entrance Channel, Texas

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates 8 / 13 / 00 - 8 / 19 / 00 Load Numbers 255-347

Range of Water Temp., Surface 30°-31°C Below Mid-Depth 30°-31°C

Areas Worked (lat/longs, stations) Sections: 4,8

Are there incidents involving endangered or protected species? (YES) NO

Comments (turtle takes, whale sightings, effectiveness of screening, by-catch, material, other info):

On 8/15 a sample of a Loggerhead Sea Turtle (Caretta caretta) was retained in load # 295 @ 19:30 hours. This was the second incidental turtle take on this project. The sample was composed of only the posterior section of the animal, including: both rear flippers, anal scutes, pygal scutes and the tail. Species identification was based on flipper color being yellowish orange and pygal scutes being reddish brown.

Dredged material consisted of mud and clay. Biota retained in screening included: sargassum, Blue crab, sea squirts, whelk egg cases, catfish, sabbonfish, red snapper, red drum, eels, mackeral, spider crab, flatfish, manta ray, calico crab, worms and wood.

Bridge Watch Summary

Date	Various Species and Respective Number	Comments
8 / 13	Tursiops truncatus (10)	@ end of jetties and bow of trawler
8 / 14	Tursiops truncatus (6)	@ disposal area
8 / 15	Tursiops truncatus (44 sightings probably 30 animals)	@ end of jetties, @ bow of tanker, section 4
8 / 16	Tursiops truncatus (37-42 sightings) pod of 20-25	@ end of jetties & w/ passing ship, section 4
8 / 17	Tursiops truncatus (30-36 sightings) largest pod=15	@ end of jetties, section 4, passing tanker
8 / 18	Tursiops truncatus (18-19 sightings) largest pod=4-5	by jetties, bow waves of passing ships
8 / 19	Tursiops truncatus (16 sightings) largest pod=9	St. of jetties + Section 4
8 / 19	Unidentified Sea Turtle (probably Loggerhead) (1)	in Channel

Observers on duty Meghan Piercy and Rick Woods