

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM  
SEA TURTLE INCIDENTAL TAKE DATA FORM

PROJECT NAME: FREEPORT ENTRANCE CHANNEL USACE DISTRICT: GALVESTON

DREDGE NAME: M/V Columbia Dredge Firm: B+B Dredging

DATE: 11/14/06 Time turtle take recovered (24hr): 1315 Turtle take # for project: 1

LOAD #: 384 Times (24hrs): Start 1146 End 1310 Load start date 11/14/06

SPECIES OF TURTLE TAKE: Unknown Loggerhead Green Kemp's ridley Hawksbill Leatherback

Channel location of take: Latitude 28° 55.54 N Longitude 95° 17.12 W

Other location / Channel description (e.g. buoy markers, landmarks):

STATIONS 00+00 → -42+00 JUST OUTSIDE JETTIES

Location take recovered on dredge: STBD DRAGHEAD & 2 pieces in discharge box

Number of dragheads in use at time of incident: 1 Draghead deflector? YES X NO     

Condition of deflector: GOOD Condition of screening: GOOD

Beaufort Sea State: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

AIR TEMP: 74 °C/°F (°F = 9/5 (°C) + 32; °C = 5/9 (°F - 32))

WATER TEMP: Surface 68 °C/°F Column (mid-depth) ✓ °C/°F Bottom ✓ °C/°F

Condition of specimen: FRESH! HEART STILL BEATING. CARAPACE IN MANY  
PIECES BUT MOSTLY STILL ATTACHED BY TISSUE; HEAD, FLIPPERS, TAIL ALL  
INTACT

0 = Alive; 1 = Fresh dead; 2 = Moderately decomposed; 3 = Severely decomposed; 4 = skeleton/old bone; 5 = undetermined

Sex: M F UN How determined?      Age class: Juv      Sub-Adult X Adult      UN     

Measurements: Circle units

Plastron Length:      cm/in Head Width: 5 cm/in

Plastron Width:      cm/in

Carapace Straight Length: 21.5 cm/in Carapace Straight Width:      cm/in

Carapace Curved Length:      cm/in Carapace Curved Width:      cm/in

Measurement/description of part:     

Genetic samples taken: YES X NO      Photos taken: YES X NO     

Turtle tagged?: YES      NO X Tag type:      Tag #:      Tag date:     

Final disposition of specimen: WEIGHED W/ ROPE + STEEL & DUMPED IN DISPOSAL SITE

Comments: MEASURED CARAPACE STRAIGHT LENGTH ALONG SKELETAL LINE -  
BONE TO BONE. NOT ABLE TO GET WIDTHS AND LENGTHS IN  
TRADITIONAL WAY DUE TO CONDITION OF BODY. HEAD WIDTH MEASURED  
AT WIDEST POINT. HEAD LENGTH ALONG TOP OF SKULL 6". \*

Load data form attached: YES X NO      Dredge load log attached: YES      NO X

Observer Names JENNIFER GATZKE, ERICA SISSON

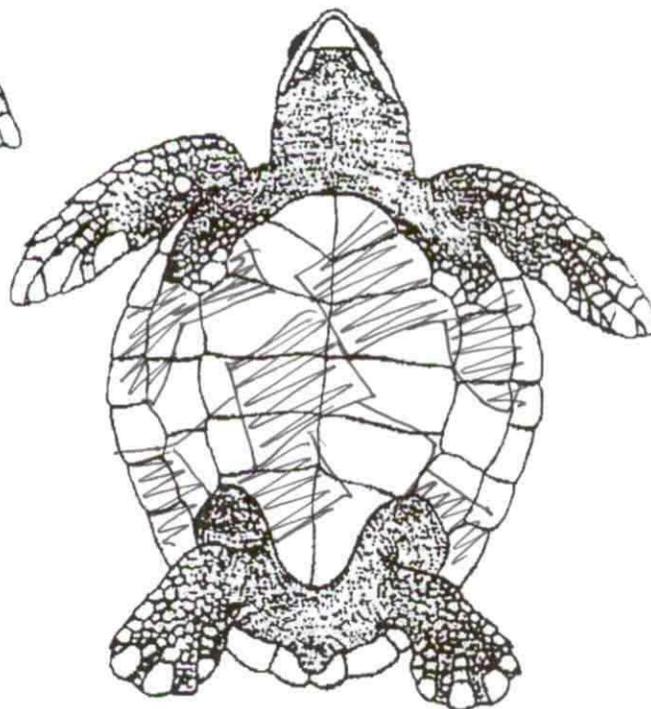
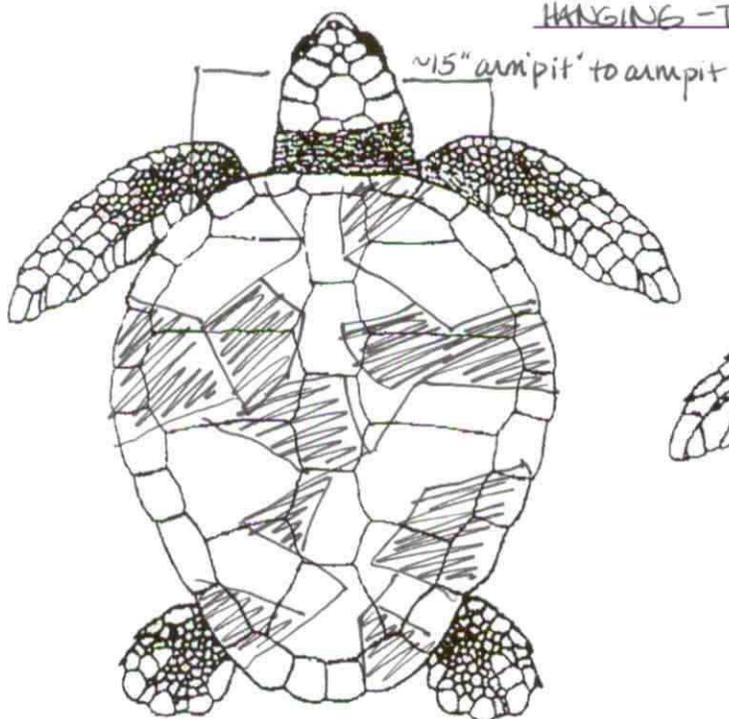
Observer Firm COASTWISE CONSULTING

\* 4 COE REPRESENTATIVES ONBOARD FOR THE EVENT, ALONG  
WITH J. RIFFEY.  
TISSUE SAMPLES TAKEN + FROZEN FOR POSSIBLE GENETIC WORK.  
NECROPSY OF STOMACH + INTESTINE SHOWS DIGESTION ACTIVITY.

# Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*)

Shade areas of turtle that are missing; sketch cracks and lacerations

Comments: TURTLE INTACT EXCEPT FOR PIECES  
OF THE CARAPACE AND PLASTRON.  
INTERNAL ORGANS ALL SPILLED OUT.  
HEART STILL BEATING. 2 PIECES OF  
CARAPACE FOUND IN DISCHARGE BOX -  
THE MAJORITY OF CARCASS FOUND  
HANGING BY HEAD IN DRAGHEAD.  
NO STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY LEFT TO THE  
BODY EXCEPT CENTER SPINE. CARAPACE  
& PLASTRON PIECES ALL MANGLED &  
HANGING - TOUGH TO PUZZLE PIECE TOGETHER.



(Cracks & shading used  
roughly - tough to piece  
back together to see  
what pieces are  
missing)

Diagrams by Tom McFarland