ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge *PADRE ISLAND* / NATCO

Maintenance Dredging - 1996 - Norfolk, Virginia

DAILY REPORT

Date: 05 / 15 / 96 Loads: 33

Area(s) Worked: 796 → 852 4 CUTS THIMBLE SHOAL CHANNEL

Weather Conditions: OVC, SE WIND @ 12 KTS, SEAS 1'

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 60°F Below Mid-Depth N/A

Condition of all screening apparatus: EXCELLENT

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

Comments (type of material being dredged, biological specimens, etc.): DREDGED MATERIAL IS SILT. 4 CUTS PERFORMED, THEN A ~2HR DUMP RUN, EACH WAY.

BOARDED VESSEL 0745, OBSERVATION COVERAGE IN 2 SHIFTS OF 6HRS EACH FROM 0600 → 1200 AND 1800 → 0000. IF A LOAD WILL BE DUMPED ON AN OBSERVED SHIFT, THAT LOAD IS TO BE DUG WITH DISCHARGE BOX SCREENS CLOSED (DOWN). LOAD 31 WAS NOT COVERED BECAUSE IT WAS ALREADY DUG W/ SCREENS OPEN BY THE TIME OBSERVER ARRIVED. THE REMAINS OF A CARETTA CARETTA WAS FOUND IN STBD & PORT FWD BOXES (33). A HEAD WITH ATTACHED LEFT FRONT APPENDAGE ON THE PORT, THE PLASTRON WITH THE REMAINING 3 APPENDAGES IN THE STBD. MOST OF THE CARAPACE WAS MISSING BUT IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE A S.L. LENGTH OF >60CM. THE TURTLE WAS PROBABLY CRUSHED AND A PORTION TAKEN ON ONE CUT, WITH THE OTHER PORTION TAKEN ON A SUBSEQUENT CUT. AN 18X19CM FRAGMENT INCLUDED THE PIGAL SCUTES, TAKEN IN THE STBD FORE BOX.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
NONE			

Observer(s) On Duty: C. MASON

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge *PADRE ISLAND* / NATCO

Maintenance Dredging - 1996 - Norfolk, Virginia

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 05/15/96 - 05/18/96 Loads: 33, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 60 - 62° F Below Mid-Depth

Area(s) Worked: 796 -> 852 (33) 852 -> 956 (36, 38) 965 -> 852 (40, 42, 44) 788 -> 708 (46)

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

Comments: BOARDED VESSEL 0745, COVERAGE WILL BE IN 2 SHIFTS (0600-1200; 1800-0000). IF A LOAD WILL BE DUMPED ON A COVERED SHIFT, THAT LOAD IS TO BE DUG WITH TURTLE EXCLUDER SCREENS IN DOWN POSITION. LOAD 31 NOT COVERED AS IT WAS DUG PRIOR TO OBSERVERS BOARDING... CARETTA CARETTA WAS TAKEN ON LOAD 33, THE PLASTRON, RT FRONT AND BOTH REAR ATTACHED APPENDAGES TAKEN IN STBD FORWARD LANDER, THE HEAD & FRONT RIGHT APPENDAGE (ATTACHED) IN PORT FWD LANDER. IT WAS DETERMINED THESE TWO SPECIMENS BELONGED TO THE SAME ANIMAL, PLASTRON LENGTH OF APPX. 49CM WIDTH 53CM. CARAPACE STRAIGHT LINE MEASUREMENT ESTIMATED AT >60CM AS THE SHELL WAS ONLY 25% OR LESS RECOVERED. IT WAS ALSO DETERMINED THAT THE TURTLE WAS PROBABLY CRUSHED AND A SPECIMEN TAKEN ON ONE CUT AND THE REMAINDER TAKEN ON A SUBSEQUENT CUT. IN ADDITION, AN 18 X 19CM FRAGMENT WHICH INCLUDED RIGAL SCUTES WAS SAMPLED WITH PLASTRON... COASTWISE WAS CONTACTED AND WORD CAME BACK TO PADRE ISLAND ON DISPOSAL OF CARCASS. IT WAS WEIGHTED DOWN WITH HEAVY MACHINE PARTS AND CAST INTO THE SEA AT THE DUMP SITE AT 1649 05-16-96.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
NONE			

Observers On Duty: C. MASON