ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge *OUACHITA* / Gulf Coast Trailing Co.

Savannah Harbor Entrance / USACE, Savannah Sistrict

DAILY REPORT

Date: 3 / 14 / 97 Loads: 97 - 101 (observed loads, daylight only)

Area(s) Worked: -395 tow → -320 tow

Weather Conditions: Sea state 4-6' calming to 2-4'; wind SSE 15-20 → 10-15; cloud cover 100% clearing to 85-90%

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface 65 - 66°F Below Mid-Depth 63-65°F

Condition of all screening apparatus: * excellent conditions for all screening - except skimmer which is missing 1/4 screening - *no turtle observation required for this job. - stied. & port overboard discharge not in use.

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

Comments (type of material being dredged, biological specimens, etc.):

air temp 61-62°F

no whale sightings today

* following load 101 deckhand on duty reported turtle parts on skimmer. observer checked all screening - no other parts were found. parts found on skimmer were collected, measured and photographed. with limited parts available, observer believes the parts to be of a juvenile loggerhead (Caretta caretta) - description of parts found listed below. crew on duty was most helpful in assisting observer with incident. appropriate parties have been notified. some tissue was preserved the rest was discarded at dumpsite w/ weights.

→ one continuous turtle part which included both left & right front flippers (11½" & 11½ inches in length, respectively - straight lengths). little to no carapace remained, less than 1/4 part of plastron some skin and other tissue also remained. no other parts have been found.

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments
Tt	1	1	mid-channel btwn "7" & "8" @ 0837
bottlenose dolphin			

Observer(s) On Duty: Ximena prudencio

ENDANGERED SPECIES OBSERVER PROGRAM

Dredge *OUACHITA* / Gulf Coast Trailing Co.

Savannah Harbor Entrance / USACE, Savannah Sistrict

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Dates: 3 / 10 / 97 - 3 / 16 / 97 Loads: 66 - 116 *

Range of H_2O Temperature: Surface Low 60°S - 67° F Below Mid-Depth 61° - 65° F

Area(s) Worked: Sta -395+00 — -320+00

Air temp 40 - 67° F

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

Comments: See daily report for 3-14-97: logerhead turtle (Caretta caretta) parts found in skimmer.

No Whale Sightings

Viewing conditions varied from very poor to fine, according to winds + seas.

Observers switched out 3-15-97, X. Prudencio leaving, Andrew Brown arriving.

Observations continue during daylight hours only, actual observed loads: 3/10 66-70; 3/11 75-78; 3/12 82-85; 3/13 90-92; 3/14 97-101; 3/15 105-108; 3/16 112-116

Bridge Watch Summary

Species	# of Sightings	# of Animals	Comments	
Tt	2	3	No unusual behavior	3/10
Tt	5	24	throughout the day	3/11
Dc (leatherback turtle)	1	1	At Dumpsite	3/11
Tt	2	2	No unusual behavior	3/13
Tt	1	1	" " "	3/14
Cc Logerhead turtle	2	2	near buoys #4 + #5	3/16

Observers On Duty: X. Prudencio + Andrew Brown