

**Balsam, Briana**

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**Sent:** Monday, April 07, 2008 10:46 AM  
**To:** 'David\_Niebch@fpl.com'; 'Ed\_Hollowell@fpl.com'; 'Stacy\_Foster@fpl.com';  
'Vince\_Munne@fpl.com'; 'Winifred\_Perkins@fpl.com'; 'Meghan.Koperski@MyFWC.com';  
'Bob.Hoffman@noaa.gov'; 'Shelley.Norton@noaa.gov'; Logan, Dennis  
**Subject:** March sea turtle captures

Meghan Koperski April 7, 2008  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Florida Marine Research Institute  
P.O. Box 3478  
Tequesta, FL 33469

Subject: Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Summary  
March 2008

Dear Meghan,

Enclosed please find the monthly summary of marine turtle removals for March 2008. In March, we captured thirty four (34) Caretta caretta and thirteen (13) Chelonia mydas in the intake canal of the St. Lucie power plant on South Hutchinson Island. During March, four loggerheads were transferred to a rehabilitation facilities after consultation with FWCC personnel. The compromised condition of these turtles was not causal to plant operation. There were two mortality events in March; one loggerhead and one green turtle. These turtles were found floating at the surface of the primary barrier net and were moderately decomposed. After talking with FWCC personnel, it was determined that these were non-causal mortalities and that they likely entered the canal in a moribund condition. Necropsies were not conducted due to the decomposed condition in which these turtles were found. All other turtles captured in March were released on the same day of capture.

Construction to repair the primary barrier net has been initiated and estimated to be complete by the beginning of May. The temporary barrier net is in place and effectively keeping turtles confined to the eastern 200 meters of canal. Tag numbers and morphometric data for all turtles are attached. Also attached is a spreadsheet of all captures, mortalities, injuries and causal events delineated by species and month for 2008. This spreadsheet will be updated monthly and included in our monthly report to your agency. This spreadsheet also tracks fresh scrapes and will be helpful in determining the success of the intake pipe cleaning project. Please contact me at your convenience at 772-349-5905 if you have any questions concerning these enclosed data.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Bresette  
Sr. Environmental Specialist  
Quantum Resources, Inc.  
CC: Shelly Norton (NMFS)

Robert Hoffman (NMFS)  
Vince Munne (FPL)  
Licensing (FPL)  
Winifred Perkins (FPL)  
QA Records (FPL)

**MARINE TURTLE REMOVALS  
ST. LUCIE PLANT INTAKE CANAL  
March 2008**

| Date      | Species                        | Note | Tag #'s       | SMCL<br>(cm) | SSCL<br>(cm) | CSCL<br>(cm) | CMCW<br>(cm) | SMCW<br>(cm) | SMPL<br>(cm) | Weight<br>(kg) | Method       |
|-----------|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 3/1/2008  | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         | 1    | RRM674/RRM675 | 66.3         | 68.0         | 74.1         | 69.5         | 53.5         | 50.2         | 36.1           | Hand capture |
| 3/1/2008  | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB292/YYB293 | 54.0         | 55.1         | 59.1         | 55.1         | 44.7         | 43.0         | 24.4           | South net    |
| 3/2/2008  | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB294/YYB295 | 58.9         | 60.4         | 64.4         | 64.4         | 51.8         | 46.5         | 32.1           | North net    |
| 3/2/2008  | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB296/YYB297 | 59.4         | 60.8         | 66.5         | 67.0         | 52.5         | 45.2         | 33.0           | North net    |
| 3/6/2008  | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB298/YYB299 | 68.0         | 68.8         | 76.1         | 72.2         | 58.5         | 53.5         | 50.9           | South net    |
| 3/6/2008  | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB300/YYB301 | 62.2         | 63.5         | 69.4         | 66.2         | 53.9         | 48.7         | 34.9           | North net    |
| 3/8/2008  | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>          |      | YYB302        | 31.3         | 31.7         | 33.4         | 29.0         | 25.6         | 26.1         | 3.8            | South net    |
| 3/10/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         | 2    |               | 71.0         | 72.1         | 78.4         | 74.0         | 57.8         | 54.9         | 40.8           | Barrier net  |
| 3/10/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>          | 3    |               | 51.4         | 51.6         | 54.9         | 48.6         | 41.6         | 41.1         | 17.0           | North net    |
| 3/11/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB303/YYB304 | 71.0         | 73.0         | 78.7         | 75.7         | 60.9         | 57.9         | 54.5           | North net    |
| 3/13/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>          |      |               | 28.5         | 29.3         | 31.3         | 27.2         | 24.6         | 24.9         | 3.2            | South net    |
| 3/14/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB305/YYB306 | 63.7         | 65.0         | 69.8         | 66.5         | 53.3         | 51.7         | 35.2           | South net    |
| 3/14/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB307/YYB308 | 63.0         | 64.1         | 68.9         | 66.8         | 52.2         | 50.1         | 37.4           | Hand capture |
| 3/14/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB309/YYB310 | 61.1         | 62.7         | 67.4         | 66.1         | 55.6         | 50.4         | 35.0           | Hand capture |
| 3/14/2008 | <i>Lepidochelys<br/>kempii</i> |      | YYB311/YYB312 | 59.2         | 60.5         | 63.9         | 67.0         | 56.0         | 47.9         | 28.9           | North net    |
| 3/15/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>          | 4    | YYB179/YYB180 | 54.9         | 55.2         | 58.3         | 50.6         | 42.7         | 45.6         | 23.2           | North net    |
| 3/15/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>         |      | YYB313/YYB314 | 62.5         | 63.6         | 66.7         | 61.4         | 49.9         | 48.6         | 33.9           | North net    |

| Date      | Species                       | Note | Tag #'s       | SMCL<br>(cm) | SSCL<br>(cm) | CSCL<br>(cm) | CMCW<br>(cm) | SMCW<br>(cm) | SMPL<br>(cm) | Weight<br>(kg) | Method       |
|-----------|-------------------------------|------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 3/15/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB315/YYB316 | 60.6         | 62.0         | 67.4         | 63.3         | 51.3         | 47.8         | 34.2           | Hand capture |
| 3/17/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB317/YYB318 | 72.5         | 73.1         | 78.1         | 76.7         | 58.1         | 56.9         | 53.1           | South net    |
| 3/17/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB319/YYB320 | 66.0         | 67.0         | 73.7         | 71.2         | 55.1         | 51.5         | 43.8           | North net    |
| 3/19/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>         | 5    | YYB110        | 44.6         | 45.0         | 47.2         | 41.6         | 34.5         | 37.4         | 13.1           | North net    |
| 3/19/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>         |      | YYB321        | 29.7         | 30.2         | 32.2         | 27.3         | 24.3         | 25.5         | 3.4            | South net    |
| 3/21/2008 | <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> |      |               | 32.0         | 33.0         | 35.1         | 29.8         | 25.1         | 27.2         | 3.9            | South net    |
| 3/21/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>         |      | YYB322        | 38.0         | 38.3         | 41.8         | 35.8         | 30.2         | 30.9         | 8.0            | North net    |
| 3/21/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB323/YYB324 | 59.6         | 60.4         | 65.4         | 62.5         | 51.0         | 48.2         | 32.5           | North net    |
| 3/21/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB325/YYB326 | 59.0         | 60.2         | 66.3         | 65.2         | 51.6         | 47.5         | 35.0           | North net    |
| 3/21/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB327/YYB328 | 72.0         | 73.7         | 79.4         | 74.9         | 60.0         | 56.6         | 54.3           | North net    |
| 3/22/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        | 6    |               | 67.2         | 68.6         | 76.2         | 76.2         | 56.9         | 53.0         | 40.6           | Barrier net  |
| 3/23/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>         |      | YYB329        | 33.9         | 34.2         | 35.9         | 31.2         | 28.1         | 28.9         | 4.5            | Intake well  |
| 3/24/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        | 7    |               | 57.8         | 57.8         | 61.4         | 67.7         | 54.1         | 48.9         | 31.8           | Barrier net  |
| 3/24/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB330/YYB331 | 64.9         | 66.0         | 72.0         | 57.5         | 54.0         | 50.4         | 34.5           | South net    |
| 3/25/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>         | 8    |               | 29.0         | 29.6         | 31.3         | 28.1         | 24.3         | 23.9         | 3.1            | North net    |
| 3/25/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB332/YYB333 | 70.4         | 71.5         | 77.6         | 73.5         | 60.7         | 55.6         | 50.0           | North net    |
| 3/25/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB334/YYB335 | 62.6         | 64.1         | 69.9         | 64.7         | 54.7         | 50.5         | 38.4           | South net    |
| 3/26/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB336/YYB337 | 68.4         | 69.2         | 75.3         | 72.0         | 61.2         | 54.6         | 47.2           | North net    |
| 3/26/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB338/YYB339 | 59.3         | 60.0         | 65.4         | 64.4         | 52.1         | 46.7         | 33.2           | North net    |
| 3/26/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i>        |      | YYB340/YYB341 | 63.4         | 64.7         | 68.3         | 68.3         | 55.9         | 52.9         | 43.4           | North net    |

| Date      | Species                | Note | Tag #'s       | SMCL<br>(cm) | SSCL<br>(cm) | CSCL<br>(cm) | CMCW<br>(cm) | SMCW<br>(cm) | SMPL<br>(cm) | Weight<br>(kg) | Method      |
|-----------|------------------------|------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|
| 3/26/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB342/YYB343 | 60.6         | 60.9         | 63.6         | 67.7         | 55.1         | 50.7         | 36.8           | North net   |
| 3/27/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB344/YYB345 | 68.8         | 70.4         | 78.9         | 74.2         | 57.0         | 54.3         | 46.8           | North net   |
| 3/28/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> | 9    |               | 66.7         | 67.5         | 72.1         | 68.9         | 55.3         | 52.5         | 34.7           | Barrier net |
| 3/28/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>  | 10   | RRX099/RRX100 | 40.1         | 40.6         | 43.5         | 37.0         | 31.1         | 32.8         | 8.8            | North net   |
| 3/29/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>  |      |               | 34.3         | 34.8         | 36.7         | 35.5         | 29.9         | 29.0         | 6.2            | North net   |
| 3/29/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB346/YYB347 | 63.1         | 64.7         | 69.7         | 65.4         | 54.4         | 51.1         | 37.8           | North net   |
| 3/30/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>  |      |               | 28.3         | 29.2         | 30.8         | 26.0         | 24.2         | 24.2         | 3.0            | South net   |
| 3/30/2008 | <i>Chelonia mydas</i>  | 11   | YYB348        | 35.9         | 36.1         | 37.7         | 33.0         | 28.9         | 30.2         | 5.9            | North net   |
| 3/30/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB349/YYB350 | 63.5         | 63.9         | 68.9         | 67.7         | 56.0         | 50.0         | 41.8           | North net   |
| 3/30/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB351/YYB352 | 59.4         | 60.1         | 66.4         | 63.4         | 52.1         | 47.4         | 29.5           | North net   |
| 3/30/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB353/YYB354 | 80.0         | 81.4         | 87.8         | 81.9         | 66.1         | 63.2         | 74.7           | South net   |
| 3/31/2008 | <i>Caretta caretta</i> |      | YYB355/YYB356 | 64.5         | 65.3         | 70.6         | 64.0         | 52.7         | 49.5         | 32.1           | South net   |

## NOTES

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1. Recapture. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 2/5/04. Turtle found underweight and lethargic with minor, healed carapace damage. Possible papillomas in cloaca. Transported to Mote Marine Aquarium by FWCC personnel. Not causal to power plant operation.
2. Turtle found at surface of primary barrier net. Lethargic and emaciated with no wounds or abnormalities. Transported to Marinelife Center by FWCC personnel. Not causal to power plant operation.
3. Recapture. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 10/28/04, 5/20/05, 5/28/05, 7/20/05, 8/2/05, 8/12/05, 9/12/05, 4/16/06, 6/24/06, 8/14/06 and 2/2/07.
4. Recapture. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 6/15/03, 7/17/03, 11/26/03, 4/1/04, 5/14/05, 7/2/05, 7/23/05, 10/17/05, 5/10/06, 8/21/06, 9/25/06 and 12/2/07..
5. Recapture. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 9/23/04, 8/11/06, 8/23/06, 9/30/06, 3/6/07, 8/19/07, 12/3/07, 1/14/08 and 2/21/08.
6. Turtle found at surface of primary barrier net. Lethargic and emaciated with no wounds or abnormalities. A few minor scrapes present from entrainment into canal. Transported to Marinelife Center by FWCC personnel. Not causal to power plant operation.
7. Turtle found dead at surface of primary barrier net. Emaciated with heavy epibiont load. Determined to be non-causal to power plant operation after consultation with FWCC.
8. Turtle found floating (dead) in intake canal. Moderately decomposed with no wounds or abnormalities. Not causal to power plant operation.
9. Turtle found at surface of primary barrier net. Lethargic and underweight with no wounds or abnormalities. Transported to Sea World by FWCC personnel. Not causal to power plant operation.
10. Strange tag. Whereabouts pending. Papillomas. Small tumor at base of left front flipper. Turtle released at Hutchinson Island the same day.
11. Recapture. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 3/13/06, 9/8/06 and 1/11/08.

*SMCL = Straight Minimum Carapace Length*

*SMCL = Straight Standard Carapace Length*

*CSCL = Curved Standard Carapace Length*

*CMCW = Curved Maximum Carapace Width*

*SMCW = Straight Maximum Carapace Width*

*SMPL = Straight Midline Plastron Length*