

From: Steve Weege <sweege@inwater.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 9:01 AM
To: Koperski, Meghan
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Subject: [External_Sender] January 2021 FPL Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Report
Attachments: January 2021 Marine Turtle Captures.pdf; Monthly Report Notes 2021.pdf; FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2021.pdf

Mrs. Meghan Koperski
Tequesta Field Laboratory
19100 SE Federal Highway
Tequesta, FL 33469

Subject: Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Summary January 2021

Dear Meghan,

Attached, please find the monthly summary of marine turtle removals for January 2021. This month we captured 11 *Caretta caretta*, 13 *Chelonia mydas*, and two *Lepidochelys kempii* in the intake canal of the St. Lucie power plant on Hutchinson Island. Two sea turtles were sent for rehabilitation and there were no mortalities during the month of January. As with all sea turtle strandings at the Saint Lucie Plant, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) was consulted and stranding forms were filed with the state through the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network.

Two sea turtles were sent to rehab for non-causal injuries or illness this month. On January 5th, a subadult loggerhead was captured in the tangle nets that had braided fishing line wrapped around its neck and left front flipper. Part of the line was also ingested and could be seen going down its throat. The turtle was picked up and transported for rehab at the Brevard Zoo by a volunteer. On January 19th, a subadult loggerhead with extensive shark attack injuries was captured. The right rear flipper was partially severed from a recent shark bite. Another deep arc-shaped shark bite penetrated through the right side of the plastron (26 cm bite diameter). There were also rakings in both the carapace and plastron. This second turtle was picked up and transported to the Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center in Juno Beach by Ecological Associates, Inc. biologists. It was later transferred to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton due to space limitations. Because these turtles were sent for rehabilitation for injuries/illnesses that were unrelated to the power plant, they were classified as non-causal.

The primary 5-inch barrier net encountered negligible amounts of algae throughout the month. Altogether, the primary barrier net has performed as designed and no turtles have been observed beyond the 5- inch net. Additionally, bathymetric surveys of the intake and discharge canals were completed in January.

The tag numbers and morphometric data for all turtles captured during the month have been included with this report (see attachments/addendums). Also included is a spreadsheet for all captures, mortalities, injuries, and causal events delineated by species and by month for 2020. In addition, this

spreadsheet tracks fresh scrapes incurred on captured turtles for the current month, as well as the entire year.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Steve
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Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	2871	2/11/2021 9:01:40 AM

January 2021 Marine Turtle Captures.pdf		261787
Monthly Report Notes 2021.pdf	189027	
FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2021.pdf		249779

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**MARINE TURTLE REMOVALS
ST. LUCIE PLANT INTAKE CANAL
JANUARY 2021**

Date	Species	Note	Tag #'s	SMCL (cm)	SSCL (cm)	CSCL (cm)	CMCW (cm)	SMCW (cm)	SMPL (cm)	Weight (kg)	Method
1/2/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY118/KKY119	72.7	74.0	78.1	77.0	58.8	58.1	55.1	North net
1/2/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY120/KKY121	67.6	68.5	71.5	69.8	56.7	52.1	45.4	North net
1/5/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	1	CRM210105-001	69.2	70.4	75.4	73.5	59.9	54.2	51.7	North net
1/10/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY122/KKY123	47.1	47.7	52.2	50.1	41.6	38.7	19.9	North net
1/11/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY124/KKY125	68.7	70.2	76.1	75.7	58.7	55.4	50.9	North net
1/11/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	2	KKY126/KKY127	106.6	106.6	112.0	94.6	74.6	79.8	183.2	North net
1/13/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	3	KKG101/MMY347	50.6	50.6	52.5	48.2	40.1	41.9	15.6	North net
1/15/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY128/KKY129	69.1	70.8	75.1	71.7	59.9	56.6	53.4	North net
1/19/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY130/KKY131	66.3	67.3	71.4	71.5	58.7	54.9	47.9	North net
1/19/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	4	TBC210119-001	72.2	73.7	76.5	76.5	58.4	59.0	58.7	South net
1/21/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		KKY132/KKY133	67.6	69.0	73.9	69.5	55.6	53.6	48.0	North net
1/22/2021	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>		KKY134/KKY135	51.8	52.6	54.1	56.8	53.6	40.5	17.6	South net
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	5	4A591B0149	63.3	63.5	67.9	59.3	50.0	52.0	34.4	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	6	4A5A473052	56.5	57.1	60.6	52.8	44.4	49.1	26.3	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	7	4C133D0377	53.2	53.5	55.3	50.0	42.1	43.2	18.9	Hand capture

Date	Species	Note	Tag #'s	SMCL (cm)	SSCL (cm)	CSCl (cm)	CMCW (cm)	SMCW (cm)	SMP L (cm)	Weight (kg)	Method
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	8	KKL0721/KKL0722	47.7	47.9	50.4	43.2	37.4	38.0	13.2	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	9	KKL0897	63.4	63.8	67.7	63.3	51.0	51.6	36.7	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	10	KKT115	60.1	60.4	63.7	57.5	49.2	51.4	27.1	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	11	KKT332/KKT333	33.7	34.0	36.0	31.0	27.5	28.4	5.4	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	12	KKY136/KKY137	85.7	88.2	92.6	86.4	68.6	66.4	91.5	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		KKY138/KKY139	32.5	33.0	33.6	29.9	26.1	26.9	4.5	Dip net
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	13	KKY140/KKY141	61.3	61.5	63.9	61.1	52.6	52.0	34.6	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>		KKY142/KKY143	55.3	56.2	58.6	57.9	53.3	42.3	21.4	Hand capture
1/23/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	14	KKY144/KKY145	50.7	51.2	53.2	48.6	42.5	43.4	18.2	Hand capture
1/30/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		IRG0100/IRG0401	29.3	29.6	31.4	26.2	23.4	24.9	3.1	North net
1/30/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	15	KKL0843/KKL0844	52.1	52.2	54.4	50.4	44.3	43.7	19.3	South net

NOTES

1. REHAB (NON-CAUSAL). Stranding# CRM210105-001. Subadult loggerhead with braided fishing line wrapped tightly around neck and left front flipper. Fishing line also going down throat. Left front flipper swollen and discolored. Turtle picked up and transported for rehab at the Brevard Zoo by volunteer.
2. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 260 mm. Old healing deep cuts in midsection of both front flippers (probable shark attack wounds). Shark rake marks and/or healing wounds in neck and all flippers.
3. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 7/19/18, 12/10/18, 3/31/19, 12/9/19, 1/7/20, 2/15/20, 5/5/20, 8/11/20, 10/25/20, and 1/13/21. Turtle missing 50% of left rear flipper and 40% of right rear flipper (flipper damage is old/healed).
4. REHAB (NON-CAUSAL). Stranding# TBC210119-001. Subadult loggerhead with extensive shark attack injuries. Right rear flipper partially severed mid-flipper from recent shark bite. Deep arc-shaped shark bite that penetrates through right side of plastron (26 cm bite diameter). Rakings in carapace and plastron. Picked up and transported by Ecological Associates biologist to the Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center, Juno Beach for rehab. Later transferred to Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, Boca Raton due to space limitations.
5. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 10/29/08, 1/17/14, 5/7/14, 1/27/15, 3/1/15, 12/23/15, 1/30/16, 6/2/16, 1/5/17, 6/1/17, 9/27/17, 1/2/18, 7/3/18, 8/28/18, 4/18/19, 10/4/19, 11/30/20, and 1/23/21.
6. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 12/4/08, 8/18/09, 9/15/09, 6/20/12, 10/3/12, 12/6/12, 3/22/13, 7/11/13, 9/3/14, 12/29/14, 1/14/16, 4/26/16, 6/17/17, 10/10/17, 1/29/18, 4/26/19, 5/13/20, 12/11/20, and 1/23/21.
7. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 9/26/10, 1/17/16, 5/24/17, 11/30/17, 3/14/19, 8/10/20, and 1/23/21.
8. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 4/27/18, 4/19/19, 6/3/19, 9/14/19, 10/8/19, 12/2/19, 1/3/20, 8/16/20, and 1/23/21.
9. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 8/5/08, 5/10/11, 6/13/11, 7/25/11, 7/7/12, 2/5/13, 3/20/13, 5/7/14, 1/3/15, 4/16/15, 6/15/15, 5/30/17, 7/24/17, 10/21/17, 11/20/17, 6/3/19, 10/15/19, 12/14/20, and 1/23/21.
10. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 3/19/08, 6/28/13, 5/25/14, 2/12/16, 6/1/17, 9/19/17, 10/16/17, 1/21/18, 4/17/19, 2/17/20, 10/5/20, 11/20/20, and 1/23/21. One extra left costal scute.
11. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 8/28/20 and 1/23/21. One extra vertebral scute.
12. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 201 mm. Turtle missing 40% of left front flipper (healed). Healing shark rakings in head, neck, plastron and rear flipper.
13. PAPILOMAS (Balazs Tumor Score = 1 {light}, Total Tumor Score = 2). Tumors regressing.
14. PAPILOMAS (Balazs Tumor Score = 2 {moderate}, Total Tumor Score = 29).
15. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 8/12/18, 10/5/18, 12/17/18, 9/26/19, 10/22/19, 12/7/19, 1/4/20, 10/7/20, 12/15/20, and 1/30/21.

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

	Loggerheads (<i>Caretta caretta</i>)		Green turtles (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>)		Hawksbills (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)		Leatherbacks (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)		Kemp's ridley (<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>)		Overall Totals	
	Jan-21	Year to Date	Jan-21	Year to Date	Jan-21	Year to Date	Jan-21	Year to Date	Jan-21	Year to Date	Jan-21	Year to Date
Captures	11	11	13	13	0	0	0	0	2	2	26	26
Causal Mortalities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-causal Mortalities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Causal Injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sent to rehab	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Fresh Scrapes	Jan-	Year to Date	Jan-	Year to Date	Jan-	Year to Date	Jan-	Year to Date	Jan-	Year to Date	Jan-	Year to Date
None	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	4
Minor	11	11	10	10	0	0	0	0	1	1	22	22
Moderate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percent with mod/sev scrapes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%