

**From:** Steve Weege <sweege@inwater.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:22 PM  
**To:** Koperski, Meghan  
**Cc:** Ed Hollowell; Jodie\_Gless@fpl.com; Ken\_Frehafer@fpl.com; Marine Turtle Permits; Michael Bresette; EndangeredSpecies Resource; SCO@dep.state.fl.us; Vince Munne; Cody Mott; Jeff Guertin; Ryan Welsh; Eaton, Kristin; Jonathon Gorham; William.Nurnberger@fpl.com; audra.livergood@noaa.gov; Sciscente, Richard; Seth.Duston@fpl.com  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] September 2021 FPL Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Report  
**Attachments:** September 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 September 2021**

Dear Meghan,

Attached, please find the monthly summary of marine turtle removals for September 2021. This month we captured one *Caretta caretta* and three *Chelonia mydas* in the intake canal of the St. Lucie power plant on Hutchinson Island. One sea turtle was sent for rehabilitation (non-causal) and there were no mortalities during the month of September. 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.

One sea turtle was sent to rehab for non-causal injuries this month. On September 8<sup>th</sup>, an adult female loggerhead was captured in the tangle nets that had a deep incised wound in its left rear flipper. Although it was old and healing, there was exposed bone from the deep wound and no movement in the flipper. After consultation with FWC, Ecological Associates biologists transported the turtle to the Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach for rehab. Although the precise cause of the injury could not be determined, the injury was nonetheless old and unrelated to the power plant (non-causal).

The short-term power plant outage that began in late August concluded towards the end of September. Consequently, flow rates in the intake canal system have since returned to normal levels. The primary 5-inch barrier net encountered only light amounts of algae and jellyfish this past month. Even still, Underwater Engineering Services, Inc. inspected the primary barrier net and removed accumulated algae and debris as needed. Altogether, the primary barrier net has performed as designed and no turtles have been observed beyond the 5-inch net.

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 2021. 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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**From:** Steve Weege

**Created By:** sweege@inwater.org

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<b>Files</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>
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September 2021 Marine Turtle Captures.pdf		246756
Monthly Report Notes 2021.pdf	175955	
FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2021.pdf		251050

**Options**

**Priority:** Normal

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>Tag #'s</b>	<b>SMCL (cm)</b>	<b>SSCL (cm)</b>	<b>CSCl (cm)</b>	<b>CMCW (cm)</b>	<b>SMCW (cm)</b>	<b>SMPL (cm)</b>	<b>Weight (kg)</b>	<b>Method</b>
9/8/2021	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	1	ANI210908-002	89.3	89.6	93.5	89.4	69.3	68.7	99.1	South net
9/15/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		FFE423/FFE424	39.2	39.5	40.5	35.0	29.3	31.8	7.4	South net
9/20/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		IRG0408/IRG0409	29.2	29.7	30.5	25.9	24.0	24.2	2.9	Dip net
9/30/2021	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	2	FFE425/FFE426	37.9	38.1	39.3	32.0	26.8	30.4	6.0	South net

## NOTES

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1. REHAB (NON-CAUSAL). Stranding# ANI210908-002. Bone exposed from deep incised wound in proximal ventral left rear flipper (healing); no movement in flipper. Large healed notch in marginals mid-carapace on left side. Ecological Associates biologists transported the animal to the Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center in Juno Beach for rehab.
2. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 9/20/19, 11/9/20, 3/26/21, and 9/30/21.

*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	
	Sep-21	Year to Date	Sep-21	Year to Date	Sep-21	Year to Date	Sep-21	Year to Date	Sep-21	Year to Date	Sep-21	Year to Date
<b>Captures</b>	<b>1</b>	130	<b>3</b>	42	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	3	<b>4</b>	176
<b>Causal Mortalities</b>	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Non-causal Mortalities</b>	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1
<b>Causal Injuries</b>	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1
<b>Sent to rehab</b>	<b>1</b>	12	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1</b>	14
<b>Fresh Scrapes</b>	<b>Sep-</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Sep-</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Sep-</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Sep-</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Sep-</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Sep-</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>None</b>	<b>0</b>	21	<b>0</b>	7	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	30
<b>Minor</b>	<b>1</b>	107	<b>3</b>	33	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	2	<b>4</b>	142
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>0</b>	2	<b>0</b>	2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	4
<b>Severe</b>	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Percent with mod/sev scrapes</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	1.5%	<b>0.0%</b>	4.8%	<b>N/A</b>	0.0%	<b>N/A</b>	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	N/A	<b>0.0%</b>	2.3%