

From: Steve Weege <sweege@inwater.org>
Sent: Friday, May 6, 2022 4:36 PM
To: Koperski, Meghan
Cc: Eldridge, Jodie; Marine Turtle Permits; Michael Bresette; EndangeredSpecies Resource; SCO@dep.state.fl.us; Vince Munne; Eaton, Kristin; William Nurnberger; Audra Livergood - NOAA Federal; Sciscente, Richard; Seth.Duston@fpl.com; Cody Mott; Jguertin
Subject: [External_Sender] April 2022 FPL Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Report
Attachments: April 2022 Marine Turtle Captures.pdf; Monthly Report Notes 2022.pdf; FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2022.pdf

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

**Subject: Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Summary
April 2022**

Dear Meghan,

Attached, please find the monthly summary of marine turtle removals for April 2022. This month we captured five *Caretta caretta*, four *Chelonia mydas*, and one *Dermochelys coriacea* 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 in April. As with all sea turtle strandings at the St. 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 April 11th, a juvenile green turtle was dip netted that had extensive shark attack injuries. There was a large partially healed bite mark in the posterior carapace and plastron (26cm bite width). There were also shark rakings on both the plastron and rear flippers. This turtle was taken to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton for rehab. Because the injury/illness was unrelated to the power plant, this was classified as a non-causal stranding.

The primary 5-inch barrier net encountered severe amounts of algae this past month. IRG performed around-the-clock monitoring of the intake canal and barrier net system either as warranted by sufficiently high debris intrusion levels or whenever directed by FPL oversight personnel. Furthermore, Underwater Engineering Services (UESI) divers inspected and cleaned the 5-inch barrier net as needed. In addition, UESI performed the quarterly net inspections on the first two barrier nets (the 5-inch and 8-inch A-1-A) as well as the semiannual inspection of the UIDS net; the barrier nets were found to be in good working condition. 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 2022. 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

Steve Weege

Sr. Environmental Specialist

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Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	2736	5/6/2022 4:36:49 PM
April 2022 Marine Turtle Captures.pdf		251643
Monthly Report Notes 2022.pdf	185344	
FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2022.pdf		252091

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**MARINE TURTLE REMOVALS
ST. LUCIE PLANT INTAKE CANAL
APRIL 2022**

Date	Species	Note	Tag #'s	SMCL (cm)	SSCL (cm)	CSCL (cm)	CMCW (cm)	SMCW (cm)	SMPL (cm)	Weight (kg)	Method
4/3/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	1	982000402169750	53.6	53.8	55.5	46.0	40.5	41.1	18.6	North net
4/11/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	2	SRH220411-001	44.4	45.0	46.2	40.5	36.2	36.8	10.6	Dip net
4/13/2022	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	3	FFE595/FFE596	153.2	153.2	155.0	106.5	83.1			Hand capture
4/14/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE597/FFE598	62.0	63.4	65.0	63.5	56.2	49.3	40.4	North net
4/16/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE599/FFE600	53.3	54.7	58.4	57.5	48.6	43.9	28.1	North net
4/18/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	4	FFE601/FFE602	60.8	61.3	63.3	54.5	48.1	51.9	32.5	South net
4/21/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	5	444F047E6F	86.5	87.1	90.6	78.6	63.8	59.9	88.0	North net
4/24/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE603/FFE604	52.5	53.2	53.5	53.5	44.1	42.6	23.1	North net
4/30/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE624/FFE625	61.1	61.8	64.0	62.1	54.7	48.9	38.5	North net
4/30/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	6	KKY095/FFE563	49.8	50.2	52.3	46.3	37.8	42.3	16.8	South net

NOTES

1. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 1/10/18, 3/14/18, 9/5/19, 12/15/20, 4/5/21, 8/20/21, and 4/3/22. No new Inconel tags inserted due to multiple tag scars.
2. REHAB (NON-CAUSAL). Stranding #SRH220411-001. Juvenile green turtle dip netted in fair condition with extensive shark attack injuries. Large arc-shaped bite mark in posterior carapace/plastron (26cm bite width, partially healed). Shark bites are partially healed and shark rakings in plastron and rear flippers. Taken to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton for rehab.
3. Adult male leatherback. Sex determination based on tail length (tail extended 21.5cm beyond end of carapace). Weight estimated at 650 pounds. No ventral measurements could be taken. Old prop scar in left anterior carapace. Perpendicular ridge across posteriormost part of carapace from old healed injury.
4. 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, 1/23/21, 2/15/22, and 4/18/22.
5. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 420 mm. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 8/3/03, 9/17/05, 8/12/08, 8/27/08, 4/3/09, 4/22/09, and 4/21/22. No new Inconel tags inserted due to multiple tag scars.
6. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 11/11/18, 9/26/19, 12/1/19, 12/10/20, 2/15/22, and 4/30/22. Right posterior quadrant of carapace is concave from an irregular depression (either an old completely healed injury or a congenital deformity).

SMCL = Straight Minimum Carapace Length

SMCL = Straight Standard Carapace Length

CSCCL = 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	
	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date
Captures	5	30	4	36	0	0	1	1	0	1	10	68
Causal Mortalities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
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	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Fresh Scrapes	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date	Apr-22	Year to Date
None	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Minor	3	21	4	31	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	53
Moderate	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	3
Severe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percent with mod/sev scrapes	40.0%	6.7%	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	N/A	100.0%	100.0%	N/A	0.0%	30.0%	4.4%