

**From:** Steve Weege <sweege@inwater.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 7:03 AM  
**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] May 2022 FPL Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Report  
**Attachments:** May 2022 Marine Tutle Captures.pdf; FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2022.pdf; Monthly Report Notes 2022.pdf

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

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

Dear Meghan,

Attached, please find the monthly summary of marine turtle removals for May 2022. This month we captured 39 *Caretta caretta* and three *Chelonia mydas* in the intake canal of the St. Lucie power plant on Hutchinson Island. Two sea turtles were sent for rehabilitation (both non-causal) and there were no mortalities in May. 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.

Two sea turtles were sent to rehab for non-causal injuries this month. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, a juvenile loggerhead was dip-netted with heavy monofilament line tangled around the base of one of its front flippers. This turtle was taken to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton for rehabilitation. On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, an adult female loggerhead was captured in the tangle nets with an open wound from a shark attack. The left front flipper was missing and the head of the humerus was projecting outward from the healing terminus. The humeral bone was covered in shark teeth marks. There was also an old boat strike injury to the posterior carapace consisting of two completely healed 20 cm gashes. Loggerhead Marinelife Center biologists picked up and transported this turtle to Zoo Miami for rehabilitation. Because these injuries/illnesses were unrelated to the power plant, both were classified as non-causal strandings.

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. 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  
Inwater Research Group, Inc.  
4160 NE Hyline Dr.  
Jensen Beach, FL 34957  
[sweege@inwater.org](mailto:sweege@inwater.org)  
(772) 349-7252

**Hearing Identifier:** NRR\_DRMA  
**Email Number:** 1671

**Mail Envelope Properties** (CAOA4+RjzX-3w0eGiJZEVXxXGkcq\_Dn4DznhT-W9fpLLVFAHrw)

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] May 2022 FPL Marine Turtle Removal Monthly Report  
**Sent Date:** 6/14/2022 7:02:58 AM  
**Received Date:** 6/14/2022 7:03:29 AM  
**From:** Steve Weege

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

**Recipients:**

"Eldridge, Jodie" <Jodie.Eldridge@nexteraenergy.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Marine Turtle Permits" <MTP@myfwc.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Michael Bresette" <mbresette@inwater.org>  
Tracking Status: None  
"EndangeredSpecies Resource" <EndangeredSpecies.Resource@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"SCO@dep.state.fl.us" <SCO@dep.state.fl.us>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Vince Munne" <Vince.Munne@fpl.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Eaton, Kristin" <Kristin.Eaton@fpl.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"William Nurnberger" <William.Nurnberger@fpl.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Audra Livergood - NOAA Federal" <audra.livergood@noaa.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Sciscente, Richard" <Richard.Sciscente@fpl.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Seth.Duston@fpl.com" <Seth.Duston@fpl.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Cody Mott" <cmott@inwater.org>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Jguertin" <jguertin@inwater.org>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Koperski, Meghan" <Meghan.Koperski@myfwc.com>  
Tracking Status: None

**Post Office:** mail.gmail.com

<b>Files</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>
MESSAGE	2868	6/14/2022 7:03:29 AM
May 2022 Marine Tutle Captures.pdf		262530
FPL St. Lucie Capture Summary 2022.pdf		253080
Monthly Report Notes 2022.pdf	191594	

**Options**

**Priority:** Normal  
**Return Notification:** No  
**Reply Requested:** No

**Sensitivity:**  
**Expiration Date:**

Normal

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

<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>
5/3/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE605/FFE606	68.6	69.4	71.4	71.1	57.9	55.0	46.1	North net
5/6/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE607/FFE608	84.6	84.9	88.9	78.8	61.8	62.8	85.5	Hand capture
5/6/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	1	FFE609/FFE610	94.7	97.8	102.9	92.4	73.1	71.9	130.4	Hand capture
5/8/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	2	FFE611/FFE612	93.9	94.7	99.2	87.4	67.8	69.0	113.0	North net
5/9/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE613/FFE614	74.2	74.8	76.9	72.5	58.8	56.2	54.2	North net
5/13/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE615/FFE616	48.1	49.3	52.5	49.6	42.6	38.9	17.8	North net
5/14/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE617/FFE618	57.4	58.8	60.5	58.1	49.5	44.0	26.0	North net
5/14/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	3	FFE619/FFE620	91.2	91.7	94.9	86.1	69.5	70.0	120.3	North net
5/14/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	4	FFE621/FFE622	86.5	87.3	91.7	83.7	64.6	66.9	98.9	North net
5/14/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	5	SRH220514-001	56.6	58.8	62.1	61.1	50.3	46.6	32.9	Dip net
5/15/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	6	FFE623/FFE626	95.4	96.6	99.6	83.8	67.1	66.1	103.8	South net
5/16/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	7	FFE627/FFE628	103.7	105.1	109.0	96.9	76.6	81.8	171.8	North net
5/18/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	8	FFE629/FFE630	92.8	94.2	96.3	88.0	68.6	65.9	107.5	South net
5/18/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	9	FFE632/FFE631	90.5	91.3	94.8	86.4	73.5	65.3	110.7	North net
5/19/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	10	FFE633/FFE634	93.8	94.8	97.3	87.2	71.3	71.6	123.0	North net
5/20/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		FFE635/FFE636	42.5	43.0	44.5	38.1	34.0	35.3	10.4	South net
5/20/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE637/FFE638	82.9	83.6	85.1	75.9	62.1	63.0	80.3	North net

Date	Species	Note	Tag #'s	SMCL (cm)	SSCL (cm)	CSCL (cm)	CMCW (cm)	SMCW (cm)	SMPL (cm)	Weight (kg)	Method
5/22/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	11	FFE639/FFE640	94.9	95.7	96.8	89.3	71.4	74.6	128.4	Hand capture
5/22/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	12	FFE641	91.9	93.4	96.3	87.7	67.8	65.3	103.3	Hand capture
5/22/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	13	FFE642/FFE643	96.5	98.2	102.3	91.8	75.8	76.3	134.8	Hand capture
5/22/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	14	FFE644/FFE645	87.6	88.0	92.0	80.7	64.5	67.0	90.4	Hand capture
5/22/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE646/FFE647	66.3	68.0	69.9	68.1	57.8	52.5	41.4	Hand capture
5/22/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		FFE648/FFE649	45.2	45.7	47.2	40.4	35.3	37.3	12.3	Hand capture
5/22/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	15	STW220522-001	98.5	103.6	107.0	99.7	78.0	81.0	176.4	North net
5/23/2022	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	16	982000410603762	58.7	59.0	62.5	55.6	46.9	46.3	242.0	Hand capture
5/23/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	17	FFE439/FFE440	68.1	69.7	71.3	65.7	55.9	52.1	45.0	Hand capture
5/23/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	18	FFE650/FFE651	83.2	85.2	87.0	85.5	70.8	68.3	108.9	Hand capture
5/23/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	19	FFE652/FFE653	86.6	89.2	91.3	85.1	69.0	70.4	105.4	North net
5/23/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE654/FFE655	65.8	66.9	70.6	68.3	54.0	51.5	41.3	Hand capture
5/23/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	20	FFE656/FFE657	93.7	94.3	96.1	86.9	66.9	67.7	112.1	Hand capture
5/23/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE658/FFE659	80.9	81.3	87.1	79.4	59.5	61.2	74.3	Hand capture
5/26/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	21	FFE660/FFE661	88.8	90.1	96.3	83.6	67.5	69.6	107.8	North net
5/26/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	22	KKY366/FFE662	82.3	84.3	86.1	76.5	62.7	59.4	78.6	North net
5/27/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	23	FFE663/FFE664	84.6	86.0	91.4	81.2	66.9	64.5	99.3	North net
5/27/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	24	FFE665/FFE666	91.6	93.7	97.8	86.5	70.3	71.6	127.2	Hand capture
5/27/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	25	FFE667/FFE668	91.6	93.1	94.6	82.9	66.3	64.7	90.5	Hand capture
5/27/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE669/FFE670	80.5	81.2	82.5	79.9	60.9	62.0	79.0	Hand capture

<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>
5/27/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE671/FFE672	74.5	74.7	77.7	73.0	57.3	58.2	58.1	Hand capture
5/27/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE673/FFE674	80.3	81.1	84.8	78.5	68.1	62.1	83.0	Hand capture
5/31/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	26	FFE675/FFE676	86.7	89.4	93.3	82.5	66.7	67.9	100.8	Hand capture
5/31/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>		FFE677/FFE678	64.6	65.7	70.7	69.5	57.0	51.2	36.1	Hand capture
5/31/2022	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	27	FFE679/FFE680	85.5	86.5	89.7	83.0	65.1	65.0	90.2	North net

	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	
	May-22	Year to Date	May-22	Year to Date	May-22	Year to Date	May-22	Year to Date	May-22	Year to Date	May-22	Year to Date
<b>Captures</b>	<b>39</b>	69	<b>3</b>	39	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	1	<b>42</b>	110
<b>Causal Mortalities</b>	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	1
<b>Non-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>Causal Injuries</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>Sent to rehab</b>	<b>2</b>	3	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>2</b>	5
<b>Fresh Scrapes</b>	<b>May-22</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>May-22</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>May-22</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>May-22</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>May-22</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>May-22</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
<b>None</b>	<b>3</b>	10	<b>1</b>	6	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>4</b>	16
<b>Minor</b>	<b>33</b>	54	<b>2</b>	33	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1	<b>35</b>	88
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>3</b>	5	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>3</b>	6
<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>7.7%</b>	7.2%	<b>0.0%</b>	0.0%	<b>N/A</b>	N/A	<b>N/A</b>	100.0%	<b>N/A</b>	0.0%	<b>7.1%</b>	5.5%

## NOTES

---

1. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 435 mm.
2. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 465 mm. Healing hooking wound in left side of jaw. Two healed gashes in right side of carapace (15cm and 17cm).
3. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 240 mm.
4. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 201 mm.
5. REHAB (NON-CAUSAL). Stranding# SRH220514-001. Juvenile loggerhead dip-netted with heavy monofilament line tangled around base of right front flipper. Turtle also missing 8 cm x 10 cm piece of right posterior carapace (healed, includes part of last vertebral and costal scutes). Turtle was taken to the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton for rehabilitation.
6. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 490 mm.
7. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 6/28/05 and 5/16/22. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 275 mm. New Inconel tags inserted on this capture event.
8. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 415 mm.
9. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 465 mm.
10. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 265 mm. Turtle missing 50% of its right front flipper (healed). Scar tissue in left axilla and left front flipper (probable mating wounds).
11. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 240 mm. Mating scar in ventral side of neck.
12. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 470 mm. Granulated tissue in front flippers, possible mating wounds/bites. Only one Inconel tag inserted in LFF due to flipper damage. Healed broken bone in left shoulder.
13. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 245 mm. Turtle missing 50% of left front flipper and 25% of right front flipper. Broken bone in proximal RFF just distal to the humeral articulation (scar tissue over wound).
14. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 203 mm. Mating scars in ventral side of neck. Moderate fresh scrape in nares.
15. REHAB (NON-CAUSAL). Stranding# STW220522-001. Adult female loggerhead captured in the tangle nets with an open wound from a shark attack (tail length = 226 mm). Left front flipper missing with entire humerus projecting outward from the healing terminus. The humeral bone is covered in shark teeth marks. The tissue is granulated and not bleeding, but the skin has not yet covered the wound. There is an old boat strike injury to the posterior carapace consisting of two completely healed 20 cm gashes. Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center biologists picked up & transported this turtle to Zoo Miami for rehabilitation.
16. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 12/6/18, 3/20/19, 12/2/19, 10/11/20, and 5/23/22. PAPILOMAS (Balazs Tumor Score = 2 {moderate}, Total Tumor Score = 7). Papilloma tumors in old tag sites. No new Inconel tags inserted.
17. RECAPTURE. Turtle was removed from the intake canal, tagged and released at Hutchinson Island on 10/19/21 and 5/23/22. PAPILOMAS (Balazs Tumor Score = 1 {light}, Total Tumor Score = 3).
18. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 230 mm. Scar tissue in right shoulder.
19. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 280 mm. Large healed notch in distal trailing edge of right front flipper (5% missing, healed). Broken phalange proximal to flipper damage.
20. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 528 mm.
21. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 225 mm.
22. STRANGE TAG (Originally tagged in Johnson Keys near Big Pine Key, The Florida Keys by Inwater Research Group on 7/18/21). Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 451 mm. Sex determination based on tail length. One new Inconel tag #FFE662 applied on this capture event.
23. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 197 mm. Healing mating wounds on left side of head and jaw.
24. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 220 mm. Healed longitudinal 44 cm crack through vertebral scutes in anterior carapace (probable old boat strike injury). Mating scar in ventral side of neck.
25. Adult male loggerhead. Tail length = 437 mm.
26. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 198 mm. Shark rakings in anterior plastron and marginals. Turtle missing 20% from terminal end of right rear flipper (healed).
27. Adult female loggerhead. Tail length = 205 mm. Crack in first vertebral scute from an old boat strike injury.

*SMCL = Straight Minimum Carapace Length*  
*SMCL = Straight Standard Carapace Length*  
*CSCC = Curved Standard Carapace Length*  
*CMCW = Curved Maximum Carapace Width*  
*SMCW = Straight Maximum Carapace Width*  
*SMPL = Straight Midline Plastron Length*