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Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2025 8:56 PM
To: nmfs.gar.incidental-take@noaa.gov
Cc: EndangeredSpecies Resource; brian.neilan@dep.nj.gov;
danielle.dyson@dep.nj.gov; heather.corbett@dep.nj.gov
Subject: [External_Sender] Salem Generating Station - Incidental Take Report - Kemp's
ridley sea turtle 6/12/2025
Attachments: Sea turtle Incidental Take Report 6-12-25.pdf

Attached is the Incidental Take Report and Data Collection Form for a deceased Kemp's ridley sea turtle collected on 6/12/2025 from the Salem Generating Station during routine raking of the circulating water intake trash bars. The deceased specimen was transferred to a representative from the Brigantine MMSC for further evaluation. This incidental take is authorized under Biological Opinion GAR-2020-02842.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Ron
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Sea turtle Incidental Take Report 6-12-25.pdf		792406

Options

Priority: Normal
Return Notification: No
Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:

APPENDIX B – Part 1 (Sea Turtle)

Incident Report Sea Turtle Take – PSEG Salem Generating Station

Photographs should be taken and the following information should be collected from all turtles and sturgeon (alive and dead) found in association with Salem. Please submit all turtle necropsy results (including sex and stomach contents) to NMFS upon receipt.

Observer's full name: **Matthew McQuestion (ECSI)**

Reporter's full name: **Matthew McQuestion**

Species Identification (Key attached): **Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*)**

Site of Impingement (Unit 1 or 2, CWS or DWS, Bay #, etc.): **Salem Circulating Water Intake; Unit 2, 23A intake bay**

Date animal observed: **06-12-2025**

Time animal observed: **10:30AM**

Date animal collected: **06-12-2025**

Time animal collected: **10:45AM**

Date rehab facility contacted: **06-12-2025** Time rehab facility contacted: **11:00AM**

Date animal picked up/ delivered to facility: **06-12-2025** Time animal picked up/delivered to facility: **13:50PM**

Marine Mammal Stranding Center was contacted regarding the incidental take, and a representative from the facility was contacted to travel to the Station to take possession of the specimen.

Environmental conditions at time of observation (i.e., tidal stage, weather):

Salinity: 3.0 ppt

Sky condition: overcast

Tide: Flood 2 (92.0 ft.)

Air temp. 27.5°C

Wave height: calm

Wind - SW

Date and time of last inspection of screen: **06/11/2025 @ 09:20PM**

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: **22.5°C**

Number of pumps operating at time of observation: **11 Circulators in operation**

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit at time of observation: **Unit 1-100% / Unit 2-99.6%**

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation: **Unit 1-99.4% / Unit 2-99.6%**

Sea Turtle Information: *(please designate cm/m or inches)*

Fate of animal (circle one): **dead** alive

Condition of animal *(include comments on injuries, whether the turtle is healthy or emaciated, general behavior while at Salem.*

During routine inspection and cleaning, Salem Yard Crew personnel retrieved a deceased Kemp's ridley sea turtle from Salem circulator intake. Salem Unit Control and PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs personnel were notified. After making required reporting, Environmental Consulting Services Inc. (ECSI) personnel verified species identification and began processing of the specimen.

Carapace length - Curved: **29.2cm** Straight: **27.9cm** **Weight – 3.1kg**

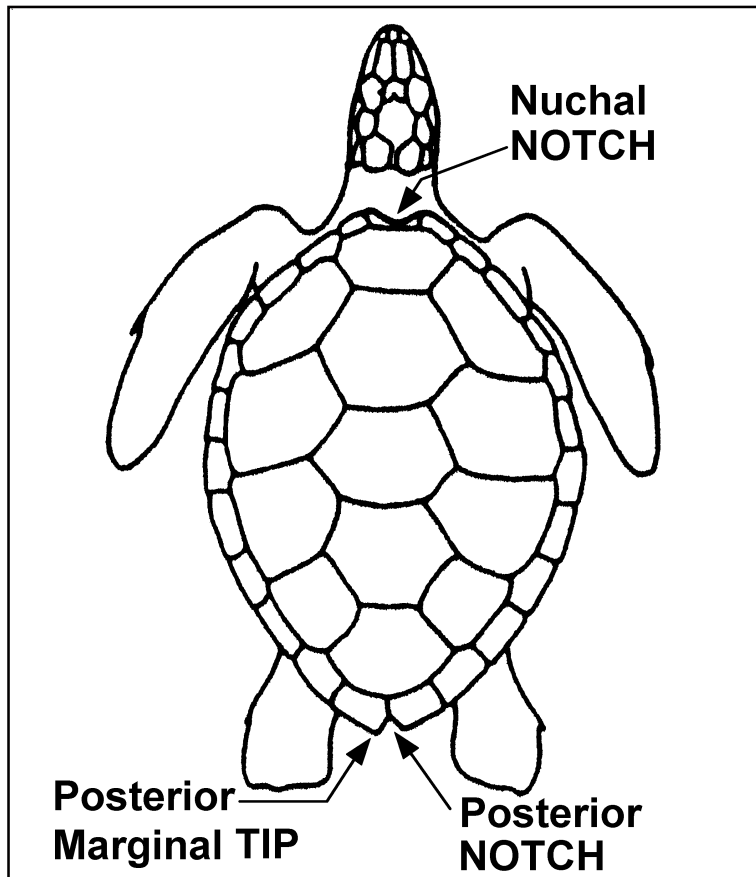
Carapace width - Curved: **31.75cm** Straight: **26.7cm**

Existing tags? YES **NO** Please record all tag numbers. Tag # _____

Photograph attached: **YES** NO

APPENDIX B, continued (**Incident Report of Sea Turtle Take**)

Draw wounds, abnormalities, tag locations on diagram and briefly describe below.



Description of animal:

Specimen was in very poor condition at the time of retrieval. While a small puncture wound was observed ventrally, at the center of the plastron, no significant external injuries indicating a likely cause of death were found. Indicators of advanced decomposition, such as foul odor, bloating, and degradation of skin and scutes on fins, head, and on the carapace, were observed during processing. External tags were not found, and an internal PIT tag was also not indicated.

All information should be sent to the following address:

National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Region
Protected Resources Division
Attention: Section 7 Coordinator
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: (978) 281-9328
FAX: (978) 281-9394

**Salem SGS Incidental Take Report - Sea Turtle
Attachment 1**



Dorsal view of the deceased, Kemp's ridley sea turtle, collected from Salem Generating Station CWI on 06-12-2025 by Salem Yard crew personnel during routine trash rack Cleaning (06/12/2025).

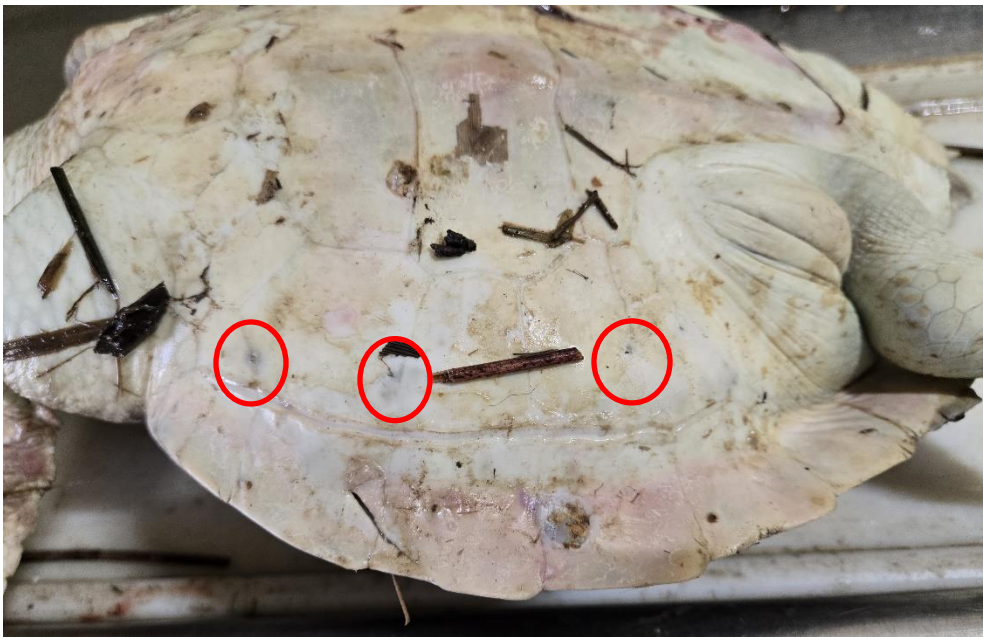


A ventral view of the specimen, showing the condition of the plastron. Except for a small puncture wound, located between the lower, central scutes, no significant signs of injury were observed. However, indicators of advanced decomposition were present (06/12/2025).

**Salem SGS Incidental Take Report - Sea Turtle
Attachment 1**



A close-up view of the plastron, showing the small puncture wound, located between the central scutes (06/12/2025)



The existence of distinct pores (circled in red), near the margins of the inframarginal scutes, were observed on both sides of the plastron, confirming the identity of the specimen as a Kemp's ridley sea turtle [06/12/2025].