



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
 SEFC, Galveston Laboratory  
 4700 Avenue U, Galveston, Texas

February 10, 1982

End. Sp. R-2	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinator
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	77550
	ACTION
Kemp's Ridley - U.S. FILE Tag returns	

Jack Woody  
 Fish and Wildlife Service  
 P.O. Box 1306  
 Albuquerque, N.M. 87103

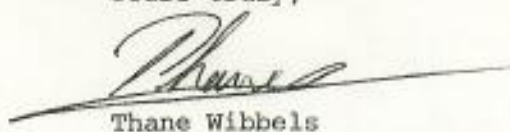
Dear Jack,

I have enclosed a list of tag returns from our 1980 and 1981 releases of Kemp's ridleys. Although the majority of our tag returns from 1981 Padre released turtles are coming from north Texas and Louisiana, two have been recaptured in Mexico. Of the turtles released in the Bay of Campeche in 1981, the only recaptures have occurred in Louisiana.

I have also enclosed a report on one of the recaptured turtles from the 1981 Padre release. This turtle washed ashore near Galveston after being hit by a boat prop. I brought this turtle into the lab before it died, so the measurements on my report are very accurate. In only 136 days in the wild this turtle more than doubled its weight.

If you have any questions feel free to call. You can reach me at the following numbers : (713) 762-5417 or 766-3517.

Yours truly,



Thane Wibbels

P.S. Thank you for the Rancho Nuevo report. I will greatly appreciate any new information on sea turtles.

FWS REG 2  
 RECEIVED

FEB 16 '82

SE



**10TH ANNIVERSARY 1970-1980**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
 A young agency with a historic  
 tradition of service to the Nation

Tag Returns from the 1981 Releases  
of Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles

Tag #	Release		Recapture	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
K 1139	3/3/81	Bay of Campeche	6/3/81	Oyster Bayou, Louisiana
K 1166	3/3/81	Bay of Campeche	11/1/81	Morgan City, Louisiana
K 1767	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/3/81	Port Aransas, Texas
NNB 332	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/14/81	5 km S. of Port Aransas, TX
K 1773	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/10/81	2 km S of Port Aransas, TX
K 1308	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/14/81	North Padre near Corpus Christ
NNB 841	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/20/81	Copano Bay (NE of Port Aransas, TX)
NNB 009	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/24/81	Aransas Bay
8058	6/2/81	Padre Island	7/15/81	Corpus Christi Bay
8015	6/2/81	Padre Island	7/15/81	Matagorda Bay
K 1219	6/2/81	Padre Island	9/4/81	Morgan City, Louisiana
K 1683	6/2/81	Padre Island	9/4/81	Turtle Bay (near Palacios, TX)
8055	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/8/81	Sabine Pass (TX LA border)
NNB 037	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/15/81	Crystal Beach, TX
NNB 560	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/16/81	Crystal Beach, TX
8063	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/23/81	5 km E of Crystal Beach, TX
NNB 575	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/20/81	2.5 km W of Sabine Pass
NNB 250	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/23/81	High Island, TX
K 1397	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/24/81	Bay of Campeche, Mexico
NNB 785	6/2/81	Padre Island	11/1/81	Tampico, Mexico
K 1314	6/2/81	Padre Island	11/3/81	Cameron, Louisiana
NNB 356	6/2/81	Padre Island	11/19/81	25 km W of Sabine Pass

Tag Returns from the 1980 Releases

of Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles

Tag #	Release		Recapture	
	Date	Location	Date	Location
NNN 525	6/3/80	Homosassa, FL	9/5/80	Cortez, FL
NNN 006	6/3/80	Homosassa, FL	6/28/80	St. Petersburg, FL
NNN 742	6/5/80	Homosassa, FL	4/28/81	St. Petersburg, FL
NNN 199	6/3/80	Homosassa, FL	6/20/80	Hudson, FL
NNA 306	6/5/80	Homosassa, FL	11/15/80	Key Largo, FL
NNN 306	6/3/80	Homosassa, FL	10/11/80	St. Petersburg, FL
NNN 753	6/5/80	Homosassa, FL	4/8/81	16 km W of Crystal River, FL
NNN 283	6/3/80	Homosassa, FL	9/4/81	Clearwater, FL
NNN 577	6/3/80	Homosassa, FL	7/28/81	Union Beach, New Jersey
NNA 194	6/5/80	Homosassa, FL	6/15/81	Fort Myers, FL



✓

TAGGED TURTLE RECAPTURE REPORT

Date of recapture 10/23/81 Time of recapture 4:30 P.M.  
Turtle Tag # 8063 U of Hawaii Species L. keopi  
Location of recapture 3 miles east of Crystal Beach, TX.  
Turtle had washed up on the beach (Gulf side of peninsula).  
Method of recapture by hands  
Turtle's weight 3.52 kg carapace length 30.0 cm width 27.9 cm  
Final disposition of turtle Given to T. Webbels (N.M.F.S., Galveston)  
Name of person who recaptured turtle Ken Hall  
Address 4502 N 1/2  
Galveston, TX 77550  
Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Type of correspondance with this person direct  
Date turtle was originally released 6/2/81 - Padre Island  
Weight at release 1592.0g Carapace length 21.2 cm  
Carapace width 18.8 cm  
Time period in the wild 136 days  
Weight change +1.928 kg = 121% inc. Length change +8.8 cm = 41% inc.  
Width change +9.1 cm = 48% inc.  
Distance from release site at time of recapture \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: Turtle had apparently been hit by a boat's propeller.  
Ventral portion of neck had deep laceration, there was a deep  
crack in the <sup>left</sup> rear plastron, cuts & scrapes also on  
plastron, portions of scales were cut out from back and  
over the right eye. Turtle died during the night after being put in  
2 inch of seawater and elevating carapace.

Reward information Hawaii says offers no reward.

Latitude 29° 26' 30" Longitude 94° 39' 00"



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center  
Miami Laboratory  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, Florida 33149

Dr. George Balazs  
NOAA-NMFS-SWFC  
Box 3830  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Tom Kisting forwarded your inquiry to me. At present I am the data manager for the Marine Turtle databases, tagging as well as strandings, here at the Miami lab.

To date, the only information I have regarding the tags given to Dr. McVey are tags 8010 and 8016. These have been reported as strandings with no other information. Tim Fontaine of the Galveston lab has replaced Thane Wibbells. I have asked Tim to send you the information he has pertaining to the abovementioned tags in addition to the tags included in your note.

If you need more information or have any further questions, please let me know. My FTS number is 350-1482.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teresa Wilson".

Teresa Wilson





**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
 SEFC Galveston Laboratory  
 4700 Avenue U  
 Galveston, Texas 77550

November 17, 1982

1520  
2 JUNE 1981

Dr. George Balazs  
 National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA)  
 Southwest Fisheries Center  
 Honolulu Laboratory  
 Box 3830  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Enclosed is a list of the Hawaii-inscribed Inconel tags that have thus far been reported from the 1980 year class Kemp's ridleys released in 1981. Unfortunately there have been no recovered tags received here at our facility. It would certainly be interesting to see an analysis done on some of these tags for signs of corrosion.

In order to compare the recovery rates between the Inconel and Monel tags the following information should be of value to you:

	<u>Released</u>	<u>Recovered</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Monel	1622	62	3.8
Inconel	100	7	7.0

If I can be of further assistance in this matter just let me know.

Sincerely yours,

*Richard M. Harris*  
 Richard M. Harris  
 Technician, Turtle Headstart Project  
 Aquaculture Division

Enclosure

cc: F/SEC6 - Mr. C. R. Mock  
 - Mr. C. T. Fontaine





Tag Number	Date Released	Location Released	Date Recovered	Location Recovered
8010	6/2/81	Padre Island	6/20/82	Port Aransas, TX
8015	6/2/81	Padre Island	7/15/81	Matagorda, TX
8016	6/2/81	Padre Island	7/21/82	Port Aransas, TX
8055	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/8/81	Sabine Pass, TX
8058	6/2/81	Padre Island	7/15/81	Corpus Christi, TX
8063 (TAG RETURNED)	6/2/81	Padre Island	10/23/81	Crystal Beach, TX
8067	6/2/82	Padre Island	5/15/82	Searim State Park, TX

8059 6/2/82 Padre Island Ochlocknee Bay, FL

P.O. Box 4  
Panacea, Florida  
Dec. 10, 1982

HIMB UNIVERSITY  
KANBOHE, HI. 96744

Dear Sirs:

On November 20, 1982, my father who is a fishing guide, saw a green back turtle swimming on top of the water toward his boat. The location was at the mouth of the Ochlockonee Bay in Wakulla County, Panacea, Florida. In all of his years fishing this was the first time he encountered a turtle swimming on top of the water. He examined the turtle and it was not sick or injured. He also made note of the tag put there by your university.

The number on the tag was # 8057.

Would you please send me information on the turtle as to the name and when it was tagged?

Enclosed is a brochure on our exact location.

Thank you,

*Ethel Stokley Crum*

Ethel Stokley Crum  
Post Office Box 4  
Panacea, Florida 32346



~~527-6500~~

MAIN NO.  
527-6500

1-31-83

713-766-3500

527-6525

350-1271

DR. Charles W. Caillovet

1-12-83

Dear Sirs,

This letter is in response to finding a metal tag with your address on it on some marine life that we caught in the Gulf of Mexico. We would like to know if you need the animal alive or just need the metal tag.

Please respond as quickly as possible. We are willing to provide the necessary information to help you with your research in regards to the marine life that we caught.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Ch. Corn

2-18-83

2-22-83 Related "Surf Board" story -  
caught Sept-Oct tag back

Cornelius Mock  
TIM FONTAINE } 527-6500

Eileen Chicoine  
2749 86<sup>th</sup> St. Apt 110  
Port Arthur, TX 77690



M. I. M. B. University  
Hawaii  
96744



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center  
Miami Laboratory  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, FL 33149

31 October 1985 F/SEC11:BAS

George H. Balazs  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Honolulu Laboratory  
P.O. Box 3830  
Honolulu, HI 96812

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter (and enclosures) of 7 October. I have logged the tag series records and hope to compile and distribute a computerized file of all the tag series information I receive over the next few months.

As for the inconels of the series 8001 - 8100, placed on 1980 year class headstarted Kemp's ridleys, I have recovery records on the following turtles:

<u>Tag Number</u>	<u>Date Recovered</u>
8010	20 June 1982
8015	20 June 1982
8016	21 July 1982
8055	8 October 1981
8057	20 November 1981
8058	15 July 1981
8067	15 May 1982
8063	23 Oct 1981

If you are missing or have corrections to any of these records, or if you have additional recoveries in that series, please let me know and we can swap the data. Larry has just received our first order of inconels, I hope we have as much luck with them as you have.

If I can ever be of any assistance to you with any turtle matters, please feel free to contact me. My FTS number is 350-1488, commercial is (305)361-4488. It was good to see you in Galveston, I hope you can make it to the sixth annual turtle workshop in Georgia next year. Best regards.

Sincerely,

*Barbara*

Barbara A. Schroeder

cc: F/SEC11 - Joseph E. Powers







**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center  
Miami Laboratory  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, FL 33149

13 November 1985 F/SEC11:BAS

George H. Balazs  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Honolulu Laboratory  
P.O. Box 3830  
Honolulu, HI 96812

Dear George:

Thanks for your recent letter including the recapture record of 8063, which I was missing. In regard to the copy of the letter you sent on a possible 9th Inconel recovery - I also have a similar original letter in my file of "unresolved tag problems". It reads exactly the same as yours, although they are two separate letters, as this one came directly here. I have made a xerox copy of the original letter and envelope for you. The envelope is addressed exactly as the Miami return address reads on our Monel tags - this is somewhat confusing. How did this person have both addresses from one tag? My records do not show any of the Inconel ridley's as double tagged.

I have also enclosed a copy of a letter I sent to Ms. Chicoine, to which I never received a reply. As you can see by the date of the letter, quite some time has elapsed. This one is a mystery to me - any ideas? Thanks again for your help.

Sincerely,

*Barbara*

Barbara A. Schroeder  
Coastal Fishery Resources Division

*best regards!*

cc: F/SEC11 - J. Powers



was this  
person ever  
contacted?

1-12-83

Dear Sirs,

This letter is in response to finding a metal tag with your address on it on some marine life that we caught in the Gulf of Mexico. We would like to know if you need the animal alive or just need the metal tag.

Please respond as quickly as possible. We are willing to provide the necessary information to help you with your research in regards to the marine life that we caught.

B20125

Sincerely,  
Eileen Chicino



Epker Chromo  
2749 86<sup>th</sup> St. Apt 110  
Bostwick, TX 77640



Ed Scott

NMFS Lab  
Vir. Key  
Miami, Florida  
33149

?

W

phone # unpublished





**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center  
Miami Laboratory  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, FL 33149

26 August 1983

Eileen Chicoine  
2749 86th Street Apt. 10  
Port Arthur, TX 77640

mailed 26 Aug 83

Dear Ms. Chicoine:

In sorting through a batch of neglected data concerning tagged marine turtles, I came across your letter - a copy of which I have enclosed. I am unable to determine if anyone ever contacted you about your find. If so, I cannot match a tag number to your letter. I am assuming you caught a marine turtle.

I would very much appreciate any information you could send me about this event. I need to know the approximate date you caught the animal, your approximate location at the time of the catch, the tag number and approximately how large the animal was. I would also like to know if the turtle was alive or dead.

I realize a great deal of time has elapsed since your letter was received. Unfortunately, no one was heading up the tagging program at that time. Any data you have will be beneficial. I have enclosed a return envelope for your convenience. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Schroeder  
Task Leader, Cooperative Marine  
Turtle Tagging Program





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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center  
Galveston Laboratory  
4700 Avenue U  
Galveston, TX 77550

December 14, 1984 F/SEC6:CWC:rr

Dr. George H. Balazs  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Honolulu Laboratory  
P.O. Box 3830  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Thanks for your note of December 1 transmitting a copy of your article on captive breeding of Kemp's ridley sea turtles (Marine Turtle Newsletter, No. 9, p. 3-4, Sept. 1979).

You may not be aware that more than 170 head started yearling Kemp's ridleys have been transferred over the years to the Cayman Turtle Farm and a number of marine aquaria in the U.S. There remain about 73 survivors ranging from 2-6 years of age. Plans are to expand the captive stock for extended head starting and potential captive breeding.

A captive stock of at least 500 animals should be maintained if possible, to avoid genetic problems associated with smaller stocks. This target will take some time to be approved, and to achieve once approved, as the available facilities for properly caring for adult Kemp's ridleys are limited, as are the numbers of organizations willing to participate in such a program.

While progress toward establishing an adequate captive brood stock of Kemp's ridleys has not been as rapid as your article recommended, there has been considerable progress, and we are encouraged by the nesting events at Cayman Farm last May. We will keep plugging away!

Sincerely,

Charles W. Caillouet, Jr., Ph.D.  
Chief, Aquaculture Research and  
Technology Division  
Chief, Environmental Research  
Division

cc: F/SECx4 - Fred Berry  
F/SER23 - Chuck Oravetz  
FWS - Jack Woody  
F/SEC6 - Edward Klima  
F/SEC6 - Clark T. Fontaine







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Fisheries Center  
Galveston Laboratory  
4700 Avenue U  
Galveston, TX 77550

January 10, 1985 F/SEC6:TF:rr

George Balazs  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce (NOAA)  
P.O. Box 3830  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96812

Dear George:

Enclosed you will find all of the release and recapture information from the 1981 releases (1980 year-class). In my opinion, those turtles released in the Bay of Campeche, the ones from the 1979 year-class, and the greens and loggerheads should not be included for comparing monel and inconel tags. Therefore, the comparisons should be with 1,421 monel released and 68 recaptures to 100 inconel released with 8 recaptures.

Thanks for the information you sent me. Please keep it up as I appreciate any information on sea turtles that I receive. This years head start Kemp's ridleys appear to be doing quite well. So far, we have had many fewer problems than in the last two years - knock on wood! Presently, I am preparing a "how to" manual on the husbandry of young Kemp's ridleys and a paper on the recapture of head started turtles from six year classes.

Please keep me up-to-date on your sea turtle work and I hope all is well.

Sincerely,

Tim Fontaine  
Manager, Sea Turtle Facility

cc: Dr. Charles Caillouet





## 1981 releases (1980 year-class headstart)

Total turtles released 1771

No. released	Disposition	Where released	Month
5	1979 year-class Kemp's ridley	Padre Island	June
23	Green sea turtles	Padre Island	June
25	Loggerhead sea turtles	Padre Island	June
197	1980 year-class Kemp's ridley	Bay of Campeche	March
1421	1980 year-class Kemp's ridley monel tags	Padre Island	June
100	1980 year-class Kemp's ridley inconel tags	Padre Island	June
1771	TOTAL		

January 18, 1985

F/SWC2:GHB

Mr. Tim Fontaine  
Manager, Sea Turtle Facility  
Southeast Fisheries Center  
Galveston Laboratory  
4700 Avenue U  
Galveston, TX 77550

Dear Tim,

Many thanks for your letter of January 10, 1985 clarifying the number of Kemp's ridleys released in 1981 from Padre Island. The data I used for the number of Monel releases (1425) came from the draft article you and Richard Harris sent me in April of 1983. The number of Monel recaptures (70) came from the data printout you made available with your letter of October 5, 1984. I counted 70 recoveries from the 1980 year-class resulting from the Padre Island release site. No single turtle seems to have been recovered more than once, so I assume two of these data entries are for greens or loggerheads in order to arrive at the 68 recaptures you indicated. The key for the data printout does not list species identification. The number of Inconel recaptures that you stated (8) should be increased to 9. You may recall that I telephoned you and Dr. Caillouet in late January 1983, and again in mid-February, to relate the Inconel tag recovery (number unknown) made by Eileen Chicoin of Port Arthur, Texas. This would appear to be a valid recapture, since she wrote to the address inscribed on the tag (University of Hawaii). A copy of this letter was sent to you when I first received it, however, another one can be forwarded if needed.

Even with the changes you mentioned, the rates of recovery between Monel and Inconel would still not be significantly different. However, future recoveries will be most important from the standpoint of tag shedding, since I expect the Monel tags to corrode away with the passage of time.

I look forward to receiving a copy of your husbandry manual on Kemp's ridleys. It will be a valuable contribution to sea turtle research and conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs  
Wildlife Biologist

cc: Balazs  
HL