

Date: Fri, 7 Sep 2001 07:45:59 -1000
From: George H. Balazs <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu>
To: Bill Puleloa <puleloa@aloha.net>
Subject: Re: Tag 9575 Molokai

Bill, Here's what Shawn just dug out! AmAZing. YOU tagged it, the record is from you, one of your typed data sheets that you used to send. Do you recall the case now? Was the turtle you rescued at Halawa Nesting ashore? Was it now adult size now? SuperStuff, please write back soon. You've saved and handled the turtle twice in 15 years! She loves you I'm sure, very powerful stuff. Aloha, George

PS I go to Midway for a week of field work starting tomorrow. Will send you in separate email our summary of results for Midway to date.

Only encountered once....captured incidentally in fishermen's nets on 5-21-86 at Kalokoeli Fishpond, Kawela, Molokai, SCL=53.5cm, CCL=57.5cm, no tumors. Tags 9575 LFL/9576 RFL. Comments...."Definitely not a green turtle but was identified as a hawksbill after checking with reference materials and literature".

> *****

>> On Thu, 6 Sep 2001, Bill Puleloa wrote:

>

> > Mahalo for the copy of the Saipan survey. Had to rescue a turtle at
> > Halawa on the August 2nd. She made it back safely. Tagged with
> > #9575.....what's the scope with this animal?

> >

>

>

Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2001 09:13:29 -1000
From: Bill Puleloa <puleloa@aloha.net>
To: George H. Balazs <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: Tag 9575 Molokai

Thank goodness for Shawn. I've long since given up trying to maintain my turtle data base. Yes, after relocating my original data book I clearly recall the incident. She was not a by-catch of Ed's operation, but instead old man Horcajo's (who has since departed us). I remember him saying that he had released several other turtles that day, but realized that this one, i.e. #9575 was different and therefore held it in his boat for me to see. Indeed it was different! I drove to his boat to examine and tag the animal which was released in front of Kanoa Fishpond. It may be a opportune time to correct your data base. The animal was caught in the vicinity of Kalokoeli fishpond, but tagged and released at Kanoa fishpond which is very close by. Kalokoeli is a decrepit pond long since destroyed and known to only a few old timers. It may be useful to use Kanoa as a reference point to avoid confusion in the future. #9575 was indeed an adult, and a contributing female at that on the night of August 2nd! She was on the beach doing her business the night before but apparently mistime her activities and was caught by the morning sun. The time frame between her initial encounter at Kanoa to now Halawa suggest nesting activities may be somewhat novel to her, hence the bad timing. We didn't have a measuring tape, but my best guesstimate puts her CCL at about 95 cm conservatively. No tumors. Right tag #9576 no longer attached.