SIGHTING INFORMATION TURTLE AND SEAL

Animal sighted (circle): (Turtle) Seal

Number of animals: 3 Type, if known: HAWKSBILL HATCHLINGS

Date: June 30 1991 Observer: MARY + GIANNA VALLEY

Address & phone 45 NOHOKAI ST

Time: 9 AM (optional): KIHEI, HI, 96753 879-2678

Location: BEACH BETWEEN SUGAR Beach & MAALEA MAUI

Observed from (circle): shore, boat (name: _____),

while skin or SCUBA diving (on surface or at _____ feet deep).

Estimated size (length): 2 inches ?

Comments: (such as color pattern; injuries; scar patterns; tumors; whether flipper tags are present(Y/N); color and number of the tag(s); bleach marks (number/letter); behavior; and weather)

Dark Brown 3 Tiny Babies Heading toward Ocean. Flatten on Back & very cute!

Seals and sea turtles are protected under Federal and State law.

DO NOT DISTURB.

P.S. THIS NEVER MADE IT TO THE MAILBOX SORRY!

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole St., Honolulu, HI 96822-2396

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use, $300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
COM-210

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole Street
HONOLULU HI 96822-2396

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

July 17, 1990

George W. Boeclert, Ph.D., Director
National Marine Fisheries Service
Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Dr. Boeclert:

SUBJECT: HAWAIIAN SEA TURTLES (COW-2)

The Maui County Council's Committee of the Whole has scheduled a meeting to discuss a communication from Councilmember Wayne K. Nishiki, concerning the protection of the Hawaiian sea turtle. Attached hereto is a copy of County Communication No. 90-299 for your information and review.

I would like to invite you or your representative to attend the Committee of the Whole's meeting on July 26, 1990 at 3:15 p.m. in the Council Chamber located on the eighth floor of the County Building to share your comments on this matter.

Please contact me or my Committee staff, Dianne, Roy, or Jo-Ann, by July 24, 1990, at 243-7838 to confirm your attendance at the meeting. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or my staff at the Maui County Council Office.

Very truly yours,

GORO HOKAMA
Council Chair

Attachment

2A:COW2:ds

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396

July 20, 1990 F/SWC2:GWB

Mr. Goro Hokama
County Council
County of Maui
200 S. High Street
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

Dear Mr. Hokama:

Thank you for the copy of the letter from Councilman Nishiki. He is correct that the National Marine Fisheries Service is closely involved with marine turtle issues and the recovery team process. I regret to inform you that I will be unable to attend or to send a representative to your meeting on 26 July. In lieu of attending, I am sending along two pertinent sources of information. The first is the March 1990 draft of the Hawaiian Sea Turtle Recovery Plan. This plan is nearing completion and hopefully will be finalized soon. It contains a great deal of information on marine turtles. The second document is a species profile on the green turtle. I am certain that you will find both documents to be useful.

If you have any questions or require additional information, feel free to call.

Sincerely yours,

George W. Boehlert
Director, Honolulu Laboratory

Enclosures

bcc: GWB

April 2, 1992
Kailua-Kona, HI.

Aloha George —

I was told of you and your marine turtle research program by Marie Morin here in Kona. She and I had met as a result of a position I applied for with the National Park Service / Kaloko-Honokohau (Kona). During the course of a discussion I had with her, I mentioned a dive I had made back on Maui (See enclosed report & map), and she suggested I pass the info. on to you. If you should have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at the address or phone # (evenings) provided.

Mahalo —

Mark Aeder

Mark Aeder
73-4173 Oluolu Pl.
Kailua-Kona
96740

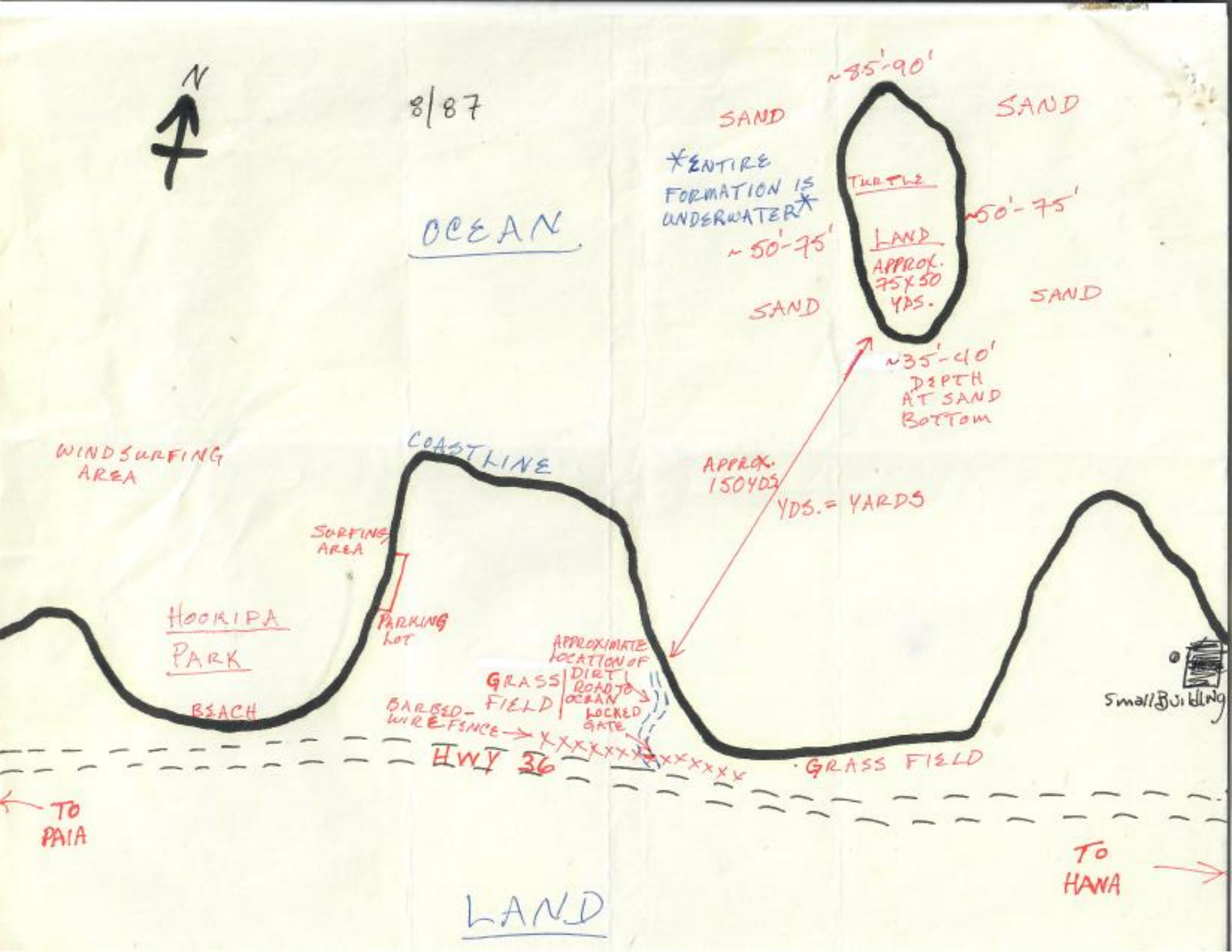
March 29, 1992
Kailua-Kona

The dive that `Turtle Land' was discovered on took place in August 1987 around 10:00 AM. The day was sunny and the ocean calm. The site was an area of coastline approximately one-half to one mile east of Hookipa Park on the north side of Maui (see map). Myself and two other divers swam on the surface out from the shoreline and submerged when we saw the side of the lava formation closest to the coast. The top part of the formation at this point was about 20-25 feet from the surface with the sand and boulder bottom around 35-40 feet deep. The formation extended approximately 75 yards seaward and was approximately 50 yards wide. At the seaward end the depth from the top of the formation was about 55-60 feet from the surface with the sand and boulder bottom around 85-90 feet deep. The formation had numerous fractures, shelf areas and a small cave on the end closest to the coast.

I estimated 200 turtles of all sizes (shells from 1 foot to 3 feet plus in length) interspersed over the area of the lava formation. Some were swimming, some sitting in various places on top of the structure, some under ledges as well as in the larger cracks and fractures. I also observed perhaps a dozen or more individuals with evidence of GTFP, most of these were larger animals (shells from 2 feet in length or bigger), the tumors being located mostly on the neck, on top of the head or on facial areas of the turtles.

The turtles seemed to take little notice of us and either stayed in their habitat resting or slowly swam away if we approached closely. Most animals were solitary with only infrequent groups of two or three animals next to each other under ledges or out in the open. No observations of courtship, mating, aggressive or feeding behavior were noted.

Mark Aeder
73-4173 Oluolu Pl.
Kailua-Kona, HI. 96740
(808) 325-7675


N
8/87
OCEAN
~85'-90'
SAND
SAND
ENTIRE FORMATION IS UNDERWATER
TURTLE
LAND
APPROX. 75 X 50 YDS.
~50'-75'
~50'-75'
SAND
SAND
~35'-40' DEPTH AT SAND BOTTOM
APPROX. 150YDS
YDS. = YARDS
WINDSURFING AREA
COASTLINE
SURFING AREA
PARKING LOT
HOOKIPA PARK
BEACH
APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF DIRT ROAD TO OCEAN
GRASS FIELD
BARBED-WIRE FENCE
LOCKED GATE
HWY 36
GRASS FIELD
SMALL BUILDING
TO PAIA
TO HANA
LAND

Effluent, runoff linked to algae

☐ An EPA study puts suspicion on injection wells and fields

By Peter Wagner
Star-Bulletin

HSB 6/26/93 A1

A preliminary study of Maui algae blooms says sewage disposal wells and nearby agricultural fields are prime sources of nutrients that could be overfertilizing the ocean off West Maui.

Highlights of the study, released yesterday by the Environmental Protection Agency, show that 946 tons of phosphorus and nitrogen are discharged by the sources each year. Those nutrients are found at high levels in the area's near-shore waters.

"Injection" wells at the Lahaina sewage treatment plant were found to be the biggest single source of phosphorous, about 65 tons a year, while sugar and pineapple fields contribute the most nitrogen, about 784 tons a year.

Major algae blooms have occurred in the past three years in the vicinity of the county's three sewage treatment plants, at Lahaina, Kihei and Kahului. While no scientific evidence has proved a connection, state regulators are suspicious of the plants and their shoreline injection wells that pump treated effluent deep into the ground.

"Although it would be premature to implicate these sources as the cause of the algae blooms, it is obvious that more-efficient use of fertilizers and reductions in wastewater discharged into the injection wells will reduce the potential for algae blooms to occur," said Bruce Anderson, deputy state Health

See **STUDY**, Page A-8

FROM PAGE ONE . . .

STUDY: Effluent, field runoff linked to algae blooms

Continued from Page A-1

Department director.

Anderson said efforts are afoot to reduce nutrient levels in agricultural fertilizers and to improve land-use practices to prevent runoff. The county, he said, is attempting to reuse sewage effluent to irrigate parks, schools and golf courses instead of dumping it.

The state has taken aim at the wells because they are regulated by permit, while "nonpoint" sources of pollution such as agricultural runoff are not.

Moreover, tracing nonpoint pollution to its myriad sources is a challenge that could elude regulators for years.

The study, by California-based Tetra Tech Inc., found that sewage effluent finds its way into near-shore waters while just 10 percent to 20 percent of agricultural fertilizers wash into the water.

But tracing the water pollution to its specific source is difficult.

"It is not known how much nitrogen and phosphorus reaches the ocean nor are the pathways known," the report states.

Another EPA-funded study that will try to track the nutrients to their source is to begin next week. Dye tests are expected to leave a pinkish residue in waters near Honokowai. Anyone noticing a discoloration in the next several months is asked to call an EPA hot line at 872-6078.

The study recommends further field investigations, studies of the area's hydrology and other work to pin down the source of Maui's algae problem.

Three types of algae have piled up on Maui beaches, usually in summer months, causing a smelly problem.

One species, *cladaphora*, threatens to smother offshore reefs.

THE MAUI NEWS — Wednesday, September 1, 1993 — A5

Turtle seeking nesting site run over in Kihei

By LIZ JANES
Staff Writer

KIHEI — A large turtle, which may be a highly endangered species, was smashed by a vehicle on North Kihei Road Friday night as it looked for a place to lay its eggs.

The sight of the turtle led to a number of calls to Maui police, the first at 9:09 p.m. when a caller said they had seen a 400-pound turtle on the road.

Several other calls to police followed, by which time the turtle was dead and some people thought it was a human body. Turtle eggs the size of ping pong balls rolled over the highway.

Skippy Hau, biologist with the state Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources, said he is not sure what kind of a turtle it was but is sure it was not an endangered green sea turtle, a common sight in Maui waters. Its shell measured 3 feet across.

He took photos of the shattered carcass and of the trail the turtle made in its search for a nesting site and sent them to marine biologists on Oahu.

George Balazs, a biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service and head of the Marine Turtle Research Program, said he suspects the dead animal is a hawksbill turtle, an extremely rare species.

Balazs said he bases his suspicion on two things. First, the turtle was killed in an area within several hundred yards of the only other recorded case of a hawksbill turtle nesting on Maui, which occurred in the summer of 1991. The other reason is the number of eggs.

Hau said 170 eggs were recovered from the carcass and the highway. The green sea turtle carries only about 100 eggs in a clutch, Balazs said.

He is waiting to examine photographs before making a definite determination of the animal's identity.

The eggs, Balazs said, have been buried in a safe place and could hatch if conditions are right. The leathery eggs take between 50 to 70 days to hatch, depending on weather conditions.

The hatchlings would be the best evidence of all as to the identity of the turtle, Balazs said.

May 20, 1987

Mr. Arlen Henderson
President
Maui Electric
P.O. Box 398
Kahului, Maui, HI 96732

Dear Mr. Henderson:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the report covering the results of the work on green sea turtles we conducted near your Kahului facility during 1985. When funding becomes available, we hope to undertake additional studies at this important and interesting site.

Thank you very much for the excellent help and cooperation that your staff provided to make this work possible.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Zoologist

GHB:jn

cc: Environmental Dept HECO
bc: Balazs
HL

MAUI

P.O. Box 1363
Lahaina 96767

11/6/90

Dear George,

Just a few pieces of info. I thought you might like to know from Maui County. Enclosed is a photo of a green sea turtle I shot at Mokolea point, 2 miles west of Kahakuloa on the north shore of Maui. I spotted this 2 foot specimen alone in about 40' of water in the first part of september. He seems clean of tumors. Yesterday a fellow dive guide at Central Pacific Divers spotted 4 green sea turtles off of the Hyatt Reef in Kaanapali. These individuals were, according to the Dive master, clean of fibropapiloma. The Hyatt/Marriot reef by the way seems to be a favorable habitat for these guys, as I have seen up to six individuals resting at various parts of the ~~30' deep~~ reef. It is here I have seen surgeonfish (Ctenochaetus Strigosus, I believe) picking ~~at~~ off of the shells of these guys. I have saved the best news for last. While diving on the south side of Lanai at a sight called White Rock I spotted a Hawksbill turtle. And the news gets better, Liz McNevin, who has sent you photos previously, was carrying her video camera. Liz has already stated she would

be happy to send you a copy of the tape. You can contact her through our shop (If she hasn't contacted you already) This hawksbill was in about 40' of water and has been sighted 3 times in the last month by our staff. He is about 2 feet ~~and~~ along the shell. He did not show signs of tumors. Do hawksbills get fibro-papiloma?

If you would like more information please don't hesitate to leave a message at Central Pacific Divers and I will return your call.

Sincerely

Andrew Wood

wish to have some better photos of turtles, please let me know. As I can make dupes of slides I have, and if you wish to use, I would prefer you would use the better quality photos.

Thanks,
Andy

Zoologist saddened by death of sea turtle

THE MAUI NEWS 5/10/93 A3

One of endangered species, creature was carrying eggs

By TIMOTHY HURLEY
Staff Writer

HONOLULU — Turtle expert George Balazs wasn't feeling so hot last weekend, and who can blame him? An old friend had turned up, badly injured and helpless, and he couldn't do a thing for her.

The friend was a large green sea turtle he tagged in Kahului Bay eight years ago and tracked to a group of far-flung islands three years ago.

The adult female turtle washed up on the Paukukalo side of Kahului Harbor April 30 with three of its four limbs sliced off by a shark. A picture of the turtle appeared in The Maui News May 3.

State aquatic officials promptly shipped the injured green sea turtle, an endangered species, to Balazs, a National Marine Fisheries Service zoologist and turtle specialist based in Honolulu.

The next day Balazs, in consultation with a veterinarian, reluctantly decided to put the animal to sleep for humane reasons.

Even more tragic, however, was the discovery that this old friend had been carrying hundreds and hundreds of eggs and was nearing its nesting time.

"I couldn't help but feel saddened by this event," he said Friday.

The turtle — 38½ inches long, weighing 220 pounds and estimated to be anywhere from 25 to 40 years old — was originally tagged by Balazs in June 1985 in good condition. Nine large turtles were tagged in Kahului Bay in that National Marine Fisheries Service research project.

"Like so many turtles, we didn't hear from her for some time," Balazs said.

Not until May 1990 was it seen again, this time laying eggs at French Frigate Shoals, a popular egg-laying destination for turtles some 600 miles from Maui in the northern Hawaiian archipelago.

Balazs said the discovery of this animal on Maui last week provides further evidence that turtles migrate to nesting grounds and then return to feed in their home foraging grounds.

It is thought that green sea turtles in their reproductive years return to their own hatching place during mid-May to mid- to late-June to lay their eggs every two, three or four years. Their motherly missions often take them on long, perilous journeys.

Witnesses who saw the turtle wash in reportedly saw a shark circling offshore, and Balazs confirmed Friday that a sizable tiger shark sheared off both front flippers and a hind limb.

However, one of the flippers appeared to have been amputated a week or two before the April 30 attack. Scabbing and healing appeared to be well under way on that flipper, he said.

That might explain why the turtle wasn't back on its journey to the French Frigate Shoals to lay its eggs, Balazs said.

Turtles are known to survive in the wild without one flipper, though they swim much slower, the scientist said.

In an autopsy, the turtle's stomach and intestines were found to be surprisingly empty, suggesting that the flipper injury may have kept the turtle from grazing on seaweed for at least a week to 10 days.

Another surprise, Balazs said, is that the turtle even survived the tiger shark attacks at all. After all, turtles make frequent appearances in the tiger shark's diet.

"It really puzzles me — and this isn't the first time it's happened," he said. "Why on earth wouldn't the shark just gobble up this totally helpless, incapacitated animal? Why on earth would it just end up amputating the limbs? Certainly a couple of flippers isn't going to fill the belly of a shark."

Any tiger shark worth its weight can munch a green sea turtle easily, he said, because the turtle's shell is relatively soft in comparison to other turtles.

The Maui News / MATTHEW THAYER photo

Passers-by attempt to assist an injured green sea turtle that washed ashore in Kahului April 30. The creature was tagged in Kahului Bay eight years ago and last recorded three years ago in the French Frigate Shoals — 600 miles from Maui.

1969

ner Session Set At Community College

n for the summer Maui Community June 16 through scheduled from 8 on on Monday. the cafeteria.

is open to high duates or 18-year- with sufficient profit from in- Students attending

enroll in courses 100-and above. e SCAT, SAT, or cores or high school sent to the Coordi- Summer Session at to registration.

ege advises that stu- od standing at other eed not have test ilable, and that ad- the summer session mply acceptance for r spring semesters.

dormitory housing available to Maui esidents. Interested nust submit a written or dormitory housing ordinator of Summer

s to be offered in-

20 — Fundamentals eeping.
3—Salesmanship.
100 — Expository

254—Types of Litera-

CI 121 — Introduction e.
151 — World Civiliza-

281 — Introduction to n History.
H 101 — Elements of ics
1 LABORATORY—Ba- n, elementary algebra, , intermedite algebra, plane trigonometry.

DIR Studies 159 — Seminar in the teaching of Remedial Mathematics.

SPEECH 145—Oral Communication.

Application for admission, detailed information on courses, and special requirements may be obtained from: Walter Ouye, Coordinator of Summer [illegible] Community College, 310 Kaahumanu Avenue, Kahului, Hawaii 96732 (phone 39-181, extension 131).

MAUI NEWS
6/4/69
A2

This Turtle Swam Bit Too Close To Shore

Earl Eckel and Frank Chipman caught a "250 to 300 pound" turtle late Sunday afternoon, in the waters off Spreckelsville.

According to Mr. Eckel, he spotted the turtle swimming close to shore, waded out and grabbed the back of its shell, spun it around and guided it to shore, where Mr. Chipman helped him to remove it from the water.

When asked what they planned to do with the turtle, Mr. Eckel replied, "We're going to eat it!"

Elderly Visitor Still Confined; Condition 'Good'

The condition of Mrs. Leah Foggo, injured in an auto-pedestrian accident on Friday, was reported as "good" on Monday, although the elderly tourist from California is still hospitalized.

Mrs. Foggo, a resident of Seal Beach, sustained bruises on her [illegible] June 16—4:07 a.m., 31 over NE.

Rice Promoted To Manager Of Bankoh, Kailua

Henry F. Rice has been promoted to Kailua (Oahu) branch manager of the Bank of Hawaii, according to an announcement made by the bank's president, C. D. Terry.

Mr. Rice, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Oskie) Rice of [illegible], joined the head office as a management trainee in January, 1965. He transferred, in December 1967, to the Kailua branch, where he was assigned as assistant manager.

Before joining the Bank of Hawaii, he had been affiliated with Molokai Ranch, Ltd. from 1960 to 1964.

Subscriber From California Likes The Maui News

"The Maui News is a means of keeping abreast of what is going on politically, socially and commercially," wrote Mrs. Henry M. Wilson, of Hayward, California, upon renewing her subscription.

In a letter dated May 27, Mrs. Wilson said in part:

"During my two visits to Maui during the past year I was impressed by the friendliness of the people as well as the beauty of the island and hope to make Maui my home at some time in the future."

[redacted]

FLOWERS IN FLIGHT— had been scattered over Mortuary early Memorial The flowers were loac Kahului Harbor, Sprecke Loading the flowers c during the flight; Joe Bu

A 'Lahaina Jam'

Outdoor C Tea; Elect

A most delightful afternoon spent by members and gues the Lahaina Outdoor Circle a John Siemer home on the in Lahaina on May 28.

This was the day of the a spring membership tea c organization. All present rec a booklet of the history o formation of the Outdoor in Lahaina.

This booklet was compil Mrs. Whitney Tompkins.

Being May was Law nationally, the guest speake Ernest Ching, of Greenste Cowan. He gave an infor talk on the juvenile pro high rise, and ways to ke haina free of litter.

One of his suggestions of ferent nature for Lahaina

DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF AQUATIC RESOURCES - MAUI
70 South High Street, Room #201
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone # (808) 244-2072

October 7, 1991

To: Paul Kawamoto, Program Manager

Through: Randy Honebrink, Education Coordinator

From: Brooks Tamaye, Information Specialist - Maui

Subject: Turtle Nest at Maalaea Bay Beach

Attached, is a summary regarding the discovery of a hawksbill turtle nest at Maalaea Bay Beach. The accompanying slides are reprints for your files.

c: George Balazs, NMFS
(incl. slide reprints)

Hawskbill Sea Turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata)
Nesting on Maui

On 7/30/91 at about (0900) Ms. Mary Valley, (879-2678) her daughter, and Ms. Gloriann McDowell (879-4734 work) were walking on Maalaea Bay Beach (Kale'ia). They saw three sea turtle hatchlings making their way to the ocean. They observed the hatchlings for 15-30 minutes. The hatchlings eventually were able to make their way through the shorebreak and swim away.

On 7/31/91 at about (0830) Ms. Valley called and notified me about the event. She and Ms. McDowell described the approximate area where they saw the hatchlings. They also described a sand structure in the vicinity which possibly could have been the nest. However, the structure was partially eroded from wave action and appeared more manmade.

At about (1000) I inspected the area. I found the sand structure which was described, it didn't appear likely that this was the nest. Higher up on the beach and just behind this structure though, was a mound of sand that was relatively undisturbed. It was situated above the mean high tide mark (slide 1). No hatchlings, tracks or any other evidence to indicate the exact location of the nest was observed. I did observe vehicle tire tracks, human foot-prints, and dog tracks on the beach (slide 2). George Balazs of NMFS was notified.

At about (1830) that evening I returned to the area. The sand mound suspected as being a possible nest was still intact and undisturbed. I conducted another inspection of the area. About fifty feet east (toward Kihei) from this mound I found two dead turtle hatchlings. They were both high on the shoreline above the mean high tide mark. One was fully exposed facing toward the ocean (slide 3&4). The other had only it's head and front flippers exposed (slide 5). Both were dehydrated and probably died from prolonged exposure to the sun. The two specimens were collected for identification. The location was marked and observed till about (2000), no activity was observed.

On 8/1/91 at about (1030) in the morning and again at about (1700) in the afternoon, I inspected the nest site. There were no signs to indicate that more hatchlings had emerged.

There was a concern that humans and animals (mainly dogs and mongoose) may disturb the nest site (slide 6). With the consensus of George Balazs, the nest was excavated on 8/2/91 at (0745) by Skippy Hau, Randy Honebrink, and myself.

Recovered from the nest were 11 live hatchlings averaging 39.3 mm in straight carapace length and 28.1 mm in straight carapace width. These were released successfully. (slide 7)

Nine hatchlings were found out of their shells but dead. These averaged 37.4 mm in straight carapace length and 26.7 mm in straight carapace width. They averaged 13.9 grams.

Eight hatchlings died while emerging from their shells. (slide 8)

Also collected were 87 unhatched eggs, and 86 egg casings (empty shells).

To summarize the data, there were 181 eggs deposited. Eighty-seven (48%) of these did not develop. Eight (4%) died before completely hatching. Nine (5%) died after hatching. Two (1%) died as they exited the nest. Eleven (6%) live hatchlings still buried in the nest were released. We can calculate and assume that 64 (35%) successfully hatched and made it to the surface on their own.

The eleven live hatchlings were found at approximately the same depth as the clutch of eggs. Because of their low number and the compactness of the sand they would probably not have been able to make it to the surface without our assistance.

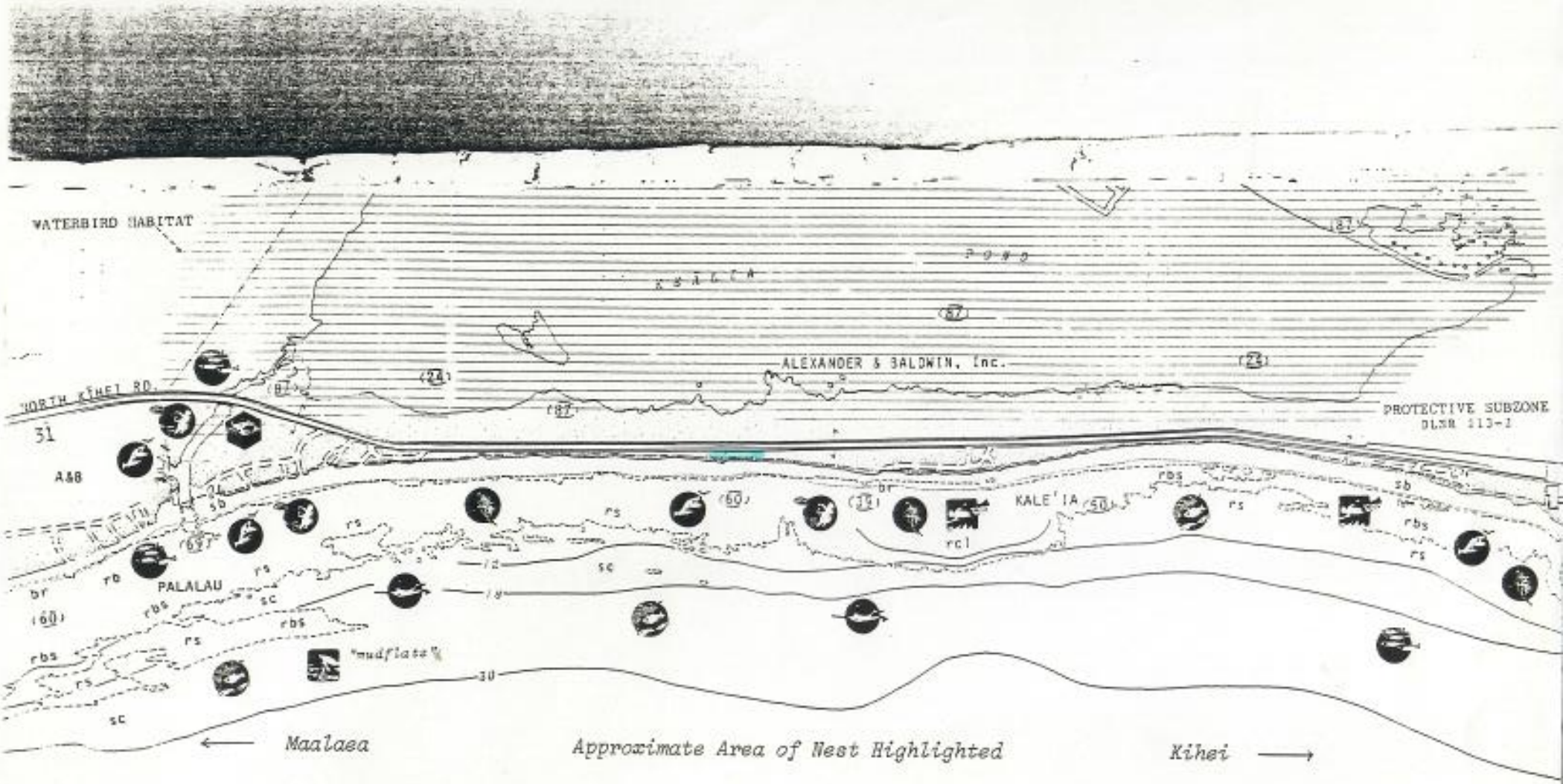
Two dried hatchlings, two dead hatchlings, two unhatched eggs, and one partially hatched egg were retained for reference and educational purposes. The rest of the specimens were shipped to the NMFS. They were positively identified by George Balazs as being Hawskbill sea turtles (Eretmochelys imbricata).

The area was inspected periodically for about two weeks. No signs of additional nests were observed. About six weeks later the sand mound first suspected as being a nest was excavated. No eggs or remains were found indicating this was not a nest site. There were also no additional reports of nesting activity or sightings to our office.

Description of the nesting site:

The area is known by several names, most maps describe it as Maalaea Bay Beach or Kale'ia. The beach extends from the Maalaea Condominiums to the Sugar Beach condos (Kihei). The nest site was located directly across of Kealia Pond and approximately 3/4 of a mile west of the Kealia Condominium in Kihei. It was within about 30 feet of N. Kihei Rd.. The shoreline in this area between Maalaea and Kihei is presently undeveloped. (see map)

Beach material is a soil-sand mixture. The nest was dug high on the beach against a wave-cut, soil-sand bench. (During the highest tides it appears this area may receive some water.) The first eggs were found approximately 18 inches below the surface. The sand was moist and warm compared to the surface sand. The nest extended to a depth of about 29 inches down to an area of compacted soil. (slides 9&10)



MAP 52
KEĀLIA

0 500 1000 1500
FEET

DIVISION OF AQUATIC RESOURCES - MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES
70 SOUTH HIGH STREET, Room #201
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
Phone # (808) 244-2072

December 22, 1991

To: Paul Kawamoto, Program Manager

From: Skippy Hau, Aquatic Biologist

Subject: Turtle Reported at Maliko Gulch

At 1530, on Friday, 20 December 1991 an anonymous male caller reported a large turtle on the beach at Maliko Gulch. He was not sure if the turtle was dead or alive. I thanked him for his call and told him we'd try to get someone to visit the location. DOCARE Enforcement Officer Harold Doe went to Maliko and found no turtles on the beach. He did report seeing about 15 turtles in the bay. Three appeared to be very close to shore. He interviewed people on the shoreline and found out a male tried to push the turtle back into the water.

At 1730, I went to Maliko Gulch and found no turtles. Although there is a possibility that a turtle would come ashore to nest. The beach is very rocky and does not appear to be a good nesting site. The large number of turtles observed there in the past indicates that the large swells could be forcing the turtles to seek shelter inside the bay and a resting place on the shoreline.

The public should be reminded that sea turtles, if found on the shoreline, should be left alone. A reminder about Federal and State laws which protects sea turtles as a threatened or endangered species is needed.

c: George Balazs