



The Shrimp e-Advocate

The Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA) is a non-profit alliance of members of the U.S. shrimp industry in eight states committed to preventing the continued deterioration of America's shrimp industry and to ensuring the industry's future viability. SSA serves as the national voice for the shrimp fishermen and processors in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas.

Turtles

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Board of Directors

Florida:

Sal Versaggi
sal@versaggi-shrimp.com

Chris Gala
Tricocg@aol.com

Georgia:

Elaine Knight
kseafood@bellsouth.net

Mike Dubberly
DaddysBoy1775@aol.com
[m](#)

Alabama:

Mickey Johnson
jbuiltinc@aol.com

Rosa Zirlott
BrentRosa@aol.com

Mississippi:

Steve Bosarge
stevebosarge@hotmail.com
[om](#)

Tommy Schultz
revahopkins@bellsouth.net
[et](#)

Louisiana:

James Blanchard
cherib1961@gmail.com

Researchers rescue injured sea turtle

Source URL: <http://jacksonville.com/news/georgia/2010-06-26/story/researchers-rescue-injured-sea-turtle>

By The Times-Union

BRUNSWICK - An injured sea turtle netted by a research vessel is being treated at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center on Jekyll Island.

The Georgia Bulldog, a University of Georgia Marine Extension research vessel, caught the Kemp's ridley turtle during a trawl as part of a 10-year study to establish a sea turtle abundance survey along the coast from Georgetown, S.C., to St. Augustine.

The turtle suffered an injury to its right front flipper, possibly from a shark attack, the researchers said.

"This is the first turtle we've ever caught with a natural injury," said Wesley Parker, captain of the Bulldog.

They have rescued other turtles that had been injured from boat strikes and other man-made causes.

That wasn't the only first. The vessel also netted a dozen turtles in one 20-minute trawl, he said.

The crew and researchers took no chances with the turtle, keeping it wrapped in wet towels inside a plastic container. They kept it in the shade until a vehicle was backed onto the Marine Extension Service dock with its engine running to take the turtle straight to Jekyll Island.

The researchers, some of them veterinary students from the University of Georgia and North Carolina State, work for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, which is administering a grant from the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Cathy Blanchard
Cathy_blanchard@us.afllc.com

Texas:

Wilma Anderson
texasshrimp@clearwire.net

Craig Wallis
wallis.shrimp@yahoo.com

North Carolina:

Nancy Edens
keywestnative57@yahoo.com

PD Mason
cmason5@ec.rr.com

South Carolina:

Wayne Magwood
tressymellichamp@att.net

Clay Cable
Claycable@aol.com

Executive Director:

John Williams
john@shrimpalliance.com

Director of Field Operations:

Richard Vendetti
vendetti@shrimpalliance.com

Executive Assistant:

Rachel Williams
rachel@shrimpalliance.com

Office Clerk:

Meghan Yopp
Meghan@shrimpalliance.com

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