



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

*Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs*

P. O. BOX 4340

CHARLOTTE AMALIE, ST. THOMAS 00801

July 29, 1980

Mr. Fred Berry, Director  
Southeast Fisheries Center  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, Florida 33149

Dear Mr. Berry:

Enclosed please find the second quarter Aerial Turtle  
Census report and voucher for reimbursement of expenses.

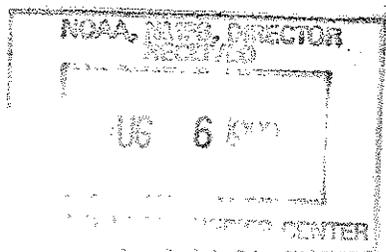
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darlan Brin".

Darlan Brin, Commissioner

DB/RAD/acf

Enclosure:



2nd  
9th  
1980

NMFS Turtle Census, U.S. Virgin Islands, Revised Plan

January 1, 1980 to December 31, 1980

Contract Issued: Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs

Bureau of Fish and Wildlife

Second Quarter Report - July 17, 1980

Study I: Aerial Sea Turtle Census

Project I-A: Marine turtle census of St. Thomas-St. John U.S. Virgin Islands nearshore waters

Aerial Census: No deviation (see 1st Quarter Report).

Results as of July 7, 1980:

Six census flights were flown this quarter; average number of turtles seen per flight was 26.5. Turtle tracks were observed on the following beaches: Santa Maria Bay, Big Bay on big Hans Lollok (tracks seen on five separate censuses), and on the northern end of west beach on Inner Brass. One nest was observed on Santa Maria Bay beach and two nests were seen on Big Bay beach.

Below are tabulated the data from census flights to date:

	<u>1st Quarter</u>		<u>2nd Quarter</u>	
Greens	68	65%	81	57%
Hawksbills	34	33%	54	38%
Unidentified	2	2%	6	4%
Total seen	104		141	

Average size of green turtles seen was 2.4' (range: 1-4'); average size of hawksbills seen was 2.2' (range 1-4'). All turtle sizes were rounded off to the nearest 0.5'.

Project I-B: Statistical testing of various aerial turtle census techniques

The necessary purchase order for plane rental has been received. Work on this project is scheduled to begin this month.

*Robert A. Dewey*

NMFS Turtle Census, U.S. Virgin Islands, Revised Plan

January 1, 1980 to December 31, 1980

Contract Issued: Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs

Bureau of Fish and Wildlife

Second Quarter Report - July 17, 1980

Study I: Aerial Sea Turtle Census

Project I-A: Marine turtle census of St. Thomas-St. John U.S. Virgin Islands nearshore waters

Aerial Census: No deviation (see 1st Quarter Report).

Results as of July 7, 1980:

Six census flights were flown this quarter; average number of turtles seen per flight was 26.5. Turtle tracks were observed on the following beaches: Santa Maria Bay, Big Bay on big Hans Lollik (tracks seen on five separate censuses), and on the northern end of west beach on Inner Brass. One nest was observed on Santa Maria Bay beach and two nests were seen on Big Bay beach.

Below are tabulated the data from census flights to date:

	<u>1st Quarter</u>		<u>2nd Quarter</u>	
Greens	68	65%	81	57%
Hawksbills	34	33%	54	38%
Unidentified	2	2%	6	4%
Total seen	104		141	

Average size of green turtles seen was 2.4' (range: 1-4'); average size of hawksbills seen was 2.2' (range 1-4'). All turtle sizes were rounded off to the nearest 0.5'.

Project I-B: Statistical testing of various aerial turtle census techniques

The necessary purchase order for plane rental has been received. Work on this project is scheduled to begin this month.

*Robert A. Dewey*