TO: LTRMP Fish Component Specialists and Team Leaders

SUBJECT: DRAFT Amendment to Fish Monitoring Procedures: Recording turtle data and instructions for working with turtle data.

DATE: June 4, 1996

The following draft procedures describe the coding of data from turtles that are captured incidentally in LTRMP nets. The final version of these procedures will be incorporated into the next revision of the LTRMP Fish Monitoring Procedures Manual. Until that time, the final draft of this memorandum will be an official amendment to that procedures manual.

Instructions for Coding Turtle Data

Observations on turtles that are captured incidentally in LTRMP fish sampling nets are coded on standard LTRMP Fish Data Sheets, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Name</th>
<th>Instruction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Fish Collected</td>
<td>Read as &quot;Total number of organisms collected&quot; and record the total number of all organisms recorded on all LTRMP Fish Measurement Sheets used to record this sample collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species Name</td>
<td>Record as per fish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species Code</td>
<td>Record as per fish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>Record carapace length, measured to the nearest 1-mm.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LTRMP Fish Collection Data Sheet

LTRMP Fish Measurement Data Sheet
Memorandum
Page 2

TFS
Weight
Fish Count
Working Tally
PC
Subproject
User Defined Fields
Number Fish on This Sheet

Blank.
Blank or optionally record weight.
Record as per fish.
(Optional) Use as per fish.
(Optional) Record as per fish.
(Optional) Use as per fish.
Record gender in User Defined Field 1. Record "F" for female and "M" for male. Leave blank if gender is undetermined.
Read as "number of organisms on this sheet" and record the total number of organisms, regardless of taxon, that were recorded on this sheet.

Instructions for Identifying and Extracting Fish and Turtle Data

This incorporation of observations on turtles into the LTRMP fish data base makes it necessary for us to be able to separate data from turtles and fishes easily. I have modified my custom SAS format library to make that separation possible. The revised SAS code and data files are provided to all field stations for local use.

FORMATS.SAS: The SAS program formats.sas creates a custom format library for use with other programs that use LTRMP fish data. These custom formats can be used to produce descriptive labels in reports and analyses, or to compute certain quantities. Brief descriptions of all custom formats created by this program are written in the header block at the top of the program. This program uses the files fishlist.txt, lwint.txt and lwslp.txt as input, and creates the custom format library named formats.sc2 as output.

To use this program, copy it into a directory in which you want to store the code. Copy fishlist.txt, lwint.txt, and lwslp.txt into the directory of your choice. Then edit formats.sas and insure that all filename and libname statements below the header block match the structure of your files (paths). Last, enter SAS, open formats.sas into the Program Editor and execute that program.
For information on general use of SAS formats, see the appropriate section of the SAS Language Guide. The format `txclass` can be used to separate data from fish, turtles and some crustaceans. Following are two examples of the use of this format.

Example 1. Selecting only fish data.

```sas
libname library 'c:\data\sysdata'; /* The custom format */ /* library is stored in */ /* \data\sysdata */
data a;
... read in LTRMP 'fish' data
taxgroup=put(fishcode,txclass.); /* Create a new variable*/ /* named taxgroup and */ /* assign the txclass. */ /* format to it */
if taxgroup='Fish';
run; /* Select only fish data*/
```

Example 2. Selecting only turtle data.

```sas
libname library 'c:\data\sysdata'; /* The custom format */ /* library is stored in */ /* \data\sysdata */
data a;
... read in LTRMP 'fish' data
taxgroup=put(fishcode,txclass.); /* Create a new variable*/ /* named taxgroup and */ /* assign the txclass. */ /* format to it */
if taxgroup='Reptiles';
run; /* Select only turtle data*/
```