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Hatchling Kemp's Ridley Strands at Galveston Island, Texas

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A live hatchling Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempi*) was found stranded on the beach by Amanda K. Bollman and Timothy B. Allen of Houston, Texas, on 31 July 1988 near San Luis Pass (Galveston Island, Texas). The turtle was found in sargassum weed in the surf wash line. It weighed 20.3 grams, and measured 5.0 cm straight line carapace length and 4.5 cm straight line carapace width. The hatchling had a small wound between costal scutes 4 and 5 and there was a gooseneck barnacle (*Lepas* sp.) attached to neural scute 2. A considerable amount of algae was present on the carapace and the turtle appeared to be emaciated.

This hatchling is being rehabilitated by the National Marine Fisheries Service Sea Turtle Head Start Research Project staff in Galveston and is being kept in isolation from other head start animals. The turtle is being fed fresh squid daily to satiation. Attempts are being made to feed it Purina Turtle Chow, although presently the hatchling will not feed on the prepared diet. If this hatchling survives, we plan to tag and release it with the 1988 head start year-class in the spring of 1989.