

St. Vincent  
SAND

FL-6 1/22

Handwritten notes on a yellow tag attached to a container.

1  
00:00:00,380 --> 00:00:00,850

\h

2  
00:00:00,910 --> 00:00:01,910

Music

3  
00:00:07,300 --> 00:00:08,563

NARRATOR: Hundreds of baby sea turtles are expected to take an unusual course to the ocean this

4  
00:00:12,370 --> 00:00:12,566

season. Environmental specialists from several federal agencies are working with FedEx to move

5  
00:00:18,440 --> 00:00:19,756

turtle nests from the oil-threatened beaches of the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic coast in hopes of

6  
00:00:23,790 --> 00:00:27,656

improving the survival chances for the endangered species.

7  
00:00:27,820 --> 00:00:28,616

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the

8  
00:00:33,290 --> 00:00:39,956

National Park Service, NOAA, FedEx and conservationists are taking part in this unprecedented effort

9  
00:00:40,590 --> 00:00:45,390

to move some 700 nests hundreds of miles to NASA's Kennedy Space Center.

10  
00:00:46,650 --> 00:00:47,390

The nests include sea turtles from several threatened or endangered species, including loggerheads,

11  
00:00:52,510 --> 00:00:55,843

Kemp's ridley, leatherback, and green sea turtles.

12  
00:00:56,550 --> 00:01:02,683

Each egg is taken carefully by hand from a nest as it is excavated. The eggs are placed into

13  
00:01:02,980 --> 00:01:07,580

Styrofoam boxes and then taken by FedEx on special trucks to Kennedy.

14

00:01:08,650 --> 00:01:15,183

Jane Provancha of Innovative Health Applications is the leading biologist for NASA's Kennedy Space

15

00:01:15,290 --> 00:01:15,483

Center hatchery. She and her team watch over the nests for signs of the hatchlings.

16

00:01:20,630 --> 00:01:21,533

Jane Provancha: "The sign that these animals are starting to pip and come and prepare to emerge

17

00:01:26,060 --> 00:01:26,400

over the next two days is very big, very big. Good news. This means they survived the excavation

18

00:01:32,120 --> 00:01:33,143

process, they survived the trip across the state of Florida, they made it into our facility and they are

19

00:01:38,030 --> 00:01:43,363

doing what they normally would do, and this is, this is just great. Good stuff."

20

00:01:44,420 --> 00:01:45,546

NARRATOR: The turtles are handled just as delicately as they are readied to be released.

21

00:01:49,160 --> 00:01:51,010

Jane Provancha: "...we'll take the hatchlings and put them in here. We'll reduce the amount of sand

22

00:01:53,910 --> 00:01:55,213

because it's too heavy. We'll put them in here and we'll take them to the beach in this."

23

00:01:58,540 --> 00:02:00,773

NARRATOR: Once they've hatched and are considered ready to make the trip, the turtles are taken

24

00:02:02,640 --> 00:02:08,573

to beaches along a 100-mile stretch of Florida's Atlantic Coast and set free in the surf.

25

00:02:09,270 --> 00:02:10,130

Once in the ocean, the turtles generally make their way to developmental habitats offshore where

