



# GRACIAS

**Species:** Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)

**Age:** Juvenile

**Gender:** Unknown

**Arrival:** November 3, 2011

**Weight on Arrival:** 17.8 lbs / 8.1 kg

**Found:** St. Simon Sound near Brunswick, GA

**Rescued by:** United States Coast Guard & Georgia DNR

**When found:** Gracias was found after sustaining a boat collision that caused fractures on the carapace and plastron. Initially Gracias was unable to dive as X-rays revealed air within the body cavity possibly caused by a lung tear when injured. This resulted in a floating condition.

**Treatment & Current Status:** Fractured bone on the carapace was removed and bone cement with antibiotic applied. Air was aspirated from the body cavity every few days, and the lung tear initially sustained appears to have healed as Gracias is no longer floating. Gracias is Spanish for 'thank you' and was named to recognize our volunteers who have achieved over 25,000 volunteer hours.

**\*\*Gracias is the very first Kemp's Ridley available for adoption at the GSTC!\*\***