

# **New England Cold-Stunned Patients**

## **Vicksburg, Orion, Little Dipper, Eclipse, and Asteroid**



On December 3, 2010, the Georgia Sea Turtle Center received 10 turtles from the New England Aquarium who had been previously cold-stunned. Cold stunning is similar to hypothermia in humans and can cause many turtles to strand along the beaches during the winter months.

These particular turtles were lucky to be found by Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary volunteers and sent for treatment. However, due to the large number of strandings in the area, facilities in the Northeast became overwhelmed with the patients. In an effort to assist our partners in conservation, the GSTC offered to take several of their patients.

After several months of rehabilitation, five of the critically endangered Kemp's Ridley patients were ready for release. Due to the cold water temperatures of the coast of Georgia, the turtles were taken to Cape Canaveral for their return to their ocean home. We wish these turtle safe journey as they continue their ocean adventure.