

OBSERVER REPORT

Counter-Clockwise Loop Around Angel Island From Aquatic Park (16.1 km/10.0 miles)

July 24, 2019 | Start Time: 04:35:00 | End Time: 12:13:26

Rules: Marathon Swimming Federation | Observer: Lisa Marie Amorao

<p>SWIMMER <i>Name:</i> Kim Hedges <i>Gender:</i> F <i>Age on swim date:</i> 41 <i>Nationality:</i> United States <i>Residency:</i> San Rafael, CA</p>	<p>SUPPORT PERSONNEL <i>Pilot:</i> Brent McLain <i>Vessel:</i> Tango Tango 27-ft Fletcher Rigid-Haul Inflatable <i>Crew:</i> Jenny Kline, Naji Ali</p>

<p>04:35:00 H2O: 59F Air: 61.3 Wind: Almost none.</p>	<p>SERC/Dolphin Beach Kim began her Round Trip Angel Island Swim in the dark. Paddler Naji Ali -- on Miguel Melendez' kayak -- was waiting for her at the end of the SERC Pier. Water temperature on observer's digital water thermometer: 59F. Air temperature reading on observer's anemometer: 61.3F.</p>
<p>04:42</p>	<p>Aquatic Park Opening Kim reaches the cigarette stick buoy at Aquatic Park opening. Captain Brent informs the crew that a container ship is just passing Crissy Field and we must hold our position until it passes. The captain instructs Kim to swim towards Tango.</p>
<p>04:48</p>	<p>South Shipping Channel Fishing vessel from the east passes right behind us. (video)</p>
<p>04:51</p>	<p>South Shipping Channel Container ship and accompanying tugboat make their way east in front of us, creating lots of wake. Kim makes her way into South Shipping Channel, pointed towards East Alcatraz. (PHOTO)</p>
<p>04:57</p>	<p>South Shipping Channel Another ship coming! Capt. Brent on radio to determine next step.</p>
<p>04:59</p>	<p>South Shipping Channel Ship will pass behind us. Crew instructs Kim to swim without stopping. "Don't stop! We have another ship coming!"</p>
<p>05:05</p>	<p>South Shipping Channel Finally some uninterrupted stretch of swimming to do the first stroke count: 57 strokes per minute. H2O: 60.</p>
<p>05:23 H2O: 60.2F Air: 59F Wind: 1-3 kt</p>	<p>East Alcatraz Kim reaches Alcatraz Warning Sign. Kim is greeted by a flock of squawking seagulls. Kim mentions smelling exhaust from the boat. Crew advises her to stay closer to Naji. (video)</p>

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05:26	East Alcatraz Civil twilight. (photo)
05:35	NE Alcatraz It's time for Kim's first feed. Kim asked for the bottle that contained CarboPro cocktail.
05:45 H2O: 60F Air: 58F Wind: 1-3 kt	North Shipping Channel Stroke rate: 57.
05:52	North Shipping Channel Kim reported peeing.
06:00	North Shipping Channel Second feed: CarboPro
06:15 H2O: 61.5F Air: 56.6 Wind: 5 knots	North Shipping Channel Ferries are now running. (photo)
06:24	North Shipping Channel 2 mi south of Pt. Blunt. Kim reported peeing. Kim asked for tinted goggles for her next feed.
06:30	Pt. Blunt Buoy Feed, CarboPro. Goggles switched. (Photo)
06:34	Pt. Blunt Kim made it to Angel Island.
06:37 H2O: 64.5F Air: 56.8F Wind: 8 kt	Pt. Blunt Readings.
06:45	Pt. Blunt Stroke rate: 55
06:49	Pier at Point Blunt Kim reported peeing.
07:00 H2O: 65F Air: 56.6F Wind: 0-1 kt	SE Angel Island Flat, warm water. Everyone is enjoying a break from the wind. Kim asked for her electrolyte bottle for her third feed. She also peed.
07:15	SE Angel Island Kim peed.

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07:19 H20: 65F Air: 56.6 Wind: 0-1 knot	Quarry Point Water temperature reading seemed ridiculously warm; asked to compare with the captain's water temperature readings. His read 63F, 2 degrees colder than observer's thermometer. Will use captain's readings from this point.
07:37	NE Angel Island Feed #4: chocolate mix.
07:50 H20: 63.4F Air: 61.7F	Pt. Simpton Captain reported ebb at 0.4 kt.
07:55	Pt. Simpton 55 strokes per minute.
08:03 H20: 63F Air: 62 Wind: 0	China Cove Feed #5: electrolyte feed.
08:05	China Cove Naji declared for the record that he peed on Miguel's kayak.
08:14 Wind: 3-4 kt	NE Angel Island We are starting to feel some breeze as we approach Pt. Campbell.
08:20 H20 63 Air: 62.2 Wind: 3kt	Racoon Strait We enter Racoon Strait. Captain reported boat is moving 2.2 kt -- in neutral.
08:25	Ayala Cove Captain reported ebb at .87 kt. Naji enjoys the push and takes a break from paddling.
08:29	Pt. Lone The Golden Gate Bridge appears from behind the island. Captain instructs Naji to sight on Pt. Stuart.
08:37	N37°51.848'W122°26.637' A zodiac with five men, friends of the captain, comes by to say hello. Feed #6: chocolate drink.
08:40 H20: 62.5F Air: 60.8 Wind: 4 kt	Pt. Stuart Captain recommends hugging Angel Island and swimming against the tide to allow the ebb to weaken before crossing the channel. Stroke rate: 58 strokes per minute.
08:45	Camp Reynolds, West Garrison "Rhode Island Fast Ferry" passes in the opposite direction to Larkspur.

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08:50-08:52	Crew discussion: feed Kim before we enter the channel. Strategy: point Kim towards East Alcatraz and ride the ebb across the south channel to the opening.
08:57 H20: 60.9F Air: 62.7 Wind: none	Pt. Knox. Battery Ledyard Feed #7: chocolate.
09:17	Battery Drew Crew discussion: perhaps we should have Kim swim all the way around Angel Island and then cross the channel.
09:20	Battery Drew Stroke rate: 58 strokes per minute. We spot a deer on the island.
09:30 H20: 60.8F Air: 71F Wind: none	N37°51.216' W122°25.677' What great conditions. In tastes like cardamom whipped cream. Feed #9.
09:37	N37°51.191'W122°25.542' Captain informs the crew that we have a container ship coming into the channel. We should have Kim continue to hug the island. This will give the ship time to pass before we head into the channel.
09:42	N37°51.099'W122°25.360' 500 ft west of Pt. Blunt Rock. It's time to head into the channel. Capt. Brent instructs Naji to point Kim towards Salesforce Tower. Brent calls this strategy "The Hook" -- hook the island then swim across the channel.
09:53 Wind gusts 7 kts	North Shipping Channel We are in the North Shipping Channel. Occasional white cap.
10:03	Jenny will hold off on feed to give Kim a chance to make some headway into the channel.
10:06	N37°50.521'W122°25.605' North Shipping Channel Feed #10. Feed! Quick! Don't stall here!
10:20 H20: 62.7 Air: 61.3 Wind 7 kts	N37°50.003'W122°25.713' North Shipping Channel 57 strokes per minute. We can see the CMA CGM making its way East in the South Shipping Channel.
10:38	North Shipping Channel

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	Crew wave at passengers on the Blue and Gold Ferry.
10:42	N37°49.920'W122°25.733' North Shipping Channel Feed #11: CarboPro. We see COSCO Ship in the South Shipping Channel.
10:45 H20: 62.58 Air: 59 Wind: 8 kts	N37°49.778'W122°25.746' North Shipping Channel We spot dolphins behind Kim. Captain reported ebb at 1 kt.
10:51	Naji is tired. Jenny offered to switch when we reach Alcatraz.
11:00 Wind: 9-12 kts	Buoy at West Alcatraz Wind is now gusting up to 12 kts. Jenny relieves Naji on the kayak. (video)
11:16	West Alcatraz Feed #12 CarboPro.
11:24 H20: 63.79F Air: 59 Wind: 15 kts	South West Alcatraz Captain instructs Jenny and Kim to head straight for the opening. The wind is overcoming the ebb.
11:30	South Shipping Channel 54 strokes per minute.
11:42	We have a clear shot of the opening.
11:45	South Shipping Channel Feed #13: CarboPro.
12:05	Buoy at Aquatic Park Opening Kim celebrates, joyful that she doesn't have to backtrack like the swimmers before her.
12:07	Jacuzzi Water temperature from the captain's thermometer: 61.54F; Air 61.3.
12:13:26	SERC/Dolphin Beach Kim clears the water line and walks on dry sand at SERC beach. Elapsed time: 07:38:26.