Louisiana Manatee Sightings Worksheet

Answer the questions below using the handout “Manatee Sightings in Louisiana from 1929 through 1996.”

1. What year had the most manatee sightings? _______1995____

2. Manatee sightings were most common in the month of _____July_____.

3. The parish with the largest number of sightings? ___Tangipahoa____


5. Which manatee sighting description did you find most interesting, and why?
   ______Answers will vary______________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

6. Do you think that some of the reported sightings describe the same manatee and why? Use facts from sightings list.
   ____________A manatee was spotted at the Michoud power plant in November of 1995.
   Because the power plant discharges warm water into an adjacent bayou making a suitable area for the manatee to stay in until the surrounding waters become warmer.__________________________________________
   _____________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________

7. Even though manatees are warm blooded they can not survive in water under 60°F. Using this information explain way a manatee was sighted near the Michoud power plant in November of 1995.
   ______A manatee was spotted at the Michoud power plant in November because the power plant discharges warm water into an adjacent bayou making a suitable area for the manatee to stay in until the surrounding waters become warmer.__________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________

8. Using the information you have learned about manatees, discuss a possible reason why some manatees were found dead (carcass).
   ______Answers will vary, may include reasons such as loss of food source, cold water, and accident with watercrafts, etc.________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________________
9. Give a reason for the increase in number of manatee sighting in Louisiana. 

_Some reasons are loss of habitat in Florida, and abundant aquatic vegetation in Louisiana._

10. Using the Louisiana manatee sightings list mark the location of all manatee sightings including the date on the map below.