



INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES

IAC – ANNUAL REPORT 2021

USA

IAC Annual Report General Instructions

Annex IV of the Convention text states that each Contracting Party shall submit an Annual Report each year.

To complete this Annual Report, Focal Points should consult with appropriate stakeholders involved in sea turtle issues. If you have any questions regarding this Annual Report, please contact the Secretariat at secretario@iacseaturtle.org

The submission deadline for this Annual Report is April 30th, 2021.

IAC - Annual Report 2021

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Part I - General Information

Country

Name of the country reporting

>

Official Note

If required, please attach here the relevant administrative authority **official note** endorsing the annual report submission.

Are you attaching an official note?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

1) Focal Point

1.1 Name

> Ann Marie Lauritsen

1.2 Institution

> NOAA Fisheries- National Marine Fisheries Service

1.3 Submission Date

>

2) Agency or Institution responsible for preparing this report

2.1 Name of the person preparing this report

> Ann Marie Lauritsen

2.2 Name of Agency or Institution

> NOAA Fisheries- National Marine Fisheries Service

2.3 Address

> 1315 East-West Highway

13th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

2.4 Telephone

> (301) 427-8477

Part II - Policy and Management

1) General description of activities

General description of activities carried out for the protection and conservation of sea turtles

In accordance with Articles IX and XVIII of the text of the Convention, each Party shall establish monitoring programs, policies and plans for implementation at a national level for the protection and conservation of sea turtles and their habitat. The Party shall report on the action plans, management plan or other types of instruments.

Please select the options that best apply for your country and provide the link to the corresponding document if available online. If it is in progress add the date is expected to be finalized in the corresponding section.

1.1 The country has a national strategy/plan for the conservation of sea turtles in accordance with Article XVIII.

Please upload the file or attach the links to the corresponding documents using the blue box icons beneath each question

Please select only one option

Yes

No

In Progress

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Endangered Species Act - Sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act

Species Management Plan

Only applicable to countries that have developed individual management plans for each species.

1.1.1 The country has a **specific strategy/plan** for the conservation of

Please upload the file or attach the link to the corresponding document using icons below.

Lepidochelys olivacea

Lepidochelys kempii

Dermochelys coriacea

Eretmochelys imbricata

Caretta caretta

Chelonia mydas

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

US Pacific Green turtle Recovery Plan.pdf - US Pacific Green turtle Recovery Plan

US Atlantic Green Turtle Recovery Plan.pdf - US Atlantic Green Turtle Recovery Plan

Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Populations of the Olive Ridley Sea Turtle.pdf - Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Populations of the Olive Ridley Sea Turtle

Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Populations of the Loggerhead.pdf - Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Populations of the Loggerhead

Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Populations of the Hawksbill Turtle.pdf - Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Populations of the Hawksbill Turtle

Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Leatherback Populations.pdf - Recovery Plan for the US Pacific Leatherback Population

Recovery Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle in the US Caribbean Atlantic and GOM.pdf - Recovery Plan for the Hawksbill Turtle in the US Caribbean, Atlantic, and GOM

Recovery Plan for leatherbacks in the US Caribbean Atlantic and GOM.pdf - Recovery Plan for the Northwest Atlantic Population of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle

NW Atlantic Loggerhead Recovery Plan.pdf - Recovery Plan for the Northwest Atlantic Population of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle

kempsridley revision2 Recovery Plan.pdf - Bi-National Recovery Plan for the Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle

East Pacific Green turtle Recovery Plan.pdf - East Pacific Green turtle Recovery Plan

Strategy/plan in progress

Date to be finalized

>

Provide details on the progress

>

1.2 Does your country have policies and programs at local and regional scales in accordance with Article XVIII?

Please attach the list of policies and programs and other information relevant to their adoption or implementation.

Please select only one option

Yes

No

In Progress

Strategy/plan in progress

Date to be finalized

Date to be finalized

>

Provide details on the progress

>

1.3 Does your country have monitoring programs in accordance with Article IX?

Please attach the list of programs and other information relevant to their adoption or implementation.

Please select only one option

Yes

No

In Progress

Strategy/plan in progress

Date to be finalized

>

Provide details on the progress

>

2) National legislation and international instruments related to sea turtles adopted during the preceding year

Describe any national regulations, international agreements and other legal instruments related to sea turtles and/or relevant activities that were adopted during the preceding year (**30 April 2020 – 30 April 2021**).

Please provide a literature reference and attach the digital file for the legislation and its corresponding number. The laws adopting the international legislation should be included when they exist.

First time a country is submitting this information: please include all pertinent national legislation and international instruments currently in force.

Countries that have previously submitted this information; please provide information for any changes that have occurred since your country's last report submission.

National Legislation

	Type and name of the legal instrument (No.)	Description (Range of application)	Sanction s(s) Imposed
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	Final Rule to Require Turtle Excluder Device Use for all Skimmer Trawl Vessels 40 Feet and Greater in Length	Skimmer trawl vessels 40 feet and greater in length rigged for fishing will be required to install and use TEDs designed to exclude small turtles in their nets. Specifically, the space between the deflector bars of the new TEDs must not exceed 3 inches; escape openings must be oriented at the top of the net; and there are potential webbing restrictions on the escape opening flap depending on the type of TED grid and escape opening configuration.	No
	NOAA Fisheries Annual Determination (85 FR 60963)	Annual Determination to identify US fisheries required to take observers	No

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Skimmer Trawl Rule - Skimmer trawl vessels 40 feet and greater in length rigged for fishing will be required to install and use TEDs designed to exclude small turtles in their nets. Specifically, the space between the deflector bars of the new TEDs must not exceed 3 inches; escape openings must be oriented at the top of the net; and there are potential webbing restrictions on the escape opening flap depending on the type of TED grid and escape opening configuration.

International Instruments

	Treaty, Convention, Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding	Year signed and/or ratified
	Indian Ocean Southeast Asian Marine Turtle MOU	2001
	InterAmerican Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles	2000

3) Actions to comply with National and International Mandate

List actions that are being carried out to comply with national and international mandates

(Ex: inspections, confiscations, sanctions, etc.)

> Endangered Species Act: Prohibition of take of listed species unless exempted under Section 7 and Section 10 in U.S. waters

4) Efforts to increase IAC membership

4.1 Has your country encouraged non-member states to join the IAC?

Please select only one option

Yes (list countries below)

> Trinidad and Canada

No

4.2 Has your country reached out to Canada, Guyana, French Guiana, Trinidad and Tobago, and/or Suriname to inform these nations about the critical situation of the population and priority actions for the conservation of leatherbacks in the NW Atlantic?

Please select only one option

Yes (list countries below)

> We have reached out to Canada and Trinidad.

No

5) Application [submission] of exceptions established by the Convention

Application [submission] of exceptions established in the Convention

Describe the exceptions allowed in accordance with article IV, item 3(a,b,d) and Annex IV of the text of the Convention, in accordance to the procedure established by the COP (CIT-COP5-2011-R2).

Attach management plan and five-year progress report as indicated in Resolution CIT-COP6-2013-R1/CIT-COP7-2015-R1 using the blue icons below.

External supporting documents

CIT-COP5-2011-R2 (PDF)

CIT-COP6-2013-R1 (PDF)

CIT-COP7-2015-R1 (PDF)

> No exceptions

Part III - Compliance with IAC Resolutions

1) Sea Turtle Species Presence

1.1 Sea Turtle Species Present in the Country

Check the box if the species listed is present in the oceanographic basins of your country as established in Article III of the text of the Convention.

	Atlantic Ocean	Pacific Ocean	Caribbean Sea
Caretta caretta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lepidochelys olivacea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lepidochelys kempii	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dermochelys coriacea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eretmochelys imbricata	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chelonia mydas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Notes

Include other information, if required

>

2) IAC Resolutions

2.1 The following resolutions apply to this country

- Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle Resolution
- Hawksbill Resolution
- Loggerhead Resolution
- Northwest Atlantic Leatherback Resolution
- Fisheries Resolution

3. Resolution CIT-COP7-2015-R2 - Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle (Dermochelys coriacea)

1. Has your country created conservation plans and/or long-term programs that can reverse the critical situation of the leatherback turtle in the Eastern Pacific?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> We have a recovery plan for Pacific leatherbacks that includes Eastern Pacific leatherbacks. Further, in 2021, NOAA Fisheries renewed the Species in the Spotlight initiative for 2021-2025 and we have updated the Action Plan for Pacific leatherbacks. The 2021-2025 Action Plan builds on the progress we have made thus far and identifies the following priority actions needed in the next 5 years to conserve Pacific leatherback turtles: (1) Reduce Fisheries Bycatch and In-Water Harvest, (2) Improve Protection on Nesting Beaches, (3) In-water Research and Monitoring to Inform Conservation Actions, (4) Foster Cooperation with International Partners, and (5) Encourage Public Engagement.

2. Are you implementing the country EP leatherback conservation plans?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please indicate the period of validity of these plans

> The US Pacific Populations of the Leatherback Turtle Recovery Plan- 1998 to present

The Species in the Spotlight Pacific Leatherback Action Plan- 2021 to 2025.

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Reduce Interactions in Fisheries- The US requires gear modifications and, as necessary, time area closures.

In addition, we are working closely with several

countries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean to try and reduce leatherback interactions trialing illuminated gillnets in coastal fisheries (e.g., Peru and Chile).

Nest Protection: .In the Eastern Pacific, the US Fish and Wildlife Service continues to support our partners' efforts in Mexico and Costa Rica to protect critical leatherback nesting beaches.

3. Have you taken conservation measures to eliminate poaching of leatherback turtles?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Trade of sea turtles and their parts is illegal in the United States. The United States has also taken a very proactive approach to address wildlife trafficking for all species through the creation of a cross-agency task force to look at wildlife trafficking.

Recently, this task force was authorized through the END Wildlife Trafficking Act.

The FWS Office of Law Enforcement (FWS/OLE) has seized shipments containing sea turtle parts or products (including Dermochelyidae) since January 2018.

4. If your country has leatherback turtle nesting beaches in the Eastern Pacific: Have you taken conservation measures to protect the nests and nesting habitat?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Not applicable

5. Has your country adopted fishing techniques that reduce incidental capture and mortality of this species?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The U.S. fleet rarely interacts with Eastern Pacific leatherbacks since they do not often fish in their geographic range.

With respect to Western Pacific Leatherbacks, the United States has taken significant measures to reduce fishery bycatch. The Hawaii shallow-set fishery is managed through 100% observer monitoring and the fishery closes if the annual limit of interaction with leatherbacks is reached. U.S. fishermen are required to use large 18/0 circle hooks with whole finfish baits in longline fisheries known to interact with leatherbacks in the Pacific Ocean. Fishers are also provided safe-handling gear to increase turtles' chances of survival post-release. The United States has also declared Critical Habitat for leatherback turtles along the U.S. West Coast that can help to further limit anthropogenic impacts to leatherback turtles in the region.

4. Resolution CIT-COP8-2017-R2 - Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

1. Is your country strengthening monitoring of the illegal use and trade of hawksbill turtles and their

products?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Trade of sea turtles and their parts is illegal in the United States. The United States has also taken a very proactive approach to address wildlife trafficking for all species through the creation of a cross-agency task force to look at wildlife trafficking. This task force was authorized through the END Wildlife Trafficking Act. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (NOAA OLE) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service OLE support counter wildlife trafficking enforcement efforts. Enforcement partners conducted inspections onboard vessels and at ports of entry to interdict illegal wildlife and IUU fishing products.

In both the Philippines and Indonesia, NOAA is collaborating with local governmental agencies, NGOs, and local universities to better understand the effects of the region's small-scale fisheries on protected species, such as sea turtles. To date, rapid bycatch assessments (i.e. interview-based surveys) are being conducted in Indonesia and the Philippines. These consist interviews characterizing fishing vessels, fishing gear, scope of fishing operations, and bycatch rates (e.g. sea turtles, marine mammals, elasmobranchs). They are also designed to understand the linkages between fisheries bycatch and illegal trafficking of sea turtles. These initial surveys are the foundation for further conservation efforts, including efforts towards reducing the number of sea turtles caught as bycatch that may potentially end up in illegal trade.

In addition, we are working to catalogue and monitor large seizures of green and hawksbill sea turtles being trafficked through the Philippines (particularly in Palawan). In partnership with the Philippine Department of Natural Resources, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development, the University of Philippines-IB Genetics Program, and a local NGO, they have standardized data collection protocols, developed genetic tissue sampling kits and a response team to support law enforcement interdiction events, and created the necessary processing and storage logistics so that genetic samples from stranded animals and illegally trafficked sea turtles can be stored and ultimately analyzed.

The United States continues to practice best methods to share information with relevant authorities.

2. Is your country enforcing pertinent hawksbill legislation?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Enforcement efforts at the state and national level are ongoing to enforce the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

3. Are activities being carried out in your country to stop the illegal trade of hawksbill products?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> U.S. enforcement officers work to stop illegal trade of hawksbill products. NOAA OLE participates in joint enforcement inspections and investigations targeting the illegal trade of protected marine products alongside FWS, U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security Investigations, the Food and Drug Administration, and state enforcement partners.

NOAA OLE and FWS continue to provide counter-wildlife trafficking law enforcement expertise during numerous bi- and multi-lateral international engagements.

4. Indicate if your country is strengthening the protection of important nesting and foraging habitats by declaring protected areas and regulating anthropogenic activities that adversely impact these habitats

4a. Protection of nesting habitats

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Nesting beaches of the southeastern U.S. are a mixture of public and private lands. Public conservation lands include National Wildlife Refuges (NWR), National or State or County Parks, and military installations. In Florida, approximately 40% of nesting beaches have been identified as conservation lands.

The two major hawksbill nesting beaches in the U.S. Caribbean, Buck Island Reef National Monument, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Mona Island, Puerto Rico, are protected as a National Park and Commonwealth Protected Area, respectively.

4b. Protection of feeding habitats

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Critical habitat has been designated for Caribbean hawksbill around Mona Island (Puerto Rico) since 1998.

5. Resolution CIT-COP7-2015-R3: Resolution on the Conservation of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

1. Has your country created national action plans and/or monitoring programs to promote loggerhead sea turtle conservation?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> NMFS and FWS have recovery plans for the Northwest Atlantic loggerheads and Pacific loggerheads. The NMFS and USFWS completed a five-year review of the following loggerhead populations: North Indian Ocean, Southwest Indian Ocean, Southeast Indo-Pacific Ocean, South Pacific Ocean, South Atlantic Ocean, Northeast Atlantic Ocean, and Mediterranean Sea (84 FR 70958), to assess the status and threats to the population:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/foreign-loggerhead-sea-turtle-dpss-5-year-review>

2. State if there are plans or recovery programs, or bilateral or regional cooperation in your country.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The existing recovery plans can be found at the links below. They are national plans.

Recovery Plan for the Northwest Atlantic Population of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle:

<https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/3720>

Recovery Plan for the US Pacific populations of the loggerhead turtle:

<https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/15967>

3. Are these action plans or monitoring programs being implemented?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States is actively implementing its recovery plans. Monitoring programs are a key component of our recovery plans. The recovery plan progress can be tracked at <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/profile/speciesProfile?sld=1110>

4. Is there protection of the loggerhead turtle at a state or federal level?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> There are sea turtle protections at the State and Federal levels.

5. Has your country taken conservation actions to protect nesting beaches and their associated habitats?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- No nesting beaches in the country

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Through state and Federal laws, the United States has worked to protect Northwest Atlantic loggerhead nesting beaches. The United States does not have nesting beaches for North Pacific loggerheads

6. Are there laws on turtle-friendly lighting in areas impacted by coastal development?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- No nesting beaches in the country

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> There are local lighting ordinances that require turtle-friendly lighting in coastal areas adjacent to where loggerheads nest.

7. Is there long-term (minimum 10 years) standardized data available for population trend studies?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- No nesting beaches in the country

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> There is extensive data on NW Atlantic loggerheads. The NMFS and the USFWS reconvened the NW Atlantic Loggerhead Recovery Team to assess trends.

Trends analyzed included datasets with over 20 years of nesting data 1997-2018):

https://www.fws.gov/northflorida/SeaTurtles/Docs/FINAL_NW_Atl_CC_Loggerhead_Recovery_Team_Progress_Report_12-19-19.pdf.

8. Is there exploitation or direct harvest of loggerhead turtles in your country?

Please select only one option

- Yes

- No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> It is illegal under the U.S. Endangered Species Act to take, kill, harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect a listed species.

6. Resolution CIT-COP9-2019-R2 - Northwest Atlantic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

1. Has your country implemented techniques to reduce leatherback bycatch and mortality in fisheries, following the UN-FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States has implemented various requirements to reduce sea turtle bycatch and to reduce injuries when turtles are bycaught. Bycatch reduction measures and safe handling requirements have been implemented in U.S. pelagic longline fisheries in the Atlantic and in certain bottom longline fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Bycatch reduction measures are also mandatory in certain federally managed gillnet fisheries including the mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery. The United States requires Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in shrimp otter trawls, summer flounder trawls in certain areas, and skimmer trawls (40 feet and greater, beginning in 2021). Certain pound net fisheries and scallop dredge fisheries are also regulated to reduce sea turtle interactions and the severity of injuries if bycaught. The United States also works to transfer turtle "safe" handling practices to increase post-release survivorship and mitigation technologies to international pelagic through collaborative fishery mitigation and research projects.

2. Does your country have fishery observer programs that comply with the minimum standards for scientific observer coverage that have been established by pertinent Regional Fishery Management Organizations?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The NMFS has a National Observer Program that is composed of six regional observer programs. Each of the programs can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/fishery-observers#observer-programs>. Through an Annual Determination, pursuant to its authority under the ESA, NOAA Fisheries identifies U.S. fisheries operating in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico that will be required to take observers upon NOAA Fisheries' request. The purpose of observing identified fisheries is to learn more about sea turtle interactions in a given fishery, evaluate measures to prevent or reduce sea turtle takes, and implement the prohibition against sea turtle takes.

3. Has your country implemented laws and regulations related to Northwest Atlantic leatherback conservation, particularly related to fisheries bycatch and marine protected areas?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States has a robust program to research bycatch reduction technologies. There are currently sea

turtle bycatch reduction technologies in place in the longline fisheries and some gillnet fisheries. A summary of some of the recent bycatch reduction projects that were funded can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/bycatch/bycatch-reduction-engineering-program>.

4. Has your country implemented conservation measures for the protection of the NWA leatherback nesting beaches and associated habitats?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 No nesting beaches in the country

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Approximately 40% of nesting beaches in Florida have been identified as conservation lands. The major leatherback nesting beach in the U.S. Virgin Islands, is protected as a National Wildlife Refuge. In Puerto Rico, leatherback nesting beaches (Vieques NWR and Culebra NWR) are protected as National Wildlife Refuges. 3 leatherback beaches (Luquillo, Dorado, and Maunabo) are protected as DNER Natural Reserves.

5. Does your country have a monitoring and tagging program at the NWA leatherback nesting beaches?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 No nesting beaches in the country

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> All leatherback nesting beaches in Florida and Puerto Rico are consistently monitored. Sandy Point in St. Croix, USVI, is also monitored consistently. Nesting turtles are tagged on two high-density beaches in Florida, three mainland beaches in Puerto Rico, and at Sandy Point National Wildlife Refuge in the US Virgin Islands.

6. Is your country collecting data on interactions of the NWA leatherback with fishing fleets? If YES, please report data of interactions of the species with industrial longline vessels in Part VI of this report.

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Not applicable

7. Resolution CIT-COP3-2006-R2 - Reduce impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

Relating to if your country has adopted the 'Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality induced by fisheries operations', of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) including:

A. Research and monitoring of the adverse impact of fisheries on sea turtles

1. Does your country collect information by fishery?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States engages with the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (e.g., ICCAT, IATTC, WCPFC) to collect information by fishery.

2. Does your country have observer programs?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The NMFS has a National Observer Program that is composed of six regional observer programs. Each of the programs can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/fishery-observers#observer-programs>. Through an Annual Determination, pursuant to its authority under the ESA, NOAA Fisheries identifies U.S. fisheries operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Pacific Ocean that will be required to take observers upon NOAA Fisheries' request. The purpose of observing identified fisheries is to learn more about sea turtle interactions in a given fishery, evaluate measures to prevent or reduce sea turtle takes, and implement the prohibition against sea turtle takes.

Through the information provided by the observer programs, the NMFS implements regulations to reduce sea turtle bycatch and mortality in fisheries. Further, the United States evaluates all Federal actions that may affect sea turtles through the Section 7 process of the ESA, as well as the environmental review process required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

3. Does your country do research on sea turtle/fishery interactions?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States has a robust program to research bycatch reduction technologies. There are currently sea turtle bycatch reduction technologies in place in the longline fisheries, shrimp otter trawl fisheries and some gillnet fisheries. A summary of some of the recent bycatch reduction projects that were funded can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/bycatch/bycatch-reduction-engineering-program>.

4. Does your country have information on non-Party vessels and interactions with sea turtles?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States works through the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations to monitor non-Party vessels. More information on this work can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/foreign/bycatch/international-protected-species-and-bycatch-mitigation>

5. Does your country cooperate with non-party states to obtain information on interactions with sea turtles?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States works collaboratively with several countries to better understand fisheries interactions with sea turtles. More information on our annual efforts can be found in the following report to the U.S. Congress -- <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/foreign/bycatch/international-protected-species-and-bycatch-mitigation#more-information>

B. Mitigation measures

6. Does your country implement mitigation measures in long-line fisheries?

If the answer is **NO** please justify

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States has sea turtle bycatch mitigation restrictions in all Federal pelagic and deep-set longline fisheries. These regulations for the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans regulations can be found at:
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/revised-limits-sea-turtle-interactions-hawaii-shallow-set-longline-fishery>
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/atlantic-highly-migratory-species-pelagic-longline-final-rule>

7. Does your country implement mitigation measures in gillnets fisheries?

If the answer is **NO** please justify

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> The United States has sea turtle bycatch mitigation requirements in many Federally managed gillnet fisheries including the Mid-Atlantic and the California Drift gillnet. Some states have adopted bycatch mitigation reduction requirements in their state fisheries in order to comply with the Endangered Species Act as well. More information on these requirements can be found at
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/california-and-oregon-drift-gillnet-final-rule>
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-permit-north-carolina-division-marine-fisheries-sea-turtles>
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/virginia-and-north-carolina-large-mesh-gillnet-final-rule>

8. Does your country implement mitigation measures in trawl fisheries (e.g. TEDs)?

If the answer is **NO** please justify

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

TEDs: specify legally approved TEDs, their dimensions, material, and target species for that fishery, 2. time-area closures: specify a geographical area, time of closure and target species for that fishery, 3. tow times and/or 4. other measures; or attach any relevant documents

> The United States requires TEDs in shrimp otter trawls and summer flounder trawls in certain areas. The specifications of the TEDs can be found at the website below, along with the specification geographic area required to use TEDs.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/05/21/2012-12014/sea-turtle-conservation-shrimp-and-summer-flounder-trawling-requirements>

NOAA Fisheries issued a final rule to amend the alternative tow time restriction to require all skimmer trawl vessels 40 feet and greater in length to use TEDs designed to exclude small sea turtles in their nets. Existing tow time requirements remain for pusher-head trawls, wing nets, and smaller skimmer trawl vessels. For vessels using pusherhead trawls or wing nets, vessels less than 40 feet in length using skimmer trawls, or vessels considered as live bait shrimpers operating under the allowable tow time exemption, the net is required to be emptied of catch on the deck within the specified time.

9. Does your country implement mitigation measure in other fishing gears?

If the answer is **NO** please justify

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No
 Does not apply

If yes, please indicate which fishing gears

> Poundnets and some dredges are also regulated to reduce sea turtle interactions. Please see
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/amendment-virginia-pound-net-regulations>

10. List the fisher training programs about best practices for safe handling and release of incidentally-caught sea turtles carried out by your country during the last year

> Fishermen operating in the pelagic longline fisheries in the Atlantic or the Pacific must take captains training on safe-handling and release techniques. More information can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/atlantic-highly-migratory-species/safe-handling-release-and-identification-workshops>
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/pacific-islands/commercial-fishing/pacific-islands-protected-species-workshops>.

C. Socio-economic considerations

11. Does your country support socio-economic activities that help mitigate adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Does not apply

Please list the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

List the activities, workshops, research, publications, or any other relevant material related to your response. Attach supporting documents, if required.

> Not applicable

Part IV - Research Information

Indicate threats (Coastal development, incidental capture, direct use, contamination, pathogens, and climate change) by species

1) Threats

1.1 Indicate threats

Indicate threats (**Coastal development, incidental capture, direct use, contamination, pathogens, and climate change**) by species

Lo = *Lepidochelys olivacea*

Lk = *Lepidochelys kempii*

Dc = *Dermochelys coriacea*

Ei = *Eretmochelys imbricata*

Cc = *Caretta caretta*

Cm = *Chelonia mydas*.

	L o	L k	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Direct Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Incidental Capture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coastal development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pathogens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contamination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2) Indicate the mitigation actions that apply for each species

2.1 Habitat loss mitigation actions (i.e. coastal development, pollution, climate change)

	L o	L k	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Lighting regulations in place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for construction near nesting sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for scientific research on feeding/nesting grounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for recreational activities near nesting sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Beach Cleanups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Predator's removal/control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Establishment of Marine Protected Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of sea turtle friendly lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.2 Bycatch mitigation actions (i.e. Incidental Capture)

	L o	L k	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Sea Turtle Excluder Devices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Time/space closures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research on new fishing gear technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vessel monitoring using VMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marking of fishing gear in commercial vessels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fishers trained on sea turtle safe handling and release	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Observers program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of circle hooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nets are banned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trawling is banned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nets illumination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.3 Direct use mitigation actions

	L o	L k	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nests relocation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Night Patrols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day Patrols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Flipper Tagging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Satellite Tracking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Poaching regulations in place	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental education for local communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Seizure of sea turtle products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Livelihood alternatives for local communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exception management plan (if applies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3) Research

3.1 Types of research

Please fill out the following table on the types of research being carried out in the country related to each species.

	L o	L k	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Tagging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Genetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Habitat monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries interactions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.2 Describe scientific research

In addition to the above, please describe scientific research that is being carried out in the country relating to sea turtle population assessments including tagging, migration, and genetic studies, as well as those relating to conservation issues including habitat monitoring, fisheries interactions, disease, etc.

To report each project, please use the following structure:

- 1) Name of the project
- 2) Objective
- 3) E-mail of the organization/responsible
- 4) Summary (5 lines)
- 5) Annex Number (Use the blue buttons to attach photos and/or the full report, if available)

Describe the file with the same Annex number referenced in the text.

> Satellite telemetry is ongoing for leatherback turtles in Florida, US Virgin Islands, and California; for hawksbills in Hawaii and the US Virgin Islands; for green turtles in California, Florida, and Hawaii; for Kemp's ridleys in Texas, Mississippi and the New England. These studies continue to refine migratory corridors, interesting distances, and post nesting movements, as well as foraging areas.

Tissue samples are collected for Kemp's ridleys, leatherbacks, loggerheads, hawksbills, and green turtles. These studies include stable isotope analysis, nests/adult linkages, and genetics. Flipper and PIT tagging is done of loggerheads, greens, Kemp's ridley, leatherbacks, and hawksbills.

4) Other activities

In the case of projects, please include the name of the project, organizations involved, a five lines summary, current status, and contact person.

4.1 Other activities

Include a 500 words summary of information on environmental education activities, programs to establish and manage protected areas, and cooperative activities with other Party countries.

Please attach any other relevant documents using the blue boxes below.

> In FY 2020, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) awarded projects through the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund. These projects are within the IAC area and listed below:

1. Conservation of the leatherback turtle nesting populations in Espirito Santo, Conservation of the leatherback turtle nesting populations in Espirito Santo, Brazil. In partnership with Fundacao Centro Brasileiro de Prot e Pesq das T Marinha. This project will conduct a conservation program for the SW Atlantic Ocean leatherback nesting population that nests only in Brazil. This is the smallest genetically and demographically distinct leatherback population in the world with fewer than 20 females nesting each year. The intent of this project is to build capacity and knowledge in support of the establishment of a Marine Protected Area to protect this population from fisheries bycatch mortality and to build capacity for nesting beach monitoring and protection. Activities include: 1) characterize fisheries and fishing activities; 2) analyze fisheries and leatherback satellite tracking data to determine interaction zones in support of the MPA; 3) conduct training of field monitors to improve capacity for data collection and nest protection; and 4) conduct outreach and education activities including night patrols on nesting beaches with local community members.

2. Increasing hawksbill nesting beach productivity and reducing bycatch from lobster gillnets in El Salvador. In partnership with Asociacion ProCosta. This project will continue hawksbill conservation programs at nesting beaches in Bahia de Jiquilisco Biosphere Reserve (Bahia), El Salvador and on foraging grounds in El Salvador and Nicaragua. The intent of this project is to protect nests and nesting females from poaching and also to work with local fisherman to reduce hawksbill bycatch from lobster fisheries. The small Eastern Pacific hawksbill nesting population was thought to have been extirpated until remnant populations were discovered in remote sites until 2008. Bahia de Jiquilisco accounts for about 40 % of all hawksbill nesting in the East

Pacific. Specific activities include: 1) conduct community based patrols and relocation of nests to hatcheries; 2) conduct outreach activities such as a Hawksbill Festival, Hawksbill Cup competition and "Day of the Hawksbill" events in schools to raise awareness about threats to hawksbills; 3) conduct year round fisheries bycatch monitoring of lobster fisheries with on board observers; 4) conduct LED light trials on lobster nets to determine deterrence effectiveness; and 5) develop local capacity to strengthen a hawksbill ecotourism program for the benefit of local residents.

3. Population recovery of leatherback sea turtle (*dermochelys coriacea*) in Michoacán. In partnership with Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas de Hidalgo. This project will implement a conservation program for the East Pacific leatherback nesting population. This population was the world's largest in the 1980's but due to killing of nesting females, overharvest of eggs and accidental capture in gill net and longline fisheries it has been reduced to less than 1,000 nests each year in Mexico. Mexico historically accounted for 90 percent of the East Pacific nesting population. The intent of this project is to implement a nesting beach conservation program on two key nesting beaches in Mexico to protect nests. Activities include: 1) patrolling Mexiquillo and Las Placitas nesting beaches at night throughout the nesting season to deter poaching and count nests to monitor nesting trends; and 2) relocate nests threatened by poaching and tidal inundation to secure beach hatcheries.

4. Strengthening East Pacific leatherback conservation through regional coordination of monitoring, outreach, and policy efforts. In partnership with Ecolibrium Inc. This project will strengthen East Pacific (EP) leatherback conservation efforts throughout its range (Mexico to Chile). The EP leatherback nests in Mexico, Costa Rica and Nicaragua and migrates and forages along the East Pacific from Mexico south to Chile. EP leatherback nesting population once the largest nesting population in the world, with over 150,000 nest estimated in the early 1980's, has plummeted to fewer than 1,500 nests annually. The intent of this project is to support the EP leatherback conservation network (Laud OPO) to improve nesting beach and bycatch reduction projects and to provide scientific expertise to support the Secretariat of the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention (IAC) in meetings with government decision makers to address bycatch reduction measures. Activities include: 1) maintain regional database, website and online library of best management practices for Laud OPO; 2) facilitate alignment of IAC leatherback taskforce priorities with Laud OPO; 3) accompany IAC Secretariat as technical expert to meetings with high level government officials and International Fisheries bodies to address leatherback fisheries bycatch; and 4) coordinate one Laud OPO workshop annually to review ongoing projects and activities and consult about problems, needs, and successful means to further recovery efforts.

5. Strengthening regional sea turtle conservation through the support of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles (IAC). In partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. This project will support the implementation of the Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention with 15 member Parties including the U.S. The intent is to promote regional collaboration and cooperation of sea turtle conservation within the Western Hemisphere. Activities include: 1) convening of Conference of the Parties, Scientific and Consultative Committees and support for associated travel and translation expenses; 2) travel support to meet with high level governmental decision makers in range state countries of the highly endangered East Pacific leatherback sea turtle to discuss measures to minimize accidental capture of leatherbacks in artisanal and industrial fisheries; and 3) travel support for Secretariat to meet with high level governmental decision makers in Western Hemisphere countries to foster new country membership.

6. Conservation of the North Pacific loggerhead turtle: mortality assessment and conservation outreach at the BCS Mexico juvenile foraging area. In partnership with Grupo Tortuguero de las Californias, A.C. This project will support conservation efforts in the Baja California to protect a critical foraging loggerhead population. This project supports beach surveys along 43 km of Baja Mexico which serves as an index site to monitor accidental bycatch mortality in fisheries operating in the Pacific Baja on this critical loggerhead foraging grounds for the Japanese loggerhead nesting population. The data from these surveys are critical to informing management decisions of Baja fisheries that interact with loggerheads on the foraging grounds. The U.S./Mexico/Japan are currently working together on a recovery plan for this population and this project has been identified as a high priority for overall conservation of this population.

7. Conservation of Hawksbill Turtles Along the Southeast Coast of Nicaragua. In partnership with Cynthia Jean Lageux. This project will conduct a community based sea turtle conservation project along 36 km of hawksbill nesting beach between the mouths of the Karaslaya and Indio/San Juan rivers which hosts some of the most important hawksbill nesting in Caribbean Nicaragua. The intent of this project is to protect nests and nesting turtles from poaching. Activities include: 1) training local community members to conduct twice weekly surveys during May through October along 36 km of nesting beach to count nests and deter poaching; 2) conduct a seven day field and classroom Sea Turtle Course for four upper class students and a faculty member from Blue Fields Indian and Caribbean University; 3) conduct outreach, education and awareness activities with educational, municipal and communal authorities and local communities.

8. Conserving Critically Endangered Leatherback and Hawksbill Marine Turtles on Nicaragua's Pacific Coast. In partnership with Fauna & Flora International. This project will monitor and protect leatherback and hawksbill nesting populations through community protection strategies at Asseradores, Veracruz, Salamina, and Estero Padre Ramos, strengthen coastal management and protection of nesting sites at Salamina, Veracruz, and Estero Padre Ramos by raising awareness of policy makers and local stakeholders and by implementing a National Sea Turtle Campaign at the nesting beaches, and develop a conservation tourism program at Estero Padre Ramos. The recipient will conduct rapid bycatch assessments at five priority sites along the Nicaraguan Pacific coast and promote the use of low-impact fishing methods.

9. Conservation of the leatherback turtle in the Mexican Pacific. implement a conservation program for the East Pacific leatherback nesting population. Mexico historically accounted for 90 percent of the East Pacific nesting population. The intent of this project is to implement a nesting beach conservation program on three primary and two secondary nesting beaches in Mexico to protect nests. Activities include: 1) patrolling Tierra Colorada, Cahuitan, Barra de la Cruz, San Juan Chacahua and Bahia de Chacahua nesting beaches at night throughout the nesting season to deter poaching and count nests to monitor nesting trends, and 2) relocate nests threatened by poaching and tidal inundation to secure beach hatcheries.

Part V - Nesting Information

Index nesting sites or beaches for sea turtle conservation

Use the following drop down menu to select the index sites which you would like to report information for the latest season corresponding to the year of this report

Index Nesting Sites

USA

Culebra Island; Puerto Rico

Culebra Island; Puerto Rico: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 18.332

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -65.289

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On

a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

>

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 2.25

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc								
Ei								
Dc	April 1	April 1	July 31	daily			21	July 31
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

> There were some difficulties with daily nesting surveys due to COVID.

Vieques Island; Puerto Rico

Vieques Island; Puerto Rico: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 18.157

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -65.365

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

>

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> Puerto Rico DRNA

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.
> 29.11

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm	September 1	September 1	December 15	daily			100	October 31
Cc								
Ei	April 1	December 10	November 30	daily			22	November 30
Dc	April 1	April 1	July 31	daily			29	August 31
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

> Due to COVID there were limitations on nesting surveys conducted.

Mona Island; Puerto Rico

Mona Island; Puerto Rico: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees
> 18.057

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees
> -67.874

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area
Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
 ST
 PIT
 None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

>

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data
> Puerto Rico DPNR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.
> 7.0

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc								
Ei	April 1	August 8	December 10	daily			1032	November 30
Dc								
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

>

Buck Island National Mon

Buck Island National Mon: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 17.835

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -64.622

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

> Samples collected for genetics

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> National Park Service

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 1.5

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
--	-------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------	------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------

Lo								
Cm	June 1	June 1	November 18	night surveys			82	November 30
Cc								
Ei	May 1	May 1	November 18	night surveys			64	November 30
Dc								
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

> Some night time surveys were cancelled due to tropical storms Isaias and Laura, and COVID related issues.

Sandy Point NWR; Virgin Islands

Sandy Point NWR; Virgin Islands: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 17.680

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -64.902

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If

required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

> Tagging is conducted to track leatherback interesting areas and post nesting migration and foraging areas.

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

> Samples are collected from hatched nests and nesting females to determine maternal/nest linkages.

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> US Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 3.0

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm	June 1	June 1	December 10	daily			1681	November 30
Cc								
Ei	April 1	March 15	December 10	daily			180	November 30
Dc	March 1	March 15	July 31	daily			31	July 31
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

> COVID did impact our season causing a late start to night patrols for leatherback season. Daily nesting surveys continued.

Florida Index Beaches

Florida Index Beaches: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 27.342

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -80.235

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

> Flipper tagging, PIT tagging, and Telemetry is conducted on a couple of beaches to determine inter-nesting periods and recapture data.

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

> On some beaches for genetics, stable isotopes, and maternal linkages

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 1327

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm	May 1	May 1	October 31	daily			26,656	October 31
Cc	May 1	May 1	August 31	daily			105,185	August 31
Ei								
Dc	March 1	March 1	July 31	daily			1,652	July 31
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

> The survey interruption due to COVID was minimal. Areas in Monroe Country were not monitored. There were minor reduction in survey effort on a few State Parks.

South Padre Island; Texas

South Padre Island; Texas: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5

“Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines”.

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 27.304

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -97.340

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

> Sample isotopes

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> National Park Service

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.
> 112.6

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc								
Ei								
Dc								
Lk	April 11	April 1	July 15				207	June 22

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

> 135 within the Padre Island National Seashore and 72 outside of the Park on South Padre Island.

Hawaii

Hawaii: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 19.270

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -155.255

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

FT

ST

PIT

None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

> Genetics

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> NMFS

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 14.4

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc								
Ei								
Dc	April 28	May 1	December 12	daily (only on two beaches)			44	December 12
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)
 > 39 on the Island of Hawaii and 5 nests on Maui.

French Frigate; Shoals (HI)

French Frigate; Shoals (HI): Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 “Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines”.

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees
 > 23.86

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees
 > -166.28

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes

No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling - additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

>

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> NMFS

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 2.5

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
--	-------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------	------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------

Lo								
Cm	No surveys due to covid							
Cc								
Ei								
Dc								
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)
 > No surveys were conducted due to COVID restrictions

Georgia

Georgia: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 “Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines”.

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 31.07

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -81.40

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts

conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

> Interesting

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

> Maternal linkages

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> Georgia DNR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 177

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc	May 1	May 1	August 31				2,786	August 31
Ei								
Dc								
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

>

North Carolina

North Carolina: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 "Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines".

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 34.90

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -76.47

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

>

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 518

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc	May 1	May 1	August 31	daily			1335	August 31
Ei								
Dc								
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

>

South Carolina

South Carolina: Criteria for selection of this index beach/site

Select the guidelines used to identify this site as an index beach based on the IAC document CIT-CC10-2013-Tec.5 “Selecting Index Beaches in the IAC Region and Data Collection Guidelines”.

If your country requires to report a new index beach please send a request based on above guidelines to the IAC Secretariat Pro Tempore secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.

- This site hosts a significant proportion of the overall nesting population within the region or the country, even if numbers are small.
- There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

> 33.05

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

> -79.43

Declared Protected Area

Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tagging Programs

Indicate if there have been any tagging activities at the nesting beach by using the letters of the type of tagging being done: flipper tagging (FT), passive integrated transponder (PIT) tagging, and satellite telemetry (ST) programs.

- FT
- ST
- PIT
- None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

Please list the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If required, on a separate sheet or as attached reference provide greater detail about the type of tagging efforts conducted. Also, provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information if available and indicate if this data is open for publication in our website or should stay confidential.

>

Tissue Sampling

Indicate if there has been tissue sampling conducted at this site. This includes skin, blood, and other body tissues. On a separate sheet, include a table describing: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc) and reference or report if available to the public.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

Please list the references available to the public with information on studies based on tissue sampling (genetics, contaminants and/or stable isotope) in the box below.

>

Organization or entity providing data

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data

> SC DNR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

Provide the total length (in kilometers) of the nesting beach.

> 301

Annual Nesting

Annual Nesting

This table is intended to report information per species at the index nesting site.

Nesting season: Indicate the starting and finishing date of the nesting season.

Monitoring period: Indicate the starting and finishing date of monitoring efforts.

Survey frequency: Indicate the frequency with which the surveys are done (daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, among others).

Season females/ nests/ clutch count: Provide information on the total number of females and/or nests/ clutches deposited at the nesting site or beach in real numbers. Provide the exact count of females based on tagged or uniquely identified individuals. If the exact number of clutches is unknown provide a total number of nests.

Please scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Start of Nesting Season	Start of Monitoring Period	End of Monitoring Period	Survey Frequency	Season Females Exact Count	Season Clutches Exact Count	Season Number of Nests	End of Nesting Season
Lo								
Cm								
Cc	May 1	May 1	August 31	daily			5,550	August 31
Ei								
Dc								
Lk								

Please indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.)

>

Part VI - Fisheries Information

If your country does not have data available to fill out the information on industrial longline fisheries, please contact the IAC Secretariat secretario@iacseaturtle.org

Industrial Longline Fisheries (Vessels >20m)

Does your country have industrial longline fisheries?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Instructions

Please complete the information according to the type of set. **Shallow sets** correspond to sets with **<15 Hooks per Basket or Hooks between Floats or hooks with <100 m depth**. **Deep sets** correspond to sets with **≥15 Hooks per Basket or Hooks between Floats or hooks with ≥100m depth**.

Fleet Information (vessels > 20m)

a. Period covered: Starting and end date of the fishing operations of the year

b. Area fished: Indicate the area coordinates where shallow set and deep sets fishing operations were carried out during the last year.

c. No. of vessels that fished: Indicate the total number of vessels in the fleet in each case (deep set and shallow set), the number of vessels with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of vessels with observers (% observed)

d. No. of trips: Indicate the total number of trips in each case (deep set and shallow set), the number of trips with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of trips with observers onboard (% observed)

e. No. of effective fishing days: Indicate the total number of fishing days in each case (deep set and shallow set) when fishing took place, the number of fishing days with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of fishing days with observers onboard (% observed)

f. No. of sets: Indicate the total annual number of sets in each case (deep set and shallow set), the annual number of sets with observers on board, and the corresponding annual percentage of sets with observers onboard (% observed)

g. No. of hooks (in thousands): Indicate the total annual number of hooks in each case (deep set and shallow set), the annual number of hooks with observers on board, and the corresponding annual percentage of hooks with observers onboard (% observed). If the number of hooks is unknown, then include the approximate number of hooks/set instead and note this alternative reporting using an asterisk (*)

h. Predominant hook type/size: Using the IATTC codes indicate the most common hooks (> 50%) used throughout the year as a total, and in vessels with onboard observers in each case (deep sets and shallow sets). If your Country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the

following information:

-Type: Circle, J, or Other

-Size:

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-Offset: Yes or No

i. Predominant bait type: Indicate the most common bait used throughout the year as a total, and in vessels with observers in each case (deep sets and shallow sets) using the following bait codes: SQ – squid (e.g. Cephalopods), M – mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.), A – artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig), O-other, and specify.

Sea Turtles Species (Units expressed in the number of individuals observed)

j. Released alive: Total number of each sea turtle species released alive in each case (shallow and deep sets)

k. Released dead: Total number of individuals of each sea turtle species released dead in each case (shallow and deep sets)

l. Released condition unknown: Total number of each sea turtle species released under unknown conditions as the individual could not be brought onboard or close enough to verify the condition dead or alive.

m. Notes: Include additional information such as turtles caught that had tags (flipper tags or satellite transmitter), in each case (shallow and deep sets), if applicable.

**USA
Atlantic**

1. Target Species

1. Target Species

Indicate the target species (common and scientific name) of the industrial longline fisheries during the last year. Indicate with an **X** if the catch was using shallow or deep sets.

	Shallow sets	Common Name	Scientific Name	Deep sets
	swordfish			tuna
				shark

2. Shallow Sets (<15 HPB/HBF or <100m max hook depth)

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

Period Covered: date range mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy

Area Fished: from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Period Covered	01/01/2020-12/31/2020

Area Fished	from 033oW to 094oW and from 4o N to 40o N
-------------	--

2.2. Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

IATTC Hook codes (<https://www.iattc.org/Downloads/Hooks-Anzuelos-Catalogue.pdf>)

Bait codes: SQ – squid (e.g. Cephalopods)

M – mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)

A – artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)

O-other, and specify.

	Observed	Total Fleet	% Observado
No. of vessels that fished	10	19	53
Predominant bait type	SQ	SQ	SQ
Predominant hook type/size	Eagle Claw 2048 16/0 non-offset	16/0 circle hook	
No. of hooks (in thousands)	93	671	14
Number of sets	133	894	15
No. of effective fishing days	108	822	13
No. of trips	14	125	11

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

If your country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:

-**Type:** Circle, J, or Other

-**Size:**

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-**Offset:** Yes or No

> Eagle Claw 2048 16/0 non-offset

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown	Released Alive
Chelonia mydas	0	0	0
Eretmochelys imbricata	0	0	0
Dermochelys coriacea	0	0	3
Lepidochelys kempii	0	0	0
Lepidochelys olivacea	0	0	0
Caretta caretta	0	0	0

2.3b Notes (e.g. Tagged turtles, etc.)

> 1 unidentified hardshell turtle was released alive on shallow set gear. No tags and 1 biopsy accompanied observed turtles

3. Deep Sets (≥ 15 HPB/HBF or ≥ 100 m max hook depth)

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

Period Covered: date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy

Area Fished: from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

Deep Sets	
Period Covered	01/18/2020–12/30/2020
Area Fished	from 034o W to 077o W and from 15o N to 40o N

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

IATTC Hook codes (<https://www.iattc.org/Downloads/Hooks-Anzuelos-Catalogue.pdf>)

Bait codes:

SQ – squid (e.g. Cephalopods)

M – mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)

A – artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)

O-other, and specify.

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
No. of effective fishing days	259	39	15
Number of sets	271	50	18
No. of hooks (in thousands)	369	59	16
Predominant hook type/size	16/0 circle hook	Eagle Claw 2048 16/0 non-offset	
Predominant bait type	M	M	M
No. of vessels that fished	7	4	57
No. of trips	43	5	12

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

If your country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:

-**Type:** Circle, J, or Other

-**Size:**

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-**Offset:** Yes or No

> Eagle Claw 2048 16/0 non-offset

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown
Chelonia mydas	0	0	0
Caretta caretta	0	0	0

Eretmochelys imbricata	0	0	0
Dermochelys coriacea	0	0	0
Lepidochelys kempii	0	0	0
Lepidochelys olivacea	0	0	0

3.3b Notes (e.g. Tagged turtles, etc.)

>

West Coast

1. Target Species

1. Target Species

Indicate the target species (common and scientific name) of the industrial longline fisheries during the last year. Indicate with an **X** if the catch was using shallow or deep sets.

	Shallow sets	Common Name	Scientific Name	Deep sets
	0			

2. Shallow Sets (<15 HPB/HBF or <100m max hook depth)

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

Period Covered: date range mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy

Area Fished: from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Period Covered	
Area Fished	

2.2. Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

IATTC Hook codes (<https://www.iattc.org/Downloads/Hooks-Anzuelos-Catalogue.pdf>)

Bait codes: SQ - squid (e.g. Cephalopods)

M - mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)

A - artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)

O-other, and specify.

	Observed	Total Fleet	% Observado
No. of vessels that fished			
Predominant bait type			
Predominant hook type/size			

No. of hooks (in thousands)			
Number of sets			
No. of effective fishing days			
No. of trips			

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

If your country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:

-Type: Circle, J, or Other

-Size:

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-Offset: Yes or No

>

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown	Released Alive
Chelonia mydas			
Eretmochelys imbricata			
Dermochelys coriacea			
Lepidochelys kempii			
Lepidochelys olivacea			
Caretta caretta			

2.3b Notes (e.g. Tagged turtles, etc.)

>

3. Deep Sets (≥ 15 HPB/HBF or ≥ 100 m max hook depth)

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

Period Covered: date range mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy

Area Fished: from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	January 1 to December 31
Area Fished	within 100 degrees W to 165 degrees west and 55 degrees N to 35 degrees N

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

IATTC Hook codes (<https://www.iattc.org/Downloads/Hooks-Anzuelos-Catalogue.pdf>)

Bait codes:

SQ - squid (e.g. Cephalopods)
M - mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)
A - artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)
O-other, and specify.

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
No. of effective fishing days			
Number of sets			
No. of hooks (in thousands)			
Predominant hook type/size			
Predominant bait type	F	0	0
No. of vessels that fished	3		
No. of trips			

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

If your country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:

-**Type:** Circle, J, or Other

-**Size:**

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-**Offset:** Yes or No

> C15

3.3a Sea Turtle Species - Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown
Chelonia mydas	0	0	
Caretta caretta	0	0	
Eretmochelys imbricata	0	0	
Dermochelys coriacea	0	0	
Lepidochelys kempii	0	0	
Lepidochelys olivacea	0	0	

3.3b Notes (e.g. Tagged turtles, etc.)

>

Pacific Islands

1. Target Species

1. Target Species

Indicate the target species (common and scientific name) of the industrial longline fisheries during the last year. Indicate with an **X** if the catch was using shallow or deep sets.

	Shallow sets	Common Name	Scientific Name	Deep sets
	sword fish			tuna

2. Shallow Sets (<15 HPB/HBF or <100m max hook depth)

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

Period Covered: date range mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy

Area Fished: from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Period Covered	01/01/2020-12/31/2020
Area Fished	from 126oW to 162oW and

2.2. Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

IATTC Hook codes (<https://www.iattc.org/Downloads/Hooks-Anzuelos-Catalogue.pdf>)

Bait codes: SQ - squid (e.g. Cephalopods)

M - mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)

A - artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)

O-other, and specify.

	Observed	Total Fleet	% Observado
No. of vessels that fished	14	14	100
Predominant bait type	M	M	
Predominant hook type/size	18/0 Circle	18/0 Circle	
No. of hooks (in thousands)	552,000	552,000	
Number of sets	442	442	
No. of effective fishing days	442	442	
No. of trips	23	23	

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

If your country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:

-**Type:** Circle, J, or Other

-**Size:**

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-**Offset:** Yes or No

>

2.3a Sea Turtle Species - Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown	Released Alive
Chelonia mydas			
Eretmochelys imbricata			
Dermochelys coriacea			1
Lepidochelys kempii			
Lepidochelys olivacea			
Caretta caretta	1		11

2.3b Notes (e.g. Tagged turtles, etc.)

>

3. Deep Sets (≥ 15 HPB/HBF or ≥ 100 m max hook depth)

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

Period Covered: date range mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy

Area Fished: from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	01/01/2020-12/31/2020
Area Fished	from 116oW to 177oW and

3.2 Fleet Information - Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

IATTC Hook codes (<https://www.iattc.org/Downloads/Hooks-Anzuelos-Catalogue.pdf>)

Bait codes:

SQ - squid (e.g. Cephalopods)

M - mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)

A - artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)

O-other, and specify.

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
No. of effective fishing days	17,497		15
Number of sets	17,497		
No. of hooks (in thousands)	49,914,000		
Predominant hook type/size	15/0 Circle		
Predominant bait type	M		
No. of vessels that fished	122		
No. of trips	1505		

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

If your country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following

information:

-**Type:** Circle, J, or Other

-**Size:**

J (8 or 9)

Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)

-**Offset:** Yes or No

>

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown
Chelonia mydas		1	
Caretta caretta		2	
Eretmochelys imbricata			
Dermochelys coriacea			
Lepidochelys kempii			
Lepidochelys olivacea	2	8	

3.3b Notes (e.g. Tagged turtles, etc.)

>

Thank you!

Thank you, you have completed the IAC Online Report questionnaire.

We are very appreciative of the time you have taken to answer all of the questions. The PDF of this document will be published on the Annual Reports section of the IAC website <http://www.iacseaturtle.org/informes-eng.htm>