

**Inter-American Convention for the Protection
and Conservation of Sea Turtles**

First Annual Report Form [Translation]

Country	Panama
Agency or institution responsible for preparing this report	National Environmental Authority
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Date: 24/06/05.

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles

1. Biological Information

1.1 Species Present

Species	Pacific Ocean Phase(s)	Atlantic Ocean Phase(s)	Caribbean Sea Phase(s)
<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	R-F-M		
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>		R-F-M	
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	R-F-M	R-F-M	
<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	R-F-M (small numbers)	R-F-M	
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	R-F-M		
<i>Chelonia agazzisi</i>	R-F-M		

Phases: R = Reproduction; F = Foraging; M = Migration; D = Phase Unknown

1.2. Important sites for sea turtle conservation

	Name of Site	Species (s)	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Area (km or hectares, if applicable)	Protection Category	Observations*
Nesting Site	Playa Jaque, Darién	<i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> , <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> .	Between July 22 - November 29, 2004.	7° 31'06''N 78° 09'59''W	5,63 Km	No	This Project is financed by the Casa Taller Foundation, it has no external funding and it's their first biological survey.
Foraging Site		<i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> , <i>E. imbricata</i>					
Migratory Route		<i>L. olivacea</i> , <i>E. imbricata</i>					

	Name of Site	Species (s)	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Area (km or hectares, if applicable)	Protection Category	Observations*
Nesting Site	San San Pond Sack Wetland	<i>E. imbricata</i> <i>Chelonia mydas</i> , <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> .	March – July	Bocas del Toro Province.		Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar Site). Board of Directors Resolution INRENARE 020-94 (2/8/94) Gazette 22.617 (7/9/94) Declared Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO.	This Project is carried out by a community group familiar with sea turtle conservation matters
Foraging Site		<i>E. imbricata</i> <i>C. mydas</i> <i>D. coriacea</i>					
Migratory Route		<i>E. imbricata</i> <i>C. mydas</i> <i>D. coriacea</i>					

	Name of Site	Species (s)	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Area (km or hectares, if applicable)	Protection Category	Observations*
Nesting Site	Chiriqui Beach, Isla Escudo de Veraguas.	<i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> , <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> .	May to December	Bocas del Toro Provincia. Playa Chiriqui (08° 56' N, 081° 39' O)	24 km		
Foraging Site		<i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> , <i>E. imbricata</i>					
Migratory Route		<i>L. olivacea</i> , <i>E. imbricata</i>					

* include a brief and concise summary of relevant information regarding the population status on a

	Name of Site	Species (s)	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Area (km or hectares, if applicable)	Protection Category	Observations*
Nesting Site	Isla Caña Wildlife Refuge	<i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> .	July 11th – 30th of November, 2004	Los Santos Province, Pedasí District.		Isla Caña Wildlife Refuge. Board of Directors Resolution INRENARE 010-94 (29/6/94) Gazette 22.586 (25/7/94)	
Foraging Site		<i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> ,					
Migratory Route		<i>L. olivacea</i> ,					

separate page (for further information see the instructions)

2. Information regarding the use derived from sea turtles

	Types of Use	Specie	Products	Ocean Basin	Origin *		Estimated annual quantity	Information Source	Actions
					L	I			
Consumptive Use	Consumption	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> <i>Chelonia mydas</i> <i>Lepidochelis olivacea</i> <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> <i>Caretta caretta</i> <i>Chelonia agazzisi</i>	Eggs	Pacific Ocean	L	I	28,910	Report on Isla Cañas, March 29th, 2005. Lyneth Cordova	
Non-Consumptive Use	Consumption	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> <i>Chelonia mydas</i> <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Eggs and Meat	Atlantic Ocean		I	Unknown		

* L = legal, I = ilegal

3. Main threats

3.1. Habitat and other threats

Threats	Specie(s) Affected	Size of Impact	Geographic Region(s) Affected	Information Source	Actions
Illegal poaching	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> , <i>Chelonia mydas</i> , <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Because they are on the brink of extinction in this region, a cultural problem exists due to the fact that there are different ethnicities, such as the afroantillanos and the indigenous in the area that consume sea turtle meat as a part of their traditions and beliefs.	Atlantic	2003 Final Report, Sea Turtle Monitoring and Management Program at San San Pond Sack Wetland.	Carry out environmental education activities and patrols; however, it is not enough due to lack of resources.
Illegal egg trafficking	<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Populations have declined due to the fact that there is no longer as much mass nesting as seen in prior years.	Pacific Ocean	Final Report on the work done at Isla de Cañas Wildlife Reserve together with the Sea Turtle Management and Conservation Committee (2004)	Carry out community educational campaigns and promote cooperatives for sustainable resource use. Inspection and vigilance

3.2. Capture (Intentional / incidental)

Threats	Specie(s) Affected	Size of Impact	Geographic Region(s) Affected	Information Source	Actions

* Nothing has been documented; there is a lack of information on this topic.

4. Legal Framework

4.1. International instruments

Treaty, Convention, Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding	Year signed and/or ratification
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)	Law No.14, of October 28th, 1977
Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals	Law No. 5 of January 3rd, 1989.
Convention on Biological Diversity	Law No.2 of January 12th, 1995.
Convention for the Conservation of the Biodiversity and Protection of Priority Wilderness Areas in Central America	Law No.9, of April 12th, 1995.

4.2. National legislation

Type and name of legal instrument (No.)	Description (Range of application)	Sanction(s) Imposed
Law 41 of July 1st, 1998.	Environmental	
Law 24 of June 7th, 1995.	Wildlife	
J. D. No. 43 of July 7th, 2004, on wildlife regulations.	Wildlife	
Law No. 5 of January 28 th , 2005, on Environmental Crimes.	Sanctions on crimes.	

Resolution No. 002-80. on the species in danger of extinction.	Endangered Wildlife Species.	
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4.3. Indicate any legal instruments that are currently in the process of being approved.

4.4. Public and private institutions involved in sea turtle conservation

Institution / Entity	Responsibilities
ANAM (National Environmental Authority)	Dr. Ligia Castro de Doens
AMP (Maritime Authority of Panama)	Lic. Rubén Arosemena
ANCON	Lic. Lider Sucre
University of Panama	Gustavo Garcia de Paredes
Institute for Tropical Research	Dr. Ira rubinoff
Foundation Casa Taller	Beatriz Schmitt
C.C.C. (Caribbean Conservation Corporation)	Cristina Ordoñez Espinoza
Cooperative Isla Cañas	Lic. Lienth Cordoba
Foundation Panama	Lic. Armando Palma
APRORENAD	Ausencia Palacio
MARVIVA-Panama.	Lic. Gabriela Echelecu
AAMVECONA	Juan Mcdonald.

5. Exceptions: Programs involving extractive use (include Management Plan)

6. Conservation Efforts

6.1 General description of the sea turtle protection and conservation program

6.2 Relevant Projects and Activities

Project/Activities	General objective	Results obtained	Duration	
			From	Until
Sea Turtle Conservation in Jaqué (scientific research, monitoring, protection)	Sea Turtle Conservation and their Biological Study.	Awareness and education in the communities and among other institutions with presence in the area.	2001 to 2005	
Project Isla Caña (vigilance, monitoring, egg collection)	Conservation and sustainable use of the resource.	Community awareness has been reached through the program.	1975 to 2005	
Hawksbill, in Chiriquí Beach and Escudo de Veraguas Island.	Research and recovery of sea turtle populations	Community has been trained so that they are the ones that carry out patrol and vigilance activities.	2002 to 2005	
Sea Turtle Monitoring and Management Program in San San Pond Sack Wetland	Sea Turtle Conservation and Management	This project is carried out by San San Pond Sack's own inhabitants and also where economic tourism is implemented.	2000	

7. International Cooperation

8. National Directory

Name	Institutional Affiliation	Line of Work/ Specialty	Telephone	Fax	E-mail	Website
AAMVECONA	NGOs	Conservation				
Caribbean Conservation Corporation		Conservation				
Foundation Casa Taller		Conservation				
ANAM	Governmental Institution	Competent Authority	315-0855	315-0573		www.anam.gob.pa
Cooperative Isla Caña.	Community	Conservation				
APRORENAD	Community	Conservation				

9. Sources of Information (In Spanish)

- Informe Final del año 2003, del Programa de Monitoreo y Manejo de Tortuga Marina Humedal San San Pond Sack.
- Informe Final del año 2004 del Proyecto de Investigación y Recuperación de la Población de Tortuga Carey, en Playa Chiriquí, Escudo de Veraguas, Región Ño Kribo, Comarca Ngobe-Bugle y Parque Nacional Marino Isla Bastimento.
- Informe Final del 2004 del Programa de Conservación de tortuga Marina en el corregimiento de Jaqué – Provincia de Darién, Panamá.
- 2004 del Proyecto Isla Caña.

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