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

[Mexico]

2011 Annual Report

Annual Report General Instructions

Following the provisions laid down in annex IV of the Convention text, each Contracting Party shall hand in an Annual Report. This format will be reviewed and adapted to the needs that arise to be used in the future writing of the annual reports; therefore, we request that your comments on ways to improve this form are attached as an annex in order to improve it year after year. To complete this Report, it is important that the Focal Points make the necessary consultations to the various stakeholders involved in sea turtle issues. If you have any questions or problems with this form, please write to Belinda Dick at belinda@iacseaturtle.org or leatherbacks@aol.com.

We remind you that the date to hand in this information is **April 30th of 2011**.

General Instructions:

1. Double click on the sea turtle icons to open the data tables of the report.
2. Do not modify the original tables of the Report; they have been locked to prevent accidental modifications.
3. Please include a glossary of acronyms used for official institutions, NGOs, etc.
4. Use the following codes to list the different species: Cc = *Caretta caretta*; Cm = *Chelonia mydas*; Dc = *Dermochelys coriacea*; Ei = *Eretmochelys imbricata*; Lk = *Lepidochelys kempii*; Lo = *Lepidochelys olivacea*.
5. For information on nesting, fill in the form using the latest nesting season. For other information, fill in the form according to the information of the latest calendar year.
6. Please complete all tables. Indicate if information exists, but it is not available or unknown (NA) or if no information exists (None).
7. Fill in the blanks using the best information available.
8. Add more lines if necessary.
9. Click the red question marks for additional help.
10. Please read the instructions carefully for each section before answering the questions.
11. We recommend that you print off the instructions to use as a reference while filling out the form.

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General Information

Please fill out all of the following. Double click on the turtle icons to open the respective spreadsheet

Directory

Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles 2011 Annual Report	
Directory	
Country	MEXICO
Agency or Institution responsible for preparing this report	Foreign Affairs Secretariat
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Focal Point

Focal Point

Institution: Secretary of Foreign Affairs

Name: Dámaso Luna Corona

Signature:

Date: May 3rd, 2010

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1. Biological Information

1.1. Species present

Fill in the respective blanks depending on the oceanographic basin (according to the provisions in Art. III of the Convention) for each species, using the following codes for the different phases: R = reproduction; F = foraging; M = migration; D= phase unknown.

Species Present

Species	Pacific Ocean	Atlantic Ocean	Caribbean Sea
	Phase(s)	Phase(s)	Phase(s)
Lepidochelys olivacea	R,F,M		
Lepidochelys kempii		R,F,M	D
Dermochelys coriacea	R,M	R,M	R,M
Eretmochelys imbricata	R,F,M	R,F,M	R,F,M
Chelonia mydas	R,F,M	R,F,M	R,F,M
Caretta caretta	F,M	R,F,M	R,F,M

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

1.2. Important sites for sea turtle conservation

a. For each phase, indicate the names of priority sites mentioning the species present in each site and its season. Confirmed migratory routes should be integrated as a separate worksheet where relevant data can be added, for example, beginning and ending point (LAT/LON), tag/recovery. If migratory route maps already exist as well as their course in LAT/LON, please add them as an annex so that this information may be included in the GIS of the IAC.
b. Geographic location: Specify latitude and longitude in degrees, minutes and seconds - provide one or two points for nesting places (if available). For migratory routes, please describe them briefly in the observations column.
c. Extension:
   - Nesting sites - provide the total length in Kilometers of the beach used by the turtles.
   - Foraging sites (or feeding areas) provide the extension in Hectares (if available).
   - Migratory Routes: not applicable

d. Category of protection: Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area, the name of the Management Category, briefly describe in terms of use or protection offered.

e. Estimations: Select an estimate of the number of clutches and hatchlings per year. The ranges for clutches are: unknown, unavailable, 0-10, 11-100, 101-500, 501-1000, 1001-5000, 5001-10000, 10001-100000, 100001-500000, >500000. The ranges for hatchlings are: unknown, not available, 0-1000, 1001-10000, 10001-50000, 50001-100000, 100001-500000, 500001-1000000, 1000001-1000000, 1000001-5000000, >5000000. On a separate sheet, provide a brief description/justification on why each site that was mentioned is considered important (sites with greater abundance, endemism, genetic, others). Include historical information (graphic and/or tables) showing the population status of each species present in the site. If available, provide information on the species for a wider region than the specific nesting place.

1.3. Important nesting sites for sea turtle conservation

Nesting site: The beaches listed below are considered to be priorities due to the number of nests recorded for the different species and their role in protection activities.

Name of Site	Spp	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Length (km or ha)	Protection Category	Observations*1 (see comment below)		Source
						Nests	Hatchlings	
Agua Blanca, B.C.S.	Lo	jun-mar	nd	4.8 Km	No	10 - 100	nd	*1
El Suspiro B.C.S.	Lo	jun-mar	nd	4.8 Km	No	501 – 1,000	50,001 – 100,000	*1
Chenkán, Cam.	Ei	apr-sept	19° 13' 30" & 19° 04' 12" N 90° 50' 36" & 91° 13' 05" W	20 Km.	No	101 - 500	50,001-100,000	*2
Isla Aguada, Camp.	Ei Cm	apr-sept jun-oct	18°46' 59.20"N 91°29' 50.69"W 18°56' 41.65"N 91°17' 46.31"W	27.7 Km	Flora & Fauna Protected Area "Laguna de Términos"	101 – 500 1,001-5,000	1,001-10,000 100,001-500,000	*2
Punta Xen,Camp.	Ei	apr-sept	19° 30' & 19° 13' 30" N 90° 45' & 90° 50' 36" W	30 Km	No	nd	nd	*nd
Tierra Colorada, Gro.*	Lo Dc	jun-jan oct-mar	16° 30' 03" & 16° 19' 36" N 98° 43' 40" & 98° 34' 05" W	25.8 Km.	Tierra Colorada Sanctuary	1,001-5,000 100-500	50,001-100,000 1,001-10,000	*2
Colola, Mich.	Cm Lo	sept-jan jun-jan	18°18'46.025"N 03°26'54.046"W 18°17'40.78"N 103°24'31.141"W	4.8 Km	Colola Sanctuary	5,001-10,000	500,001-1,000,000	2
Maruata, Mich.	Cm Lo	sept-jan jun-jan	18°16'11.554"N 03°20'53.245"W	4.8 Km	Maruata Sanctuary	nd	nd	*1

			18°16"9.415"N 03°19'49.461"W					
Mexiquillo, Mich. *	Lo Dc	jun-jan oct-mar	18° 10' 25" & 18° 05' 34" N 102° 58' 25" & 102° 48' 31" W	19.6 Km.	Mexiquillo Sanctuary	1,001-5,000 100-500	10,001 -50,000 1,001-10,000	*2
Ixtapilla, Mich.	Lo	jun-jan	18°25'18.680"N 103°32'17.602"W 18°24'12.876"N 103°31'44.122"	5 Km.	No	nd	nd	*1
Morro Ayuta, Oax.	Lo	jun-jan	15° 52' 23" & 15° 54' 20" N 95° 46' 36" & 95° 42' 42" W	8.3 Km.	Sanctuary "Morro Ayuta"	>500,000	10, 000,001-50, 000,000	*2
Barra de la Cruz, Oax.*	Lo Dc	jun-jan oct-mar	15° 49.322' & 15° 50.345' N, 95° 58.019' & 95° 53.385' W	8.6 Km.	No	1,001-5,000 100-500	50,001-100,000 1,001-10,000	*2
La Escobilla, Oax.	Lo	jun-jan	15° 43' 35" & 15° 40' 50" N 96° 45' 46" & 96° 37' 02" W	8.9 Km.	Sanctuary "La Escobilla"	1,000,000>5,000,000	>5,000,000	*2p
Chacahua, Oax.	Lo Dc	jun-jan oct-mar	15° 58' 45" & 15° 57' 55" N 97° 46' 41" & 97° 34' 05" W	23.22 Km.	Chacahua Lagoons National Park and Chacahua Beach Sanctuary	501-1,000 0 – 100	10,001-50,000 0-1,000	*2
Cahuitán, Oax.*	Lo Dc Cm	jun-jan oct-mar	16° 18' 42" & 16° 16' 58" N 98° 32' 64" & 98° 27' 48" W	12 Km.	No	1,001-5,000 11-100 0 – 100	10,001-50,000 0-1,000	*2
La Ventanilla, Oax.	Lo Dc	jun-mar oct-mar	15° 40´42.26 "N y 96°36´49" W 15°40´6.38 N y 96°34´28" W	nd	No	101-500 0-100	10,001-50,000 0-1,000	
El Tomatal, Oax.	Lo Dc	jun-mar oct-mar	15° 47´47.7" N y 96°58´8.58" W	nd	No	11 - 100 0-100	1,001-10,000 0-1,000	
Los Naranjos, Oax.	Lo	jun-mar	15° 47´47.7" N y 96°58´8´ W 15°48´23.99 N y 97°00´ 46"W	nd	No	11 - 100	5,001–10,000	
Barra de Navidad, Oax.	Lo	jun-mar	nd	nd	No	101-500	1,001-10,000	
El Venado, Oax.	Lo Dc	jun-mar oct-mar	nd	nd	No	101-500 0-10	10,001–50,000 0-1,000	
La Tuza, Oax.	Lo Dc	jun-mar oct-mar	16°01´52.65 N y 97°51´40.5 W 16°00´59.32 N y 97°50 ´16 W	nd	No	101-500 0-100	10,001 – 50,000	*1
Xcacel-Xcacelito, Qroo.	Cm Cc	jun-oct apr-sept	20° 17' 30" & 20° 21' N 87° 21' 30" & 87° 26' W	1.8 Km	State Reserve	1001 – 5000 101 – 500	100001-500000 10001-50000	*1
Isla Mujeres, Q.Roo	Cm Cc	jun-oct apr-sept	nd	nd	No	501-1000; 11 – 100	50001-100000 1001-10000	*1
Punta sur, Q. Roo.	Cm Cc	jun-oct apr-sept	20° 17' 57." & 20° 17' 25" N 87° 00' 43" & 86° 57' 39" W	8 Km	Flora and Fauna State	101 - 500	10,001 – 50,000	*1

					Refuge Laguna Colombia	11 - 100	1,001 – 10,000	
Rancho Nuevo, Tamps.	Lk Cm	mar-aug jul-oct	23° 19' 58' & 23° 03' 30" N 97° 46' 13' & 97° 45' 42' W	22 Km	Rancho Nuevo Sanctuary	10,001 – > 100,000 501-1,000	500,001-1,000,000 10,001-50,000	*2
Lechuguillas, Ver.	Lk Cm	mar-aug jun-oct	20° 00' 53.7" N 96° 35' 07.7" W	17 Km	No	101-500 501-1,000	1,001 – 10,000 50,001-100,000	*2
El Cuyo, Yuc.	Ei Cm	apr-sept jun-oct	21° 29' & 21° 32' 45" N 87° 29' 30" & 87° 48' W	31 Km	Ría Lagartos Biosphere Reserve	101-500 101-500	10,001-50,000 10,001-50,000	*2
Las Coloradas, Yuc.	Ei Cm	apr-sept jun-oct	21°36' 40" & 21° 32' 30" N 88° 10' 00" & 87° 47' 30" W	21.5 Km	Ría Lagartos Special Biosphere Reserve – Sanctuary, beach adjacent from Lagartos River	501-1,000 1,001-5,000	50,001-100,000 100,001-500,00	*2

* Progress on the 2010-2011 seasons' results.

Other Sites

Name of Site	Spp	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Length (km or ha)	Protection Category	Observations* (see comment below)		Source
						Nests	Hatchlings	
Las Playitas, B.C.S.	Lo Cm	Jun-Mar Sep-dec	nd	nd	No	0-10 0 – 10	0 – 1,000 0 – 1,000	*1
Todos Santos, B.C.S.	Lo	Jun-Mar	23°24'50" y 100°14'00" 23°37'42" y 110°26'30"	nd	No	101 - 500	10,001 – 50,000	*1
Don Manuel Orantes, B.C.S.	Lo	Jun-mar	nd	70 Km	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
Sea Turtle Protection Network, B.C.S.	Lo	Jun-mar	nd	nd	No	501 – 1,000	50,001 – 100,000	*1
Ensenada de Xpicob, Camp.	Ei	Abr-oct	nd	6 Km	No	11 - 100	1,001 – 10,000	
Boca del Cielo, Chis.	Lo	jun-jan	15°40'29" y 15°50'56" 15°50´54" y 15°40'28"	22.06 Km	nd	501 – 1,000	50,001 – 100,000	*1
Costa Azul, Chis.	Lo	jun-jan	15°36'48" y 15°36'56" 15°21'49" y 15°21'44"	30 Km	nd	11 - 100	1,001 – 10,000	*1
Barra de Zacapulco, Chis.	Lo	jun-jan	15°11'11" y 15°11'14" 15°48'55" y 14°53'1"	16 Km	nd	101 - 500	1,001 – 10,000	*1
El Chupadero Col.	Lo, Dc	Jun-jan Oct-mar	Nd	25 Km		1,001-5,000 11 – 100	100,001-500,000 0-1,000	*2
Costa Michoacana	Lo Dc	jun-jan oct-mar	nd	nd	No	1,001 – 5,000	10,0001 – 50,0000	*1

	Cm	sep - dec						
Taracosta, Mich.	Lo Dc Cm	jun-jan oct-mar sep-dec	17°59´11´´ & 102°22´33´´ 17°58´53´´ & 102°21´16´´	3 Km	No	1,001 – 5,000 0 – 10 101 - 500	100,001 – 500,00 0 – 1,000 10, 001 – 50,000	*1
Barra de Coyuca, Gro.	Lo	Jun-mar	Nd	nd	No	nd	nd	*1
Dejame llegar al mar, Gro.	Lo Dc	Jun-mar Oct-mar	Nd	nd	No	nd	nd	*1
Mayan Palace, Gro	Lo	Jun.mar	16°46'40.65" y 16°46'40.65"N 117°47'59.53" y 117°47'59.53"W	nd	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
Cruz de Mitla, Gro	Lo	Jun-mar	nd	nd	No	501 – 1,000	10,001 – 50,000	*1
Playa San Valentin, Gro	Lo Dc	Jun-mar Oct-mar	nd	nd	No	nd	nd	*1
Llano Real, Gro	Lo	Jun-mar	nd	nd	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
La Tortuga Feliz, Gro.	Lo Dc	Jun-mar Oct-mar	nd	nd	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
Base Playa Azul, Gro.	Lo	Jun-mar	nd	nd	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
Playa Larga, Gro.	Lo Dc	Jun-mar Oct-mar	nd	20 Km	No	1,001 – 5,000 11 - 100	100,001 – 500,000 0 – 1,000	*1
Tres Vidas, Gro.	Lo Dc	Jun.mar Oct-mar	nd	nd	No	1,001 – 5,000 0 -10	100,001 – 500,000 0 – 1,000	*1
Cuixmala, Jal.	Lo	Jun-Jan	19°22'44.19"N 105°0'51.27"W 19°21'48.74"N 104°59'38.88"W	3 Km		1,001 – 5,000	50,001 – 100,000	*1
Teopa, Jal.	Lo	Jun-Jan	nd	6 Km	Teopa Sanctuary	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
Platanitos, Nay.	Lo, Dc, Ei	jun-jan	21°20'53.47" N105°4'33.042" W 21°12'2.134" N 105°13'6.155"W	17 Km	No	1,001 – 5,000 nd nd	100,001 – 500,000 nd nd	*2
Playa Chila, Nay.	Lo	Jun- ene	nd	8 Km	No	501 – 1,000	50,00 – 100,000	*1
El Naranjo, Nay.	Lo	Jun-ene	21°01'29.60'' y 105°17'31.84'' 21°07'05.03'' y 105°13'48.46''	9 Km	No	101 – 500	10,001 – 50,000	
Nuevo Vallarta, Nay.	Lo	jun-jan	nd	14.5 Km	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*2
Puerto Arista, Chis.	Lo	may-dec	15°59´00"N 93°58´00"W 15°52´30"N 93°42´13"W	30 Km	Puerto Arista Sanctuary	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*2
Cahpechen, Q. Roo	Cc Cm	May-jun Jul-aug	20°07'21'' y 20°03'20'' N 87°27'56'' y 87°28'39'' W	nd	No	nd 501-1,000	nd 50,001-100,000	*1

San Martín, Q.Roo	Cc Cm	May-jun Jul-aug	nd	nd	No	nd	nd	*1
Kanzul, Q.Roo	Cc Cm	May-jul Jul-aug	20°10'08" & 20°07'21" N 87°26'57" & 87°27'56"W	nd	No	nd 101-500	nd 10,001-50,000	*1
Aventuras-DIF, Q.Roo	Cc Cm	May-jul Jul-Aug	20°22'29"y 20°21'48" N 87°19'29" y 87°19'54"W	nd	No	nd 101-500	nd 10,001-50,000	*1
Tamul, Q. Roo	Cc Cm	May-jun Jul-aug	nd	nd	No	11 – 100 1,001 – 5,000	1,001 – 10,000 100,001 – 500,000	*1
Benito Juarez, Q.Roo	Ei Cc. Cm	Apr-oct May-jul Jul-agu	nd	27 Km	No	0 -10 11 – 100 1,001 – 5,000	501 – 1,000 1,001 – 10,000 500,001 – 1,000,000	
Cancún, Q. Roo	Cm	Jul-agu	21°7'32.11'' & 86°45'6.63'' 21°2'37.03'' & 86°46'56.03''	0.446 Km	No	101 – 500	50,001 – 100,00	
Fundación Ecológica Bahía Príncipe Tulum, Q.Roo	Cc Cm	May-jun Jul-agu	20°21'50.4" & 87°19'58.3" 20°22'23" & 87°19'35.7"	1.5 Km	No	101 – 500 501 – 1,000	10,001 – 50,000 50,001 – 100,000	
Holbox, Q.Roo.	Ei Cm Cc	apr-oct	16°46'45.29" & 21°35'40.38"N 117°19'39.25" & 117°07'11.78"W	24 Km	Yum Balam Flora and Fauna Protected Area	101-500 101 - 500 nd	10,001-50,000 10,001-50,000 nd	*1
El Verde Camacho, Sin.	Lo	Jun-jan	18º 45' 15'' & 23° 28' 30'' N 106° 29' 04'' & 106° 39' 08'' W	30 Km	El Verde Camacho Sanctuary	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*2
Playa Ceuta, Sin.	Lo	jun-jan	23°57'29.11" N 107°01'04.97"W 23° 50'55.63" N 106°54'00.65"W	20 Km	Ceuta Sanctuary	501-1,000	10,001-50,000	*2
Acuario Mazatlán, Sin	Lo	Jun-jan	nd	21 Km	No	501 – 1,000	50,001 – 100,000	*1
Estrella del Mar, Sin.	Lo	Jun-jan	23°05'53.1'' & 106°17'44.7'' 23°11'19.7'' & 106°24'34.8''	17 Km	No	1,001 – 5,000	100,001 – 500,000	*1
La Pesca, Tamps	Lk Cm	Mar-aug Apr-Sep	nd	56 Km	No	101-500 11 - 100	10,001-50,000 1,001- 10,000	*1
Barra del Tordo, Tamps.	Lk	Mar-aug	nd	42 Km	No	1,001-5,000	100,001-500,000	*dp
Tepehuajes, Tamps.	Lk Cm Cc	mar-aug apr-sept	nd	47.1 Km	Laguna Madre Flora and Fauna Protected Area	1,001-5,000 101 -500 0 -10	100,001-500,000 10,001 – 50,000 0-100	*1
Arrecifes Alacranes, Yuc.	Cm	jul-oct	22°21´45" & 22°34´55"N 89°36´47" & 89°47´53" W	nd	Arrecifes Alacranes National	1,001-5,000	50,001-100,000	*2

					Park			
Celestún, Yuc.	Ei Cm	apr-oct	nd	24 Km	Ría Celestún Yuc. Biosph-ere Reserve	101-500 0 - 10	10,001-50,000 0 – 1,000	*1
Sisal, Yuc.	Ei	Apr-oct	nd	40 Km	No	101 – 500	10,001 – 50,000	*1
Dzilam, Yuc.	Ei	Apr-oct	nd	40 Km	No	11 - 100	1,001 – 10,000	*1

Note: The total nests are given by beach for each species for the last nesting season finished 2010, thus the species of the Atlantic and Caribbean Sea (kemp's ridley, green, loggerhead, hawksbill) include March to December 2010, while the species of the Pacific (leatherback, olive ridley and black turtle) include June 2010 to February 2011. **d/p preliminary data**

Foraging Site

Name of Site	Spp	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Area (km or hectares, if applicable)	Protection Category	Observations
Ulloa Bay, Southern Baja California	Cc	All year. Observations are from interactions with fisheries, mainly in summer	28°40 N, 114°14 W			*Caretta caretta* foraging site
Bahía de los Ángeles, BCN	Cm		28.9686° N 113.53351° W			
Canal de Infiernillo, Son.	Cm		29.00730° N 112.18281° W			
Bahía de Loreto, BCS	Cm		26.02392° N 111.32195° W		Marine Park	
Bahía Concepción-Mulege, BCS	Cm		27.00267° N 111.95494° W			
Laguna Ojo de Liebre, BC	Cm, Ei		27.68303° N 114.12368°W		El Vizcaíno Biosphere Reserve	
Laguna San Ignacio, BCS	Cm, Ei		27.78887° N 114.23765° W			
Bahía Magdalena-Almejas, BCS	Cm, Ei		24.59167° N 111.97701° W			
Lagoon System Navachiste, Sin.	Cm, Ei, Lo		25°17´N 108°25´W		Gulf Islands Biosphere Reserve	
Pacific Coast, Istmo de Tehuantepec, Oax.	Lo		16.1515° N 94.51298 W			
Coast of Yucatán and Quintana Roo	Ei, Cm, Cc		22.18311° N 88.84683° W		Coral Reef Biosphere Reserves: Sian'Kaán and Banco Chinchorro, Ria Celestún and Ria Lagartos, National Parks: Coral reefs of Cozumel and Puerto Morelos, Western coast of Isla Mujeres and Puerto Morelos, Punta Cancún, Punta Nizuc, Isla Contoy, Tulúm, Coral Reefs of Xcalak and Alacranes Reef.	Along the coast of the Yucatan Peninsula, juvenile and sub adult animals of the species mentioned are observed. Even though they are not

						determined feeding sites, it is believed that the turtles use them as feeding sites.

Migratory Routes

Name of Site	Specie(s)	Season	Geographic Location (Lat/Long)	Area (km or hectares, if applicable)	Protection Category	Observations*
Mexican Pacific Ocean	Dc		Once female leatherbacks have finished laying (on average 5 times, maximum up to 13) they head South, arriving in Chilean waters, according to the data published by Eckert and Sarti, 1997			19
Mexican Pacific Ocean	Lo		Olive ridley turtles nest in abundance along the entire Pacific coast of Mexico; however, there are three beaches of global importance due to the massive nesting that occurs. These beaches are: La Escobilla and Morro Ayuta in the State of Oaxaca. Olive ridleys shown movements along the entire coast of the western Pacific			17
Mexican Pacific Ocean	Cm		The black turtles that nest in Michoacán, head towards the Gulf of California, moving between 1,211 Km to 2,027 km. Inside the Gulf of California, the turtles move throughout the Gulf. The black turtles of Revillagigedo move between the Archipelago islands and the San Diego bay in CA.		The Archipelago Revillagigedo is a Biosphere Reserve.	6 Dutton *et.al.* unpublished data.
Mexican Pacific Ocean	Cc		28°40 N, 114°14 W	Loggerhead turtles that hatch in Japan mainly travel towards the western coast of the Baja California Peninsula , covering a total of approximately 11,500 km.		7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16
Atlantic (Gulf of Mexico) and Caribbean Sea	Cm		Two turtles tagged at Isla Mujeres, Q. Roo, one male and one female, left there and headed towards the coast of Florida, traveling along the coast between the States of Yucatán, Campeche and then crossing the Gulf of Mexico, each sex, however, displayed distinct behaviors.			18
Atlantic (Gulf of Mexico)	Cm	Sep-Nov	Attached Map (Rafael Bravo)	900-1,500 ha	Endangered	Information provided by Rafael Bravo
Caribbean Sea	Ei		Hawksbill movements are observed along the Yucatán Peninsula, between its two states.		There are some natural protected areas in the region such as Contoy Island and Ría Lagartos, among others (see above)	

* The numbers correspond to the literature included in bibliography section.

2. Information regarding the use derived from sea turtles

a. The types of use (non consumptive/consumptive) may be, among others: Domestic (for subsistence), cultural, commercial, medicinal, tourism, scientific.

b. Products or parts used: eggs, skin, carapace, meat, oil, craftsmanship, etc.
c. Ocean Basin: Pacific, Atlantic or Caribbean
d. Origin: make reference to the law that forbids/allows it from section 4 (Juridical framework) of this form.
e. Estimated annual quantity:
   - Legal: refer to section 5 (Exceptions) of this form
   - Illegal: total amount of eggs or clutches, total animals (per sex, per stage)

f. Actions: refer to section 6 (Actions for conservation) of this form

Derived Use

2. Information regarding the use derived from sea turtles

Consumptive Use

Types of use	Specie	Products	Ocean Basin	Origin*		Estimated annual quantity	Information Source	Actions
				L	I			
Domestic/ commercial	Cm, Cc, Ei, Lo, Lk, Dc	Eggs, meat	Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea		Illegal according to the permanent closure decree in 1990.	nd (eggs are most desired; however, with inspection, patrolling and protection activities, the number of eggs poached has been reduced to less than 20% at the majority of the beaches, specifically on priority beaches).	Institutional Information System of the Federal Attorney's Office of Environmental Protection (SIIP) PROFEPA's Institutional Information System (SIIP) Internal Reports	Inspections and patrol activities are carried out by PROFEPA, SEMAR, PGR and CONANP, doing nightly nesting beach patrols, arresting all individuals on the beach with eggs or any other sea turtle product in their possession. Operatives and detaining during vacation months. Inspection visits to commercial centers for fishing products and restaurants, leather and shoe stores, among others.
Commercial / artisenal	Ei	carapace	Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea		Illegal according to the permanent closure decree in 1990.	Nd	PROFEPA' s Institutional Information System (SIIP)	

medicinal	Dc, Lo	blood, oil	Pacific		Illegal according to the permanent closure decree in 1990.	nd (less than 10 animals per season on some beaches)	Personal observations LS	
scientific	Cm, Cc, Ei, Lo, Lk, Dc	skins, eggs, embryos, etcetera	Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea	Requires permit explicitly for the scientific collection issued by DGVS of SEMARNAT, justifying the research objectives		Varies. Normally they are adjusted to use minimum sample sizes as specified in the research protocol.		Applicants are required to fill out an application and have a research protocol endorsed by a research institution. Anyone who collects for scientific purpose and does not have permission to do so faces legal sanctions. Based on NOM-126.
cultural	Cm-Pacific	meat	Pacific	Requires permit explicitly for their capture		2 to 4 turtles in the community of Seri	DGVS	A written request is required, and the minimum number possible is authorized. PROFEPA inspectors are present in order to assure the number and species captured. Based on Article 2 of Mexico's Political Constitution, which recognizes and guarantees the rights of indigenous people and communities to preserve and enrich their languages, knowledge and all other elements that make up their culture and identity.

Non-Consumptive Use

Types of use	Specie	Products	Ocean Basin	Origin*		Estimated annual quantity	Information Source	Actions
				L	I			
Education	Cm, Cc, Lo, Dc, Lk, Ei.		Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea	If the research Project requires handling animals, it needs to have a permit.		In the majority of the turtle centers, lectures are given to visitors. Within the framework of the National Program, and with the goal of standardizing methods, techniques and terms used, training courses		Summer courses, student groups

						are given. Numerous individuals from local communities currently participate in the Leatherback Project; therefore, two training courses have been given since 2004 and they are now thinking of holding at least 1 every year for the next 5 years.		
Scientific	Cm, Cc, Lk, Ei, Lo, Dc		Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea	A permit for scientific collection is required from DGVS-SEMARNT, even though it does not involve the collection of animals or their parts (live or dead)				tagging, migration, evaluation of nest abundance, behaviour, health
Conservation/Protection	Cm, Cc, Lk, Ei, Lo, Dc		Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea	Requires prior authorization from DGVS-SEMARNAT		204 turtle centers are being operated by the federal and state governments and private institutions.	DGVS-SEMARNAT	Protect females, their eggs and hatchlings
Tourism	Cm, Cc, Lk, Ei, Dc, Lo		Pacific, Atlantic and Caribbean Sea	Requires prior authorization from DGVS-SEMARNAT		The majority of the turtle centers receive tourists and volunteers that participate in protection activities.		Guided visits, hatchling release, exhibits, aquariums

3. Main threats

Add sheets with additional observations whenever necessary.

3.1 Habitat and other threats

a. Using the following list, select the main threats and list the species affected, considering reproduction and foraging sites and migratory routes.
- Accumulation of sand or presence of contention structures (please indicate)
- Sand mining
- Beach Erosion
- Construction and infrastructure on the beach
- Inadequate management of tourism
- Other human activities

- Beach driving
- Noise pollution (explain)
- Artificial light
- Depredation of eggs and hatchlings by domestic or feral animals
- Agricultural, industrial waste and residual/sewage waters
- Oil pollution
- Obstacles on the beach (logs, plastic, etc.)
- Impact on other associated habitats (reefs, mangroves, etc.)
- Waste in the ocean (ropes, fishing gear, bags, etc.)
- Diseases
- Natural phenomena (indicate types)
- Other (indicate)

b. Size of impact: use the same as in the section above: total number of eggs, total animals (per sex, per stage)
c. Geographic region(s) affected: make the most accurate reference, if possible use lat/long of the affected area.
d. Make reference to the full quote in section 9 (Source of information) of this form
e. Actions: briefly explain the threat and mention the actions that are under way to prevent the threat or minimize its effect; if relevant, refer to section 6 (Actions for conservation) of this form.

3.1 Habitat and other threats

Threats	Specie(s) Affected	Size of Impact	Geographic Region(s) Affected	Information Source	Actions
Habitat alteration (alteration of coral reefs).	Cm, Cc, Ei	moderate	Tourist corridor Cancún-Tulúm Quintana Roo coast	internal	All construction occurring within the coastal zone requires a declaration of environmental impact based on the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection (LEGEEPA) and according to the Regulation on environmental impact matters. SEMARNAT dictates mitigation measures concerning such constructions or development. Nests in El Verde are relocated to incubation rooms where they are placed in Styrofoam boxes.
Habitat alteration (beach erosion from constructing on sand dunes)	Cm, Cc	moderate	Tourist corridor Cancún-Tulúm Quintana Roo coast	internal	
Coastal development (tourism, vehicles on the beach, lights, visitation traffic).	Cm, Cc, Lo, Dc, Lk	Moderate. On El Verde Beach an estimated 400 females (85,000 eggs may be affected by vehicle traffic)	Tourist corridor Cancún-Tulúm Quintana Roo coast, Gulf of México, Pacific.	internal	

Coastal development (change of land use to construct rural housing)	Lo, Dc, Cm	Nd	Pacific	Internal. (Mexican Turtle Center)	Patrolling is done in the area. Environmental education, Community organization.
Damage to coral reef communities by development of offshore activities and contamination	Ei	Nd	Campeche Coast	Conanp Internal Reports	Projects being carried out that study the degree to which populations along the Campeche coast have been affected.
Egg poaching during vacation time with highest visitation to beaches	Lk Cm	Nd	Veracruz Coast	Conanp Internal Reports	Inspection and patrolling activities and special operations to protect the nesting of these species.
Beach obstruction from human wastes on land or dumped at sea	Lk, Cm, Cc, Dc	Nd	Gulf of Mexico (Jurisdiction of "Lechuguillas, Ver")	Internal	During the patrols, these obstacles are removed to allow the turtles free access
Hurricanes (beach erosion).	Cm, Cc	Generally low, due to natural phenomena	Coast of México (Pacific, Caribbean and Gulf of México) is exposed every year to hurricane activity, however, they occur infrequently.	Internal (Executive Report, 2005)	Implement management strategies to avoid loss of nests.
Hydrocarbon contamination (oil spills)	Lk, Cm, Ei	Moderate	Gulf of México, Sonda de Campeche, (Atlantic)	Meeting with those involved and interested in the Kemp's Ridley Recovery Plan	
Lights on the beach, vehicle traffic	Lo, Dc	low	Pacific. Incipient. Some beaches are experiencing the beginning of urban development which exposes the nesting beach to light, others, with important tourism development, have resulted in vehicle traffic on beaches.		
Other human activities	Lo Lk Dc Ei Cm Cc	N/D	Pacific and Gulf of Mexico	PROFEPA	Inspections and patrolling of federal maritime terrestrial zone in order to verify that any activities carried out in this zone comply with the laws. **Observations**: During these patrols, any obstacles that may impede with the free passing of turtles like lounge chairs and umbrellas are removed.
Beach constructions and infrastructure	Lo Lk Dc Ei	N/D	Pacific and Gulf of Mexico	PROFEPA	Inspections and patrols in order to verify that all buildings have a declaration of environmental impact and comply with proper mitigation measures according

	Cm Cc				to the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection (LEGEEPA) and further regulations on such matters. **Observations**: Lighting structures at tourist developments are verified for compliance with the conditions established in its environmental impact statement, like the direction and type of lights, in order to avoid interfering with turtles during the nesting season.
Beach traffic	Lo Dc Cm		Pacific (B.C.S)	PROFEPA	Inspection and patrols to ban vehicular traffic (cuadricycles and buggies) during the nesting season. **Observations**: Nests left on the beach are identified and tourists are informed that it is prohibited to use vehicles on the beach during the nesting season.
Predation of eggs and hatchlings by domestic and wild animals.	Lo Dc Cm	N/D	Morro Ayuta and Escobilla, Oax.	PROFEPA	Project is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Health.
Inadequate management of tourism	Lo Lk Dc Cm	N/D	Pacific and Gulf of Mexico (Guerrero, Veracruz)	PROFEPA	Inspection and patrolling of sea turtle protection centers paying special attention to hatchling release, prohibiting hatchlings from being kept for many days and ensure they are released at appropriate times of day. **Observations**: It's important to hold environmental education courses with those offering tourism services in order to create awareness and respect for the turtles, passing it on to the visitors in order to avoid harming the turtles.
Egg poaching and killing females on the beach	Lo Lk Dc Ei Cm Cc	N/D	Pacific (Especially along the coasts of Oaxaca, mainly on Morro Ayuta and Escobilla Beaches), Gulf of Mexico.	PROFEPA	Inspection and patrols on nesting beaches along both coasts during the nesting season and special joint operatives between SEMAR and CONANP on the main olive ridley beaches in Escobilla and Morro Ayuta, to protect the mass nesting, as well as operatives to protect leatherback turtles at their main nesting beaches in Tierra Colorada, Gro., Mexiquillo, Mich., Barra de la Cruz and Cahuitán, Oax. **Observations**: It is important to mention that the inspections and patrol activities are not just done on nesting beaches, but are carried out in all states of the country, even those without

					coastlines, in markets, restaurants and any place that could sell sea turtle products and their sub-products thus discouraging their consumption.
Trawl nets, longlines, gillnets, etc.	Lo Lk Dc Ei Cm Cc	N/D	Pacific and Gulf of Mexico	PROFEPA	Certification and verification of proper use of turtle excluder devices (TED's) at docks and at high seas on shrimp trawling fleets. For other fisheries like shark fishing, NOM-029-PESC-2006 was issued and includes regulations that protect nesting beaches and for bycatch. Fishermen and local communities have been involved in sea turtle conservation and protection efforts, creating a greater awareness on the importance of taking care of them.
Killing turtles for use of their meat	Lo Lk Dc Ei Cm Cc	N/D	Pacific (Especially along the coasts of Baja California, Baja California Sur, Sonora, Sinaloa and Chiapas) and the Gulf of Mexico.	PROFEPA	Inspections and patrolling of restaurants and businesses with fishing products especially during vacation times. **Observations**: During periods of vacation, operatives are implemented to combat this activity and discourage consumption.

3.2 Capture (Intentional/incidental)

a. Using the following list, pick the main threats and list the affected species
   - Capture of sea turtles in the ocean
   - Capture of sea turtles on the beach
   - Egg collection
   - Purse seine fisheries
   - Gill net fisheries
   - Longline artisanal fisheries
   - Longline commercial fisheries
   - Bottom Trawling
   - Pelagic Trawling
   - Fishing nets

b. Size of impact: whenever possible provide Capture values per Unit of Effort (CPUE) making reference to the unit of effort (number of boats, lances, man hours, etc), or the total amount of animals or eggs captured/collected.

c. Geographic region(s) affected: make reference as accurate as possible, if possible use lat/long of the affected area.

d. Refer to the full citation as in Section 9 (Source of information) of this form.

e. Actions: briefly describe the threat and mention the actions that are under way to prevent the threat or minimize its effect; if relevant, refer to section 6 (Actions for conservation) of this form.

Capture

3.2 Capture (Intentional/incidental)

Threats	Specie(s) Affected	Size of Impact	Geographic Region(s) Affected	Information Source	Actions
Incidental fishing at loggerhead sea turtle feeding grounds in Baja California	Cc	In 2006 an alarm was sounded regarding the number of stranded turtles found, more than 800 dead turtles in only 3 months (August, September and October)	Baja California	Informes internos Conanp	Strategies for alternative activities were offered to the fishermen involved such as non-extractive use of turtles in ecotourism activities, a pilot Project for spotting turtles in this marine area was initiated.
Direct take at sea					In Mexico, consumptive use of sea turtles, their products and sub-products is prohibited by law. The Mexican Navy carries out patrols by boat to detect boats that are fishing illegally. PROFEPA inspectors and fisheries officers from CONAPESCA develop these same types of activities accompanied by the Navy Secretary. **Observations**: PROFEPA representatives in coastal states have ships that allow them to patrol in front of nesting beaches in order to identify boats practicing direct take of sea turtles.
Predation of eggs and hatchlings by domestic or wild animals.	Lo	Nd	Morro Ayuta and Escobilla in Oaxaca	PROFEPA	Project is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Health.
Egg poaching and killing of females on beaches.	Lo, Dc, Cm, Lk, Cc, Ei	Nd..	Pacific (focusing specifically on the coast of Oaxaca, mainly on the beaches of Morro Ayuta and Escobilla), Gulf of Mexico	PROFEPA. Internal Reports from Conanp	Carry out inspections and patrols on main nesting beaches along both coasts in order to protect the nests of all species. Guerrero, Michoacán and Oaxaca, are the main nesting beaches for the olive ridley, black turtle and leatherback, therefore, special operatives are done to protect these species and stop poaching and capture of females on the beach. Inspections and patrols are done throughout the country at establishments selling fish and

					seafood to detect illegal traffic. **Observations**: During the nesting season PROFEPA representatives together with other institutions like SEMAR and state policemen organize patrols on nesting beaches in order to discourage the capturing of females.
Longlines and drift nets				CONAPESCA	Since 1993 in the Gulf of México and 1996 in the Mexican Pacific, the use of turtle excluder devises is mandatory for shrimp trawler fleets. Although beach seines, gillnets and longlines interact with sea turtles, there are no specific studies on incidental capture that allows us to understand both spatially and temporally, the size of the problem. One of the fisheries that has the greatest number of fishermen is shark fisheries. This fishery uses drift nets and longlines. The government of Mexico has established the official Mexican normative NOM-029-PESC-2006 that includes mandates focusing on reducing incidental capture of sea turtles. Other fisheries with recurrently less fishing efforts, such as scale and swordfish fishing, may interact with sea turtles; however, there are no exact figures on their impact. Under these circumstances, onboard observer programs are created to measure incidental capture and generate information to support an appropriate decision making process. Various workshops have been held with fishermen from both coasts to create awareness and inform them on sea turtle policies, especially on the current laws like NOM-029-PESC-2006 and NOM-061-PESC-2006. As for incidental capture, there is a great awareness among the coastal fisheries sector to collaborate with sea turtle conservation programs and to adopt more selective fishing techniques and gear to save turtles and help recover their populations. All vessels within the shrimp fleets using trawl nets are obligated, by law, to use turtle excluder devices (TED's) with the objective of allowing incidentally trapped turtles to free themselves of the net. The Federal Attorney of Environmental Protection is the entity in charge of verifying their use and proper installation in both the ports and high seas, as well as certifying TEDs each year in accordance to NOM-061-PESC/SEMARNAT-
Gillnets (trammel nets)					
Beach seine					
Trawl nets					

					2006 and NOM-003-PESC-1993. PROFEPA verifies compliance with the IATTC resolution, purse seine tuna fishing vessels must make all efforts to free any turtle that becomes trapped.

4. Legal Framework

4.1. International instruments

List international instruments related to sea turtles and their habitat signed or ratified by your country.

4.1. International instruments

Treaty, Convention, Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding	Year signed and/or ratification
Convention on Wetlands of International Important especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)	1986
Fifteen sea turtle nesting beaches are inscribed on the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Ramsar Convention.	Isla Contoy National Park, Q. Roo. November 27th, 2003 Rancho Nuevo, Tamaulipas November 27th, 2003 Tierra Colorada, Guerrero November 27th, 2003 Mexiquillo, Michoacán. February 2nd, 2004 El Verde, Sinaloa. February 2nd, 2004 Cahuitán, Oaxaca. February 2nd, 2004 Chenkan, Campeche. February 2nd, 2004 Xcacel-Xcacelito, Quintana Roo. February 2nd, 2004 Puerto Arista, Chis. February 2nd, 2008 Boca de Apiza-Chupadero-Tecuanillo, Col. February 2nd, 2008 Playa Colola, Mich. February 2nd, 2008 Playa Maruata, Mich. February 2nd, 2008 Barra de la Cruz, Oax. February 2nd, 2008 Laguna Chacahua, Oax. February 2nd, 2008 Playa Ceuta, Sin. February 2nd, 2008 Arrecifes Alacranes, Yuc. February 2nd, 2008 Puerto Arista Estuary System, Chis. February 2nd, 2008
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, CITES	1992
Memorandum of Understanding, Program of Cooperation MexUs-Gulf, MexUs-Pacific	1992
Convention on Biological Diversity	1993
Memorandum of Understanding-Trilateral Committee-México-United States of America-Canada for Wildlife and Ecosystems Conservation and Management	1996
Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea	1999

Turtles	
Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries FAO, 1995	1995
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Montego Bay, 1982	1983

4.2. National legislation

List the national legislation in force related to the protection, conservation and use of sea turtles and the habitats on which they depend. Provide a brief description including the sanctions faced when violated

National Legislation

4.2. National legislation

Type and name of legal instrument (No.)	Description (Range of application)	Sanction(s) Imposed
General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection (Last revision DOF 6 April 2010)	Range of application: in national territory and areas where the Nation exercises sovereignty and jurisdiction. Description: Regulate the preservation and protection of biodiversity; regulates the creation of natural protected areas in sites where the original environments have not been significantly altered by anthropogenic activities or that need to be preserved or restored; establishes criteria for preservation and sustainable use of wild fauna; prohibits the use of natural populations of threated or endangered species; and, regulates the development of permanent projects that affect coastal ecosystems by providing environmental impact assessments.	Administrative sanctions: Fines equivalent of twenty to fifty thousand days of minimum salary, established by the Federal District; Temporary or permanent, partial or total, closure; Administrative arrest for up to 36 hours; Confiscation of instruments, examples, products or subproducts, directly related to the infractions regarding forest resources, wildlife species of flora and fauna or genetic resources, and suspension or revoking of concessions, licenses, permits or authorizations.
General Wildlife Law (Last Revision DOF 6 April 2010) (2 July 2010 Aquatic Species Refuge Areas)	Range of application: Mexican territory and the areas where the Nation holds jurisdiction. Description: Establishes criteria that define the species and populations at risk and the sanctions for those who perform acts against recovery programs and closures; prohibits extractive use, whether subsistence or commercial, including their parts and byproducts, of any type of sea turtle, no matter the species and, declare critical habitats for wildlife conservation and refuge areas to protect aquatic species.	Administrative sanctions: Written warning; Fine; Temporary suspension of authorizations, licenses or permits; Revoke relevant authorizations, licenses or permits; Temporary or permanent closure of the installations; Administrative arrest for up to 36 hours; Confiscate wildlife specimens, parts or byproducts, as well as the instruments directly related to the infractions.
General Fisheries and Sustainable Aquiculutre Law	Range of application: national territory and areas where the Nation exercises sovereignty and	Administrative sanctions: Written warning; Imposing a fine; Imposing an additional fine

(DOF 24 July 2007)	jurisdiction. Description: the objective is to guarantee the conservation, preservation and rational use of fisheries resources and to establish the basis for their appropriate protection and manage aspects related to the natural resources that consist of the flora and fauna whose life cycles depend totally, partially or temporally, on water. To comply with the objective in matters of preservation, recovery and ecological balance and environmental protection, the Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources will coordinate with the Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food to prepare the guiding measures for the protection of chelonids, marine mammals and aquatic species subject to a special protection status.	for each day the infraction persists; Administrative arrest for up to thirty six hours; Temporary or permanent, partial or total closure of the installation or installations in which the offence has been committed; Confiscate vessels, vehicles, fishing gear and/or products obtained from the aquiculture and fishing directly related to the offences committed, and suspension or revoking of any related permits, concessions and authorizations.
General Law of National Goods (Last revision DOF 31 August 2007)	Description: Corresponds to the Federal Executive, through the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, to promote the use and sustainable management of the federal maritime terrestrial zone and territories acquired at sea. Despite this, concessions granted for federal property can be revoked if the ecosystem is harmed as a consequence of its use, management or exploitation.	Administrative sanctions: Revoke concessions granted in the federal maritime terrestrial zone and territories acquired at sea.
Federal Penal Code Twenty-fifth Title "Crimes Against the Environment and Environmental Management" (Last revised DOF 20 August 2009)	Range of application: Applied throughout Mexico for federal crimes. Description: Establishes sanctions for those who capture, harm or take the life of any turtle or marine mammal, or collect or store in any way their products or subproducts.	Penal sanctions: From 1 to 9 years of prison and the equivalent of 300 to 3,000 days of fines. Additional penalty from 3 years and up to one thousand days of additional fines when a natural protected area is affected or it is committed for commercial purposes.
Regulation of the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection in matters relating to Natural Protected Areas (Last revision DOF 28 December 2004)	Range of application: observed throughout the national territory and in areas where the Nation exercises its jurisdiction. Description: Establishes judicial mandates that would categorize natural protected areas as sanctuaries, biosphere reserves and flora and fauna protected areas.	Any violations of the mandates contained in this Regulation will be persecuted according to that established in the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection and any other applicable judicial mandates.
Regulation of the General Wildlife Law (DOF 30 November 2006)	Range of application: Mexican territory and the areas where the Nation exercises its jurisdiction. Description: Establishes judicial mandates for non-extractive use of wildlife, declaring critical habitats for wildlife conservation and refuge areas for the protection of aquatic species and, among others, identification of species at risk and preparation of management plans for threatened species.	Any violations to the mandates contained in this Regulation will be prosecuted according to the General Wildlife Law.
Official Mexican Regulation NOM-002-PESC-	Establishes mandatory use of any of the	Administrative sanctions: Written warning;

1993 Organizes the use of shrimp species found in waters under Mexico's federal jurisdiction. (DOF 31 December 1993)	authorized turtle excluder devices in all trawl nets used when carrying out commercial shrimp operations in waters under the federal jurisdiction of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.	Fines imposed; Administrative arrest for up to thirty six hours; Temporary or permanent, partial or total closure; Confiscate vessels, vehicles or fishing gear and suspension or revoking of any related permits, concessions and authorizations.
Modification of the Official Mexican Regulation NOM-002-PESC-1993. Organizing the use of shrimp species found in waters under Mexico's federal jurisdiction, published 31 December 1993. (DOF 30 July 1997)	Establishes the mandatory installation and use of any of the turtle excluder devices in trawl nets used in commercial shrimp fishing. It also established the general specifications for rigid types of turtle excluder devices (TEDs) with bars.	Administrative sanctions: Written warning; Fines imposed; Administrative arrest for up to thirty six hours; Temporary or permanent, partial or total closure; Confiscate vessels, vehicles or fishing gear and suspension or revoking of any related permits, concessions and authorizations.
Official Mexican Regulation NOM-126-SEMARNAT-2000. Establishes the specifications necessary to collect biological materials of species of wild flora and fauna and other biological resources within national territory. (DOF 20 March 2001)	Establishes the specifications necessary to collect biological materials of species of wild flora and fauna and other biological resources within national territory.	Any violations of the present Official Mexican Regulation will be prosecuted in accordance to that established in the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection, the General Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture Law and its Regulation, and the General Law on Sustainable Forestry Development and its Regulation and other applicable judicial mandates.
Official Mexican Regulation NOM-059-SEMARNAT-2010, Environmental protection – Native species of wild flora and fauna of Mexico–Risk categories and specifications for their inclusion, exclusion or change–List of threatened species. (DOF 30 December 2010)	Identifies the species or populations of threatened wild flora and fauna in Mexico by integrating corresponding lists and, establishes criteria used for the inclusion, exclusion or change in the risk categories for species or populations, through a specific method used to evaluate their risk of extinction. The NOM includes diverse species of sea turtles that have been assigned some category of risk.	Any violations of the present Official Mexican Regulation will be prosecuted in accordance to that established in the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection, the General Wildlife Law, the Federal Penal Code and any other applicable judicial mandates.
Official Mexican Regulation NOM-061-PESC - 2006 Technical specifications of turtle excluder devices used by shrimp trawl fleets in waters under federal jurisdiction of Mexico. (DOF 22 January 2007)	Establishes the technical specifications that rigid Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) should comply with, which are installed in the trawl nets used in commercial shrimp fisheries operations, carried out in federal waters, for the purpose of contributing to the protection of sea turtle populations and decreasing their incidental capture.	Administrative sanctions: as established in the General Law of Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture, General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection and its regulation and any other applicable legal mandates.
Official Mexican Regulation NOM-029-PESC-2006 Responsible fishing of sharks and rays and specifications for their use. (DOF 14 February 2007)	Establishes responsible fishing of sharks and rays, as well as the technical specifications for their use. Prohibits the holding and transport of live or dead sea turtles, that will eventually be caught incidentally; promotes the application of recovery measures for incidentally caught sea turtles when they are found in poor condition and, in this case, implement resuscitation techniques for drowning turtles and maintain them aboard,	Administrative sanctions: as established in the General Law of Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture and its Regulation.

	covered, for the amount of time needed for them to recover before being returned to sea; and among others, identify sea turtle nesting areas where shark fishing is prohibited for a 5 km wide strip in front of them.	
Decree that determines reserves and refuge sites for the protection, conservation, repopulation, development and monitoring, in those areas where the different species of sea turtles go to nest and lay their eggs. (DOF 29 October 1986)	The First article of this Decree establishes that the Decree will be applied to sea turtle nesting beaches located in Chiapas, Guerrero, Jalisco, Michoacán, Oaxaca, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas and Yucatán. Furthermore, the Eleventh article establishes and puts into operation the Centers for Sea Turtle Protection and Conservation, previously known as turtle camps.	The Twelfth article establishes that those who commit acts prohibited within the Decree will be given sanctions as stipulated for each specific case and in agreement with the current legal mandates.
Agreement on closed season (DOF 31 May 1990)	Establish a closed season for all species and subspecies of marine turtles in the waters under federal jurisdiction in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, as well as the Pacific Ocean, including the Gulf of California.	Those stipulated in the General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection, General Wildlife Law, the General Law of Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture and the Federal Penal Code.
Agreement to create, permanently, the Inter-secretarial Commission for Sea Turtle Protection and Conservation. (DOF 2 December 1993)	The Sixth article of the Agreement anticipates the constitution of the National Committee for the Sea Turtle Protection and Conservation.	----
Announcement to notify the establishment of seasons and areas of closure for fishing different species of aquatic fauna in federal waters under Mexico's jurisdiction. (DOF 16 March 1994).	The First article of the Decree establishes a total closure for an indefinite amount of time for the capture of different species of aquatic fauna in federal waters under Mexico's jurisdiction, highlighting the following species: *Lepidochelys olivacea, Caretta caretta, Eretmochelys imbricata* and *Dermochelys coriacea*.	Those stipulated in the General Law of Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture and application of other relevant mandates.
Agreement for those areas determined to be natural protected areas, under the category of sanctuary. (DOF 16 July 2002)	Re-categorize the reserves and refuge sties for the protection, conservation, repopulation, development and monitoring of the different species of sea turtles, located in the States of Chiapas, Guerrero, Jalisco, Michoacán, Oaxaca, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas and Yucatán, as identified in the decree published on 29 October 1986.	Any violations to the current Agreement will be sanctioned according to that established in the General Law of Ecological Balance, the Federal Penal Code and any other applicable legal mandates.
Notice of the establishment of the geographic boundaries of Bahía de La Paz, Southern Baja California, to be used in the Official Mexican Regulation NOM-002-PESC-1993. (DOF October 2002)	Organizes the use of shrimp species found in federal waters under Mexico's jurisdiction, published on 31 December 1993 and its modification published 30 July 1997, which prohibits the use of all types of trawl nets within Bahía de La Paz, Southern Baja California.	---
Agreement between the Federal Attorney of Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) and the National Cooperative Fisheries Confederation. (DOF 20 May 2004)	Establishes the platform for harmonizing sea turtle protection and conservation activities and the recovery of Mexico's nesting population, as well as preserving its nesting and feeding grounds.	

4.3. Indicate any legal instruments that are currently in the process of being approved.

The Regulation of the General Fishing and Sustainable Aquaculture Law is under final review for its future publication and should be published before the year's end.

At a national level, an inter-secretarial technical working group made up by the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), the Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing and Food (SAGARPA) and the Navy Secretary is currently working on the preparation of an Official Mexican Normative with the objective of protecting sea turtles on nesting beaches.

In regards to fisheries regulations, SAGARPA-CONAPESCA-INAPESCA are currently working to revise the regulations contained in NOM-PESC-002-1993 in order to organize the use of shrimp species found in waters under the federal jurisdiction of Mexico, in order to incorporate elements to ensure its sustainable use and the sustainable fishing of shrimp.

Among the recommendations agreed to is an appendix of standards on the procedure for reviving a sea turtle in the case it needs to maintained on board while it recovers.

4.4. Public and private institutions involved in sea turtle conservation

Based on the national juridical framework, list any public or private institutions with responsibilities and actions in the conservation and protection of sea turtles and their habitat. Briefly describe the responsibilities of each of them.

4.4. Public and private institutions involved in sea turtle conservation

Institution/Entity	Responsibilities
Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources SEMARNAT National Commission on Natural Protected Areas CONANP	On November 29th of 2006, revisions to the internal Regulations of SEMARNAT were published in the Official Diary that establish CONANP, through the General Direction of Regional Operation, as the entity in charge of the National Program for the Protection, Conservation, Research and Management of Sea Turtles, which coordinates 31 Sea Turtle Protection and Conservation Centers and the Mexican Turtle Center, in 15 coastal states within the country.
Federal Attorney General of Environmental Protection. PROFEPA	Carries out inspection and patrolling activities in fisheries collection centers, restaurants, leather stores, markets, highways, bus terminals and patrols nesting beaches. Verifies and certifies the use of turtle excluder devises.
General Wildlife Direction. DGVS	Applies the policy to conserve and protect marine chelonid species and regulate the operation of 207 turtle camps managed by non-governmental organizations, universities, fishermen groups and individuals (DGVS).
General Direction of the Federal Land Maritime Zone and Coastal Environments. ZOFEMAT	Regulates the use of the federal land maritime zone, including all nesting beaches (ZOFEMAT).

General Direction of the Primary and Renewable Natural Resources Sector.	Design and promote, under the guidance of SEMARNAT, protection instruments and environmental standards regarding the protection and conservation and recovery of sea turtle populations and their habitat.
Navy Secretary	Assists in carrying out inspection and patrolling activities on the coasts and nesting beaches.
Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SEMAR) National Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CONAPESCA) National Fisheries Institute (INAPESCA)	 Promotes and verifies the use of turtle excluder devises. Establishes measures to regulate fisheries and reduce bycatch of non target species. Research fishing gear and equipment and fisheries resources. Coordinate and carry out scientific and technological research on fisheries and aquiculture resources, considering criteria for their sustainable management and conservation; and encourage research schemes with the participation and financial support of the sectors involved.
Attorney General of the Republic	To enforce the application of the law in sea turtle matters.
Northern Biological Research Center (CIBNOR) of La Paz	Research
Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur (UABCS)	Research
Campo Puerto School. San Carlos, BCS	Training, Research
Kutzari Association for the Study and Conservation of Sea Turtles, A. C.	Conservation, Training, Research, Dissemination
Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca	Research, Human Resources Training
Southern California Association for the Protection of Sea Turtles and the Environment (ASUPMATOMA)	Conservation, Environmental Education, Research
Mazatlán Aquarium	Nest, femal and hatchling protection activities along 21 Km of beach between “Olas Altas” and “Cerritos”, in the Municipality of Mazatlán Sinaloa.
Government of the Sate of Veracruz	Nest, female and hatchling protection activities on Nautla Beach, Ver.
Veracruz Aquarium, A. C.	Protection activities on the beach of Isla Sacrificios, Ver.
National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Communities (CONADEPI)	Protection activities on the beaches in the southern region of the State of Veracruz
Tampico el Alto Municipality (Gov. of the State of Veracruz)	Protection activities on the beach of Paraíso Escondido, Ver.
Tamiahua Municipality (Gov. of the State of Veracruz)	Protection activities in Tamiahua, Ver.
Tuxpan Municipality (Gov. of the State of Veracruz)	Protection activities on the beaches “Barra de Galindo and Bahía de Cochinos”, Ver.
Cazones Municipality (Gov. of the State of Veracruz)	Protection activities on the beach El Farallón, Ver.
Ursulo Galván Municipality (Gov. of the State of Veracruz)	Protection activities in Chachalacas, Ver.
Los Cabos Municipality (Gov of the State of Baja California Sur)	Protection activities on Los Cabos beaches, State of Baja California Sur
Ecology Secretary of the Government of the State of Campeche	Protection activities in Campeche, State of Campeche
Secretary of the Environment and Housing of the Government of Chiapas	Protection activities in the municipalities of Tonalá, Pijijiapan and Acapetahua, State de Chiapas.
Ecology and Environment Subdirection of the Municipality of Jose Azueta	Protection activities in the Municipality of José Azueta, State of Guerrero
Benito Juarez Municipality (Gov of the State of Quintana Roo)	Protection activities in the Municipality of Benito Juarez, State of Quintana Roo
Isla Mujeres Municipality (Gov. Of the State of Quintana roo)	Protection activities in Isla Mujeres Municipality, State of Quintana Roo

Secretary of Public Works, Urban Development and Ecology of the State of Tamaulipas	Protection activities in the Municipality of Soto la Marina, State of Tamaulipas
Secretary of Development and Environment (Gov of the State of Yucatán)	Protection activities in the Muncipality of Telchac Puerto, Hunucma and Dzilam de Bravo, State of Yucatán
Instituto de Ciencias del Mar y Limnología, UNAM	Research, training and dissemination
Coordination of States for the Environment of the Veracruz Government (CEMA)	Protection activities on a beach in the State of Veracruz,
National Counsel on Environmental Protection of the State of Veracruz (COEPA)	Support training, materials and establishing agreements in the State of Veracruz.
Flora, Fauna y Cultura, A. C.	Protection activities on the beaches in the Sate of Quintana Roo, including Xcacel-Xcacelito Beach.
PRONATURA, Yucatán Peninsula	Protection activities on the beaches in the State of Yucatán and Quintana Roo.
Grupo Tortuguero of the Californias	Coordinates groups monitoring turtles in foraging grounds and nesting sites in the Baja California Peninsula, Research in fisheries modification, environmental education.
Cuizmala Ecological Foundation, A.C.	Protection actions in the Cuizmala Sanctuary, Jalisco
Cozumel Parks and Museums Foundation	Protection activities in the municipality of Cozumel, Quintana Roo
Bahía Príncipe Tulum Ecological Foundation, S.A. of C.V.	Protection activities in the municipality of Solidaridad, Quintana Roo
Wetlands Network of the Oaxaca Coast	Protection activities in the municpalities of Santa María Tonameca, Santa María Colotepec, San Pedro Tututepec and Santiago Jamiltepec, in the State of Oaxaca.
Ukana I, Akumal Center, A.C.	Protection activities in Akumal Bay, State of Quintana Roo
Michoacana University of San Nicolás de Hidalgo	Black turtle research activities, mainly on the coast of Michoacán
Inter-disciplinary Research Center for Regional Integrated Development of the National Polytechnic Institute (CIIDIR-IPN)	Black turtle research activities, mainly on the coast of con Sinaloa and Mexico's pacific waters

5. Exceptions

Attach the management plan including limits on the levels of intentional capture and include information regarding such program based on article IV, item 3(a,b,d) of the text of the Convention. According to the provisions in Annex 4, the reports of the exceptions shall include follow up and mitigation measures, specifically relevant information on the number of turtles, nests and eggs affected and on the habitat areas affected by the implementation of this action.

In Mexico, the use or possession of sea turtles is prohibited and there are no programs that allow for their regular extractive use. All other extraction must have justified objectives and am *ex professo* permit.

The Seri or Conca'ac indigenous group has occupied the central coast of Sonora, Tiburón Island and other islands like San Esteban since archaic times. They currently inhabit Sonora's dessert coast, and because of their uses and customs, the law protects and authorizes the use of a variable number (2 or 3) of black or green turtles of the pacific (*Chelonia mydas*) each year to celebrate their new year. This is considered in article 2 of Mexico's Political Constitution, which recognizes and guarantees the rights of indigenous people and communities to preserve and enrich their languages, knowledge and all other elements that make up their culture and identity.

6. Conservation Efforts

CONANP, through its Priority Species for Conservation Department, coordinates the Species at Risk Program (PROCER). Its general objective is to achieve the conservation of 30 priority species from the year 2007 to 2012. PROCER encompasses three main programs: National Sea Turtle Conservation Program, Continental Terrestrial and Aquatic Species Conservation Program, and Marine, Coastal and Insular Species Conservation Program. For each threatened species, they prepare, in coordination with other working and expert groups, Action Programs for Species at Risk (PACE). All species of sea turtles in Mexico are identified as being species at risk. Currently the PACE for the leatherback turtle has been published electronically on CONAP's website. The PACE's for the hawksbill, loggerhead and green turtle on both Mexico's Gulf-Caribbean and Pacific sides, are currently being edited. These PACEs include actions to be taken for the recovery of these species, in both federal natural areas as well as other priority areas in the country.

6.1 General description of the sea turtle protection and conservation program

Make a brief general description of the national plan for the protection and conservation of sea turtles and of their habitat.

The National Sea Turtle Program is run by the Environmental Sector. The General Wildlife Direction establishes the measures and policies regarding the management, conservation, protection, use and research of sea turtles in Mexico. Their main objectives are to analyze the population status of the different species that are found throughout the country, embark on current legislation, coordinate the various sectors that participate in protection and conservation activities, and to establish the instruments that will allow for implementation of protection strategies. Additionally, they carry out activities geared towards strengthening compliance with current legislation relating to sea turtle matters, their protection, conservation, research and non-extractive use.

As of November 29th of 2006, the internal regulation of SEMARNAT established that CONANP'S General Direction of Regional Operation will run the National Sea Turtle Conservation Program. The Commission manages 26 Conservation Centers that includes index beaches for the six species of sea turtles found in our country, many of these centers have been operating for over 20 years and their mission has been to protect and recover the populations of sea turtles found in Mexico in their natural surroundings. In 1986, 17 reserve and refuge sites were declared for the reproduction of sea turtles, 16 of which were re-categorized as Sanctuaries in 2002 because they present the adequate conditions for biodiversity, endemism, uniqueness, area and level of conservation.

A fundamental part of the Program is the Mexican Turtle Center. Its main purpose is to preserve Mexico's natural patrimony through directly and indirectly conserving sea turtles and their ecosystems as well as providing a harmonious and sustainable link to local communities.

The participation of communities in sea turtle conservation activities has been an element that the Commission continues to strengthen through two important programs: the Temporary Employment Program (PET) and the Sustainable Development Conservation Program (PROCODES). In 2010, PROCODES supported the communities with an amount of $2,955,073.00 for 44 activities, while PET granted a total of $7,931,806.77 54 for activities related to sea turtle protection.

All together, the Mexican coasts have more than 200 turtle camps, supported by federal and state governments, middle and superior educational institutions, research centers, non-governmental organizations, private sector, fishermen and individuals.

On the other hand, at the national level, an extensive program has been developed that focuses on verifying compliance with the installation and use of Turtle Excluder Deceives (TEDs) that shrimp vessels with seine nets must use during their fishing operations.

A *Zero tolerance policy with regards to TEDs* was established in 2010 based on the strict application of the law, cancelling the logbook of those captains having vessels in violation of the law; imposing fines on the ship owners, as well as, in some cases, confiscating the vessels, fishing gear, fishery products and revocation and/or suspension of fishing permits and/or concessions.

Additionally, SAGARPA-CONAPESCA and SEMARNAT-PROFEPA implemented an Action Plan aimed at achieving a level of "comparability" between the North American and Mexican programs on the following principles:

- Strengthen the TED verification program in jurisdictional waters, increasing the number of inspections on shrimp trawl vessels in operation, preferably at night and/or in remote fishing areas.

- Continue the courtesy visit program to docks, providing preventive recommendations for before they set sail, monitoring without generating sanctions.

- Personnel training in TED verification, navigation and safety of sea life.

- Use of information technologies available through CONAPESCA's Satellite Monitoring System for Fishing Vessels (SISMEP), managing the information before a fishing operative begins in any part of the country. The fact that CONAPESCA, PROFEPA and SEMAR personnel will go to sea along with CONAPESCA's SISMEP system, will make it easier to guide the teams of inspectors to the exact position of the shrimp trawl vessels.

Likewise, in January 2010, Mexico implemented a 2010-2012 TED Verification Work Program based on a reorganization of strategies and resources through an agreement between competent federal dependencies, where:

- SAGARPA/CONAPESCA will intensify their TED verification operations at sea and courtesy visits to docks, establishing concrete goals; permanently continue their personnel training program for verifying TEDs, navigation and security of sea life; implement with SEMAR a three-year program to acquire RIB boats; strengthen the navigation team of small vessels that form part of their aquatic vehicles, in order to preserve the security of sea life; train naval personnel on TED issues, maintain operational the Fishing Vessels Satellite Locating and Monitoring Program (SISMEP), managing the exchange of information on satellites with PROFEPA and SEMAR; strengthening their program to disseminate legislative mandates among the fisheries sector and establish together with PROFEPA, clear and consistent criteria to impose sanctions on those who violate TED issues.

- SAGARPA/INAPESCA will implement a permanent training program along both coasts, aimed at marines, captains, crew and fishermen, regarding new technologies on the design, construction, installation and use of TEDs; as well as provide demonstrations on the best technologies and benefits provided to the shrimp fleet.

- SCT/CGPMM/Port Captains will continue to verify records of TED certification prior to giving clearance to fish; grant CONAPESCA and PROFEPA personnel access to inspect shrimp boats and cancel the log books of those captains or ship owners whose boats have infractions in accordance with the General Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture Law.

It is important to mention that both programs were presented to the U.S. State Department in February of 2010, and it was observed and commented that they are excellent methods of evaluation and that, Mexico could eventually become a regional model in how to respond and strengthen programs for complying with laws relating to TED.

6.2 Relevant Projects and Activities

List the most relevant public or private projects/activities for the conservation of sea turtles in your country; please include general objective or objectives, and the results obtained and the duration of each. Including projects/activities like the enhancement and development of new fisheries to reduce incidental capture and mortality of sea turtles, scientific research, environmental education actions, creation of databases, national plan, management plan, community participation or other kind of planning for the conservation and protection of sea turtles. Add more rows if necessary.

6.2 Relevant Projects and Activities

Project/Activities	General Objectives	Results Obtained	Duration	
			From	Until
National Program for Sea Turtle Conservation	Dictate the policies and guidelines for the development of sea turtle protection and conservation activities. Protect the nesting areas of the diverse species of sea turtles found throughout Mexico. Encourage the development of specie specific projects. Coordinate the activities being carried out by various actors involved in sea turtle conservation.	Regulate activities protecting females, their eggs and hatchlings along numerous beaches on both coasts of the country. Currently, there are 207 registered turtle centers carrying out these activities. Preliminary results from the official turtle camps operated by Conanp and SEMARNAT in 2010 were 1,303,864 nests of the six species of nesting turtles in our country were protected and 29,197,831 hatchlings released.	1973	Present
Consequent Recovery Plan for the Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*	To achieve the recovery of the leatherback turtle in the Pacific of Mexico through activities that protect the females, their eggs and hatchlings on the main nesting beaches in Mexico, as well as understanding their population trend. Propose activities to be developed over the next ten years, and encourage necessary actions to decrease their incidental capture in both national and international longline and drift net fisheries.	1. Protecting females, eggs and hatchlings on the priority and secondary beaches (95%), 2. Monitoring the population using standardized methods. Attached is a synthesis of the status of the leatherback turtle in Mexico. 3. Provide training to students and professionals on this topic as well as to the habitants of the coastal towns. 4. Provide continuity to leatherback Conservation Program in the Pacific of Mexico that has been carried out for over two decades. 5. Hold a community workshop for the recovery	Since the early 80's	Present

		of the leatherback turtle and its habitat. 6. Prepare the Final Report on the leatherback program including the country's index beaches and provide more historical information.		
Consequent Conservation Plan for the sea turtles of the Gulf of California.	To achieve the conservation of sea turtle populations present in the coastal and marine zones of the Baja California Peninsula and propose creating specific actions for their protection.	Protect the most northern nesting areas of the country and developmental habitats and foraging grounds in this region.	From 2003	Present
Kemp's Ridley, *Lepidochelys kempii,* Protection Conservation and Recovery Project (Binational).	To achieve the conservation and recovery of the kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii)* populations found in the coastal and marine zones of the Gulf of México. Propose eleven strategies to strengthen the actions that have been developed to date.	1. Protect the kemp's ridley main nesting areas. 2. Kemp's ridley nesting is increasing, 13,832 nests were reported, protecting 1,076,779 eggs and releasing a total of 734,534 hatchlings. 3. The population shows a trend towards its recovery. The Kemp's Ridley Recovery Plan is currently being reviewed by both the USFWS and SEMARNAT.	From 1966	Present
Hawksbill, *Eretmochelys imbricata,* Protection, Conservation and Recovery Project	To achieve the conservation and recovery of hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata)* populations	1. Critical nesting zones for sea turtle conservation in Campeche. 2. Prioritize threats and review the PACE for hawksbills. 3. Strategies to Improve Sea Turtle Conservation Practices in Campeche. 4. Workshop on Auto Grafting Techniques for Tagging Sea Turtle Hatchlings 5. Project carried out to identify critical points in sea turtle consumption, focusing on acknowledging the challenges of direct and indirect capture and consumption. 6. Study on juveniles in feeding grounds in the State of Campeche. 7. Satellite telemetry project to identify the movements of nesting females after nesting. 8. Continue to work in areas where this species is found in the Mexican Gulf and Caribbean.	From 2009 From 1984	Present
Setting up Environmental Watch Committees and accreditation of community guards	Get the communities around nesting beaches involved in sea turtle protection and conservation.	Created 21 community environmental watch committees	Annex II	
Other Projects:				
Sea Turtle Conservation Project on the Oaxaqueña Coast (Oaxaqueña Coast Wetland Network)	Help with the recovery of sea turtles and their habitat through community projects to protect eggs, hatchlings and adults.	Form Wildlife Committee	Since 2003	Present

Sea Turtle Protection and Conservation Project on the Central Coast of Quintana Roo	Develop protection, rescue, conservation, and dissemination programs and encourage protecting natural and cultural resources for the benefit of the community as well as make changes that contribute to improving the quality of life of our community and future generations.		Since 1983	Present
Community network protecting the leatherback in the States of Michoacán, Guerrero and Oaxaca	Assist in the recovery of the leatherback turtle in the States of Michoacán, Guerrero and Oaxaca	Seven work meetings in at least 15 communities of the states with the highest nesting abundance that serve to share results and experiences, as well as to receive training by experts in leatherback projects. This year people were invited from the State of Sinaloa where they interact with this species in its marine environment.	Since 2004	Present
Monitor the black turtle in the Navachiste Sin. Lagunal System			Since 2005	Present

7. International Cooperation

Describe the programs or projects involving cooperation of other states or international bodies, among others, within the area of the Convention.

1.- Leatherback Project.- Under the Mex-US Pacific Agreement. Main activities- to protect the eggs of 100% of the clutches on primary and secondary beaches, evaluate the number of nests along the length of the Pacific coast of Mexico by air surveys and tagging females on main beaches, participation of local communities and training them on conservation matters. Genetic population studies.
2.- Kemp's Ridley Project.- Activities coordinated with the Fish and Wildlife Service. Main activities- to protect 100% of the clutches on the most important nesting beaches for this species and monitor the number of nests in order to determine population trends. Promote economic alternatives for the inhabitants of the region, environmental education activities and tourism.
3.- Diverse non-governmental international organizations like WWF, Conservation International, Wildlife Defenders, and IFAW, support projects protecting sea turtles in Mexico.
4.- In March of 2010 a Course/Workshop on Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) was held, given by experts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States of North America and the U.S. State Department.
5.-Participated in the annual TED tests that NOAA held in Panama City, Florida, from June 11-13, 2010.
6.- Workshops related to selective fishing gear, held from July 19-23, 2010 in the states of Sinaloa, Nayarit, Oaxaca and Chiapas. These four workshops were held with the goal of contributing to the selectivity of fishing with longlines and reducing entangling and hooking of sea turtles. Dr. Takahisa Mituhasi, an expert from Japan's Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) and Dr. Martin Hall, an expert from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), participated in these workshops.

8. National Directory

List the contacts (persons and/or institutions, public or private) related to the objectives of this Convention (specialists in fisheries, economy, statistic or others). Include at least name,

specialty, telephone number, fax and e-mail address. Add more rows to accommodate all relevant personal.

National Directory

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Dr. Eduardo Cuevas Flores	Pronatura - Yucatán	Coordinator of Pronatura's Yucatán Sea Turtle Program	(999) 9884436 ext. 112		ecuevas@pronatura-ppy.org.mx
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M. en C. Alan Zavala	Centro de Investigaciones Interdisciplinario para el Desarrollo Integral Regional (CIIDIR) Instituto Politécnico Nacional	Coordinator of the program for the protection and conservation of wildlife	(687) 8729625		anorzaga@ipn.mx
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9. Sources of Information

Include all the references used to fill in this form. In Annex 10. 1 you will find examples as to how the citations should be referenced.

1. Documento. Informe Final de los resultados obtenidos por las acciones de protección, conservación, investigación y manejo de tortugas marinas, realizadas por instituciones de enseñanza media y superior, centros de investigación, organizaciones no gubernamentales, hoteles, grupos de pescadores y particulares autorizados durante la temporada de anidación. Dirección General de Vida Silvestre (compiladora)

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10. Annexes

Annex I
Information on citing sources

Text adapted from: How to Prepare Manuscripts of the Journal of Tropical Biology (http://rbt.ots.ac.cr/prepare.pdf)

References are ordered alphabetically and strictly follow this format, including details such as spacing, commas, underlining, capitals, etc. (Note: examples are from real references, modified for brevity):

1. Article (Author. Year. Title. Journal volume: pages.)

Bückle R., L.F., F. Díaz H. & S. Espina. 1996. Thermoregulatory behavior and culture of *Procambarus clarkii* (Decapoda: Cambaridae). Rev. Biol. Trop. 44: 123-126.

2. Book, report or proceedings (Author. Year. Title. Organization or publisher, City, State or Province. pages).

Vásquez-Yeomans, L. & A. González. 1991. Ichthyoplankton of two bays in Mexico. 15 th. Larval Fish Conference, Los Angeles, California. 15 p.

3. Chapter in multiauthored book (Author. Year. Chapter title, pages of chapter. In Editor (ed.) Book title. Publisher, City, State or Province.)

Donnelly, T.W. 1992. Geological setting and tectonic history of Mesoamerica, p. 1-24. *In* D. Quinteno & A. Aiello (eds.). Insects of Panama and Mesoamerica. Oxford University, Oxford.

4. Thesis (Author. Year. Thesis type, University, City).

Hedström, I. 1991. The guava fruit fly, *Anastrepha striata* University, Uppsala, Sweden. 43 p.

NOTE: mention country when city is not widely known, shorten printer's name (*e.g.*write Wiley instead of Wiley and Sons Publications, Inc., do not write "Press", "Verlag" and equivalent words). When the author is an institution, cite the author as Anonymous. Do not state edition number.

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

[Mexico]

2011 Annual Report

Annex II
Follow-up on Resolution CIT-COP2-2004 R1
Resolution for the conservation of leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

Indicate the activities and results most relevant for each one of the resolution points noted, quantifying when necessary.

Elaborate and/or implement conservation plans and long-term programs that can reverse the critical situation of the leatherback sea turtle in the Eastern Pacific.

Within the National Sea Turtle Conservation Program operated by the National Commission for Protected Areas (CONANP), is the Leatherback Program, which has been running for more than 25 years. Each season, the project generates information on the most important beaches for this species, thus being one of the most comprehensive projects for leatherbacks at a global scale. The goal of this project is to protect at least 90% of the clutches on the index beaches and 75% on secondary beaches, as well as to protect their nesting habitat. The project works on four index beaches in Mexico: Mexiquillo, Mich., Tierra Colorada, Gro., Cahuitán and Barra de la Cruz, Oax. Nesting activity in these areas represent 45% of all nesting along the Pacific coast of Mexico

Acquire and evaluate pertinent conservation measures to significantly reduce the use and consumption of leatherback sea turtle products and by-products.

The use and consumption of products and byproducts of all species of sea turtles is prohibited by law in Mexico as of the closure in 1990.

In September of 2003, the Tristate Agreement was signed between the governments of those states with leatherback index beaches: Michoacán, Guerrero and Oaxaca in order to better coordinate the recovery of the leatherback turtle.

The 7th Community Workshop for the Recovery of the Leatherback Turtle was organized. On this occasion two representatives from the State of Sinaloa participated, one fishermen and one researcher, both of whom interact with leatherbacks in their marine environment during their fishing and research activities.

The final version of the Action Program for Leatherback Turtle Conservation was presented in 2009.

Parties with leatherback sea turtle nesting beaches in the Eastern Pacific: acquire and evaluate pertinent conservation measures for the protection of nesting sites and habitats, in accordance with Articles IV and Annex II of the Convention.

In 1986, 17 reserves and refuge sites for the protection, conservation, repopulation, development and monitoring of the different species of sea turtles were established, including those places where the leatherback nests. By 2002, 16 of these sites were re-categorized as Sanctuaries because they presented the right conditions regarding their biodiversity, endemic species, uniqueness, size and level of conservation.

Of the four leatherback index beaches in Mexico, two are classified as Sanctuaries and one more is in the process of being declared a natural protected area. The four beaches are also designated as Ramsar Sites, three of them since 2003 and 2004, and the last one was declared in February of 2008, all for being wetlands of global importance.

Collect and facilitate information to the Convention regarding the incidental capture of the leatherback sea turtle in long-lines, gillnets, and other fishing gear used by the artisanal as well as industrial fisheries, in order to evaluate and adopt fishing techniques that reduce their impact on this species.

Establish agreements and/or understandings with countries fishing within international waters, so that they receive the initiative of this Convention to adopt fishing techniques that reduce the incidental capture of leatherback sea turtles.

Establish and strengthen cooperative agreements and alliances with pertinent organizations that help in the conservation of the leatherback sea turtle, in accordance with Articles XII and XX of the Convention.

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

[Mexico]

2011 Annual Report

Annex III
Follow-up on Resolution CIT-COP3-2006 R-1
Conservation of the hawksbill turtle *(Eretmochelys imbricata)*

The decline in the Mexican hawksbill population has been observed since 2000 and, as a country, Mexico called this problem to the attention of the international community regarding. A Regional Workshop for Hawksbill Turtles in the Wider Caribbean and Western Atlantic was held in en Puerto Morelos, Q. Roo from September 23 – 26, 2009. This workshop was organized by the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, CITES, SPAW and Conanp. 58 representatives from 20 countries in the Wider Caribbean region and 10 non-governmental organizations participated. Experts in hawksbill turtle biology and conservation gave presentations that served as the theoretical framework for later discussions. The group divided into 6 working groups, where they discussed topics like bycatch, direct take, habitat degradation, viability of populations, climate change, and regulatory framework, among others. The objectives, indicators and actions to elaborate a Regional Program for hawksbill conservation in the Caribbean were discussed. Some of the most important results of the discussion sessions were: 1) Information on hawksbills in the region was shared and updated; 2) A summary of the viability of the hawksbill based on the conditions of its population, compiling quantitative data and indicators for its monitoring; 3) An analysis of the 40 threats identified, each one with its own score, identifying the top 10 priorities; 4) The identification of at least 12 objectives and their indicators for working to conserve hawksbills in the region and more than 32 strategies, with at least 96 actions for their compliance, based on improving viability or threat mitigation; 5)

RECOMENDATIONS PUT FORTH IN Resolution CIT/COP3/2006/R-1	Specific recommendation to be implemented	Name of project or relevant document	Location	Objective(s)	Responsible institution/s	Contact	Financial and other support (optional)	Significant Results (both positive and negative)	Duration*
EXHORT the Parties to promote synergies between the IAC and CITES, the SPAW Protocol, CMS, WHMSI, FAO, other pertinent treaties and international organizations, and regional fisheries bodies in order to facilitate regional dialogue on management and conservation of	CITES								
	SPAW								
	CMS								
	WHMSI								
	FAO								

the hawksbill turtle and its habitats;	Other treaties (specify)								
	Regional fisheries bodies (specify)								
URGE the Parties to strengthen monitoring of the use and illegal trade of hawksbill turtles and their products, to enforce pertinent legislation and to stop illegal trade;	Work on topics like direct take, bycatch and poaching of nests and/or stealing or sacrificing turtles on the beach through 2 projects in order to identify sites, levels of capture and current consumption.	Identify hot spots for sea turtle consumption in coastal communities of the state of Campeche	State of Campeche	Identify hot spots for sea turtle consumption in coastal communities of the state of Campeche that have bycatch or direct take and/or consume or use sea turtles.	APFFLT CONANP DECOL Ciudad del Carmen AC	Vicente Guzmán vguzman@conanp.gob.mx	Defenders of Wildlife	The community of Arena Island, just north of Campeche, is considered to be a hot spot, because they have never stopped capturing and consuming turtles, especially during holy week. Although they are aware that is prohibited, they continue to fish, consume and trade turtles with other communities in Campeche	2006 and 2007
		Observers onboard Coastal Fishing Vessels at five Ports in the State of Campeche	State of Campeche	Determine turtle bycatch in the main types of coastal fishing gear that interact with sea turtles off the coast of Campeche	APFFLT CONANP	Vicente Guzmán vguzman@conanp.gob.mx	Defenders of Wildlife	Because of the onboard observer program, it is known that significant sea turtle bycatch exists in traditional fishing gear used in the coastal zone of Campeche.	2007 and 2008

		Evaluate sea turtle bycatch in Celestún, Dizlám and El Cuyo, Yucatán, México	State of Yucatan	Evaluate the rate of occurrence for sea turtle bycatch in coastal fishing fleets using different types of fishing gear in the three ports in the state of Yucatán, as well as spatially describe the range of action for this productive activity.	Pronatura Península de Yucatán, A. C. and Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán	Eduardo Cuevas ecuevas@pronatura-ppy.org.mx	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	The frequency with which sea turtles are captured was determined, a description of the fishing gear, a thematic map of the distribution of effort was made for each fishing gear used in each one of the ports evaluated.	2009 2010
EXHORT the Parties to support	Genetics								

and strengthen the research and monitoring activities required to improve the scientific basis of conservation measures for the hawksbill turtle, particularly in genetics, migratory behavior, location and conservation status of foraging habitats and food prey, population dynamics in feeding sites, interactions with fisheries, social and economic impacts of conservation measures, and integrity of its nesting beaches;	Migratory behavior	Post-nesting migratory patterns of hawksbills in the Yucatan Peninsula	Yucatán península región	Learn their migratory routes and post-nesting behavior	National Commission for Natural Protected Areas, Pronatura Península de Yucatán, A. C.	Vicente Guzmán, vguzman@conanp.gob.mx Eduardo Cuevas, ecuevas@pronatura-ppy.org.mx	Mixed Funds CONACYT-Government of the State of Campeche, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NOAA, Chelonia, Inc.	A technical caracterization of the data recorded was done, the migratory movements of female hawksbills was determined, their home range was estimated, environmental variables with their migratory behaviour were assessed and a characterization of the diving behavior of each one of them was also done.	2005-2007
		Identify sea turtle (Chelonidae) migratory routes and developmental habitats in the Yucatan peninsula	Yucatán península region	Identify and spatially and temporally characterize the developmental, refuge and adult reproductive areas along the coasts of the Yucatan peninsula.	Pronatura Península de Yucatán, A. C., National Commission for Natural Protected Areas, Flora Fauna y Cultura de México, A. C., EPOMEX, Chelonia ,Inc.	Eduardo Cueva ecuevas@pronatura-ppy.org.mx;	Sectorial Fund CONACYT - SEMARNAT	Areas critical to hawksbill development, refuge and reproduction were identified. Inter-nesting movements were identified and home ranges defined. Their diving behavior was described.	2010 - 2012

	Location and conservation status of foraging habitats and food prey	To study juveniles in feeding grounds in the State of Campeche.	State of Campeche	Record the number of juvenile turtle bycatch associated with fishing activities	National Commission for Natural Protected Areas.	Vicente Guzmán, vguzman@conanp.gob.mx	NFWF, CONANP	Each specimen was recorded and later released. A database was created in order to analyze the tagging–recapture information.	From 2001 to present
		Strengthen and consolidate sea turtle monitoring and conservation activities in the Río Lagartos Biosphere Reserve and its buffer zone.	State of Yucatan	Create a network of sites that are clearly identified and supported for monitoring juvenile turtle populations in their feeding grounds in Río Lagartos.	Pronatura Península de Yucatán, A. C., National Commission for Natural Protected Areas.	Blanca González, bigzzg@gmail.com, Eduardo Cuevas, [illegible]	Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza, A. C.	Thematic map of the types of bottoms in the feeding ground studied. Estimated densities of juvenile hawksbill turtles. Morphometric data on the populations studied. Network or sites for monitoring its populations.	2010
	Population dynamics in feeding sites								
	Interaction with fisheries								
	Social and economic impacts of conservation and protection measures								

	Stability of nesting beaches	Evaluate the level of degradation of hawksbill nesting habitat in Celestún and El Cuyo, Yucatán	State of Yucatan	Monitor beach profiles in critical segments of index and priority nesting beaches.	Pronatura Península de Yucatán, A. C., CINVESTAV-IPN, Unidad Mérida	Eduardo Cuevas ecuevas@pronatura-ppy.org.mx	U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Monitoring morphological conditions of index and priority nesting beaches for this species. Evaluation of the level of degradation of nesting beaches for erosive processes.	2010-
	Other (specify)								
URGE the Parties to evaluate and mitigate incidental capture of hawksbill turtles in their jurisdictional waters in accordance with recommendations emanating from FAO's Technical Meeting on the conservation of marine turtles held in Bangkok 2004 and adopted by the 26th Session of Fisheries Committee of FAO (COFI). Also review the application of IAC guidelines for mitigating fisheries interactions		Observers onboard fishing vessels at 5 ports in the state of Campeche	State of Campeche	Determine turtle bycatch in the main types of coastal fishing gear that interact with sea turtles off the coast of Campeche		Vicente Guzmán vguzman@conanp.gob.mx	Defenders of Wildlife	Thanks to the work of the onboard observers it is known for a fact that sea turtle bycatch occurs in the area.	2007 and 2008
URGE the Parties to strengthen protection of important hawksbill nesting and foraging habitats by declaration of protected areas and the regulation of anthropogenic activities adversely impacting these habitats	nesting habitats	Critical nesting areas for this species.	Identify segments of beach critical to sea turtle nesting in Campeche, Mexico.	State of Campech	Identify the segments of beach that must be conserved to ensure the viability of sea turtle nesting populations in the State of Campeche	Eduardo Cuevas, ecuevas@pronatura-ppy.org.mx;	Pronatura Península de Yucatán, A. C. National Commission for Natural Protected Areas	Thematic cartography of the main threats and sources of pressure to the turtle nesting beaches. Profiles of beach segments critical to the sea turtles nesting in the area.	2009-2010

	marine habitats (feeding, inter-nesting, resting …)								
SUPPORT a working group within the Scientific Committee to keep the Conference of the Parties informed on the status of the species and its habitats in the Area of the Convention;									
PROMOTE the exchange of technical capacity and collaborative research on the hawksbill turtle on their habitats among Parties as well as non Parties and other involved organizations in the Area of the Convention									

SUPPORT the organization of a workshop with recognized experts to evaluate the current condition of hawksbill populations in the Greater Caribbean and Western Atlantic, and present the best available methods of research and conservation for the species in its marine habitats.	The event was held from September 23-25, 2009.	Executive Summary of the Regional Workshop for Hawksbill Turtles in the Wider Caribbean and Western Atlantic. I. Developing a framework for regional cooperation for the conservation of hawksbill turtles *Eretmochelys imbricata* in the Wider Caribbean and Western Atlantic.	Puerto Morelos, Quintana Roo	Evaluate the current situation of hawksbills in the Wider Caribbean and Western Atlantic with special concern for the Mexican population as a warning to what could be happening in the region. Work on the threats placing the integrity of these populations and their habitats in the area (including capture, overexploitation and illegal trade) at risk. Prepare a draft regional strategy for their conservation, identifying gaps and priorities; and promote regional collaboration between governments.	CIT, CITES, CONANP SEMARNAT SPAW Protocol of the Cartagena Convention, WWF	Aída Peña - aida.pj@semarnat.gob.mx Laura Sarti - lsarti@conanp.gob.mx Ana R. Barragán - abarragan@conanp.gob.mx	CIT, CITES, CONANP SEMARNAT SPAW Protocol of the Cartagena Convention, WWF	The group divided into 6 working groups, where they discussed topics like bycatch, direct take, habitat degradation, viability of populations, climate change, and regulatory framework, among others. The objectives, indicators and actions to elaborate a Regional Program for hawksbill conservation in the Caribbean were discussed. Some of the most important results of the discussion sessions were: 1) Information on hawksbills in the region was shared and updated; 2) A summary of the viability of the hawksbill based on the conditions of its population, compiling quantitative data and indicators for its monitoring; 3) An analysis of the 40 threats identified, each one with its own score, identifying the top 10 priorities; 4) The identification of at least 12 objectives and their indicators for working to conserve hawksbills in the region and more than 32 strategies, with at least 96 actions for their compliance, based on improving viability or threat mitigation; 5)	

Annex VI
Follow-up on Resolution CIT-COP3-2006 R-2
Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

Please indicate any measures taken in your country regarding the following:

1. Research and follow-up on fisheries aspects:

- What kind of data or information is your country collecting to try and quantify sea turtle interactions with fisheries (surrounding nets, longline, gillnets, etc.)?

In 2007, on the Pacific coast of Mexico, 23 cruises onboard longline boats of medium height were carried out for experimental fishing in which 183 fishing sets were made with a total effort of 73,783 hooks. This sample fishing effort represents approximately 6% of the total fishing effort exerted by the commercial fleet.

Recognizing that in this type of fishing activity and in its area of operation, the interaction between hooks set and sea turtles is practically unavoidable, especially with the olive ridley turtle (Lepidochelys olivacea) and to a lesser extent, the black turtle (Chelonia mydas), the bycatch records were continued.

During this period, interactions with 72 sea turtles were registered, of which 70 corresponded to olive ridleys and 2 with black turtles. The sum of these products represents 1.91% of the total capture.

It is important to mention that all the sea turtles recorded were released alive and without considerable injuries. The research carried out allows confirmation that using “circular” or “round” type hooks considerably reduces injuries to sea turtles.

It is important to mention that the majority of the medium height fleet has substituted traditional “J” (tuna and straight) type hooks for circular hooks. Therefore, 78% of the hooks being used are circle hooks, which represent a high level of substitution, since the first experiment to explore the benefits of this type of hook was done in 2004-2005.

In the case of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea, research and experimental projects related to turtle excluder devices and incidental capture in longlines shows minimal incidence of these species. In 13 years of operating a tuna fleet with onboard observers in 100% of their fishing trips, 998 specimens were captured incidentally, which represents an average of 8 turtles per year. The make-up of the species was the following; the leatherback turtle represented 74%: the kemp’s ridley 11%; the loggerhead and hawksbill turtles 6% each one and the white turtle 2%, it is important to mention that almost 100% of the release of live turtles is successful.

The intensive use of circular hooks has been encouraged for the timely release of sea turtle bycatch in yellow fined tuna fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico.

The same five species mentioned earlier in the tuna program are also bycatch in the shrimp fishery and the incidence of their capture is also minimal. During 2005 and 2006, when operations with onboard observers in the fleet were carried out,

a total of 32 specimens were captured incidentally, and the make-up by species was the following: loggerhead turtle 38%; white 34%; kemp's ridley 16%; hawksbill 9% and; leatherback 3%, and the survivorship of viable individuals released is close to 100%.

The use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) has been maintained in shrimp fisheries, which have been very effective at reducing sea turtle bycatch in trawl fisheries.

It is important to mention the implementation of the Official Mexican Norm NOM-029-PESC-2006, Responsible Fishing of Sharks and Rays. Specifications for their use, will allow progress made in the protection of sea turtle species in the short term to be recorded, since it includes mandates that contribute to decreasing the likelihood that these species are captured in this type of fishery, in particular: prohibits holding or transporting turtles onboard the vessel, the application of recovery measures to resuscitate sea turtles, the use of tools and specific techniques to remove hooks, prohibits fishing sharks at sea turtle nesting beaches and mandatory use of circle hooks in the more shallow waters of the fishing operation.

- Indicate in which types of fisheries onboard observer programs have been implemented.

In tuna fisheries with purseine nets in the Pacific Ocean
In tuna fisheries with longlines in the Gulf of Mexico
In shark fisheries on both coasts
In shrimp fisheries in the Pacific Ocean

- Specify the name of any research projects associated with interactions between fisheries and sea turtles being developed in your country.

The National Fisheries Institute has created a global Project, "**Reducing the environmental consequences from tropical shrimp trawl fisheries, through introducing techniques that reduce bycatch and management changes"** financed by GEF (Global Environment Facility), implemented by PNUMA (United Nations Environment Program) and executed by FAO, in coordination with the following participating countries and agencies: Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Indonesia, Iran, México, Nigeria, Filipinas, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago and Bahrain, SEAFDEC (Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center) and Thailand. The first phase of the Project was developed in February of 2002 until 2008.

The Project has been implemented at three levels:

National: Initially a group of countries (Costa Rica, Indonesia, Iran, México, Nigeria, Philippines and Venezuela) were selected for their bycatch problems in tropical shrimp fishing, they agreed to develop and introduce new, more selective and environmentally friendly fishing technologies.

Regional: The successful individual cases as a result of the projects are disseminated and adapted to neighboring countries, coordinating cooperative actions between the national institutions involved in each region.

Global: FAO collects, establishes quality control, filters, analyzes and disseminates at a larger scale the necessary information that can be used to reduce the environmental impact caused from shrimp trawl fisheries in marine waters, globally. New prototypes for shrimp trawl nets for three regions of the Mexican Pacific, which obtain a 30-70% reduction in bycatch, save between 30 and 50% gasoline, improve the quality of the product (shrimp) and humanize the work onboard by reducing the amount of work required to unload and separate the bycatch.

In 2010 they worked with FAO to evaluate the initiation and implementation of phase II of this global Project with the objective of reducing bycatch and discarded fish captured by shrimp vessels using trawls, by introducing technologies that reduce capture of juvenile fish with nutritional value, as well as other species.

The final product will be to adopt environmentally friendly fishing technologies and practices, so that shrimp trawl fisheries may improve in terms of their environmental damage and reduce the biological impacts that they cause and will become sustainable in the future.

A direct result of the Project will be the use of bycatch reducing devices (BRDs) to reduce the bycatch of unwanted fauna. An additional result will be a more efficient management of the shrimp trawl fisheries and cooperation between countries at a regional and global scale.

On the other hand, as part of the technical collaboration between personnel at the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and SAGARPA- INAPESCA, they evaluated the hydrodynamic behavior of the trawl net prototype RS-INP-MEX in June of 2010, which were designed for selective shrimp fishing for the industrial and coastal fleets, respectively. .

The assessment consisted in a direct measure of the horizontal and vertical openings in the mouth of the net, its geometric configuration and operational behavior of the selective elements of the model net: turtle excluder, “fish eye” design, and second inferior rope. Based on these measures and underwater filming, the technicians from both countries defined what elements needed what adjustments in order for it to work better. The adjustments made allowed the nets to be operated at their greatest measurements between the openings of their horizontal and vertical axis, achieving the optimal confirmation of the net, while also adjusting the trap doors of the nets at 50´ for the coastal fleet and adjustments in mounting the second inferior rope.

The following stage with collaboration from MEXUS will be to execute fishing sets with the prototype net in both its industrial and coastal versions during the 2010-2011shrimp season, and compare the volume and composition of the capture obtained with traditional nets.

- Report on whether vessels of non Party States that fish in jurisdictional waters, have provided information on the capture and mortality of sea turtles. If yes, was this information included in

There is no information.

- Inform on whether cooperation mechanisms have been established with non Party states to obtain information on sea turtle capture and mortality in areas of interest of the Convention.

Mexico participates in a variety of international bodies for fisheries management that been trying to establish sea turtle protection and conservation measures.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) have established measures and carry out projects directed at compiling information for the protection of this specie.

The ICCAT issued Recommendation 03-11 on sea turtles that encourages the release of any sea turtles accidentally caught in order to contribute to their survival ship, support the efforts of FAO in resolving the issues related to the conservation of sea turtles by focusing at a global level.

Similarly there is also a recommendation on the use of circle hooks. It even recommends the exchange of fishing methods and changing technology into fishing gear that improves the safe handling and release of the specimen, which includes although is not limited to, the use of de-hooking devices, line cutters and sacks.

The IATTC has adopted resolutions to protect these species, which include measures such as: avoid getting close to sea turtles, to the greatest extent possible; require fishermen to release all entangled sea turtles; carry out research and design gear modifications that reduce entanglement of sea turtles, and take measures that encourage the use of those designs that prove to be effective at reducing their entanglement. In the case of longline vessels fishing species included by the Convention in the EPO it requires that fishermen have and use the necessary equipment to release these species; improve techniques to further reduce their bycatch as well as to quickly begin carrying out tests to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of the right combination of circular hooks and bait, depth, gear specifications, fishing practices and other measures to reduce bycatch, injury and sea turtle mortality, evaluate their impact on capture of target species and other types of bycatch and provide these results to the IATTC.

It is important to mention that the IAC is currently working with the IATTC on creating a memorandum of understanding that focuses on exchanging and disseminating information as well as opportunities for collaborative efforts to carry out sea turtle protection and conservation activities.

2. Mitigation measures

Indicate any measures your country is taking to reduce interactions between fisheries and sea turtles in the following fisheries:

- Coastal trawl nets
- Surrounding nets
- Longline
- Gillnets and entangling nets R/ installation of gillnets is not allowed in areas close to nesting sites.

See answer to question 1.

3. Training, education and divulgation

Indicate training, education and divulgation activities that have been organized in your country regarding the topic of reducing incidental captures of sea turtles in fisheries.

Last year, the consequent Training Program for Constructing, Installing and Efficient Use of Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) for the High Seas Shrimp Fisheries Sector on both costs of Mexico.

SAGARPA called for an integration of the participation of various institutions of the Federal Public Administration, like the National Aquiculture and Fisheries Commission (CONAPESCA), General Attorney for Environmental Protection (FIRA) and the National Center for Capacity Building in Sustainable Fishing and Aquiculture of INAPESCA.

This inter-institutional group established an integrated strategy for capacity building that includes a training component on the efficient use of these devices to the preparation of operational manuals and a methodological tool to help strengthen the teaching and/or learning process called the Audiovisual Teaching Packet (PPAV).

The training courses given were on how to construct and assemble TEDs, geared towards TED netters/constructors, and installation and proper use of TEDs, geared towards crew on high seas trawl vessels.

Since the implementation of its first stage in 2010, a total of 5006 people have been trained (236 netters and 4700 crew members). In order to attend the majority of the crew members in the national shrimping fleet, a second stage will soon begin.

On the other hand, from June 21 to August 9, the joint training Program between CONAPESCA – PROFEPA on topics relating to Turtle Excluder Devices, which was given by personnel from Mexico's Marine Secretariat and Navy, training 1,349 people in 22 SEMAR locations along both coasts.

In 2010, a "Practical Guide to Verifying Turtle Excluder Devices", Technical Specifications NOM-061-PESC-2006, provided by PROFEPA, was distributed among personnel in charge of carrying out these inspections.

Training on sea turtle biological and taxonomy was provided to observers onboard the fleet, in addition to training on the main scaled, shark and shrimp species found and the importance of obtaining clear and precise records was stressed.

4. Harmonization of policies and legislation

Indicate if any national legal instruments have been modified in order to harmonize them with the IAC and its resolutions.

Article 133 of Mexico's Political Constitution, stipulates that those Agreements established by executive power, with the approval of the Senate, are the Supreme Law of the entire Union.

The General Law of Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection, LGEEPA (1988), modified in 1996, 2002 and 2005, dedicates the majority of its rules to that related to protecting the environment and its natural resources, thus becoming the first judicial legislation that regulated in an integrated manner, environmental protection in the country.

One of the most important legal tools for sea turtle protection and conservation in our country is the Decree establishing Total and Indefinite Closure that entered into force on May 30 of 1990, and on December 30 of 1991 it established environmental offenses in the Penal Code, punishing for the capture, collection and commercialization of endangered species, which is the case for sea turtles.

In June of 2006 modifications to article 60 Bis 1 of the General Wildlife Law were published, stating that "No specimen of sea turtle, no matter what species it may be, may be subject to extractive use, whether subsistence or commercial, including its parts and subparts".

5. Capacity building

Did your country create a National Sea Turtle Committee?

Although in practice there is no National Sea Turtle Committee, those groups interested in the topic in each of the coastal states where sea turtle nesting occurs, have organized themselves into state and regional Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups, under which the meet on a yearly basis to search for alternative solutions to the challenges faced and agree on methods for working each season. The governmental sector is also represented in these groups.

What networks have been organized to achieve better interaction between interested groups in sea turtles and fisheries?

Mexico's National Turtle Conservation Program has been in operation for over 45 years. It is currently works under the environmental sector and, although there is no formal National Committee, there are various State Committees for Sea Turtle Conservation and even including the federal government that carries out direct conservation actions in the majority of the most important nesting beaches in the country. Furthermore, there are at least three, well organized, regional working groups that create workshops, joint projects, annual agreements and their follow-up, etc. The following have State Committees: Campeche and Quintana Roo, Sea Turtle Group of the Californias and the Wetlands Network of Oaxaqueña coast. In order to designate species specific leaders within the federal government, and to prepare the Action Programs for Species Conservation (PACE), they hope to have a strong group of specialists in each one of the species that inhabit their country. Among these groups, the one that is most focused on bycatch issues is the Sea Turtle Group of the Californias, who asses bycatch in the Baja Californa Peninsula and provide fishermen with recommendations.

6. Financing

Specify the type of financing or support obtained to implement the guidelines of resolution CIT COP3/2006/R-2.

ICCAT and IATTC have established sea turtle protection and conservation measures, thus complying with the mandate of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and their guidelines to reduce sea turtle mortality caused by fishing operations.

The Latin American Fisheries Development Organization (OLDEPESCA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the IAC, establishing joint cooperative efforts within their general objectives and work programs, committing to identify opportunities to collaborate on exchanging and disseminating information that helps to identify cooperative efforts that help carry out protection and conservation activities for sea turtles and their habitats.

7. Socio-economic issues

Indicate socio-economic activities that have been implemented in your country regarding interactions between sea turtles and fisheries

8. Other aspects

Indicate if your country considers the potential effects of mariculture projects on sea turtle populations in critical areas within environmental impact studies.

In agreement with LGEEPA, these types of projects or activities must submit an environmental impact study in order to evaluate any possible effects they might have on the ecosystem where they take place, taking into consideration various elements of the project and not only its impact on the resources that it will be using or affecting.

According to the Law, in the event that at any time while these projects are being carried out they cause great harm to the ecosystem, it establishes “If at the sites in which these projects or activities will be carried out exist… endemic species of flora and fauna, threatened, endangered or species subject to special protection”, it can be requested that they submit mechanisms of guarantee.