

# **INTER-AMERICAN SEA TURTLE CONVENTION**

# IAC - Annual Report 2023

# **HONDURAS**

## IAC Annual Report General Instructions

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

To complete this Annual Report, Focal Points should consult with appropriate stakeholders involved in sea turtle issues. If you have any questions regarding this Annual Report, please contact the Secretariat at <a href="mailto:secretario@iacseaturtle.org">secretario@iacseaturtle.org</a>

The submission deadline for this Annual Report is April 30th, 2023.

Translation by Haydeé Medina (IAC Secretariat)

# IAC - Annual Report 2023

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The submission deadline for this Annual Report is April 30th, 2023.

THE PDF OF THE ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY EACH COUNTRY WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE CONVENTION WEBSITE

# Part I – General Information

Country

Name of the country reporting >>> Honduras

#### **Official Note**

If required, please attach here the relevant administrative authority **official note** endorsing the annual report submission. Are you attaching an official note?

⊠No

## 1) Focal Point

1.1 Name

>>> Sandy Carolina Pereira Pereira

1.2 Institution

>>> Secretaria de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente

1.3 Submission Date

>>> 25-10-2023

# 2) Agency or Institution responsible for preparing this report

2.1 Name of the person preparing this report

>>> Sandy Carolina Pereira Pereira

2.2 Name of Agency or Institution

>>> Dirección General de Biodiversidad

2.3 Address

» Centro Cívico Gubernamental, torre 1 Piso 7 Boulevard Juan Pablo II Tegucigalpa, Francisco Morazán Honduras

2.4 Telephone

>>> +504 22428521

2.5 E-mail

» biodiversidad@serna.gob.hn

## 3) Others who participated in the preparation of this report

3.1 Others who participated in the preparation of this report

	Name	Agency or Institution	E-mail
F		Instituto de conservación y desarrollo forestal áreas protegidas y vida silvestre regional Puerto Lempira.	linorosell7@gmail.com
N	Marcio Aronne	Fundación Cayos Cochinos	marcio@cayoscochinos.hn
Į.	•	Centro de investigcion de tortuga Golfina	centrotortuga golfina@gamail.com
F	Franci Suazo	Regional SERNA sur	regionalcholuteca@serna.g ob.hn

# Part II - Policy and Management

# 1) General description of activities

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

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

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

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

You have attached a document, web/URL to this answer:

6.ACUERDO 0620-2013.COMIT ë T ëC.DE TORTUGAS MARINAS COTTOM.pdf National Technical Committee of Sea turtles

7.ACUERDO 1524-2018.REGL. INTERNO DE COMIT È T ÈC.DE TORTUGA.pdf- Internal Regulations of the National Committee of Sea Turtle

Estrategia\_Nacional de Conservación de Tortugas Marinas de Honduras: Prepared for the period 2014-2028

# **Species Management Plan**

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

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

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

1.2 Does your country have policies and programs at local and regional scales in accordance with Article XVIII?
Please attach the list of policies and programs and other information relevant to their adoption or implementation.
⋈ Si

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

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

>>>You have attached a document, web/URL to this answer:

7.ACUERDO 1524-2018.REGL. INTERNO DE COMIT È T ÈC.DE TORTUGA.pdf

Estrategia Nacional de Conservación de Tortugas Marinas de Honduras

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

Describe any national regulations, international agreements and other legal instruments related to sea turtles and/or relevant activities that were adopted during the preceding year (30 April 2022 – 30 April 2023).

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

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

Countries that have previously submitted this information; please provide information for any changes that have occurred since your country's last report submission (2022).

National Legislation

Type and name of the legal instrument (No.)	Description (Range of application)	Sanctions(s) Imposed
	Agreement for the creation of the Sea Turtle National Committee	none
ACREE1524-2018	Functioning of the Committee	none
ACREE 380-05	,	Non-consumption of products

You have attached a document, links/URLs to this answer.

## 6.ACUERDO\_0620-2013\_\_CREACION\_DE\_COTTOM.pdf

# 7. ACUERDO 1524-2018. REGL. INTERNO DE COMITE\_TEC. DE TORTUGA..pdf

Acuerdo 380-05-Veda.pdf

<u>Acuerdo 380-05</u> - Mechanism through which it is delegated to the Environmental Verification and Control Commission of the Gulf of Fonseca (CVC-GOLF)", is the institution responsible for the "Protection of Sea Turtles in the Fonseca Gulf" project.

http://

#### International Instruments

Treaty, Convention, Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding	Year signed and/or ratified
	Convention of Biological Diversity
	CMS-Convention for Migratory Species
	IAC-Inter American Convention of Sea turtles

# 3) Actions to comply with National and International Mandate

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

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

>>>> Inspections and monitoring are carried out in coordination with entities such as the Institute of Conservation and Forestry development, Protected areas and Wildlife, and the Environmental Prosecutor's Office.

## 4) Efforts to increase IAC membership

- 4.1 Has your country encouraged non-member states to join the IAC? ⊠No
- **4.2** Has your country reached out to Canada, Guyana, French Guiana, Trinidad and Tobago, and/or Suriname to inform these nations about the critical situation of the population and priority actions for the conservation of leatherbacks in the NW Atlantic?

⊠No

# 5) Exceptions under the Convention

5.1 Implementation and monitoring of exceptions established in the Convention

Describe the progress in the implementation of the exception correspondent to the current year (800 words) according to the current resolutions on exceptions.

#### Resolutions on Exceptions

CIT-COP10-2022-R3

CIT-COP10-2022-R4

CIT-COP10-2022-R5

CIT-COP5-2011-R2 (PDF)

CIT-COP6-2013-R1 (PDF)

CIT-COP7-2015-R1 (PDF)

# 5.2 Have your country presented a 5-year report on the implementation of the Exception Resolution?

Resolution CIT-COP6-2013-R1 Exception Guatemala and Panama (2013-2020). Resolution CIT-COP7-2015-R1 Exception Costa Rica (2015-2020). Attach the five-year report.

 $\boxtimes No$ 

## 5.3. Does your country have a management plan for the exception?

If yes, attach the exception management plan

 $\boxtimes No$ 

## 5.4 Submission of new exceptions

Should your country present a new exception, please describe in the box below a brief description in accordance with article IV, item 3(a,b,d) and Annex IV of the text of the Convention, using the procedure established by the IAC COP and attach the full report as requested in Resolution CIT-COP5-2011-R2.

>>> There is none at this moment.

# Part III - Compliance with IAC Resolutions

# 1) Sea Turtle Species Presence

# 1.1 Sea Turtle Species Present in the Country

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

	Atlantic Ocean	Pacific Ocean	Caribbean Sea
Lepidochelys olivacea			
Lepidochelys kempii			
Dermochelys coriacea			$\boxtimes$
Eretmochelys imbricata			$\boxtimes$
Caretta caretta			$\boxtimes$
Chelonia mydas			

# Part IV - Research Information

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

# 1) Threats

## 1.1 Indicate threats

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

Lo = Lepidochelys olivacea

Lk = Lepidochelys kempii

Dc = Dermochelys coriacea

Ei = Eretmochelys imbricata

Cc = Caretta caretta

Cm = Chelonia mydas.

	Lo	Lk	Dc	Ei	Сс	Cm
Direct Use						
Incidental Capture				$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$
Coastal development						
Pathogens						
Contamination					$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$
Climate Change						$\boxtimes$

# 2) Indicate the mitigation actions that apply for each species

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

	Lk	Lo	Dc	Ei	Сс	Cm
Establishment of Marine Protected Areas						
Lighting regulations in place						
Permits required for construction near nesting sites						
Permits required for scientific research on feeding/nesting grounds						
Permits required for recreational activities near nesting sites						
Beach Cleanups	$\boxtimes$					$\boxtimes$
Predator's removal/control						
Use of sea turtle friendly lighting						
None						

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

	Lo	Lk	Dc	Ei	Сс	Cm
Sea Turtle Excluder Devices (TED)						
Time/space closures						
Research on new fishing gear technology						
Vessel monitoring using VMS						
Marking of fishing gear in commercial vessels						
Fishers trained on sea turtle safe handling and release						
Observers program						
Use of circle hooks						
Nets are banned						
Trawling is banned						
Nets illumination						
None						

# 2.3 Direct use mitigation actions

	Lo	Lk	Dc	Ei	Сс	Cm
None						
Nests relocation						
Night Patrols						
Day Patrols						
Flipper Tagging						
Satellite Tracking						
Poaching regulations in place						
Environmental education for local communities						
Seizure of sea turtle products						
Livelihood alternatives for local communities						
Permits required for scientific research						
Exception management plan (if applies)						

# 3) Research

# 3.1 Types of research

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

	Сс	Lo	Cm	Lk	Dc	Ei
Tagging						
Migration						
Genetics						
Habitat monitoring	$\boxtimes$				$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$
Fisheries interactions						
Disease						

#### 3.2 Describe scientific research

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

To report each project, please use the following structure:

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

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

>>> Information was requested; however, the response was not received by the day required for the submission of this report.

# 4) Other activities

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

#### 4.1 Other activities

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

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

»» A training day will be held by the Cayos Cochinos Foundation and other cooperators for turtle camp managers and other actors who collaborate in the management of turtle species turtles in the country, this activity will take place in the month of November.

# Part V - Nesting Information

## Index nesting sites or beaches for sea turtle conservation

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

# **Index Nesting Sites**

Attach here other files relevant to this section, if required

Please describe the content of the attachment in the box below and use the blue button to attach the file.

## **Honduras**

## **Pumpkin Hill Utila**

Criteria for selection of this index beach/site:

#### Pumpkin Hill Utila

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

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

#### Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- ⊠ This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level population.
- ☑This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- ⊠This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

# **Index Nesting Site Information**

Geographic Location: Latitude

### **Declared Protected Area**

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

⊠Yes

#### Tagging Programs

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

Tissue Sampling

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

 $\boxtimes No$ 

#### **Plaplaya**

Criteria for selection of this index beach/site:

# Plaplaya

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

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

## Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- ⊠ This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- ☑ There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional

#### population.

- ⊠This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

# **Index Nesting Site Information**

#### **Declared Protected Area**

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

No.

## **Tagging Programs**

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

#### Tissue Sampling

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

# **Cayos Cochinos**

Criteria for selection of this index beach/site:

#### Cayos Cochinos

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

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

#### Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- ⊠There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- ☑ This site includes major nesting sites already under intensive study and long-term monitoring.
- ⊠This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

# Index Nesting Site Information

#### **Declared Protected Area**

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

#### Tissue Sampling

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

## **Punta Raton**

Criteria for selection of this index beach/site:

#### Punta Raton

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

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

## Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- ⊠This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- ⊠There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- ⊠This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

## **Index Nesting Site Information**

**Declared Protected Area** 

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

#### El Venado

Criteria for selection of this index beach/site:

El Venado

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

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

#### Guidelines for selecting index beaches/sites in the IAC Region

- ⊠This is a site where one of the species found in the country nests at any significant level.
- ⊠ There is significant population structure (e.g. genetics, RMUs), that represent the various segments of the regional population.
- ⊠This site remains consistent as index beach from year to year and receives sufficient resources to maintain adequate and consistent monitoring.

# **Index Nesting Site Information**

**Declared Protected Area** 

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

## Tissue Sampling

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

 $\boxtimes No$ 

NOTE: HONDURAS DID NOT FILL OUT THE INFORMATION FOR THEIR INDEX NESTING SITES

# Part VI - Fisheries Information

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

# **Longline Fisheries**

# Longline Fisheries (Vessels >20m)

Does your country have industrial longline fisheries with vessels over 20m? ⊠No

**>>>** 

# Longline Fisheries (Vessels <20m)