



INTER-AMERICAN SEA TURTLE CONVENTION

IAC Annual Report Annual 2024

IAC Annual Report General Instructions

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

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

The submission deadline for this Annual Report is April 30th, 2024

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

Original language Spanish. Unofficial translation by Haydee Medina

Part I - General Information

Country

Name of the country reporting

>>> ARGENTINA

You have attached the following document to this answer.

NO-2024-42677717-APN-DAA_MRE.pdf – IAC -Annual Report 2024

Official Note

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

Are you attaching an official note?

☒ Yes

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

<<<NO-2024-42677717-APN-DAA_MRE.pdf - IAC – Annual Report 2024

1) Focal Point

1.1 Name

>>> Minister Mrs. Corina b. Lehmann

1.2 Institution

>>> Directorate of Environmental Issues environmental, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship (Dirección de Asuntos Ambientales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto)

1.3 Date of Submission

>>> April 30, of 2024

2) Agency or Institution responsible for preparing this report

2.1. Name of the person in charge of preparing this report

>>> Deborah Winter

2.2. Name of the Agency or Institution

>>> National Directorate for the Environmental Management of the Water and the Ecosystems aquatics, Undersecretary of Environment of the Nation (Dirección Nacional de Gestión Ambiental del Agua y los Ecosistemas Acuáticos, Subsecretaría de Ambiente de la Nación)

2.3 Address

>>> San Martin 451, CABA

2.4 Phone number

>>> 54 11 39900479

2.5 E- mail

>>> dwinter@ambiente.gob.ar

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
	Jorgelina of the Pillar Oddi	Dirección Nacional de Gestión Ambiental del Agua y los Ecosistemas Acuáticos, Subsecretaría de Ambiente de la Nación	joddi@ambiente.gob.ar
	Maria Eugenia Romero	Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura de la Nación	meromero@magyp.gob.ar
	Juan Federico Bernasconi	Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura de la Nación	jbernasconi@magyp.gob. ar

	Victoria González Carman	Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras (IIMyC) (CONICET - UNMDP); Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero (INIDEP)	vgcarman@gmail.com vgcarman@inidep.edu.ar
	Laura Prosdocimi	Laboratorio de Ecología, Comportamiento y Mamíferos Marinos (LECyMM) Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales (MACN-CONICET)	lprosd@yahoo.com.ar
	Sofia Jones	División Zoología Vertebrados-Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Museo Universidad Nacional de La Plata- CONICET	sjones@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar
	Natalie S. Teryda	School of Natural Resources and Environment, university of Florida	nteryda@ufl.edu
	Victoria Massola	MASSOLA María Victoria Ministerio de Ambiente, Provincia de Buenos Aires /Fundación para la Recepción y Asistencia de Animales Marinos (FRAAM)	victoriamassola@hotmail.com
	Karina Cecilia Alvarez	Departamento de Conservación - Fundación Mundo Marino	cecikaru@hotmail.com
	Alan Rosenthal	Asociación de Naturalistas Geselinos (ANG)	alanfroenthal@gmail.com

Part II - Policy and Management

1) General description of activities

General description of the 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 according to Article XVIII. Please upload the file or attach the links to the corresponding documents using the blue box icons beneath each question

☒ Yes

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

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

☒ Yes

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

PAN_TM_for_National_Report.docx

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

By favor attach the list of programs, So as other information relevant to the adoption either implementation of these.

☒ No

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 2023– 30 April 2024).

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 (2023).

National Legislation

	Type and name of the legal instrument (No.)	Description (Range of application)	Sanction(s) imposed
	Provision DNCYFP No. 28/2022	It seeks to promote the recovery of fishing gear and plastic boxes and packaging materials that float and have fallen into the sea through the obligation of having certain tools on board that facilitate their recovery.	
	Provision DNCYFP No. 4/2023	It is established that all flag trawler fishing vessel armor by Argentina that is dispatched to operate in the spaces defined by Article 4 of Law No. 24,922 and/or in the area adjacent to the Exclusive Economic Zone, must identify the fishing gear in accordance with the provisions of the present measure.	
	Provision DNCYFP No. 4/2023	It was established that it is mandatory to declare in the electronic fishing report the number of crates with which a fresh ship is dispatched to the storage fishing area, and the number of boxes with which it returns to port at the end of the tide, in order to be able to quantify those lost during their fishing operations, if corresponds.	

You have attached the following Web links/URL to this answer. [national_regulations.docx](#)

International Instruments

	Year of signature and/or ratification	Treaty, Convention, Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding

3) Actions to comply with National and International Mandate

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

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

>>> The Undersecretary of Fisheries seeks to address the problem of plastics that enter the ocean from fishing activity. For this reason, progress has been made in the approval of regulations with the objective of reducing impacts and having more information related to the problem in order to design more appropriate policies and recommendations for its mitigation. The requirements established therein are in accordance with the established technical guidelines by the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for the tagging of Fishing Gear. Although these regulations are not directly linked to the mitigation of turtle bycatch, they contribute to conservation of their habitat by discouraging the loss, abandonment and discarding of fishing gear and improving the knowledge of the magnitude of the problem to plan pollution mitigation measures effective plastics.

4) Efforts to increase IAC membership

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

☒ No

4.2 Has your country reached out to Canada, Guiana, Guiana French, Trinidad and Tobago and/or Surinam to inform them about the critical situation of the population and the priority actions for the conservation of the NW leatherback turtle?

☒ No

5) Exceptions under the Convention

Implementation and monitoring of exceptions established by the Convention

5.1 Does your country have an exception established by the Convention?

Describe the progress in the implementation of the exception corresponding to the year of this report (800 words), according to the current Exceptions Resolutions.

Resolutions on Exceptions

Panama's Exception's Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R3

Guatemala's Exceptions Resolutions CIT-COP10-2022-R4

Costa Rica's Exceptions Resolution CIT-COP10-2022- R5

☒ Not applicable. The country does not have an Exception

5.2 Has your country presented a 5-years report on the implementation of the Exception Resolution?

Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R3 Exception Panama Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R4 Exception Guatemala Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R5 Exception Costa Rica

Attach the five-year report.

☒ Not applicable. The country does not have an Exception

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

If yes, attach the exception management plan

☒ Not applicable. The country does not have an Exception.

Part III - Compliance with IAC Resolutions

1) Sea Turtles Species Presence

1.1. Sea turtle Species Presents in the Country

Check the corresponding box if the listed species is found in the oceanographic basin of your country as established by Article III of the text of the Convention.

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

Additional Notes

Include other information, if required

>>> Of the species, *Eretmochelys imbricata* only they have been two records of the species, which they were hybrid specimens with the *Caretta caretta* species.

2) IAC Resolutions

2.1 The following resolutions apply to this country

☒ Loggerhead Resolution

☒ Fisheries Resolution

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

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

☒ Yes

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> In 2015, the Federal Environment Council (COFEMA) approved through Resolution No. 317/2015 the "National Action Plan for the Conservation of Sea Turtles in the Republic of Argentina (PAN TM)" and, within this, the "National Action Program to Reduce the Interaction of Sea Turtles with the marine waste in Argentina". Likewise, the PAN TM contains the "National Action Program for Reducing the Interaction of Sea Turtles with fisheries in Argentina", which was approved by the Federal Fisheries Council (CFP) through Resolution No. 14/2018.

Both Programs that make up the PAN TM are current and being implemented.

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

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

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

☒ Yes

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> On October 30, 2023, the "First Workshop of the Technical Advisory Group (GAT) of the National Action Program to reduce the Interaction of sea turtles with fisheries in the Argentina", under the virtual modality, and on October 31st, 2023, the "First Workshop of the Technical Advice Group (GAT) of the National Action Program to reduce Turtle Interaction marine waste in Argentina", also virtually. In both workshops there was a general review of the actions advanced to that date, with a view to holding the plenary workshop follow-up in 2024.

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

☒ Yes

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> The Law No. 22,421/1981 is the Fauna National Law. Its regulatory decree is the 666/1997 .

The Law No. 24,922/1997 approve the Fishing Federal Regime. Its regulatory decree is the 748/1999. The Resolution SAyDS 513/2007 prohibits the hunt, capture, interprovincial transit, trade in federal jurisdiction and the export of alive specimens, products and byproducts of the wild fauna, sea turtles are included in Annex I.

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

☒ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> N/A

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

☒ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> N/A

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

☒ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> N/A

8. Exists exploitation either capture direct of turtles bigheaded?

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R7 - Reduce impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

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

1. Does your country have observer programs?

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> Although there is no specific sea turtle observer program, the National Institute of Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP) has the Fisheries Research Assistant Program (which performs the tasks of scientific observers on board commercial vessels) for which, every year, updates the management protocol on board sea turtles, as well as in all those programs of the INIDEP that work in fisheries likely to interact with turtles. The protocol also includes identification cards for sea turtle species.

2. Does your country develop research on sea turtle/fisheries interactions?

☒ Yes

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> - >>> - Doctoral thesis (in progress): "Evaluation of the impact of fisheries on sea turtles present in Argentine waters", developed by Lic. Sofia Jones in the Vertebrate Zoology Division of the Museum of La Plata (UNLP-CONICET). Within the framework of said thesis, she continued working alongside the fishing sector of the province of Buenos Aires in order to record fishing effort, incidental capture of sea turtles, and sightings in the water. She reinforced the capture reporting network via WhatsApp to collect information, and community participation in the conservation of these reptiles continued to be encouraged through social network (<https://www.instagram.com/proyecto.tutka/>). The sector continued to disseminate and train through the species identification sheets and the good practices sheet, developed in the year 2021 and 2022 respectively.

- Doctoral thesis (in progress): "Analysis of the spatio-temporal distribution of the marine megafauna assemblage stranded in the Villa Gesell district" developed by Mr. Alan Rosenthal in the Biology Laboratory, ecology and conservation of marine mammals from the National University of Mar del Plata. Within This thesis aims to analyze the intra- and inter-annual variation of sea turtle strandings in regarding the frequencies of absolute and relative occurrences, their abundance and distribution of strandings, as well as investigate the effect of natural, meteorological and anthropogenic processes (including fisheries) on the abundance, specific richness and distribution of strandings.

- Monitoring of sea turtle strandings in the northern coastal sector of the province of Buenos Aires, carried out between INIDEP, CONICET, the Mundo Marino Foundation and the Association of Naturalists Geselinos. To date there is the following result: Vassallo, M., Álvarez, C.K., Rodríguez-Heredia, S., Rosenthal, A.F., Albareda, D.A., Uhart, M.M., González Carman, V. and Alemany, D. Sea turtle strandings in the temperate Southwest Atlantic: analysis of drivers and potential causes. Under review in Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems.

- We collaborated with satellite tracking data of sea turtles for the next work that aims to estimate the vulnerability of marine megafauna to various human activities: Van Compernelle M, [...], González Carman V, [...], Sequeira AMM. Vulnerability of highly-mobile and wide-ranging marine megafauna to global anthropogenic threats. Under review in Science.

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

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

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

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

B. Mitigation measures

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

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

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

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

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

☒ Yes

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

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

>>> From the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Federal Fisheries Council and the Joint Technical Commission of the Maritime Front, measures to protect marine resources are adopted and regulations are established that They seek the sustainability of fishing activity. Within the framework of the rules that regulate the activity of the fleet, enormous importance is given to the management of fisheries through the implementation of area-based fisheries management measures. In relation to the conservation of sea turtles, three regulations stand out that aim to reduce the fishing effort carried out by trawlers (Figure 1):

Through CFP Resolution No. 2/2010, the temporary closure of the "El Rincón" area is established, whose extension It is 31,000 km² and is located inside the 50 m isobath. The area is located south of the Ecosystem Buenos Aires Coast. The current fishing measure consists of a seasonal closure from 10/1 to 3/31 and a Restricted Effort access the rest of the year, which prohibits bottom trawling for vessels greater than 25 m with exceptions of some larger vessels that historically had operated in the area. Other fishing gear (mostly mid-water trawls and jigs) is excluded from the measure. Even though, the management measures were and are intended to protect the demersal fish coastal assemblage, it can be understood that it contributes indirectly to the conservation of the habitat and the in-situ biodiversity, given the decrease in trawling effort in the area during the spring and summer, which constitutes the most important period for the reproduction and breeding of important species from the point of view of conservation. Green and leatherback turtles live in the area.

Through CTFMM Resolution No. 10/2000, measures are adopted to ensure the protection and rational exploitation of seabass, hake other demersal species in a certain sector of the ZCP.

Under this objective, bottom trawling is prohibited for all types of vessels over 28 m in length.

Through Resolutions established by the CTMFM, seasonal closures are established in summer, spring, autumn and winter where the operation on the hake resource is prohibited, as well as the use of bottom trawl fishing gear aimed at demersal species.

Figure 1: Fisheries management measures based on areas and distribution of sea turtles.

You have attached the following documents to this response.

[Figure_1_Fisheries_management_measures_based_on_areas_and_distribution_of_marine_turtles.jpg](#)

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

☒ No

If yes, please indicate which fishing gears

>>> No

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

<<< Within the framework of the doctoral thesis "Evaluation of the impact of fisheries on sea turtles present in Argentine waters" (Lic. Sofia Jones, in progress): Dissemination and training on good practices on board using the ID cards developed in 2022 to carry on board the vessels. Also, two workshops were offered: one at the "Comandante Luis Piedra Buena" National Fishing School in Mar del Plata in which students of the Captain and First Class Pilots of commercial boats participated; and another in the "Sociedad de Fomento de San Clemente del Tuyú", where artisanal fishermen who work in Samborombón Bay and the Maritime Front of the Río de la Plata participated. The objective of both meetings was to promote the participation of the fishing sector in the conservation of sea turtles species, and involve them in the joint development of collaborative solutions for sea turtle management on board. Training was provided about the species present in Argentina, and the problems associated with fishing activity. In addition, the preliminary results of the work carried out by the Lic. Jones together with the sector, and the good practices sheet developed together with the sector was presented.

- Within the framework of the IX South Atlantic Sea Turtle Research and Conservation Conference Occidental – ASO Tortugas NETWORK (November 4 to 7, 2023): Dr. Laura Prosdocimi and Lic. Sofia Jones participated in the organization and coordination of the Workshops: i) "Assessment of the impact on sea turtles in trawl fisheries in the Western South Atlantic"; ii) "Good practices on board: Towards a consensual management for the conservation of sea turtles in the Western South Atlantic."

C. Socio-economic considerations

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

☒ No

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

List the activities, workshops, research, publications either any other material relevant related. Attach supporting documents if required.

>>> No

Part IV - Research Information

indicate the threats (Coastal development, incidental capture (bycatch), direct use, pollution, pathogens and climate change) by species

1) Threats

1.1. indicate the threats

Indicate the threats (**coastal development, incidental capture (bycatch), direct use, pollution, pathogens and climate change**) by species

Lo = *Lepidochelys olivacea* Lk = *Lepidochelys kempii* Dc = *Dermochelys coriacea* Ei = *Eretmochelys imbricata* Cc = *Caretta caretta*

Cm = *Chelonia mydas*.

	L o	L k	D c	E i	C c	C m
Direct use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Incidental Capture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coastal Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pathogens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Change Climate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2) Indicate the mitigation actions that apply for each species

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

	L k	L o	D c	E i	C c	C m
Establishment of Marine Areas Protected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lightning regulations in place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for construction near nesting sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Permit required for scientific research in nesting /feeding sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for recreational activities near nesting sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beach cleanups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Predator 's removal/control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of friendly lighting for sea turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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2.2 Bycatch mitigation actions (i.e. incidental capture)

	Lo	Lk	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Sea Turtle Excluder Devices (TED)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spatial/temporal closures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Research on new fishing gear technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring of vessels using VMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marking of fishing gear in commercial vessels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fishermen trained on safe handling and release safe of sea turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Observers programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of circle hooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nets are banned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trawling is banned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nets illumination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

You have attached the following documents to this answer

Turtle_handling_on_board.docx

2.3 Direct use mitigation actions

	L o	L k	D c	E i	C c	C m
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Relocation of nests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Night patrols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day patrols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flipper tagging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Satellite tracking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poaching regulations in place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental education for local communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Seizure of sea turtle products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Livelihood alternatives for local communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exception Management plan (if applies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3) Research

3.1 Type of research

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

	C m	C c	E i	D c	L k	L o
Tagging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Genetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Habitats monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries interactions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diseases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.2 Describe the 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 attached photos and /or the full report, if available).

Describe the file with the same Annex numbered referenced in the text

>>> - PROJECT OF SEA TURTLES CONSERVATION IN THE ARGENTINIAN SEA

Objectives: 1- contribute to the knowledge of the spatiotemporal distribution of sea turtle species in the northern sector of the province of Buenos Aires, based on the recorded strandings and the animals admitted to the Rescue and Rehabilitation Center of the Mundo Marino Foundation (CRRFMM); 2- contribute to the Conservation of sea turtles based on epidemiological surveillance and evaluation of aspects of the health status of the species through clinical evaluation and characterization of blood values, body condition, presence and absence of parasitic fauna and prevalence of identified diseases; generating a local database in the ASO; 3- Evaluate the impact of anthropogenic activities on health of animals based on evidence of interaction with fisheries and the impact of the presence of pollutants and marine litter on animal health; 4- Train and form suitable professionals in the care of sea turtles and carry out education and dissemination campaigns that contribute to the conservation of ASO sea turtles.

Responsible C. Karina Álvarez (conservacion@fundmundomarin.org.ar)

Continuation of the systematic monitoring program for sea turtle strandings, started in 2014, covering the coastal sector of the province of Buenos Aires, between Punta Rasa and Mar Chiquita, covering 180 km of beach between the months of March and June. This systematic work allows the realization of field necropsies and the identification and comprehensive analysis of the causes of strandings. Participated in this program the Mundo Marino Foundation, the Association of Geselino Naturalists (ANG), the Institute of Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP) and the Marine and Coastal Research Institute (CONICET UNMdP).

The specimens are taken to the CRRFMM, which has an interdisciplinary team to provide care in case if they are alive or for their necropsy if they are dead (if this is not possible, it is carried out in the field). The information and samples necessary to evaluate the health status and bodily condition are collected.

The live animals entered also come from the gillnet, the product of joint work with fishermen, and once rehabilitated, they are reinserted and identified with metal marks.

In this regard, the CRRFMM records for the period from 4/13/23 to 3/7/24 were:

Dc: no records

Cc: Total of 39 specimens (7 live admissions of which 3 were reinserted and 4 died; 32 dead strandings)

Cm: Total 4 specimens (1 live stranding, 1 live gillnet which were the 2 reinserted; and 1 dead stranding and 1 dead gillnet)

The educational objective of the project consists, on the one hand, of training and trained suitable professionals in the care of sea turtles through courses (virtual and in-person) taught by professionals from the FMM and carrying out professional practices, internships and volunteering at the FMM. On the other hand, the educational component is also developed through talks in schools, educational programs and the spread of the problems of these animals and conservation actions that are carried out with the community, such as the Provincial Marine Litter Census and the spread of different actions through networks, journalistic media and brochures, participation in local festivals and conferences.

- Trophic ecology: trophic ecology studies in all species of sea turtles from strandings and incidental capture, from tissue samples (skin, muscle, blood, bone, scutes) to the analysis of stable isotopes and samples of digestive contents for interaction studies with plastics and parasitosis. The Mundo Marino Foundation, the Association of Geselino Naturalists (ANG), the Institute of Fisheries Research and Development and the Institute of Marine and Coastal Research (CONICET-UNMdP).

- "Analysis of the spatio-temporal distribution of the marine megafauna assemblage stranded in the district of Villa Gesell. National University of Mar del Plata." Doctoral thesis in progress.

Objectives: 1) Describe the stranded marine megafauna assemblage in terms of its specific composition, abundance, age and sex ratio; 2) Analyze the intra- and inter-annual variation of the assembly of stranded marine megafauna in terms of frequencies of absolute and relative occurrences, abundance and distribution at different taxonomic levels; 3) Investigate the effect of natural, meteorological processes and anthropogenic influences on the abundance, specific richness, and distribution of the marine megafauna assemblage grounding; 4) Evaluate the rate of removal of carcasses by scavengers in terms of size, state of preservation and persistence of the carcass taking into account seasonality and distance to structures existing artificial ones.

Responsible: Alan Rosenthal (alanfrosenthal@gmail.com)

- Continuation of the work plan "Management and conservation of threatened marine species in Argentina: an approach from distribution models and ethnography of the different actors involved."

The growing human population and its consumption pressure endanger the existence of numerous species whose management and protection require scientific information about their ecology and interaction with human activities. The general objective of the project is to contribute to the conservation of marine species working with two complementary epistemological and methodological approaches - the biological and the anthropological, in order to address its conservation and management in a comprehensive manner, contemplating the dimensions socio-cultural, political and ontological aspects involved. From the biological approach, we will work on modeling of habitat use and distribution to evaluate the effect of various anthropogenic activities or factors on different species of turtles and marine mammals in order to propose management and protection measures for them. From the anthropological approach, an ethnographic investigation will be advanced with the objective of analytically reconstructing the discourses and practices of a group of artisanal fishermen and experts in conservation and management who interact in an area of interest both for the conservation of the turtles and marine mammals as well as for the exploitation of fishing resources. In particular, it is proposed that the problem of incidental capture of these species in the north of the province of Buenos Aires must be addressed by reconstructing not only concerns about biodiversity loss raised from the hegemonic discourse of conservationism, but also the issues of inequality in access to fishing resources and their overexploitation favored by current fishing policies. The proposed approach to the conservation of these species is in line with the principles of ecosystem management adopted by government wildlife and fisheries agencies, and at the forefront of scientific disciplines such as Conservation Biology and Nature Anthropology.

Responsible: Dr. Victoria González Carman (vgcarman@gmail.com)

- Start of the CONICET doctoral scholarship work plan "Biology and conservation of sea turtles in Argentina: Is fishing the main cause of mortality? The project has the following specific objectives: 1) Characterize sea turtle strandings according to their specific composition, age, sex and reproductive maturity. 2) Describe the spatio-temporal pattern of turtle strandings and relate it to physical, biological and anthropic variables that allow approximate causes of mortality. 3) Propose a theoretical model for the interpretation of strandings of sea turtles that allows identifying the probable space-time coordinates of the events of mortality and evaluate changes in mortality rates over time. This project is vital importance to add evidence in favor that one of the causes of mortality of sea turtles is bycatch. and to generate a baseline of turtle strandings necessary to evaluate the effects of future seismic surveys to be carried out on the Buenos Aires platform.

Responsible Lic. Martina Vassallo and Dr. Victoria González Carman

- Continuation of the CONICET postdoctoral scholarship work plan "Health status of sea turtles in the temperate region of the Southwest Atlantic.

Responsible: Dr. Ezequiel Palumbo and Victoria González Carman.

Of the seven existing species of sea turtles, three of them - *Caretta caretta*, *Chelonia mydas* and *Dermochelys coriacea* feed in the region of the Rio de La Plata estuary and its seafront, from late spring to early fall. The presence of these

individuals is evidenced by the weakened or dead specimens found on the beach. The main causes of these strandings are the incidental capture by fishing fleets, the ingestion of plastics and diseases caused by viruses (such as fibropapillomatosis) or parasites (mostly digeneans). The general objective of this work plan is to contribute to the conservation of sea turtles by evaluating, for the first time, some aspects of the health status of the species that feed in the temperate region of the Southwestern Atlantic. The health status of sea turtles will be evaluated based on the characterization of their body condition, parasitic fauna and disease prevalence; and will be compared with the data already reported in Brazil and Uruguay. Additionally, the relationship between the health status of turtles and the diet taking into account plastic consumption and type of food. Since there are no previous studies, this plan represents the possibility of establishing the knowledge base on the health status of sea turtles in an area that will be exposed, in the short term, to the negative effects of exploration of hydrocarbon, among other adverse effects of anthropogenization. On the other hand, it is expected to fill gaps in information and answer a series of questions of great ecological interest. At the same time, the exploration of the relationship between the consumption of gelatinous plankton and the health status of turtles will contribute to understanding the low prevalence of parasitic infections and diseases observed preliminarily in the area.

- Origin of the Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in the feeding zones of Rio de la Plata in the Southern Atlantic.

Objectives: Based on the evaluation of nuclear markers, define if there are new assignments of origin for leatherback turtle specimens in the ASO.

Responsible: Laura Prosdoci (lprosdoci@yahoo.com.ar)

The leatherback turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*, like other species of sea turtles, migrates long distance between tropical/subtropical nesting beaches and distant feeding areas temperate. Globally, the IUCN status of the leatherback turtle is listed as Vulnerable, but the subpopulation of the southwest Atlantic is classified as Critically Endangered. The studies of Satellite telemetry have shown that the coastal waters of South America provide important areas of feeding for large adult and juvenile leatherback turtles in the Western South Atlantic.

For the last 20 years, the NGO Karumbe in Uruguay and PRICTMA in Argentina have investigated the biology and the use of the habitat of this species in the waters of the Río de la Plata estuary, a feeding area close to the coast with jurisdiction shared between Uruguay and Argentina. The preliminary results of this work has been presented during the 41th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation (March 18 - 24, 2023, Cartagena, Colombia) (Prosdoci et al 2023).

- "Evaluation of the impact of fisheries on sea turtles present in Argentine waters." Doctoral thesis in progress. General objective: Determine the extent of incidental capture of sea turtles in the different fishing fleets on the Buenos Aires coast their impact on the populations and the possible measures of mitigation to reduce this effect.

Specific objectives: 1) Evaluate the impact of incidental capture of sea turtles on the Maritime Front of the Rio de la Plata (FMRP) and "El Rincón" estuary, quantifying the catch per unit of effort (CPUE) and the direct mortality rate depending on the type of fleet and fishing gear; 2) Identify sensitive areas of bycatch by artisanal fishing activity of *Caretta caretta*, *Chelonia mydas*, and *Dermochelys coriacea* in the waters of the FMRP and "El Rincón"; and corroborate the precision in the delimitation of those areas sensitive previously identified for the commercial fleet; 3) Identify environmental parameters (sea surface temperature, chlorophyll concentration, salinity) and operational fleets (type and dimension of the fishing gear, draft depth, immersion time of the fishing gear, fishing area operation, target species, hold capacity, crew) that influence CPUE and production rates. direct mortality; 4) Develop and implement collaborative solutions to prevent bycatch and live release of the turtles, with the participation of the actors involved.

Responsible: Sofia Jones (sjones@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar).

- Identifying strategies for conservation of the Marine Turtles in Argentina and Uruguay, South America. Doctoral Thesis.

Objectives: The objective is to develop and consolidate a holistic approach to the analysis and conservation of sea turtle and their coastal habitats. Efforts will be directed to the research of two species in danger of extinction with the application of new technologies, the strengthening of regional networks of conservation and management and the integration of these components with the development of capacities of the community. At the same time, the goal is to test the use and efficiency of UAS in new areas in which that these technologies have not been used before and develop useful protocols for their future implementation Worldwide.

Responsible: Natalia S. Teryda (nteryda@ufl.edu)

The project will focus on research on two endangered species of sea turtles, green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), with the application of new remote research technologies, the reinforcement of regional conservation and management networks, and the integration of these components with community training. At the same time, the objective is to test the use and efficiency of drones (or UAS) in new areas in which these technologies have not been used before and develop useful protocols for future implementation in similar regions in the world. In particular during the development of this project, the efficiency of drones for monitoring marine species, while standardizing protocols for future implementation in long-term research of sea turtles in water under low-water conditions water clarity and hard-to-reach coastal areas. In turn, it is expected to estimate the abundance preliminary study of leatherback turtle and habitat distribution present in the Rio de La Plata Estuary, Argentina can be used as a tool to design efficient monitoring campaigns that can be integrated to the distribution of the fishing fleet for management and conservation efforts. Concomitantly, plans to estimate the abundance of green turtles in the Marine Protected Area of Cerro Verde and Islas de La Coronilla, Uruguay, using the same protocols and evaluate the anthropogenic threats they face these species by examining stranding in Uruguay applying UAS as substitutes for efficient management efforts of marine protected areas and the reinforcement of regional networks of conservation and management.

- Evaluation of sensitive areas for the conservation of Sea Turtles.

Objectives: Based on the evaluation of areas of use of the commercial fishing fleet and sea turtles present in Argentina,

the possible interaction with sea turtles was evaluated, defining sensitive areas for management and conservation.

Responsible: Laura Prosdocimi (lprosd@yahoo.com.ar)

High priority areas for intervention, conservation and management were identified based on the published information available on fishing operations and sea turtle habitat use. HE analyzes the distribution of bottom trawl fishing within the Rio de la Plata Maritime Front (RLPMF) and its adjacent international waters. This area is a fishing ground of great importance for the fishing in the Western South Atlantic, as well as a feeding and development area for sea turtles.

Using the information available from the implemented Vessel Satellite Monitoring System (VMS) To monitor commercial fleets, the areas of greatest use by the fleet were defined. Not actually There are many studies that implement VM information to identify key conservation areas within the fishing grounds, which makes this study an innovative analysis for studies of conservation of endangered species. Our results identified areas of high susceptibility to sea turtle bycatch by the commercial trawler fleet along along the RLPMF. The implementation of bycatch mitigation measures by the fisher management agencies of Argentina and Uruguay has the potential to benefit both fisheries like marine megafauna. Furthermore, more research is needed on the impact that this fleet may have on the sea turtles present in the area.

Bibliographic citations/Conference presentations

Citas bibliográficas/Presentaciones en Congresos ÁLVAREZ KC, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V, RODRÍGUEZ-HEREDIA S, ROSENTHAL A, PALUMBO E, UHART M, ALBAREDA D. 2023. Ingesta de plástico en *Caretta caretta* y *Dermochelys coriacea* en Argentina. Póster en la X Reunión de la RED ASO - Tortugas y IX Jornadas de Conservación e Investigación de Tortugas Marinas del Atlántico Sur Occidental. La Paloma, Uruguay. 4-7 de noviembre de 2023. Póster. DENUNCIO P, MANDIOLA A, PADULA A, ÁLVAREZ K, RODRÍGUEZ-HEREDIA S, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V. 2023. Impacto de la basura marina en la megafauna del Río de la Plata. En: Athor J, Albareda D (eds.). Parque Costero del Sur: Naturaleza, Conservación y Patrimonio Cultural. Fundación de Historia Natural Félix de Azara. Buenos Aires. 625 pp. ISBN: 978-987-8989-20-4. Jones S.; Prosdocimi L. y Williams J. 2023. Primeros pasos hacia el conocimiento de la captura incidental de tortugas marinas en flotas comerciales de la argentina. IX Jornadas de Conservación e investigación de tortugas marinas del Atlántico Sur Occidental. 4 al 7 de noviembre de 2023. La Paloma, Uruguay. Jones S.; Prosdocimi L.; Vera D. G.; Rolón M. C. J. y Williams J. 2023. Construyendo redes para la conservación de las tortugas marinas en la Argentina. Presentación de póster III Congreso Iberoamericano de gestión Integrada de Áreas Litorales. 24 - 27 de abril de 2023, Mar del Plata, Argentina. Jones S.; Prosdocimi L.; Vera D. G.; Rolón M. C. J. y Williams J. 2023. Collaborative work with fishers: a fundamental tool for sea turtle conservation in Argentina. Presentación de póster 41th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation. 18 - 24 de marzo de 2023, Cartagena, Colombia. LA SALA L, DÍAZ L, CARUSO N, CUESTA A, SANHUEZA C, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V. 2023. Solapamiento espacial de las áreas de uso de *Chelonia mydas* y la pesca artesanal en el estuario de Bahía Blanca, Argentina. Póster en la X Reunión de la RED ASO - Tortugas y IX Jornadas de Conservación e Investigación de Tortugas Marinas del Atlántico Sur Occidental. La Paloma, Uruguay. 4-7 de noviembre de 2023. Póster. CIT - Informe Anual 2024 [Dirección de Asuntos Ambientales Argentina, Argentina] Page 17 of 21 PALUMBO EO, ÁLVAREZ KC, RODRÍGUEZ-HEREDIA S, WERNECK MR, LOUREIRO JP, FAIELLA A, SAUBIDET A, ROSENTHAL A, BRUNO IM, DIAZ JI, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V. 2023a. Diversidad parasitaria de tortugas marinas en Argentina: un estudio comparativo de *Caretta caretta* y *Dermochelys coriacea* con poblaciones globales. Póster en la X Reunión de la RED ASO - Tortugas y IX Jornadas de Conservación e Investigación de Tortugas Marinas del Atlántico Sur Occidental. La Paloma, Uruguay. 4-7 de noviembre de 2023. Póster. PALUMBO EO, ÁLVAREZ KC, RODRÍGUEZ-HEREDIA S, WERNECK MR, SVENDSEN G, PETRACCI P, DIAZ L, BLANCO G, LOUREIRO JP, ROSENTHAL A, BRUNO IM, FAIELLA A, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V, JI DIAZ. 2023b. Nuevos registros de parásitos en tortugas marinas del Atlántico Sudoccidental. XXIII Congreso Argentino de Herpetología. Buenos Aires, Argentina. 5-8 de septiembre de 2023. Póster. Prosdocimi, L.; Velez-Rubio, G.; Fallabrino, A.; López-Mendilaharsu, M.; LaCasella, E.; Roden, S. y Dutton, P. 2023. Origin of leatherbacks (*Dermochelys coriacea*) at feeding grounds off the Río de la Plata in South Western Atlantic. Presentación de póster 41th Annual Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation. 18 - 24 de marzo de 2023, Cartagena, Colombia. María Belén Romero, Paula Polizzi, Chiodi Boudet Leila, Karina Alvarez, Vanesa B. Traverso, Arantxa Dolagaratz Carricavur, Agustín Costas, Sandra Medici y Marcela Gerpe. Trace Metals in Juvenile *Chelonia mydas* from Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. Latin America 15th Biennial Meeting. 17-20 September 2023 | Montevideo, Uruguay. VAN COMPERNOLLE M, [...], GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V, [...], SEQUEIRA AMM. Vulnerability of highly-mobile and wide-ranging marine megafauna to global anthropogenic threats. En revision en Science. VASSALLO M, ALEMANY D, ÁLVAREZ KC, RODRÍGUEZ-HEREDIA S, ROSENTHAL AF, ALBAREDA DA, UHART MM, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V. 2023. Varamientos de tortugas marinas en la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina. XXIII Congreso Argentino de Herpetología, Buenos Aires, Argentina. 5 al 8 de septiembre. Exposición oral. VASSALLO M, ÁLVAREZ CK, RODRÍGUEZ-HEREDIA S, ROSENTHAL AF, ALBAREDA DA, UHART MM, GONZÁLEZ CARMAN V, ALEMANY D. Sea turtle strandings in the temperate Southwest Atlantic: analysis of drivers and potential causes. En revisión en Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems. Velez Rubio, G.; Prosdocimi, L.; López-Mendilaharsu, M.; Caraccio, M.N.; Fallabrino, A.; La Casella, E. y Dutton P.H. 2023. Natal origin and spatio-temporal distribution of leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) strandings in temperate waters of the Southwest Atlantic Ocean. Animals: 13, 1285. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani13081285>

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 summary of 500 words with information about activities on environmental education, programs to declare

and manage protected areas, and cooperative activities with others Party countries.
Please attach any other relevant document using the blue boxes below.

>>> Attendance at the X Meeting of the ASO-Turtle Network (in Uruguay) and IX Sea Turtle Conference of the Western South Atlantic.

- Within the framework of the project "Conservation actions for sea turtles in Argentina with the local community" funded by the Rufford Foundation, an educational program is being developed for children in important fishing sites. Includes talks, exhibition of skeletal material, and interactive games to involve the local community in sea turtle conservation. In 2023, it was implemented at the 57th Fiesta Nacional Black Corvina in San Clemente del Tuyú, Province of Buenos Aires.

- The Association of Geselino Naturalists participated in the documentary "Plastics: The challenge of our era" of the "Documentary Planet" series. (Channel 26. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98yilOvQHnk>), in which highlighted the importance of monitoring strandings of marine megafauna to evaluate the various anthropogenic impacts on sea turtles, with special emphasis on plastic pollution.

- Mundo Marino Foundation gave talks to a total of 8,124 people, in schools, on Children's Day, on the day of environmental education, at the Program Little Conservationists, Beaches Cleanups and in visits by the schools to the Foundation.

- The FRAAM Foundation remembered World Sea Turtle Day and during the winter holidays gave an introductory talk on the biology, ecology of sea turtles and their summer presence in Villa del Mar, adapted to children. It also presented at the Science Fair several works related to the Bahía Blanca estuary, its wetlands as an important site for feeding migratory marine species such as the sea turtles *Chelonia mydas* and *Caretta caretta*. Between September and November 2023, they carried out a webinar cycle "Conservation of Coastal Marine Fauna". It ended with the talk "Turtles Surviving in a Sea of Plastics", given by Lic. Karina Álvarez, from the Mundo Marino Foundation. At the beginning of 2024, said Foundation held the 15th edition of the Wetlands Festival in Villa del Mar, Coronel Rosales District.

Communications in journalistic media

August 2023

Announcement: A 50-kilogram loggerhead turtle returned to the sea after being trapped in an artisanal fishing net
<https://prensa.mundomarino.com.ar/una-tortuga-cabezona-de-50-kilos-regreso-al-mar-despues-de-quedar-atrapada-en-una-red-de-pesca-artesanal>

September 2023

Announcement: Rehabilitation of a green turtle from a serious case of hypothermia
<https://prensa.mundomarino.com.ar/rehabilitan-a-una-tortuga-verde-de-un-grave-cuadro-de-hipotermia>

Announcement: A second chance for a 40 kilos loggerhead turtle that was rescued by artisanal fishermen
<https://prensa.mundomarino.com.ar/una-segunda-oportunidad-para-una-tortuga-cabezona-de-40-kilos-que-fue-rescatada-por-pescadores-artesanales>

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)

Does your country have longline fisheries with vessels less than 20m?

☒ No

Information to follow up the implementation of the Resolution Reduction of the Adverse Impacts of Fisheries on Sea Turtles CIT-COP10-2022-R7 and Resolution Conservation of East Pacific Leatherback CIT-COP10-2022-R6

Instructions:

Dear Delegate: please fill out the information regarding your country, in the following format. This format contains 5 sections that will need to be completed: 1) Fisheries Characteristics 2) Sea Turtle Bycatch 3) Reduction of the Bycatch impacts on sea turtles 4) Strandings 5) Participation of your country in RFMOs and other international organizations and

entities.

4) STRANDINGS

4.1 In your country, is there a systematic registration for standings? A systematic registration refers to the collection of annual information for standings through a governmental agency or another organization authorized by the government.

☒ Yes

4.2 Indicate which methods are used to collect standings information in your country, and how frequently each is used (continuously, sporadically, on demand, never)

	YES/ NO	How frequently it is being used (continuously, sporadically, on demand, never)
Continuous and systematic monitoring within the framework of governmental programs (e.g. beach census)	No	
Systematic monitoring within the framework of specific research projects (e.g. particular projects lead by the scientific sector and the NGOs)	Yes	From March to May: Once a week from Punta Rasa to Villa Gesell. Throughout the year: once every fifteen days throughout the entire district of Villa Gesell covering the towns of Villa Gesell, Colonia Marina, Mar de las Pampas, Las Gaviotas, Mar Azul and the Faro Querandí Municipal Natural Reserve.
Opportunistic monitoring (e.g. Isolated/fortuitous reports)	Yes	During all the year
Other – please indicate below	Yes	In case of warning of animals on the beach (from Punta Rasa to Villa Gesell) go to the indicated point with a tour of beach, in case there is any other stranding that was not reported and is relevant in the analysis of the case.

4.3 If you have the available information, approximately, how many sea turtles were stranded on the beach in your country last year? Please select the abundance value that is the best fit for your country (zero, 1-10, 11-20, 21-50, 51-100, 101-1000, 1001-10 000, >10 000 o UNQUANTIFIED).

If the requested information is not available in the country, indicate in the fields of the tables “ND” or “no data”.

	Number of stranded turtles (use range above)	Is the number of stranding the product of a systematic monitoring (Yes/NO)	Presence of the turtle species in your country (YES/NO)
Cc	51- 100	Yes	Yes
Cm	1- 10	Yes	Yes
Dc	1- 10	Yes	Yes
Ei			
Lk			
Lo			

Thank you!

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

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