

IAC - Annual Report 2025

IAC Online Reports

Inter-American Sea Turtle Convention

Party: United States

Submitted Date: 2025-05-14



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Introduction

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, 2025

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

United States of America

Official Note

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

Are you attaching an official note?

Please select only one option

☐ Yes

☒ No

1) Focal Point

1.1 Name

Ann Marie Lauritsen

Max words: 100

1.2 Institution

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Max words: 100

1.3 Submission Date

May 14, 2025

Max words: 50

2) Agency or Institution responsible for preparing this report

2.1 Name of the person preparing this report

Ann Marie Lauritsen

Max words: 100

2.2 Name of Agency or Institution

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3) Others who participated in the preparation of this report

3.1 List collaborators and data providers who participated in the preparation of this report

Name	Agency or Institution	E-mail
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Karen Frutchey	Florida Ecological Service Office	Karen_Frutchey@fws.gov

Part II – Policy and Management

1) General description of activities 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.

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.

Upload the file or attach the links to the corresponding documents.

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ In progress

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-act-accessible_7.pdf
Endangered Species Act

Species Management Plan


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


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


Please upload the file or attach the link to the corresponding document.


Tick all that apply


- ☒ Lepidochelys olivacea
- ☒ Lepidochelys kempii
- ☒ Dermochelys coriacea
- ☒ Eretmochelys imbricata
- ☒ Caretta caretta
- ☒ Chelonia mydas


 363/Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the Olive Ridley Turtle.pdf
Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the Olive Ridley Turtle


 364/Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the Loggerhead Turtle.pdf
Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the Loggerhead Turtle


 365/Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the Leatherback Turtle.pdf
Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the Leatherback Turtle


 366/Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the East Pacific Green Turtle.pdf
Recovery Plan for U.S. Pacific Populations of the East Pacific Green Turtle

 367/Recovery Plan for the U.S. Pacific Populations of the Green Turtle.pdf
Recovery Plan for the U.S. Pacific Populations of the Green Turtle

 368/Recovery Plan for the Northwest Atlantic Population of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle.pdf
Recovery Plan for the Northwest Atlantic Population of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle

 369/Bi-National Recovery Plan for the Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (2nd revision).pdf
Bi-National Recovery Plan for the Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (2nd revision)

 370/Atlantic hawksbill recovery plan.pdf
Atlantic hawksbill recovery plan

 371/US Pacific populations of the hawksbill recovery plan.pdf
US Pacific populations of the hawksbill recovery plan

Strategy/plan in progress

Date to be finalized

Provide details on the progress

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

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ In progress

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/endangered-species-conservation/endangered-species-act>
Sea Turtles listed under the Endangered Species Act


<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/magnuson-stevens-fishery-conservation-and-management-act>
Magnuson-Stevens Act


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


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


Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ In progress

 374/508-foreign-loggerhead-5yr-signed.pdf
Loggerhead Five year review

 375/Hawksbill Sea Turtle (Eretmochelys Imbricata) 5-Year Review.pdf
Hawksbill Sea Turtle (Eretmochelys Imbricata) 5-Year Review

 376/Olive Ridley Sea Turtle (Lepidochelys Olivacea) 5-Year Review.pdf
Endangered Species Act status review of the Olive ridley

 377/Signed_5YrReview_NWAtlantic_Loggerhead.pdf
Signed_5YrReview_NWAtlantic_Loggerhead

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/status-review-green-turtle-chelonia-mydas-under-endangered-species-act>
Status Review of the Green turtle

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/status-review-leatherback-turtle-dermochelys-coriacea>
Status Review of the leatherback turtle

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 2024– 30 April 2025).

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: include all pertinent national legislation and international instruments currently in force.

Countries that have previously submitted this information: provide information for any changes that have occurred since your country's last report submission (2024).

National Legislation

Type and name of the legal instrument (No.)	Description (Range of application)	Sanctions imposed
2025 Annual Determination To Implement the Sea Turtle Observer Requirement	Annual Determination To Implement the Sea Turtle Observer Requirement	

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/11/04/2024-25541/2025-annual-determination-to-implement-the-sea-turtle-observer-requirement>

2025 Annual Determination To Implement the Sea Turtle Observer Requirement

International Instruments

Treaty, Convention, Agreements, Memorandum of Understanding	Year signed and/or ratified
The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	1974
Indian Ocean Southeast Asian Marine Turtle MOU	2001

3) Actions to comply with National and International Mandate

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

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

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

Max words: 600

4) Efforts to increase IAC membership

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes (list countries)

Canada
- ☐ No

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes (list countries) Canada
- ☐ No

5) Exceptions under Article IV (3a and 3b) for subsistence harvesting of Lepidochelys olivacea eggs

Implementation and monitoring of exceptions established in the Convention

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ Not applicable. This country does not have an Exception

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

Resolutions on Exceptions

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

Not applicable

Max words: 5000

5.2 Have your country presented a 5-year 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

Please attach the five-year report.

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ 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.

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ In progress
- ☒ Not applicable. The country does not have an Exception

5.4 Submission of new exceptions

Should your country present a new exception, please provide in the box below a 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.

Not applicable

Max words: 500

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lepidochelys kempii	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dermochelys coriacea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Eretmochelys imbricata	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Caretta caretta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chelonia mydas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Additional Notes

Include other information, if required.

2) IAC Resolutions

2.1 The following Resolutions apply to this country

Tick all that apply

- ☒ Eastern Pacific Leatherback Resolution
- ☒ Hawksbill Resolution
- ☒ Loggerhead Resolution
- ☒ Northwest Atlantic Leatherback Resolution
- ☒ Fisheries impact Resolution

Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R6 - Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle (Dermochelys coriacea)

Section 1 - Monitoring of nesting of the Eastern Pacific leatherback turtle

1. Does your country have Eastern Pacific leatherback nesting beaches?

Please select only one option

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

2. Does your country protect Eastern Pacific leatherback nests at the nesting beaches?

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Describe details regarding the previous question

Max words: 3000

3. Has your country developed and implemented strategies to ensure and increase hatching success and hatchlings production of the Eastern Pacific leatherback?

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If the answer is “Yes,” describe the strategies used

4. Has your country taken conservation measures for the protection of the Eastern Pacific leatherback nesting beaches and their associated habitats?

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If the answer is “Yes,” describe the conservation measures used

5. Has your country identified and included new Eastern Pacific leatherback turtle nesting beaches in the national programs to protect and monitor nests, females, and hatchlings?

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

List the new nesting beaches identified

6. Has your country reported in Part V of this IAC Annual Report the new Eastern Pacific leatherback nesting beaches identified?

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If the answer is “No,” request the IAC Secretariat to add the new beaches to Part V in the IAC Annual Report. Even if these beaches are not considered Index beaches it is essential to obtain this information.

7. Has your country identified or is it planning to implement economic alternatives in local communities in areas adjacent to nesting beaches, with the goal of reducing the pressure on the Eastern Pacific leatherback?

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Describe the economic alternatives identified

Max words: 3000

Monitoring Activities in Eastern Pacific leatherback Nesting Beaches (From Annex II Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R6)

8. Indicate the number of Eastern Pacific leatherback beaches monitored during the year reported in this Annual Report

9. Which methods are used to monitor Eastern Pacific leatherback nesting on beaches in your country? (choose all that apply)

Tick all that apply

- ☐ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country
- ☐ Nest/tracks count morning monitoring
- ☐ Nest/tracks count night monitoring
- ☐ Nest/tracks and nesting females count morning monitoring
- ☐ Nest/tracks and nesting females count night monitoring
- ☐ Aerial census of tracks (indicate the frequency in the box)
- ☐ Use of drones (indicate the frequency in the box)
- ☐ Other

10. Describe the challenges in your country to address the questions in this section, which answer was “No”.

Indicate the number of the question to which you are referring.

Max words: 3000

Section 2 - Activities for protection and predation control on nesting beaches of Eastern Pacific Leatherback

Only applicable for country with nesting beaches. Countries with no nesting beaches will leave this section blank.

11. Protection of Nests IN SITU

a. Protection techniques of nest IN SITU.

Indicate the techniques used to protect Eastern Pacific leatherback nests in your country during the nesting season (Ex: protected areas, relocation in hatcheries, and others)

b. Total percentage of protected nests IN SITU

Total percentage (%) of Eastern Pacific leatherback nests protected in the beaches monitored in the nesting season (Including protected areas, relocation in hatcheries, and others)

c. Total number of nests IN SITU

Total number of nests in situ on the beaches monitored
(In situ=nests left where the turtle laid the eggs)

d. Percentage hatching of nests IN SITU

Percentage (%) of average hatching of East Pacific leatherback **in situ nests**, on the beaches, monitored, using the following formula:

- **% of hatching** = total of hatchlings that hatched/total eggs
- **If the total of hatchlings hatched is not available % of hatching** = total of shells/total of eggs

e. If the country uses another way to calculate the percentage (%) of hatching, please describe it below.

12. Percentage (%) of average hatching in Eastern Pacific leatherback nests relocated using the following methods in the beaches monitored

Answer those that apply as a percentage %
If data is not available answer "not available"
If the method is not used, answer "not applicable"

Hatcheries	
Boxes	
Same beach	
Other (Which and %)	

Activities to Control Predation in Eastern Pacific leatherback Beaches Monitored (From Annex II Resolution CIT-COP10-2022-R6)

13. Activities to control Eastern Pacific leatherback nests predation carried out in the year of this report (choose all that apply)

Tick all that apply

- ☐ Population control of feral, domestic, and introduced animals
- ☐ Protection of nests with mesh / screen
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other

14. Activities to control poaching of East Pacific leatherback nests carried out in the year of this report

(choose all that apply)

Tick all that apply

- ☐ Beach patrols by police authorities
- ☐ Beach patrols by organized community groups
- ☐ Nest relocation
- ☐ Presence of monitoring and research teams during the nesting season
- ☐ Alert mechanism to report threats to sea turtles and environmental complaints
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other

15. Describe the challenges in your country to address the questions in this section, which answer was "No".

Indicate the question number to which you are referring.

NOTE: The data on index nesting beaches will continue to be reported in Part V of the Annual Report.

Max words: 500

Section 3 - Critical areas and aggregation areas for Eastern Pacific Leatherback

16. Has your country identified critical areas in the distribution range of the Eastern Pacific leatherback in national waters that require spatial and temporal management to reduce leatherback bycatch?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Describe details regarding the previous question and if required, attach supplementary information

The range of this population is focused in the eastern Pacific Ocean but may include distant waters for foraging, as demonstrated by a turtle satellite-tracked to waters off the Tonga Trench and two turtles captured by the Hawaii longline fishery, genetically assigned to the East Pacific DPS (P. Dutton, NMFS, pers. comm., 2018)

Satellite tracking of 135 leatherback turtles in the Pacific Ocean. Individuals were tagged at their nesting beaches or at sea. Bailey et al. (2012a), PLOS ONE, <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0036401>

17. Has your country identified Eastern Pacific leatherback adult and juvenile aggregation sites, migration routes, and other sites of importance for conservation in national waters which could be subjected to measures for spatial and temporal management of threats?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Describe details regarding the previous question and if required, attach supplementary information

The United States has taken significant steps to protect leatherbacks in our waters. The following information in the link below summarizes regulations for the Hawaii shallow-set and deep-set pelagic longline fisheries and serves as a Small Entity Compliance Guide, complying with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. Regulations are subject to change, and any discrepancies between this summary and the official regulations will be resolved in favor of those published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). For the official regulations, refer to Title 50, CFR, Parts 229, 300, 404, 600, and 665. Longline fishermen are also required to carry and use dip nets, line cutters, and de-hookers to release any incidentally-caught sea turtles.

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/s3/2025-03/Hawaii-Longline-Regulations-Summary-Ver20250227-508.pdf>

18. Has your country taken part in research projects/collaborations to identify critical locations in international waters that are important for the conservation of the Eastern Pacific leatherback?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes The United States supports the identification of leatherback bycatch areas and tagging efforts in the geographic range of the Eastern Pacific leatherback.
- ☐ No

Describe details regarding the previous question and if required, attach supplementary information

The Marine Turtle Conservation Fund and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation supports projects that includes the first evaluation of leatherback bycatch by small-scale fisheries in countries of the eastern Pacific Ocean where leatherbacks nest, and it highlights areas close to index nesting beaches where conservation efforts targeting bycatch reduction and bycatch mortality may be focused.

[Frontiers | Rapid Assessments of Leatherback Small-Scale Fishery Bycatch in Internesting Areas in the Eastern Pacific Ocean](#)

Max words: 3000

19. Is your country collecting data on interactions of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback with fishing fleets? If yes, please report data on interactions with the species in Part VI of this report.

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Section 4 - Prohibitions for the consumption and use of the Eastern Pacific Leatherback (parts and derivatives, capture, transportation, and trade)

20. Does your country identify areas where consumption and illegal use of Eastern Pacific leatherback occurs?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Describe the areas where consumption and illegal use occurs, the frequency of occurrence, and efforts to reduce this threat.

Under section 9 of the ESA, it is illegal to import, export, or take endangered species for any purpose, including commercial activity. The term "take" means to harass, hunt, shoot, capture, trap, kill, collect, wound, harm, or pursue an ESA-listed species, or attempt any of these activities.

Max words: 3000

21. Does your country carry out awareness and enforcement campaigns to stop the consumption and illegal use of Eastern Pacific leatherbacks, in the areas identified in the question above?

If the answer is YES, list the campaigns carried out in the year of this report in the text box below your answer.

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes Under section 9 of the ESA, it is illegal to import, export, or take endangered species for any purpose, including commercial activity. The term "take" means to harass, hunt, shoot, capture, trap, kill, collect, wound, harm, or pursue an ESA-listed species, or attempt any of these activities.
- ☐ No

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

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

Trade of sea turtles and their parts is illegal in the United States. The United States has also taken a very proactive approach to address wildlife trafficking for all species through the creation of a cross-agency task force to look at wildlife trafficking. This task force was authorized through the END Wildlife Trafficking The FWS Office of Law Enforcement (FWS/OLE) has seized hundreds of shipments containing sea turtle parts or products since 2023. NMFS continues to support the Philippines Department of Natural Resources, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development, the local NGO LAMAVE, and the wildlife forensics and genetics laboratory at the University of Philippines to catalogue and monitor seizures of green and hawksbill sea turtles being trafficked through the country. This partnership standardized data collection protocols, developed genetic tissue sampling kits, and created a response team to support law enforcement interdiction of sea turtle trafficking. Tissue samples were collected and properly stored at the University of Philippines with plans for genetic analysis to determine the origin of the sea turtles. For past interdiction events, a database was developed and, when possible, linked to samples in storage warehouses. These initial activities serve as a foundation for further conservation efforts aimed at reducing sea turtle bycatch and illegal wildlife trafficking. The Solomon Islands is another hotspot fueling the illegal trade, consumption and sale of sea turtles in local markets. NMFS led a community based assessment efforts geared towards quantifying nesting activity and reducing anthropogenic threats, including the reduction of poaching pressure. The addition of a sea turtle conservation officer helped build the capacity within the Isabel Provincial Government and lead sea turtle conservation initiatives, greatly enhancing hawksbill sea turtle conservation work in the province.

Max words: 3000

2. Is your country enforcing pertinent hawksbill legislation?

Please select only one option

☒ Yes☐ No**List the most relevant actions of the year**

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

Enforcement efforts at the state and national level are ongoing to enforce the U.S. Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for carrying out CITES provisions in the United States. CITES forbids the trade of any turtle products on the international market, including hawksbill tortoise shell, but illegal hunting continues to represent a threat to the species in many parts of the world.

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

Please select only one option

☒ Yes☐ No☐ Not applicable**List the most relevant actions of the year**

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

U.S. enforcement officers work to stop illegal trade of hawksbill products. The Office of Law Enforcement conduct joint agency enforcement inspections and investigations targeting the illegal trade of protected marine products alongside FWS, U.S. Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security Investigations, the Food and Drug Administration, and state enforcement partners. NOAA OLE and FWS continue to provide counter-wildlife trafficking law enforcement expertise during numerous bi- and multi-lateral international engagements.

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

☒ Yes☐ No☐ Not applicable**List the most relevant actions of the year**

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

Nesting beaches of the southeastern U.S. are a mixture of public and private lands. Public conservation lands include National Wildlife Refuges (NWR), National or State or County Parks, and military installations. In Florida, approximately 40% of nesting beaches have been identified as conservation lands. The two major hawksbill nesting beaches in the U.S. Caribbean, Buck Island Reef National Monument, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Mona Island, Puerto Rico, are protected as a National Park and Commonwealth Protected Area, respectively.

Max words: 3000

4b. Protection of feeding habitats

Please select only one option

☒ Yes☐ No☐ Not applicable**List the most relevant actions of the year**

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

Publications:

Carthy, R. R., Horrocks, J. A., Stapleton, S. P., Stapleton, M. A., & Bevan, E. M. (2024). Post-nesting dispersal of hawksbill turtles from Nevis Island reveals wide-ranging connectivity in the Caribbean. U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units.

Mansfield, K. L., Pajuelo, M., Putman, N. F., & Wyneken, J. (2024). Satellite tracking reveals early dispersal strategies of hawksbill turtle hatchlings in the Gulf of Mexico. Proceedings of the Royal Society B, 291(2017), 20242367. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2024.2367>

Max words: 3000

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

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

Please list the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

Publications:

Ernest, R.G.; Martin, R.E.; Desjardin, N.A.; Scriptor, M.J.; Scarola, J.C.; Kim, H., and Trindell, R., 2025. Changes in loggerhead sea turtle nesting behavior on a nourished beach in southeast Florida. *Journal of Coastal Research*, 41(1), 27–48. Charlotte (North Carolina), ISSN 0749-0208.

Briscoe, D. K., Polovina, J. J., Parker, D. M., Balazs, G. H., & Bograd, S. J. (2024). Multi-decadal shift in loggerhead turtle (Caretta caretta) pelagic habitat in the North Pacific in response to climate change. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 11, 1513162. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2024.1513162>
<https://apnews.com/article/22f8ba6519b250beb254a72e2e1b0a0>

Mansfield, K. L., Pajuelo, M., Putman, N. F., & Wyneken, J. (2024). Satellite tracking reveals early dispersal strategies of juvenile loggerhead turtles in the Gulf of Mexico. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 291(2017), 20242367. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2024.2367>

Swimmer, Y., Peterson, M. J., & Foster, D. G. (2024). Post-release survival of loggerhead sea turtles (Caretta caretta) incidentally hooked in a North Atlantic pelagic longline fishery. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 11, 1392582. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2024.1392582>

Early-Capistrán Michelle María , Crane Nicole L. , Crowder Larry B. , Garibay-Melo Gerardo , Seminoff Jeffrey A. , Johnston David. 2024. Ethnobiological methods enhance our capacity to document potential climate sentinels: a loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta) case study. *Frontiers in Marine Science*. <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/marine-science/articles/10.3389/fmars.2024.1407575>

Max words: 3000

2. Does you country have bilateral or regional recovery plans for regional cooperation?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

List the most relevant actions for the implementation of the plans/programs of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

There are extensive nesting data sets on NW Atlantic loggerheads throughout the Southeast United States. This is the result of multiple workshops throughout the Region. The workshops consist of training thousands of volunteers that are conducting daily nest monitoring of the index nesting beaches following set protocols.

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

The United States has implemented various requirements to reduce sea turtle bycatch and to reduce injuries when turtles are bycaught. Bycatch reduction measures and safe handling requirements have been implemented in U.S. pelagic longline fisheries. Bycatch reduction measures are also mandatory in certain federally managed gillnet fisheries including the mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery. Certain pound net fisheries and scallop dredge fisheries are also regulated to reduce sea turtle interactions and the severity of injuries if bycaught. The United States also works to transfer turtle "safe" handling practices to increase post-release survivorship and mitigation technologies to international pelagic and coastal fisheries through engagement in the ICCAT and through collaborative fishery mitigation and research projects.

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

Resolution CIT-COP9-2019-R2 - Northwest Atlantic Leatherback (Dermochelys coriacea)**1. Has your country implemented techniques to reduce leatherback bycatch and mortality in fisheries, following the UN-FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations?**

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

The NMFS has a National Observer Program that is composed of six regional observer programs. Each of the programs can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/fishery-observers#observer-programs>. Through an Annual Determination, pursuant to its authority under the ESA, NOAA Fisheries identifies U.S. fisheries that will be required to take observers upon NOAA Fisheries' request. The purpose of

observing identified fisheries is to learn more about sea turtle interactions in a given fishery, evaluate measures to prevent or reduce sea turtle takes, and implement the prohibition against sea turtle takes.

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable. There are no nesting beaches in the country

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes

- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

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

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

1. Does your country collect information by fishery?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

2. Does your country have observer programs?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

The NMFS has a National Observer Program that is composed of six regional observer programs. Each of the programs can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/fishery-observers#observer-programs>. Through an Annual Determination, pursuant to its authority under the ESA, NOAA Fisheries identifies U.S. fisheries that will be required to take observers upon NOAA Fisheries' request. The purpose of observing identified fisheries is to learn more about sea turtle interactions in a given fishery, evaluate measures to prevent or reduce sea turtle takes, and implement the prohibition against sea turtle takes. Through the information provided by the observer programs, the NMFS implements regulations to reduce sea turtle bycatch and mortality in fisheries. Further, the United States evaluates all Federal actions that may affect sea turtles through the Section 7 process of the ESA, as well as the environmental review process required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year (500 words)

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

The United States works collaboratively with several countries to better understand fisheries interactions with sea turtles. More information on our annual efforts can be found in the following report to the U.S. Congress -- <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/international-affairs/engagement-with-international-community>

Max words: 3000

B. Mitigation measures

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

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

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

1. 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
4. Other measures

Attach any relevant documents.

The United States requires TEDs in shrimp otter trawls and summer flounder trawls in certain areas. The specifications of the TEDs can be found at the website below, along with the specification geographic area required to use TEDs. <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/05/21/2012-12014/sea-turtle-conservation-shrimp-and-summer-flounder-trawling-requirements>.

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

In addition, in 1989, Congress passed P.L. 101-162 of which Section 609 provides that shrimp or products from shrimp harvested with commercial fishing technology that may adversely affect sea turtle species may not be imported into the United States unless the U.S. Department of State, acting on authority delegated by the President, certifies to Congress that the exporting nation harvests shrimp under conditions that minimize the impact on sea turtles.

Max words: 3000

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

If yes, please indicate which fishing gears

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

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

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

C. Socio-economic considerations

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☒ Not applicable

List the most relevant actions of the year

Activities, workshops, research and publications. Attach supporting documents or any other relevant material related to your response.

Not applicable

Max words: 3000

Part IV – Research Information

1) Threats to sea turtles

1.1 Indicate threats

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	Cc	Cm
Direct use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Incidental Capture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coastal development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pathogens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contamination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2) Indicate the mitigation actions that apply for each species

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

	Lo	Lk	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Establishment of Marine Protected Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lighting regulations in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

place						
Permits required for construction near nesting sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for scientific research on feeding/nesting grounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Permits required for recreational activities near nesting sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Beach Cleanups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Predators' removal/control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of sea turtle friendly lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

	Lo	Lk	Dc	Ei	Cc	Cm
Sea Turtle Excluder Devices (TED)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Time/space closures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research on new fishing gear technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vessel monitoring using VMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marking of fishing gear in commercial vessels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fishers trained on sea turtle safe handling and release	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Observers program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of circle hooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nets are banned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trawling is banned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Nets illumination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.3 Direct use mitigation actions

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

3) Research

3.1 Types of research

Research being carried out in the country related to each species.

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

3.2 Describe scientific research

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, use the following structure:

- 1. Name of the project
- 2. Objective
- 3. Name and 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.

1. Satellite movements of sea turtles

Track movements, habitat use, and behavior of sea turtles to inform conservation strategies.

NOAA Fisheries Southeast Region

NOAA biologists deploy satellite tags on sea turtles, including leatherbacks, in regions such as North Carolina, Massachusetts, and the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. This research provides insights into coastal habitat use and interactions with human activities.

[NOAA Fisheries - Tag, You're It! Tracking Sea Turtle Movements](#)

Objective: Analyze tagging data to model survival and remigration.

Organization & Contact: U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Units;

Link: [USGS - Meta-Analysis of Leatherback Tagging Data](#)

Sea Turtle Movement and Habitat Use in the Northern Gulf

Objective: Study habitat use and movement patterns of sea turtles to inform protection measures.

Organization: U.S. Geological Survey Wetland and Aquatic Research Center

Summary: Researchers tag and monitor sea turtles to understand their foraging areas, dive behaviors, and interactions with human activities, aiding in the development of conservation strategies.

Link: [USGS - Sea Turtle Movement and Habitat Use](#)

2. Sea Turtle Genetics

Determine population structure, stock identification, and genetic diversity to support conservation efforts.

NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center

Summary: The laboratory conducts genetic analyses to identify distinct population segments, assess genetic diversity, and inform management decisions under the Endangered Species Act.

[NOAA Fisheries - Marine Turtle Genetics Research](#)

3. Bycatch Reduction

Objective: Develop a GIS-based tool to help managers reduce sea turtle bycatch in U.S. fisheries. Organization & Contact: NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science; Summary: This project created a GIS tool that integrates sea turtle distribution, fishing activity, and bycatch data to inform management decisions aimed at reducing sea turtle bycatch. Link: [NOAA NCCOS - Sea Turtle Bycatch Reduction Tool](#)

4. Bycatch Reduction Research: A bycatch reduction device (BRD) is any gear or trawl modification designed to allow finfish to escape from a shrimp trawl. BRDs are required for use in shrimp trawls fished shoreward of the 100-fathom (183-meter) depth contour in the Gulf of America* (formerly Gulf of Mexico), and within the EEZ of the South Atlantic region. BRDs may have different capabilities according to different fishing conditions, and having a wide variety of BRDs for use in the fisheries allows fishermen greater flexibility to choose the most effective BRD for the specific local fishing conditions.

[https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/bycatch/bycatch-reduction-devices-gulf-america-and-south-atlantic](#)

Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program: [https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-financial-services/2024-bycatch-reduction-engineering-program-projects-recommended](#).

Bycatch is catch that fishermen do not want, cannot sell, or are not allowed to keep. Bycatch of various species—fish, marine mammals, or turtles—can have significant biological, economic, and social impacts. Preventing and reducing bycatch is a shared goal of fisheries managers, the fishing industry, and the environmental community.

Working side-by-side with fishermen on their boats we've developed solutions to some of the top bycatch challenges facing our nation's fisheries.

Examples of past regional projects include:

Researchers on the West Coast showed that a dual sorting, flexible grid system called Flexigrid reduces under-sized sablefish bycatch by more than 45%. It does this while maintaining catch of adult sablefish and other target fish species. In the Southeast, use of larger circle hooks is reducing bycatch of under-sized red grouper by more than 70 percent. Smaller circle hooks are providing greater selectivity at catching red snapper.

5. Effects of Beach nourishment on sea turtles:

Organizations: US Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, USGS, and USF.

<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/spcmssc/news/spcmssc-scientists-study-effects-beach-nourishment-sea-turtle-nesting-activity>.

6. Effects of artificial lights on sea turtles:

Organizations: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

<https://myfwc.com/research/wildlife/sea-turtles/threats/artificial-lighting/>

4) Other activities

To report projects include name of the project, organizations involved, two paragraph summary with description, current status (on going or ended), and contact person for the project.

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 IAC Party countries.

Please attach any other relevant documents.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service supports the following projects within the IAC Geographic Area through the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund:

1. Saving sea turtles from extinction through monitoring of key nesting beaches in the Yucatan Peninsula. In partnership with Pro Natura Peninsula de Yucatan. The purpose of this project is to protect a high priority hawksbill nesting population in the Caribbean by conducting nest counts and protecting nesting hawksbills and nests from poachers and raccoons on three key hawksbill nesting beaches totaling 80 km on the Yucatan Peninsula. The Caribbean accounts for 25% of global hawksbill nesting, and this project protects one of the four most important hawksbill nesting populations in the wider Caribbean.
2. Hawksbill and leatherback sea turtle research and population recovery in Panama. In partnership with Sea Turtle Conservancy. The purpose of this project is to protect the hawksbill nesting population on the Caribbean coast of Panama from poaching and nest depredation from dogs. The recipient will; (1) conduct intensive monitoring and protection of hawksbill and leatherback nesting beaches at six sites in Bocas del Toro Province using standardized protocols and with local community monitors; (2) conduct community environmental outreach activities; and (3) work with communities to resolve dog nest depredation problems which is a major cause of nest loss. The Caribbean accounts for 25% of global hawksbill nesting, and this project protects one of the four most important hawksbill nesting populations in the wider Caribbean. This nesting population was once the largest in the wider Caribbean but was depleted by massive trade in tortoise shell products throughout the Caribbean, primarily by Japan who ended its CITES exception to trade in shell products in 1994.
3. Conservation face to the pandemic: actions needed on nesting grounds of the critically endangered hawksbill and leatherback sea turtles in Brazil. In partnership with Fundacao Centro Brasileiro de Prote e Pesq das T Marinha. The purpose of this project is to protect the hawksbill and leatherback nesting populations in Brazil. Activities include; (1) conducting standardized nesting surveys to count and protect hawksbill nests on 42 km of the primary hawksbill nesting beaches in Brazil; (2) conducting outreach and education activities with local communities and tourists; and (3) analyzing stable isotope, satellite telemetry, and nesting beach temperature data collected to inform management actions for the small and highly endangered leatherback nesting population. Brazil hosts a genetically and demographically distinct hawksbill population in the Southwestern Atlantic with about 1,000 nests annually and the world's smallest and genetically and demographically distinct leatherback population with fewer than 20 nesting females per year. This project will provide support for critical conservation efforts to protect both nesting populations.
4. Supporting regional hawksbill recovery in the eastern Pacific Ocean: Reinvigorating the ICAPO network (Eastern Pacific hawksbill initiative) and sustaining six top-tier nesting beach conservation projects. In partnership with The Ocean Foundation. The purpose of this project is to implement a conservation program that will contribute to the recovery of the East Pacific hawksbill population through the ICAPO which is a network of hawksbill experts, local fisherman, government representatives and conservation NGOs. Activities include: (1) community based surveys to deter illegal poaching of nesting females and eggs and counting of nests to monitor population trends at Los Cobanos and Punta Amapala, El Salvador and Machalilla and El Pelado in Ecuador; and (2) relocation of nests threatened by poaching or tidal inundation to safe beach hatcheries. This project implements community-based nesting beach conservation projects on four of the most important hawksbill nesting beaches in El Salvador and Ecuador for the smallest and most endangered hawksbill nesting population in the world, with fewer than 700 nesting females.
5. Conserving critically endangered leatherback and hawksbill marine turtles on Nicaragua's Pacific coast. In partnership with Fauna and Flora International. The purpose of this project is to implement nesting beach conservation programs for East Pacific leatherback nesting populations, and to support an Eastern Pacific hawksbill conservation program at two recently discovered nesting sites at Estero Padre Ramos and Aserradores. Poaching of nests and accidental fisheries are the greatest threats to these populations. Activities include: (1) conducting daily community-based surveys to count and protect nests and nesting females and to relocate eggs to hatcheries; (2) providing training workshops for the survey teams; (3) working with fishers to reduce incidental bycatch and to training them in safe handling and release methods; and (4) conducting environmental education and outreach activities with local communities, including a "Day of the Turtle" event in schools and the annual Hawksbill Cup competition with the hawksbill project in El Salvador. The East Pacific leatherback population is at less than 1% of its historical levels and the most endangered leatherback population in the world, and these hawksbill nesting sites account for nearly half of all known East Pacific hawksbill nesting.
6. Conservation of the leatherback turtle in the Mexican Pacific (2021-2026). In partnership with Kutzari. The purpose of this project is to implement a conservation program for the East Pacific leatherback nesting population in Mexico on three primary and two secondary nesting beaches to protect nests from poaching, depredation, and tidal inundation. Activities include: (1) surveying Tierra Colorada, Cahuitan, Barra de la Cruz, San Juan Chacahua, and Bahía de Chacahua nesting beaches at night throughout the nesting season to deter poaching and count nests to monitor nesting trends; and (2) relocating nests threatened by poaching and tidal inundation to secure beach hatcheries. This population was the world's largest in the 1980s but due to killing of nesting females, overharvest of eggs, and accidental capture in gill net and longline fisheries, it has been reduced to less than 1,000 nests each year in Mexico. Mexico historically accounted for 90% of the East Pacific nesting population.
7. Promoting holistic, collaborative approaches to sea turtle bycatch reduction and other conservation outcomes. The overall goal of this project is to promote holistic sea turtle conservation efforts—especially those focused on reducing bycatch—in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and Wider Caribbean by supporting collaborative, community-focused development and implementation of priority activities through active stakeholder engagement. The two objectives of this initiative are: 1) strengthen and coordinate international networks and conventions that promote multiscale sea turtle conservation, namely the Laúd OPO Network and the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, and 2) provide technical and facilitation support to sea turtle bycatch reduction initiatives (specifically in Pacific México and Costa Rica, as well as Trinidad & Tobago) to ensure holistic, community-focused approaches. By implementing these objectives to

achieve this goal, they will generate and promote an evidence base for the efficacy of bycatch reduction initiatives that focus on community-led, multi-stakeholder development of site-specific solutions.

8. **Comunidad:** A holistic approach to mitigate sea turtle bycatch in small-scale-fisheries along the coast of Pacific Mexico. The main goal is to build on experience and momentum of the initial phase of MarEs Comunidad. The activities of the project include working with multiple stakeholders and a diverse team to foster the development of holistic strategies to reduce sea turtle bycatch in small-scale fisheries, employing a bottom-up approach where fishers take the lead in seeking solutions. To achieve this, we set two major objectives: 1) design and facilitate structured knowledge exchange workshops to co-develop community-led and tailored strategies to mitigate bycatch and improve fishery sustainability; and 2) implement systematic surveys to collect baseline information on bycatch events from under-studied areas, through beach surveys and rapid bycatch assessments.

9. **Awareness under the National Conservation Plan for Sea Turtles in Peru Framework.**

Five species of marine turtles occur in Peruvian waters, including green, olive ridley and hawksbill turtles, that originate from the eastern Pacific region, loggerhead turtles from the western Pacific, and leatherback turtles from both the eastern and western Pacific.

To conserve and protect these species in Peru's waters and to reduce the mortality of sea turtles generated by activities such as incidental or directed capture, the Peru government developed the National Conservation Plan (NCP) for Sea Turtles in Peru. Peru's Forestry and Wildlife National Service SERFOR is the entity responsible for implementing the NCP. There is a need for additional resources to reach the NCP goal of minimizing sea turtle mortality originating from anthropogenic activities. Moreover, while recent fisheries regulations require training of mahi-mahi longline fishers in sea turtle handling and release methods, gillnet fisheries in Peru are not required to certify their best practices nor are they mandated to take training regarding sea turtles.

This project aims to promote SERFOR's ability to effectively reduce sea turtle bycatch by increasing its capacity and that of fishers to reduce sea turtle bycatch in small-scale gillnet fisheries of Peru. This will be accomplished by (1) increasing capacity of SERFOR officers and gillnet fishers at the national level, (2) development and implementation of a course aimed at small-scale gillnet fishers for implementing best practices for handling and releasing sea turtles, (3) expanding sea turtle conservation and promote sustainable fishing practices nationwide through integrated social media campaigns and (4) creation of a Best Practices Awareness Program for the release of incidentally captured sea turtles.

10. **Community Conservation of Leatherback Turtles in Playa Chacahua Sanctuary, Oaxaca, Mexico.** The Playa Chacahua Sanctuary (PCS) in Oaxaca, Mexico is a federal protected area comprising four beaches critical for leatherback turtle nesting: La Tuza, San Juan, Bahía de Chacahua, and Cerro Hermoso, spanning 30.3 miles with approximately 85 nests annually. Managed by the National Commission of Protected Natural Areas, the sanctuary faces threats including egg poaching, climate change impacts on nests, dog predation, and inadequate visitor practices. Despite monitoring efforts involving five Community Sea Turtle Conservation Camps, limited funding hinders comprehensive protection and data collection. To mitigate these challenges, WILDCOAST collaborates with PCS on a project aiming to monitor and protect 100% of nests systematically within three years, enhance community engagement with the involvement of five community camps, assess predator.

11. **Too Rare To Wear: Addressing the Tortoiseshell Trade Through Research, Technology, and Outreach.** Too Rare To Wear will build on these efforts by growing our outreach efforts to the tourism industry and continuing the progress made by local partners in key tortoiseshell hotspots. This grant would also allow us to upgrade and improve the SEE Shell App so that it can become an invaluable tool for government officials, travelers, and conservation professionals to address and study this trade and identify where to focus efforts going forward. This project will help to reduce the threat of the illegal tortoiseshell trade by providing tools and building capacity for identifying and enforcing existing laws on this trade in key countries, by reducing demand from consumers that will be targeted through our tourism industry outreach and local campaigns.

12. **Empowering communities for hawksbill conservation: nesting beach protection and monitoring campaigns and innovating solutions to mitigate lobster gillnet bycatch in El Salvador.** The project's goals are to empower communities to enhance and sustain hawksbill nesting productivity at Jiquilisco Bay, Los Cóbano and Punta Amapala: Through concerted actions, they will strive to increase and maintain the productivity of the three main hawksbill nesting sites in El Salvador: Jiquilisco Bay, Los Cóbano and Punta Amapala. Our efforts will include safeguarding over 600 hawksbill nests and facilitating the successful production of more than 40,500 hatchlings. Additionally, we will continue monitoring nesting females including the identification and measurement of 75 new individuals, while also empowering local communities to actively engage in nest protection activities. This involvement aims to build local capacity to identify more potential in situ protected areas. Furthermore, we seek to bolster the hawksbill ecotourism program, fostering sustainable tourism practices and building community leaders to support conservation efforts.

Max words: 3000

Part V – Nesting Information

Index nesting sites or beaches for sea turtle conservation

This section is to report the nesting information from the last nesting season previous to the date to turn in this report.

Does your country have sea turtles nesting on its beaches?

Please select only one option

☒ Yes

☐ No

Index Nesting Sites

Attach here other files relevant to this section, if required

Please use this section to report any nesting information from areas outside the index nesting beaches.

Describe the content of the attachment in the box and use the buttons to attach the file.

United States

Buck Island National Monument

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

17.835

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-64.622

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☒ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAc website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

National Park Service

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

1.5KM

Annual Nesting at Buck Island National Monument

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Buck Island National Monument

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei	2024	May 1	2025	November 30	May 1	November 30	daily			98
Cc										
C m	2024	July 1	2025	November 30	Jul 1	November 30	nighttime surveys			152

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

The National Park Service conducts nighttime monitoring from end of July to mid-September (8 weeks) but our diurnal monitoring season is May 1st through November 30th.

No leatherback nests were observed.

Culebra Island; Puerto Rico

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

18.332

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-65.289

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☐ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☐ PIT
- ☒ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAC website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

Programa de Especies Protegidas-DRNA-PR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

3 km

Annual Nesting at Culebra Island; Puerto Rico

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Culebra Island; Puerto Rico

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc	2024	April 1	2024	July 7	April 1	July 15	daily			24
Ei	2024	April 1	2024	July 7	April 1	July 15	daily			20
Cc										
C m										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

Culebra is no longer a hot spot for nesting turtles, however, we keep counting activities.

Florida Index Beaches

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

27.342

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-80.235

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☒ ST
- ☒ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Several organizations are permitted by FWC (State of Florida) to conduct research including all standard forms of tagging.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAC website.

Various sampling studies are permitted by FWC and some samples are shared with organizations outside of FL for genetics, isotopes and other research.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

All researchers report to FWC as a condition of their permit.

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

1343.8 km

Annual Nesting at Florida Index Beaches

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Florida Index Beaches

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc	2024	March 1	2024	August 31	March 1	August 31	daily			1800
Ei										
Cc	2024	April 1	2024	October 31	April 1	October 31	daily			110339
Cm	2024	May 1	2024	November 30	March 1	October 31	daily			14312

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

French Frigate Shoals (HI)

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

23.86

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-166.28

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☒ ST
- ☒ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When availble provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAC website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

NOAA Fisheries PIFSC

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

2.5km

Annual Nesting at French Frigate Shoals (HI)

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

French Frigate Shoals (HI)

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei										
Cc										
Cm							daily for a portion of the	~735		

							nesting season			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	-------------------	--	--	--

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/monk-seal-and-sea-turtle-research-and-recovery-year-review>
In 2024 these annual, highly remote field camps were established in the monument at four sites:
[Lalo](#) (French Frigate Shoals) [Kamole](#) (Laysan Island) [Kapou](#) (Lisianski Island) [Manawai](#) (Pearl and Hermes Atoll)
Monitoring honu during summertime nesting months at Lalo helps NOAA researchers better understand their population. Honu nest on multiple islands at Lalo, so the researchers split their time between the two primary nesting sites at Tern and East islands. As a result of their hard work, the turtle team had huge successes in 2024:
Identified 1,260 turtles at Lalo (of these, 512 females were identified on Tern Island and 223 females on East Island)
For the first time, researchers only studied the green turtle while they basked during the day, instead of at night when they lay their eggs. The team chose to survey this way after a review of previous seasons showed that almost all nesting females were observed and available for tagging on the beach during daylight hours. By eliminating long overnight surveys this season, the team was able to increase their survey efforts of other islets in the atoll.

Georgia Index Beaches

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

31.07 State of Georgia - entire coast

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-81.40- State of Georgia - entire coast

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☒ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Wassaw and Jekyll Projects

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAc website.

This site works in partnership with Dr. Brian Shamblin to determine stock structure of sea turtles nesting in the State- Wassaw and Jekyll Island Projects.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

152km

Annual Nesting at Georgia Index Beaches

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Georgia Index Beaches

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei										
Cc	2024	May 1	2024	August 31	May 1	August 31	daily			2490
C m										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

Hawaii

Criteria for selection of this index beach/site: Hawaii

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

19.270- Islands of Hawaii, Maui and Molokai

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-155.255 Islands of Hawaii, Maui and Molokai

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☐ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☐ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When availble provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

The team surveyed for hawksbill nesting activity at three complexes in the Kaʻū District on Hawaiʻi Island (Kamehame Complex, ʻĀpua Complex, Pōhue Complex) that were comprised of 14 beaches.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAC website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

Annual Nesting at Hawaii

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Hawaii

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei	2024	May 1	2025	January 31	May 1	January 31	periodic day and night			65
Cc										
C m										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

A total of 323 day checks and 51 night monitoring sessions were conducted across the three complexes during the 2024 nesting season. 65 confirmed hawkbill nests documented in the 2024 season, 8 occurred at ‘Āpua, 4 at ‘Āwili, 2 at Halapē, 33 at Kamehame, and 18 at Pōhue.

Mona Island; Puerto Rico

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

18.057

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-67.874

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☐ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When availble provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes

☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAc website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

Programa de Especies Protegidas-DRNA-PR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

7km

Annual Nesting at Mona Island; Puerto Rico

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Mona Island; Puerto Rico

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei	2024	January 1	2024	December 31	August 21	December 30				1157
Cc										
Cm										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

North Carolina Index Beaches

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

34.90 North Carolina - entire sandy coastline

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-76.47 North Carolina - entire sandy coastline

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☒ ST
- ☒ PIT

☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When availble provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Flipper and PIT tagging on Bald Head Island and Hammocks Beach State Park. Satellite tagging occasionally on Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Cape Lookout National Seashore.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAc website.

On Bald Head Island

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Sea Turtle Project

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

531 km

Annual Nesting at North Carolina Index Beaches

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

North Carolina Index Beaches

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei										
Cc	2024	May 1	2024	August 31	May 1	August 31	daily			1350
C m										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

Sandy Point NWR; Virgin Islands

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

17.680

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-64.902

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☒ ST
- ☒ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

We apply flipper and PIT tags to Dc, Cm and Ei. We applied satellite tags to Dc (4) and Ei (3).

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAC website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

St. Croix Sea Turtle Project The Ocean Foundation and Sandy Point NWR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

3km

Annual Nesting at Sandy Point NWR; Virgin Islands

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Sandy Point NWR; Virgin Islands

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc	2024	March 7	2024	June 17	March 1	December 15	daily			31
Ei	2024	January 7	2024	December 25	March 1	December 15	daily			268
Cc										
C m	2024	March 8	2024	December 19	March 1	December 15	daily			1408

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

The start and end of the monitoring period: Year-round monitoring is conducted at SPNWR. Daily patrols were conducted from March 01 - December 15. Patrols were conducted three days per week outside of that timeframe. Night patrols were also conducted during peak nesting season for all three species.

South Carolina Index Beaches

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

33.05- South Carolina Coast

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-79.43 South Carolina Coast

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☐ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☐ PIT
- ☒ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAC website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

300km

Annual Nesting at South Carolina Index Beaches

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

South Carolina Index Beaches

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc										
Ei										
Cc	2024	May 1	2024	October 31	May 15	October 31	Daily			4812
Cm										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

South Padre Island; Texas

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

27.304

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-97.340

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☒ FT
- ☒ ST
- ☒ PIT
- ☐ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When availble provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAc website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

National Park Service

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

112km

Annual Nesting at South Padre Island; Texas

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

South Padre Island; Texas

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk	2024	April 6	2024	July 15	April 1	July 15	daily			340
Dc										
Ei										
Cc										
Cm										

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

The nesting numbers include all of Padre Island

Vieques Island; Puerto Rico

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

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

Tick all that apply

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

Index Nesting Site Information

Geographic Location: Latitude

Specify latitude in decimal degrees

18.157

Geographic Location: Longitude

Specify longitude in decimal degrees

-65.365

Declared Protected Area

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Tagging Programs

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

Tick all that apply

- ☐ FT
- ☐ ST
- ☐ PIT

☒ None

Additional information on tagging programs (flipper and telemetry)

List the references available to the public with information on flipper tagging and telemetry in the box below. If needed attach references and provide details about the tagging efforts conducted. When available provide satellite telemetry maps or flipper tag recovery information. Provide only information that can be published in this report on the IAC website.

Tissue Sampling

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

Please select only one option

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Tissue Sampling – additional information

When available list the references and report including: date, species, type of tissue collected, general purpose (genetics, contaminant, and/or stable isotope studies, etc). Provide information that is available for public view in this report on the IAc website.

Organization or entity providing data of this index nesting site

Indicate what organization or entity is providing the data of this index nesting site

Programa de Especies Protegidas-DRNA-PR

Extension of beach monitored (km)

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

29.11 km

Annual Nesting at Vieques Island; Puerto Rico

Annual Nesting instructions

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

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

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

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

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

Vieques Island; Puerto Rico

Scroll to the right to see all questions >>>>

	Year nesting season started	Month and day nesting season started	Year nesting season ended	Month and day nesting season ended	Start of monitoring period	End of monitoring period	Survey frequency	Season females exact count	Season clutches exact count	Season number of nests
Lo										
Lk										
Dc	2024	April 1	2024	September 15	April 1	September 15	daily periodically			51
Ei	2024	April 1	2024	September 15	April 1	September 15	daily periodically			80
Cc										
Cm	2024	April 1	2024	September 15	April 1	September 15	daily periodically			181

Indicate if there were any circumstances that impacted monitoring (hurricanes, storms, other natural phenomenon, personnel availability, financial constraints, etc.). This will help understand any unusual change in the data.

Vieques nest counts are not total numbers, since beaches are hard to monitor due to the Navy restrictions or difficult access.

Part VI – Fisheries Information

This section is intended for Parties to report information related to fisheries interactions with sea turtles, as part of the follow-up on the implementation of the IAC Resolutions. We kindly request that particular attention be given to providing information on populations of concern.

Longline Fisheries

Vessels >20m

Does your country have industrial longline fisheries with vessels over 20m?

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Fleet Information

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

Fleet Information (vessels > 20m)

- a. **Period covered:** Starting and end date of the fishing operations of the year
- b. **Area fished:** area coordinates where shallow set and deep sets fishing operations were carried out during the last year.
- c. **No. of vessels that fished:** total number of vessels in the fleet in each case (deep set and shallow set), the number of vessels with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of vessels with observers (% observed)
- d. **No. of trips:** total number of trips in each case (deep set and shallow set), the number of trips with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of trips with observers onboard (% observed)
- e. **No. of effective fishing days:** total number of fishing days in each case (deep set and shallow set) when fishing took place, the number of fishing days with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of fishing days with observers onboard (% observed)
- f. **No. of sets:** total annual number of sets in each case (deep set and shallow set), the annual number of sets with observers on board, and the corresponding annual percentage of sets with observers onboard (% observed)
- g. **No. of hooks (in thousands):** total annual number of hooks in each case (deep set and shallow set), the annual number of hooks with observers on board, and the corresponding annual percentage of hooks with observers onboard (% observed). If the number of hooks is

- unknown, then include the approximate number of hooks/set instead and note this alternative reporting using an asterisk (*)
- h. **Predominant hook type/size:** Using the IATTC codes indicate the most common hooks (> 50%) used throughout the year as a total, and in vessels with onboard observers in each case (deep sets and shallow sets). If your Country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:
- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
 - **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
 - **Offset:** Yes or No
- i. **Predominant bait type:** the most common bait used throughout the year as a total, and in vessels with observers in each case (deep sets and shallow sets) using the following bait codes:
- SQ – squid (e.g. Cephalopods)
 - M – mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)
 - A – artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)
 - O-other, and specify.

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

- j. **Released alive:** Total number of each sea turtle species released alive in each case (shallow and deep sets)
- k. **Released dead:** Total number of individuals of each sea turtle species released dead in each case (shallow and deep sets)
- l. **Released condition unknown:** Total number of each sea turtle species released under unknown conditions as the individual could not be brought onboard or close enough to verify the condition dead or alive.
- m. **Notes:** Include additional information such as turtles caught that had tags (flipper tags or satellite transmitter), in each case (shallow and deep sets), if applicable.

Fisheries Areas United States

Atlantic

1. Target Species

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

Common name	Scientific name	Shallow sets	Deep sets

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

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Area Fished	
Period Covered	

2.2 Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

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

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed.

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released condition unknown
Lepidochelys olivacea			
Lepidochelys kempii			
Dermochelys coriacea			
Eretmochelys imbricata			
Chelonia mydas			
Caretta caretta			

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

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

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	
Area Fished	

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
Number of trips			
Number of vessels that fished			
Predominant bait type			
Predominant hook type/size			
Number of hooks (in thousands)			
Number of sets			
Number of effective fishing days			

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

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

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

West Coast

1. Target Species

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

Common name	Scientific name	Shallow sets	Deep sets

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

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Area Fished	
Period Covered	

2.2 Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

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

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed.

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released condition unknown
Lepidochelys olivacea			
Lepidochelys kempii			
Dermochelys coriacea			
Eretmochelys			

imbricata			
Chelonia mydas			
Caretta caretta			

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

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

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	
Area Fished	

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
Number of trips			
Number of vessels that fished			
Predominant bait type			
Predominant hook type/size			
Number of hooks (in thousands)			
Number of sets			
Number of effective fishing days			

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

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

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

Pacific Islands

1. Target Species

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

Common name	Scientific name	Shallow sets	Deep sets

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

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

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

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

	Shallow sets
Area Fished	
Period Covered	

2.2 Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

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

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed.

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released condition unknown
Lepidochelys olivacea			

Lepidochelys kempii			
Dermochelys coriacea			
Eretmochelys imbricata			
Chelonia mydas			
Caretta caretta			

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

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

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	
Area Fished	

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
Number of trips			
Number of vessels that fished			
Predominant bait type			
Predominant hook type/size			
Number of hooks (in thousands)			

Number of sets			
Number of effective fishing days			

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

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

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

Vessels <20m

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

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

Fleet Information (vessels < 20m)

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

Fleet Information (vessels < 20m)

- a. **Period covered:** Starting and end date of the fishing operations of the year
- b. **Area fished:** the area coordinates where shallow set and deep sets fishing operations were carried out during the last year.

- c. **No. of vessels that fished:** total number of vessels in the fleet in each case (deep set and shallow set), the number of vessels with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of vessels with observers (% observed)
- d. **No. of trips:** total number of trips in each case (deep set and shallow set), the number of trips with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of trips with observers onboard (% observed)
- e. **No. of effective fishing days:** total number of fishing days in each case (deep set and shallow set) when fishing took place, the number of fishing days with observers on board, and the corresponding percentage of fishing days with observers onboard (% observed)
- f. **No. of sets:** total annual number of sets in each case (deep set and shallow set), the annual number of sets with observers on board, and the corresponding annual percentage of sets with observers onboard (% observed)
- g. **No. of hooks (in thousands):** total annual number of hooks in each case (deep set and shallow set), the annual number of hooks with observers on board, and the corresponding annual percentage of hooks with observers onboard (% observed). If the number of hooks is unknown, then include the approximate number of hooks/set instead and note this alternative reporting using an asterisk (*)
- h. **Predominant hook type/size:** Using the IATTC codes indicate the most common hooks (> 50%) used throughout the year as a total, and in vessels with onboard observers in each case (deep sets and shallow sets). If your Country uses a different hook notation that is not in the IATTC code, please write in with the following information:
 - **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
 - **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
 - **Offset:** Yes or No
- i. **Predominant bait type:** the most common bait used throughout the year as a total, and in vessels with observers in each case (deep sets and shallow sets) using the following bait codes:
 - SQ – squid (e.g. Cephalopods)
 - M – mackerel (e.g. Scomber spp.)
 - A – artificial lure (e.g. plastic jig)
 - O – other, and specify.
 - Sea Turtles Species (Units expressed in the number of individuals observed)
- j. **Released alive:** Total number of each sea turtle species released alive in each case (shallow and deep sets)
- k. **Released dead:** Total number of individuals of each sea turtle species released dead in each case (shallow and deep sets)
- l. **Released condition unknown:** Total number of each sea turtle species released under unknown conditions as the individual could not be brought onboard or close enough to verify the condition dead or alive.
- m. **Notes:** Include additional information such as turtles caught that had tags (flipper tags or satellite transmitter), in each case (shallow and deep sets), if applicable.

Fisheries Areas United States

Atlantic

1. Target Species

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

Common Name	Scientific Name	Shallow sets	Deep sets
Swordfish		X	X
Tunas		X	X
Sharks		X	X

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

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

Shallow sets

Area Fished	from 43oW to 94oW and from 5oN to 40oN (HMS LB)
Period Covered	01/04/2024-12/31/2024 (HMS LB)

2.2 Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
No. of trips	385	38	9.9
No. of vessels that fished	42	23	54.8
Predominant bait type	SQ	SQ	
Predominant hook type/size	Circle Hook 16/0	Circle Hook 16/0	
No. of hooks(in thousands)	1320	163	12.3
Number of sets	1855	208	11.2
No. of effective fishing days	1790	201	11.2

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

Circle Hook 16/0

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown
--	----------------	---------------	----------------------------

Lepidochelys olivacea	0	0	0
Lepidochelys kempii	0	0	0
Dermochelys coriacea	3	0	0
Eretmochelys imbricata	0	0	0
Chelonia mydas	0	0	0
Caretta caretta	1	0	0

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

Loggerhead biopsied. No tags applied.

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

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	01/01/2024-12/29/2024 (HMS LB)
Area Fished	from 64oW to 85oW and from 24oN to 40oN (HMS LB)

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
No. of trips	367	30	8.2
No. of vessels that fished	31	18	58
Predominant bait type	SQ	SQ	

Predominant hook type/size	Circle Hook 16/0	Circle Hook 16/0	
No. of hooks(in thousands)	1142	71	6.2
Number of sets	1327	111	8.4
No. of effective fishing days	1281	100	7.8

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

Circle Hook 16/0

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Number of turtles observed

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown
Lepidochelys olivacea	0	0	0
Lepidochelys kempii	0	0	0
Dermochelys coriacea	2	0	0
Eretmochelys imbricata	0	0	0
Chelonia mydas	0	0	0
Caretta caretta	0	0	0

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

N/A

West Coast

1. Target Species

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

Common Name	Scientific Name	Shallow sets	Deep sets

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

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Area Fished	
Period Covered	

2.2 Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

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

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

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

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

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

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	
Area Fished	

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
--	-------------	----------	------------

No. of trips			
No. of vessels that fished			
Predominant bait type			
Predominant hook type/size			
No. of hooks(in thousands)			
Number of sets			
No. of effective fishing days			

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Number of turtles observed

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

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

West Coast and Pacific data are combined.

Pacific Islands

1. Target Species

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

Common Name	Scientific Name	Shallow sets	Deep sets
Bigeye tuna			X
Swordfish			X

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

2.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Shallow sets
Area Fished	
Period Covered	

2.2 Fleet Information - Shallow Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form.

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

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

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

2.3a Sea Turtle Species – Shallow sets

Number of Individuals Observed

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

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

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

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

3.1 Period Covered & Area Fished

Please enter information in the following formats:

- **Period Covered:** date range mm/dd/yyyy–mm/dd/yyyy
- **Area Fished:** from (XXX)oW to (XXX)oW and from (XXX)oS/N to (XXX)oS/N

	Deep Sets
Period Covered	01/01/2024-12/31/2024
Area Fished	from (125.45)oW to (171.25)oW and from (10.88)oN to (33.33)oN

3.2 Fleet Information – Deep Sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Codes

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

Bait codes:

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

	Total Fleet	Observed	% Observed
No. of trips	230	30	13
No. of vessels that fished	21		
Predominant bait type	O (Milkfish; Chanos chanos)		
Predominant hook type/size			
No. of hooks(in thousands)	8912		
Number of sets	1855		
No. of effective fishing days	1855		

Hook notation that is not in the IATTC code

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

- **Type:** Circle, J, or Other
- **Size:** J (8 or 9) Circle (13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20)
- **Offset:** Yes or No

3.3a Sea Turtle Species – Deep sets

Please read the instructions before filling out this form

Number of turtles observed

	Released Alive	Released Dead	Released Condition Unknown
Lepidochelys olivacea	0	0	0
Lepidochelys kempii	0	0	0
Dermochelys coriacea	0	2	0
Eretmochelys imbricata	0	0	0
Chelonia mydas	0	0	0
Caretta caretta	0	0	0

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

West Coast and Pacific data are combined.

Information to evaluate IAC Resolutions implementation regarding fisheries impact on sea turtles and mitigation measures.

Parties will report this information to comply with the Resolution Conservation of East Pacific Leatherback CIT-COP10-2022-R6 (Annex II, Table 1) and Resolution Reduction of the Adverse Impacts of Fisheries on Sea Turtles CIT-COP10-2022-R7.

1) Fisheries Characteristics

Fishery is defined as a fishing activity that takes place in a specific area, using a specific fishing gear, targeting certain species, and interacting with one or more species of sea turtles in different life stages, like pelagic longline targeting tuna, shrimp trawlers, semiartisanal pelagic longlines for Mahi mahi, etc.

The following information is requested to evaluate the implementation of Resolution Reduction of the Adverse Impacts of Fisheries on Sea Turtles CIT-COP10-2022-R7. If this Resolution does not apply to your country you do not need to fill out the section.

1.1 Fisheries in your country with most known adverse impacts on sea turtles

In the first column list the fisheries in your country with the most known or expected adverse impacts on sea turtles. Focus on fisheries with the highest numbers of interactions and/or interactions with critically endangered species.

In the remaining columns, indicate with an "x" which species of sea turtle(s) interact(s) with each fishery. Examples of fisheries include pelagic longline for tunnids, shrimp trawlers, and bottom gillnet targeting "seabass," among others.

Species codes:

- **Cc:** *Caretta caretta*
- **Cm:** *Chelonia mydas*
- **Dc:** *Dermochelys coriacea*
- **Ei:** *Eretmochelys imbricata*
- **Lk:** *Lepidochelys kempii* and *Lepidochelys olivacea*

FISHERY	Cc	Cm	Dc	Ei	Lk	Lo
Southeast shrimp trawl	X	X	X	X	X	
Atlantic pelagic longline	X		X			
Pacific pelagic longline	X	X	X			X

1.2 For each fishery mentioned in Question 1.1, provide the following information

FISHERY	Average length boat size (m)	Target species	General fishing area (coastal up to 12 miles and oceanic more than 12 miles)	Estimated total number of vessels that operated in the last year: (10, 11-100, 101-1,000, 1,001-10,000, >10,000, unquantified)	Average effective fishing days/vessel in the last year: (10, 11-30, 31-60, 61-90, 91-180, >180, every day, unquantified)
Southeast shrimp trawl	~17 m (55.5 ft)	Penaeid, royal red, and rock shrimp	Coastal inshore and beyond 12 miles	1,001-10,000	11-30

Atlantic pelagic longline	~17 m (57 ft)	Majority swordfish and mixed tunas	Oceanic more than 12 miles	11-100	61-90
Pacific pelagic longline	22 m	Bigeye tuna and swordfish	Oceanic	101-1000	91-180

2) Sea Turtle Bycatch

The following information is requested to evaluate the implementation of Resolution Reduction of the Adverse Impacts of Fisheries on Sea Turtles CIT-COP10-2022-R7.

If this Resolution does not apply to your country you do not need to fill out the section.

2.1 Sea Turtle Bycatch in Fisheries with Greatest Impact

Using data from fisheries identified in Section 1 (Question 1.1) as having the greatest impact on sea turtles, indicate the approximate number of sea turtles caught as bycatch in each fishery. Use the following abundance categories to report:

- Zero
- 1-10
- 11-20
- 21-50
- 51-100
- 101-1,000
- 1,001-10,000
- >10,000
- Unquantified

For species that do not interact with a fishery, write **N/A (Not applicable)**.

If the requested information is unavailable in your country, write **ND (No Data)** in the respective table fields.

FISHERY	Cc	Cm	Dc	Ei	Lk	Lo
Southeast shrimp trawl	1,001-10,000	101-1,000	Unquantified	Unquantified	1,001-10,000	N/A
Atlantic pelagic longline	11-20	N/A	51-100	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pacific pelagic longline	21-50	1-10	11-20	N/A	N/A	11-20

2.2 Data sources from Monitoring of Bycatch and Fishing Effort

Indicate the source(s) of bycatch data for the fisheries identified in Section 1 (Question 1.1) and provide the percentage of fishing effort monitored to obtain those results. Use the following categories for monitoring effort:

- 0%
- <10%
- 11-25%
- 26-50%
- >50%
- 100%
- Unquantified

If no monitoring method is used for a given fishery, leave the field blank. If the requested information is not available in your country, use **ND (No Data)** in the respective table fields.

FISHERY	On-board observers	Port-based observers/interviews	Electronic monitoring	Fishermen logbooks	Radio comms	Other
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Southeast shrimp trawl	<10%	0	0	0	0	VMS (11-25%)
Atlantic pelagic longline	11-25%	0	0	0	0	
Pacific pelagic longline	11-25% deep-set; 100% shallow-set	0	0	100%	0	

3) Reduction of the bycatch impact on sea turtles

3.1 Bycatch Mitigation Measures % implemented in Fisheries

Identify which bycatch mitigation measures are implemented in your country's fisheries identified in Section 1 (Question 1.1). For each measure, indicate the percentage of the fleet where it is applied using the following categories:

- 0%
- <10%
- 11-25%
- 26-50%
- >50%
- 100%
- Unquantified

If a measure is not implemented in your country, write **N/I (Not Implemented)** and provide a brief explanation in the corresponding box. If the measure is not applicable to your country, write **N/A (Not Applicable)** and include a brief description explaining why (e.g., the measure or fishery does not exist in the country).

	Fishery to which the measure applies	% of fleet for the fishery (use ranges above)	Measure is not implemented (N/I)	Measure not applicable (N/A)
Circle hooks	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline	100% (Required by regulations)		
Fish bait	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline	0%; 100% (Required by regulations)	N/I; bait type is recorded, but fish bait no longer required	
Net illumination				
Reduced soak times	Southeast shrimp trawl	55 minutes from April 1 through October 31; and 75 minutes from November 1 through March 31		
TEDs (Turtle Excluders Devices)	Southeast shrimp trawl	100% for shrimp otter trawls and skimmer trawls >40ft; 0% for try nets (Required for a portion of the fleet)		
Others	Pacific pelagic longline	Conventional monofilament: no fewer than 15 branch lines may		

		be set between any two floats; Basket-style longline gear must set a minimum of 10 branch lines between any two floats		
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3.1.1 Are circle hooks used in your country?

If yes, please specify the fisheries in which they are used and the hook size and/or size range (<14, 14-18, >18) used in each fishery.

If no, please enter 'N/A' into each cell.

Name of fishery in which circle hooks are used	Hook size and/or size range (<14, 14-18, or >18)
Atlantic pelagic longline	16/0
Pacific pelagic longline	18/0

3.2 In your country, is there research to identify any of the following techniques and/or measures to reduce post-capture mortality of sea turtles?

Select all that apply.

Tick all that apply

- ☐ Circle Hooks
- ☐ Fish Bait
- ☒ Net Illumination
- ☐ Reduced Soak Times
- ☐ Spatial/Temporal Management
- ☒ TEDS
- ☐ Other
- ☐ No research

3.3 Best practices and measures for safe handling and release for sea turtles

Identify which best practices and measures for the safe handling and release of sea turtles are implemented in your country's fisheries (as identified in Section 1, Question 1.1). Indicate the percentage of the fleet where each measure is applied, using the following categories:

- 0%
- <10%
- 11-25%
- 26-50%
- >50%
- 100%
- Unquantified

If a practice or measure is not implemented, write **N/I (Not Implemented)** and include an explanation. If a measure is not applicable, write **N/A (Not Applicable)** with a brief explanation of why it is not relevant.

	Fishery to which this measure applies	% of the fishing fleet (use ranges above)	Measure is not implemented (N/I)	Measure does not apply (N/A)
Dehooking	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline	Required by regulations		
First aid to injured sea turtles	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline; Southeast shrimp trawl	Required by regulations		
Disentanglement	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline; Southeast shrimp trawl	Required by regulations		
Installation and maintenance of TEDs	Southeast shrimp trawl	Required by regulations		
Communication program with the fishing fleet to promote best practices	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline; Southeast shrimp trawl	100%		
Projects to promote exchange between fishermen at national level to share experiences on reduction and mitigation of East Pacific leatherback bycatch	Pacific pelagic longline	100%		
Projects to promote exchange between fishermen at regional level to share experiences on reduction and mitigation of East Pacific leatherback bycatch	Pacific pelagic longline		N/I	
On-board equipment and educational material for best practices for safe handling and release of sea turtles	Atlantic pelagic longline; Pacific pelagic longline; Southeast shrimp trawl	100%		
Other				

3.4 Training on Best Practices for Sea Turtle Handling

In your country, identify who is receiving training on best practices for the safe handling and release of sea turtles, and indicate the number of individuals trained this year using the following categories:

- Zero (Did not receive training)
- 1-10
- 11-20
- 21-50
- 51-100
- 101-1,000
- >1,000
- Unquantified

If the requested information is not available, select **No Data** from the relevant list.

Please select one option per cell

	Number of trainings or workshops made (use ranges above)	Number of people who received training
Onboard observers	1-10	21-50
Collector of fishing information in ports	Zero	Zero
Fishermen or fishing crew	21-50	101-1,000
Park rangers	Zero	Zero
Environmental police/Conservation Officers	Zero	Zero
Others	21-50	101-1,000

4) Strandings

4.1 In your country, is there a systematic registration for strandings?

A systematic registration refers to the collection of annual information for strandings through a governmental agency or another organization authorized by the government.

Please select only one option

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

4.2 Which methods are used to collect strandings information in your country? How frequently are those methods used?

Indicate the methods used in your country to collect information on sea turtle strandings and the frequency of their use

	Yes/No	How frequently it is being used (continuously, sporadically, on demand, never)
Continuous and systematic monitoring within the	No	

framework of governmental programs (e.g. beach census)		
Systematic monitoring within the framework of specific research projects (e.g. particular projects lead by the scientific sector and the NGOs)	No	
Opportunistic monitoring (e.g. Isolated/fortuito us reports)	Yes	Continuous
Other – please indicate	No	

4.3 How many sea turtles were stranded on beaches in your country last year, approximately?

If available, provide an estimate of the number of sea turtles stranded on beaches in your country last year. Select the abundance value that best fits:

- Zero
- 1-10
- 11-20
- 21-50
- 51-100
- 101-1,000
- 1,001-10,000
- >10,000
- Unquantified

If the requested information is unavailable, select '**No Data**' in the respective table field.

	Presence of the turtle species in your country (Yes/No)	Is the number of stranding the product of a systematic monitoring (Yes/No)	Number of stranded turtles (use range above)
Cc	Yes	No	1,773 [1,001-10,000]
Cm	Yes	No	2,724 [1,001-10,000]
Dc	Yes	No	16 [11-20]
Ei	Yes	No	24 [21-50]
Lk	Yes	No	1,314 [1,001-10,000]
Lo	Yes	No	0

5) Participation of your country in RFMOS and other International Organizations and Entities

Support for IAC Secretariat in Implementing Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)

Indicate whether your country has supported the IAC Secretariat in implementing MoUs between the IAC and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and/or other relevant entities during the year corresponding to this report.

Forms of support include:

- Technical collaboration and exchange of expertise between national experts and other organizations.
- Participation in joint working groups.
- Drafting documents.
- Presentations at technical meetings.
- Organization of side events.
- Advocacy for resolutions aligned with the objectives of the MoU.
- Facilitating connections between the IAC Secretariat and delegations of non-member countries to promote IAC membership.

Tick all that apply

- ☒ IATTC
- ☒ ICCAT
- ☒ Ramsar
- ☐ ACAP
- ☐ CPPS
- ☒ SPAW
- ☐ OSPESCA
- ☐ SSC
- ☐ Other
- ☐ No action for support in the current year

Description of activity that your country supported the Implementation of MoU in the year of this report.

Provide a brief description

Participate in technical collaboration and exchange of expertise between national experts and other organizations. Participate in joint working groups. Drafting documents. Presentations at technical meetings. Advocacy for resolutions aligned with the objectives of the MoU. Facilitating connections between the IAC Secretariat and delegations of non-member countries to promote sea turtle bycatch reduction in fisheries.

Max words: 200

Thank you!

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