



Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles [Insert Country] 2010 Annual Report

Annual Report General Instructions

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

We remind you that the date to hand in this information is **April 30th of 2010**.

General Instructions:

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



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General Information

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

Directory



Directory

Others who participated in the preparation of this Annual Report



Others who
participated

Focal Point



Focal Point



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1. Biological Information

1.1. Species present

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



1.2. Important sites for sea turtle conservation

- a. For each phase, indicate the names of priority sites mentioning the species present in each site and its season. Confirmed migratory routes should be integrated as a separate worksheet where relevant data can be added, for example, beginning and ending point (LAT/LON), tag/recovery. If migratory route maps already exist as well as their course in LAT/LON, please add them as an annex so that this information may be included in the GIS of the IAC.
- b. Geographic location: Specify latitude and longitude in degrees, minutes and seconds - provide one or two points for nesting places (if available). For migratory routes, please describe them briefly in the observations column.
- c. Extension:
 - Nesting sites - provide the total length in Kilometers of the beach used by the turtles.
 - Foraging sites (or feeding areas) provide the extension in Hectares (if available).
 - Migratory Routes: not applicable
- d. Category of protection: Indicate if the area is declared as some type of protected area, the name of the Management Category, briefly describe in terms of use or protection offered.
- e. Estimations: Select an estimate of the number of clutches and hatchlings per year. The ranges for clutches are: unknown, unavailable, 0-10, 11-100, 101-500, 501-1000, 1001-5000, 5001-10000, 10001-100000, 100001-500000, >500000. The ranges for hatchlings are: unknown, not available, 0-1000, 1001-10000, 10001-50000, 50001-100000, 100001-500000, 500001-1000000, 1000001-10000000, 10000001-50000000, >50000000. On a separate sheet, provide a brief description/justification on why each



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site that was mentioned is considered important (sites with greater abundance, endemism, genetic, others). Include historical information (graphic and/or tables) showing the population status of each species present in the site. If available, provide information on the species for a wider region than the specific nesting place.



Important Sites

2. Information regarding the use derived from sea turtles

- a. The types of use (non consumptive/consumptive) may be, among others:
Domestic (for subsistence), cultural, commercial, medicinal, tourism, scientific.
- b. Products or parts used: eggs, skin, carapace, meat, oil, craftsmanship, etc.
- c. Ocean Basin: Pacific, Atlantic or Caribbean
- d. Origin: make reference to the law that forbids/allows it from section 4 (Juridical framework) of this form.
- e. Estimated annual quantity:
 - Legal: refer to section 5 (Exceptions) of this form
 - Illegal: total amount of eggs or clutches, total animals (per sex, per stage)
- f. Actions: refer to section 6 (Actions for conservation) of this form



Derived Use



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3. Main threats

Add sheets with additional observations whenever necessary.

3.1 Habitat and other threats

- a. Using the following list, select the main threats and list the species affected, considering reproduction and foraging sites and migratory routes.
 - Accumulation of sand or presence of contention structures (please indicate)
 - Sand mining
 - Beach Erosion
 - Construction and infrastructure on the beach
 - Inadequate management of tourism
 - Other human activities
 - Beach driving
 - Noise pollution (explain)
 - Artificial light
 - Depredation of eggs and hatchlings by domestic or feral animals
 - Agricultural, industrial waste and residual/sewage waters
 - Oil pollution
 - Obstacles on the beach (logs, plastic, etc.)
 - Impact on other associated habitats (reefs, mangroves, etc.)
 - Waste in the ocean (ropes, fishing gear, bags, etc.)
 - Diseases
 - Natural phenomena (indicate types)
 - Other (indicate)
- b. Size of impact: use the same as in the section above: total number of eggs, total animals (per sex, per stage)
- c. Geographic region(s) affected: make the most accurate reference, if possible use lat/long of the affected area.
- d. Make reference to the full quote in section 9 (Source of information) of this form
- e. Actions: briefly explain the threat and mention the actions that are under way to prevent the threat or minimize its effect; if relevant, refer to section 6 (Actions for conservation) of this form.





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3.2 Capture (Intentional/incidental)

- a. Using the following list, pick the main threats and list the affected species
 - Capture of sea turtles in the ocean
 - Capture of sea turtles on the beach
 - Egg collection
 - Purse sein fisheries
 - Gill net fisheries
 - Longline artisanal fisheries
 - Longline commercial fisheries
 - Bottom Trawling
 - Pelagic Trawling
 - Fishing nets
- b. Size of impact: whenever possible provide Capture values per Unit of Effort (CPUE) making reference to the unit of effort (number of boats, lances, man hours, etc), or the total amount of animals or eggs captured/collected.
- c. Geographic region(s) affected: make reference as accurate as possible, if possible use lat/long of the affected area.
- d. Refer to the full citation as in Section 9 (Source of information) of this form.
- e. Actions: briefly describe the threat and mention the actions that are under way to prevent the threat or minimize its effect; if relevant, refer to section 6 (Actions for conservation) of this form.



Capture

4. Legal Framework

4.1. International instruments

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



**International
Instruments**



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4.2. National legislation

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



National Legislation

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

4.4. Public and private institutions involved in sea turtle conservation

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



**Public and Private
institutions**

5. Exceptions

Not applicable

6. Conservation Efforts

6.1 General description of the sea turtle protection and conservation program

The Netherlands Antilles was one of the first states in the Wider Caribbean area to produce a Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan (STRAP), in 1992, in close collaboration with the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle (WIDECAST) network under the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) Protocol of the Cartagena Convention for the protection and development of the marine environment of the Wider Caribbean. However, this has not yet been updated and evaluated since its publication, and there is no current overarching policy plan for all the islands. Constitutionally, executive responsibility for the protection of sea turtles lies with the individual island governments, which do not have specific sea turtle protection and conservation programs, except through government-subsidized NGOs that manage the island's marine protected areas, which in St. Eustatius and in Curaçao include nesting beaches. The national government actively enforces sea turtle protection regulations through the Coastguard of the



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Netherlands Antilles & Aruba. In addition the National Government supports two sea turtle monitoring and tagging programs, one in St. Eustatius and one in Bonaire. The program in Bonaire is now independent after three years of funding from the National government.

6.2 Relevant Projects and Activities

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



Relevant Programs

7. International Cooperation

The Netherlands Antilles is party to the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) Protocol of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean (Cartagena Convention). The collaborative program of SPAW and WIDECAS has been instrumental in preparing numerous Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plans (STRAPs) for countries in the Wider Caribbean, among which the STRAP for the Netherlands Antilles.

8. National Directory

List the contacts (persons and/or institutions, public or private) related to the objectives of this Convention (specialists in fisheries, economy, statistic or others). Include at least name, specialty, telephone number, fax and e-mail address. Add more rows to accommodate all relevant personal.



National Directory

9. Sources of Information

Nava M. 2010. Research and Monitoring Report 2009. Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire, Bonaire. 31 p.

<http://www.bonaireturtles.org/explore/publications/files/2009%20Research%20and%20Mon.pdf>



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Berkel J. 2010. St. Eustatius National Parks Foundation Sea Turtle Conservation Program Annual Report 2009. Stenapa. 44p.
http://www.statiapark.org/downloads/downloads/2009_turtle_annual_report.pdf

10. Annexes

Annex I Information on citing sources

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Elaborate and/or implement conservation plans and long-term programs that can reverse the critical situation of the leatherback sea turtle in the Eastern Pacific. [Not applicable for Netherlands Antilles \(Caribbean\)](#)

Acquire and evaluate pertinent conservation measures to significantly reduce the use and consumption of leatherback sea turtle products and by-products. [Not applicable for Netherlands Antilles \(Caribbean\)](#)

Parties with leatherback sea turtle nesting beaches in the Eastern Pacific: acquire and evaluate pertinent conservation measures for the protection of nesting sites and habitats, in accordance with Articles IV and Annex II of the Convention. [Not applicable for Netherlands Antilles \(Caribbean\)](#)

Collect and facilitate information to the Convention regarding the incidental capture of the leatherback sea turtle in long-lines, gillnets, and other fishing gear used by the artisanal as well as industrial fisheries, in order to evaluate and adopt fishing techniques that reduce their impact on this species. [No incidental capture known from Netherlands Antilles](#)

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

Establish and strengthen cooperative agreements and alliances with pertinent organizations that help in the conservation of the leatherback sea turtle, in accordance with Articles XII and XX of the Convention. [N.A.](#)



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Annex III

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

RECOMENDATIONS PUT FORTH IN Resolution CIT/COP3/2006/R-1	Specific recommendation to be implemented	Name of project or relevant document	Location	Objective(s)	Responsible institution/s	Contact	Financial and other support (optional)	Significant Results (both positive and negative)	Duration*
EXHORT the Parties to promote synergies between the IAC and CITES, the SPAW Protocol, CMS, WHMSI, FAO, other pertinent treaties and international organizations, and regional fisheries bodies in order to facilitate regional dialogue on management and conservation of the hawksbill turtle and its habitats;	CITES								
	SPAW								
	CMS								
	WHMSI								
	FAO								
	Other treaties (specify)								
	Regional fisheries bodies (specify)								
URGE the Parties to strengthen monitoring of the use and illegal trade of hawksbill turtles and their products, to enforce pertinent legislation and to stop illegal trade;									
EXHORT the Parties to support and strengthen the research and monitoring activities required to improve the scientific basis of conservation measures for the	Genetics								
	Migratory behavior								
	Location and conservation status of foraging habitats and								



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<p>hawksbill turtle, particularly in genetics, migratory behavior, location and conservation status of foraging habitats and food prey, population dynamics in feeding sites, interactions with fisheries, social and economic impacts of conservation measures, and integrity of its nesting beaches;</p>	food prey								
	Population dynamics in feeding sites	in-water monitoring program	Bonaire	status of foraging population	STCB	stcb@bonaireturtle.org		Foraging population stable; high growth rates for Lac Bay (Ramsar area)	ongoing
	Interaction with fisheries								
	Social and economic impacts of conservation and protection measures								
	Stability of nesting beaches	Nesting beach monitoring program	Bonaire	Nesting frequency	STCB	stcb@bonaireturtle.org		Number of nests stable	ongoing
	Other (specify)	Ongoing satellite tracking	Bonaire	Data on migratory routes	STCB	stcb@bonaireturtle.org			ongoing
<p>URGE the Parties to evaluate and mitigate incidental capture of hawksbill turtles in their jurisdictional waters in accordance with recommendations emanating from FAO's Technical Meeting on the conservation of marine turtles held in Bangkok 2004 and adopted by the 26th Session of Fisheries Committee of FAO (COFI). Also review the application of IAC guidelines for mitigating fisheries interactions</p>									



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<p>URGE the Parties to strengthen protection of important hawksbill nesting and foraging habitats by declaration of protected areas and the regulation of anthropogenic activities adversely impacting these habitats</p>	nesting habitats								
	marine habitats (feeding, inter-nesting, resting ...)								
<p>SUPPORT a working group within the Scientific Committee to keep the Conference of the Parties informed on the status of the species and its habitats in the Area of the Convention;</p>									
<p>PROMOTE the exchange of technical capacity and collaborative research on the hawksbill turtle on their habitats among Parties as well as non Parties and other involved organizations in the Area of the Convention</p>									
<p>SUPPORT the organization of a workshop with recognized experts to evaluate the current condition of hawksbill populations in the Greater Caribbean and Western Atlantic, and present the best available methods of research and conservation for the species in its marine habitats.</p>									



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Annex VI

Follow-up on Resolution CIT-COP3-2006 R-2

Reduction of the adverse impacts of fisheries on sea turtles

The Netherlands Antilles only has an artisanal fishery, which does not include fishing methods known to impact sea turtles such as longlining. At present no commercial fishery is going on. Any potential future longlining activities would need to apply for a permit, allowing restrictions to be put in place to minimize impact on sea turtles and requirements for reporting of incidental catches.