



1601 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

CABLE: PANDAFUND TELEX: 64505

TELEPHONE: (202) 387-0800

March 20, 1980

Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

I am writing in strong support of the proposal that four species of marine turtles that occur in the United States be considered and approved as themes for a commemorative stamp issue.

Under date of February 13, you were written a detailed letter by Dr. Archie Carr on this matter. Dr. Carr is the world's leading marine turtle scientist and is chairman of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group of the Survival Service Commission of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The undersigned is North American Vice President of IUCN, as well as President of the World Wildlife Fund-U.S.

I will not repeat the specific information set out in Dr. Carr's letter. However, as Chairman of the International Conference on Marine Turtle Conservation which was held at the State Department for a week starting last November 25, I believe that a commemorative stamp issue would be a very effective way for raising the level of public concern about these highly endangered creatures. Such an issue would also be particularly appropriate for the United States in view of the leadership it has taken in seeking to mobilize global efforts for marine turtle conservation.

Representatives of some 40 nations participated in the Marine Turtle Conference at the State Department last November. Not only did the conference receive the financial support of private conservation organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, but it also received substantial funding from the U. S. Agency for International Development (AID), the National Marine Fisheries Service of the Department of Commerce, and the Department of the Interior.

If I may be of any further assistance in this matter, I would appreciate your contacting me.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Russell E. Train
Russell E. Train
President

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

bc: Mr. George H. Balazs ✓

August. A constant temperature of 29°C was maintained in the display but after spraying, the temperature dropped to 23°C. This always stimulated male courtship activity. The spraying period corresponded to the summer rainy season of the high plateau environment inhabited by *C. polystictus*.

The young were measured to the nearest millimeter (Quinn and Jones 1974) and weighed to the nearest .1 g. Total length of the young were 223, 210 and 207 mm (\bar{X} =213.3 mm). The young (n=48) reported by Armstrong and Murphy (1979) had a mean length of 214 mm. The weights of my neonates were 10.2, 10.4 and 8.8 g (\bar{X} =9.8 g). The neonates described by Armstrong and Murphy (1979) had a mean weight of 8.9 g. The young shed 9-11 days after birth and then fed readily on newborn mice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to James B. Murphy for supplying additional data and to Hugh R. Quinn and John E. Werler for reviewing this manuscript. My appreciation is also extended to the Herpetological staff of the Houston Zoological Gardens. The specimens will be deposited at University of Texas (Arlington) upon death.

LITERATURE CITED

Armstrong, B. L. and J. B. Murphy. 1979. The natural history of Mexican rattlesnakes. Univ. Kansas. Mus. Nat. Hist. Spec. Pub. 5: In Press.
Klauber, L. M. 1972. Rattlesnakes, their habits, life histories, and influence on mankind. 2nd edn. Univ. Calif. Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles. 1533 pp.
Quinn, H. R. and J. P. Jones. 1974. Squeeze box technique for measuring snakes. Herp. Review 5(2): 35.

ROBERT M. HUBBARD
Department of Herpetology
Houston Zoological Gardens
Post Office Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77001

stamps would be intended to increase public awareness of endangered sea turtles. Four species that occur in U.S. waters would be featured. Readers are urged to send letters of endorsement to Mr. William Bolger, Postmaster General, Washington, D.C. 20260.

ERRATA: HR 11(1)

Contents, Legislative Alert, p. 8, not p. 9

NC HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY
RECEIVES CONTRACT TO STUDY
HYLA ANDERSONI


The North Carolina Herpetological Society has signed a \$3,000 contract with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to study the distribution of *Hyla andersoni* in North Carolina. The research will be conducted under the guidance of society advisor Ray Ashton, North Carolina State Museum. The three primary purposes of the study are to check the 43 historic site records, (10 years or older). These sites will be visited to determine if the habitat will still support pine barrens tree-frogs and, hopefully, to locate frogs at these locations; secondly, new sites will be located and habitat type and size will be determined.

NEWSNOTES

U.S. SEA TURTLE STAMPS

Strong support is needed for the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group's petition to the U.S. Postal Service to create a series of sea turtle stamps. These commemorative

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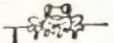
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
75 SPRING STREET, S. W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

SE 6 sea turtles

W
Tamm

Montgomery

Benson
6/5

MAY 6 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

It has come to my attention by way of the Fish and Wildlife Service Office in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that Dr. Archie Carr has recently requested the Postal Service to issue a series of commemorative stamps featuring sea turtles. I would like to lend my endorsement and support to this proposal, and also perhaps add a few thoughts that may not have been covered in Dr. Carr's letter.

The fossil record indicates that sea turtles have survived in essentially their present form for the last 100 million years or so, while successfully resisting the vicissitudes of climatic changes, geologic uplifts, competition from other species, and the attacks of predators. In more recent times, however, growth of the human population and modern technology have had a serious impact on the status of these animals.

The Kemp's ridley is an example of a highly vulnerable sea turtle that appeared relatively abundant 30 years ago, but now borders on the verge of extinction. The adults are restricted to the Gulf of Mexico, although immatures are found along the Atlantic coast as far north as Massachusetts. The only known nesting area for this species is a short stretch of remote beach on the east coast of Mexico. A 1947 film shows what appears to be the entire breeding population, estimated at 40,000 females, swarming ashore in one massive group to nest. Today the number of breeding females is estimated to be no more than 400 to 500. Overharvesting of both eggs and adults for use as food, and the skin for leather, has been a major factor in their decline.

Not all species of sea turtles have declined so precipitously as the Kemp's ridley, but this case does help illustrate the plight of sea turtles as a whole. All of the species have been affected to varying degrees by overexploitation for food, sport, or various products, and by the loss of historical nesting beaches. Many sea turtles are also lost each year by drowning when inadvertently caught in fishing nets. At present, six of the seven species of sea turtles are included on the Federal list as either endangered or threatened.

To provide you with some idea as to the occurrence of sea turtles along the Atlantic coast, the loggerhead is by far the most common, followed by the green, and then three rarely seen species, the hawksbill, leatherback and Kemp's ridley. The loggerhead nests from North Carolina southward; the green turtle nests in limited numbers along Florida's lower east coast; and there appears to be a small population of leatherbacks that nests regularly on Florida's Hutchinson Island, Martin County. The hawksbill, a primarily tropical species, seldom nests on the U.S. mainland.

Current conservation efforts include research into development of fishing trawls which will exclude sea turtles, captive rearing to provide hatchlings with a "head start", attempts to establish new nesting areas (Kemp's ridley in Texas), habitat and nest protection, egg incubation under controlled conditions to prevent losses to predators and other causes, programs to control raccoon predation on National Wildlife Refuges, and stepped-up law enforcement.

Although Federal, state and private organizations are working cooperatively to protect and restore sea turtles, recovery of these animals to the point where they are no longer endangered or threatened is not likely to occur for some time. Issuance of commemorative stamps featuring sea turtles would be a beneficial step toward recovery by helping to focus public attention on them, as well as endangered species in general. It would also be in keeping with the spirit of Section 2(c) of the Endangered Species Act which states that: "It is further declared to be the policy of Congress that all Federal departments and agencies shall seek to conserve endangered species and threatened species and shall utilize their authority in furtherance of the purposes of this Act."

I hope that you will give Dr. Carr's proposal your serious consideration; and if there is any way that our office can be of assistance in this matter, please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Crayton J. Lankford

Acting

Regional Director

cc: Regional Director, FWS, Albuquerque, New Mexico (SE)
Director, FWS, Washington, D.C. (OES)

TTURNIPSEED:rw 5/2/80



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Washington, DC 20235

F/SER64:CAO

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Recently I became aware of requests by Russell Train, World Wildlife Fund, and Archie Carr, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (ICUN), to you regarding commemorative stamps on marine turtles. The species of turtles proposed were the green, loggerhead, hawksbill and Kemp's (Atlantic) ridley.

I would like to strongly endorse the requests and offer the assistance of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by providing fisheries biologists knowledgeable about sea turtles that might facilitate accurate depiction of the species.

We are very much interested in the proposed idea because of the joint responsibility NMFS shares with the Fish and Wildlife Service to protect and conserve sea turtles under the Endangered Species Act. Part of our conservation efforts are devoted to informing the public about the status of sea turtles because we believe public awareness of the need to protect sea turtles will promote conservation.

The issuance of commemorative stamps featuring endangered and threatened sea turtles will be an extremely valuable tool in promoting conservation through public awareness.

Please contact me if we can provide any assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Terry L. Leitzell
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries



NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

May 12, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

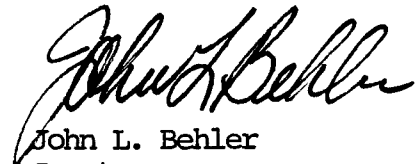
Dear Mr. Bolger:

It is my understanding that America's foremost marine turtle biologist, Archie Carr, has proposed that your committee consider four species of marine turtle as themes for a commemorative stamp issue. Speaking for the Zoological Park's Department of Herpetology, I would like to offer our strong support for Dr. Carr's proposal.

No other group of reptile has benefited mankind more than marine turtles and it seems to me that the Postal Service has an excellent opportunity to contribute to the conservation effort to save these endangered forms from extinction.

I trust that you will closely examine the merits of the proposal before you recommend its approval to the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,



John L. Behler
Curator
Department of Herpetology

JLB:gb

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Science

Office of the General Director

April 17, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

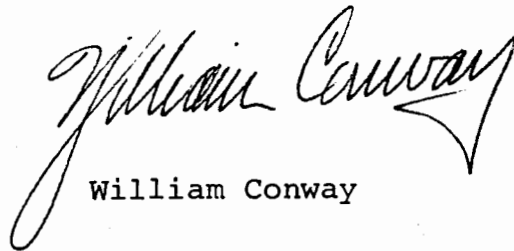
Dear Mr. Bolger:

On behalf of the New York Zoological Society, I would like to strongly endorse the proposal to produce an endangered sea turtle conservation stamp issue, as recently recommended to you by Dr. Archie Carr.

A stamp series on marine turtles would be a vital, timely and appealing contribution to conservation. With many years in the enterprise of presenting wild-life to the public, I can assure you that widespread public interest is essential to saving animal species.

The Postal Service is in a unique position to help sea turtles, and I am very hopeful that you will be able to join in this effort.

Sincerely,



William Conway

cc: A. Carr



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 8, 1980

Mr. Sydney B. Corbett
Postmaster General
Hamilton 5-24 Bermuda

Dear Mr. Corbett:

I am writing to tell you how honored and pleased I was to receive your beautiful First Day Covers on Bermuda's wildlife. I was, of course, particularly impressed with the stamp displaying a young green turtle. I have now seen several sea turtle stamps issued by other countries and I can say with all sincerity that Bermuda's is surely the most attractive.

Our proposal to have the U. S. Postal Service issue a sea turtle stamp has received widespread endorsement both from the private sector and from within government. Although a final decision will not be made for a few more months, I am greatly encouraged by the progress thus far achieved. On the international level, I am happy to report that my letter writing activities have resulted in formal proposals for sea turtle stamps being submitted in Papua New Guinea, Suriname, Tokelau and Dominican Republic.

Thank you for the contribution your country has made to conservation of sea turtles.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

cc: David B. Wingate

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY

The Agassiz Museum



HARVARD UNIVERSITY · CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 · TEL. 617 495-2466

1 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General,
Washington D.C. 20260.

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I am writing to express my support for the proposal for commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles submitted to you by Dr A. Carr in February.

I believe that the issuance of stamps showing endangered species of sea turtles would enhance public awareness of the plight of sea turtles. ~~and~~ stamps would be attractive ~~stamps~~ current relevance to conservation activities in the U.S.

I urge you to issue commemorative stamps showing sea turtles.

Sincerely,

Dr. James P. Ross
associate in herpetology,

The Center for Action on Endangered Species

175 West Main Street
Ayer, MA 01432 USA



4 April 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Sir:

We have heard of a proposal for a series of commemorative stamps on sea turtles. We think this is a wonderful idea.

Commemorative stamps serve the excellent purpose of publicizing their subjects. Sea turtles are in serious jeopardy, and their conservation would be enhanced by the stamps.

We strongly support the issuance of stamps depicting sea turtles.

Sincerely,

Phoebe Wray
Executive Director

June 4, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

It has come to my attention that your office has received a proposal that four species of marine turtles that occur in the United States be considered and approved as themes for a commemorative stamp issue.

I wish to express my support for this proposal. The majority of the United States postal issues commemorate deceased individuals or historical events. Certainly this is a worthy endeavor which is not to be faulted. Consider, however, that in the issuance of stamps honoring endangered species that besides calling attention to the turtles which are deceased (due to unnatural causes) that we can have a hand in bringing imminent extinction to the attention of our citizens (as well as correspondents and philatelists in other countries). In so doing, we celebrate the living turtles and hopefully promote their proliferation. This appeals to me as a most worthy rationale for selecting turtles, as well as other endangered species, for commemorative stamp themes.

I encourage you to give this proposal the serious consideration which it merits.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Hornaday
25261 Grissom Road
Leguna Hills, CA 92653



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Yorof
ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR,
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

May 12, 1980

MEMORANDUM

FOR: George H. Balazs, University of
Hawaii at Manoa (HIMB)

SUBJ: Special Request

Thank you for your letter prompting a supportive note to the Postmaster General. I was pleased to comply, as evidenced by the attached.

We are, at long last, putting together an indepth, full-color brochure on the Endangered Species Program--for which I have a rather special request. I was handed about a year ago a most unusual photograph, to your credit, of a green sea turtle basking next to a seal (species unknown). I'm certain that the photograph would be well received on possibly the inside cover of the brochure--if only you might have it in color transparency!

We are about to make final photo selections for the brochure within the next week and a half, and I am anxious to learn of the availability of your slide. If you do have this one, or even another fine color photo of similar quality, and would be kind enough to let us borrow it, we will of course credit you as you wish and provide a color print.

Please let me know--and good luck with your campaign for the commemorative stamps. Thank you.

Dona K. Finnley

Dona K. Finnley, Editor
Endangered Species Technical
Bulletin

Attachment

Phone: (703) 235-2407

Kiawah Island

Charleston, South Carolina

May 15, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

The recent proposal submitted to you by Archie Carr concerning a set of commemorative stamps issue would be an excellent mode of raising public interest in this unique and endangered species. Many people are concerned about these turtles, but it is hard to generate national public interest because sea turtles do not occur throughout the nation.

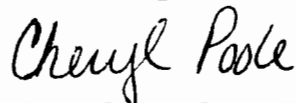
As the supervisor of the Caretta caretta research project on Kiawah Island, I work with these animals directly in an egg translocation project. Eggs are removed from their natural nest and transplanted into an impoundment area in order to keep land predator loss at a significant minimum.

This project is funded annually by the property owners of this resort barrier island located 20 miles south of Charleston, South Carolina. As far as I know, it is the only privately funded, federally permitted project on the East Coast.

Much more information is needed on all five species. I believe strongly that this stamp proposal has the potential for greatly stimulating conservation and research of sea turtles through this type of advertisement.

If I can be of further help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Poole, Supervisor
Loggerhead Sea Turtle Project, 1980.

CP:wjl

Kiawah Island Company, P.O. Box 12910, Charleston, South Carolina 29412
Telephone: (803) 559-5571

JOHN G. SHEDD AQUARIUM

1200 SOUTH LAKESHORE DRIVE CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60605
312-939-2426

WILLIAM P. BRAKER DIRECTOR

April 15, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

The Shedd Aquarium would like to request that your committee consider four species of marine turtles to be presented for commemorative stamp issues. The four species of turtles would include the green turtle, loggerhead, hawksbill and Kemp's Ridley turtles. Increased public awareness of the endangered status of these turtles may enhance their survival chances as well as provide an attractive design for collectors items and postage stamps.

Your consideration of the recognition of marine turtles on commemorative stamp issues would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

William P. Braker
Director

/nab

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

7101 WISCONSIN AVENUE, N.W.

SUITE 611

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20014

PHONE: (301) 986-8700



RICHARD N. DENNEY
Executive Director

HARRY E. HODGDON
Field Director

9 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Reference the recent International Conference on Marine Turtle Conservation, which was held at the U.S. Department of State the week of 25 November 1979. The United States involvement and leadership in seeking to mobilize global efforts for the conservation of marine turtles is imperative.

To further promote interest and the momentum initiated by the Conference, The Wildlife Society is in strong support of the proposal previously submitted to you for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying four unique sea turtles experiencing serious survival problems, all of which are protected under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. These species are the green turtle, the loggerhead, the hawksbill, and Kemp's ridley. Such commemoratives will increase public awareness of the survival status and conservation efforts on behalf of populations of these marine turtles.

We appreciate your interest and cooperation on this matter. If I can be of any additional assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Denney', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Richard N. Denney
Executive Director

lam

47-215 Iuiu Street
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
7 April 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing, as an interested citizen, in support of Dr. Archie Carr's proposal to issue a block of four commemorative stamps showing various species of sea turtles.

Although I am a member of neither philatelic nor conservation societies, I feel that this issue could provide both a beautiful and worthwhile addition to the U. S. Commemorative Stamp Series.

As a resident of the State of Hawaii, I feel that sea turtles are an especially important endangered group to portray because this state has the only sea turtle population in the world which migrates totally within the territorial waters of one nation. As such, we have the best chance to protect these animals and any means of bringing them to public attention can only further that goal.

Please consider Dr. Carr's proposal most seriously. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Corbin
Elizabeth Corbin

May 28, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I wholeheartedly endorse and support the proposal that four species of marine turtles which occur in the United States be considered and approved as subjects for a commemorative stamp issue.

I believe 1980, the year of the coast, a particularly excellent time to promote marine turtles, bringing attention to the plight of these diminishing species.

After the world conference on the sea turtle in November of last year, and the ensuing press releases and publicity issuing from this unique conference, the serious survival status of this species became more visible. The momentum started deserves a further endorsement, which would be well provided by this commemorative stamp issue.

I send wishes for a successful issuance.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. Joseph C. Hoagland, Jr.
Director
Planned Giving Program

The Nature Conservancy

1800 North Kent Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209

KH/nv

NORINE ROUSE SCUBA CLUB

OF THE
PALM BEACHES

April 10, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

For 90 million years, turtles have swum in our oceans, and in the past 150 years, man has destroyed 95% of these. Public awareness would help to increase their survival rate.

Everyone uses and sees stamps. If you could issue a commemorative stamp series showing these turtles, it would be most appreciated; not only by me, but also by the 300+ members of our club. As you can see by our stationary, we do all we can to promote turtle awareness.

Very truly yours,

Norine Rouse
Director

NR/kj



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY. SACRAMENTO

6000 J STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95819

May 14, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

I am writing in strong support of the proposal that four species of marine turtles that occur in the United States be considered and approved as themes for a commemorative stamp issue.

In this request I am joining the ranks of many conservation-minded people who feel that our endangered wildlife and the protection measures taken for their survival should be publicly exhibited on stamps that carry this message all over the world. Since the above mentioned commemorative stamps are of International value, I would call to your attention that such stamps should carry the scientific name (Latin name) of the animal or plant species concerned. Although English is the number one world language, it is very provincial when it comes to names of plants and animals; the same animal may have completely different names in the USA, Australia, Ireland, etc. One English name could denote a completely different animal in all those respective countries, but the scientific name is universal. You would find the Latin names on most stamps of other countries that exhibit plants or animals.

Sincerely,

M.D.F. Udvardy, Professor
Department of Biological Sciences

js

cc: George Balazs

Good show, George!

I'll be on Maui July 2-17, 1980. If you have lived work there, we could acquaint personally. Write a note if actual - I'll then give you a phone # & address.

*Sincerely,
M.D.F.*

TPAFFIC (U.S.A.)

1000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004 Telephone: (202) 638-2800 FAX: (202) 638-2801

April 4, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

We would like to support the proposal to issue a series of stamps commemorating marine turtles.

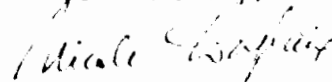
As part of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)/Survival Service Commission, TPAFFIC(USA) receives each day many overseas letters with commemorative stamps of wildlife plants and/or animals. The conservation community feels the need to educate the public of the endangered status of the world's wildlife; there is no better way of exhibiting the rare and treasured wildlife of a country than by placing it on a stamp.

The plight of the sea turtle was discussed at the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation last November hosted by the U.S. Department of State. The sea turtle is, perhaps, the most valuable wildlife animal in the world. Its commercial value is enormous and, as a result, all marine turtles are now endangered either through trade, habitat destruction, or collection of eggs.

Four species of sea turtles are located around U.S. waters - the Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*), Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) - all are listed as endangered and/or threatened on the U.S. Endangered Species Act and listed as endangered in the IUCN Red Data Book and on the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

We urge you to consider this extremely worthwhile endeavor and support a series of commemorative stamps displaying the above species of sea turtles.

Yours sincerely,



Nicole Duplaix
Director

ND/jld



WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-U.S.

TPAFFIC (U.S.A.) Trade in Endangered Species Act (TIE) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) information, information on the protection of wildlife, plants, and other products, and is funded by World Wildlife Fund (WWF).



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

April 16, 1980

Ms. Nicole Duplaix
Director, Traffic (U.S.A.)
1601 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Ms. Duplaix:


Postmaster General William F. Bolger has asked me to respond to your letter expressing support for the issuance of stamps commemorating four species of marine turtles.

We receive many hundreds of suggestions for stamp subjects each year, but only a few can be selected because of the small number of stamps issued annually. The difficult task of evaluating all the proposals is carried out by the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, whose members are appointed from outside the Postal Service.

The proposal for the issuance of stamps commemorating marine turtles is on the Committee's agenda for consideration. We will add your endorsement to the file prepared in support of these stamps.

We appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,


Gordon C. Morison
Assistant Postmaster General
Customer Services Department



Department of Natural Resources

COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION
1200 GLYNN AVENUE
BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA 31520
(912) 264-7218

Joe D. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

Robert J. Reimold
DIRECTOR

7 May 1980

George H. Balazs
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

Enclosed is a copy of my correspondence with William Bolger. I hope this is sufficient, however, if it is not, please let me know. Meanwhile, I'll notify any concerned persons I may know that the effort is being made and that their help would be appreciated.

Once again, please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles F. Cowman, Jr.".

Charles F. Cowman, Jr.
Endangered Species Coordinator
Coastal Resources Division

CFC/lb

Enclosures

5/12/80
Letter sent

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

713-845-6131

April 16, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

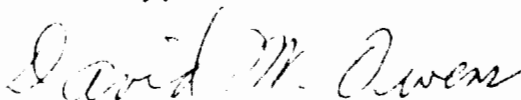
It has come to my attention that the IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group has suggested to you the issuance of a block of four sea turtle commemorative stamps.

This is an outstanding ideal with very appropriate timing. Because of the particularly precarious status of these formerly abundant reptiles, we are very concerned to increase public awareness of the situation. Here in Texas marine turtles are now rarely seen, even though at one time there was a commercial fishery. Texas does have the distinction of being a potential second nesting site for the most endangered sea turtle, the Kemp's Ridley. Thus it is clear that Texans, as well as all Americans have a lot at stake when it comes to marine turtle conservation.

I would like to especially request that you support the suggestion of providing the American public and their correspondents overseas with this valuable form of education. Stamps with the marine turtle theme could be very tastefully prepared as these animals have considerable inherent beauty.

I thank you very much for your consideration of this request by the IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group.

Sincerely,



David W. Owens
Assistant Professor of Biology

DWO/ro



*Sent
for your files*

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

June 20, 1980

Mr. Leighton Taylor
Director, Wakiki Aquarium
2777 Kalakaua Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Postmaster General William F. Bolger has asked me to respond to your Mailgram expressing support for the issuance of stamps commemorating four species of marine turtles.

We receive many hundreds of suggestions for stamp subjects each year, but only a few can be selected because of the small number of stamps issued annually. The difficult task of evaluating all the proposals is carried out by the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, whose members are appointed from outside the Postal Service.

The proposal for the issuance of stamps commemorating marine turtles is on the Committee's agenda for consideration. We will add your endorsement to the file prepared in support of these stamps.

We appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gordon C. Morison
Assistant Postmaster General
Customer Services Department



Department of Natural Resources

270 WASHINGTON ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-3500

Joe D. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources endorses the recent proposal made by Mr. George H. Balazs, Deputy Chairman IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group, for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles.

We believe issuance of these sea turtle stamps would be a timely and commendable contribution to endangered species conservation worldwide.

Further, we feel that postage stamps depicting any other endangered and threatened wildlife would be interesting and informative.

Sincerely,

JOE D. TANNER

JDT/rod

cc: Mr. George H. Balazs



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL

WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR.
GOVERNOR

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711
May 29, 1980

Dr. David Owens
Assistant Professor of Biology
Department of Biology
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dear Dr. Owens:

Thanks for your letter calling my attention to the proposed issuance of commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. I have received the earlier letter from Mr. Balazs of the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

I have your suggestion under consideration.

Sincerely yours,


William P. Clements, Jr.

WPCJr:nsf



2 June 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I would like to express my support of the proposal that four commemorative stamps be issued with sea turtles as a theme.

I have been working closely with George H. Balazs, Assistant Marine Biologist and Deputy Chairman IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group, on the feeding habits of the Green Turtle (Chelonia mydas) and Hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata) in Hawaii. The turtles are quite selective in what they eat, secluded where they live and are shy of humans. They are beautiful and delicate organisms of interest to a wide cross-section of the American public. A set of commemorative stamps would officially introduce these creatures to the public and help us with efforts to prevent their extinction.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis J. Russell".

Dennis J. Russell
Assistant Professor Biology

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

Department of
VETERINARY PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

June 9, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I have been asked to submit written support of the proposition for issuance of commemorative stamps displaying four species of endangered sea turtles. I am in strong support of this proposal.

The research program in which I am personally involved concerns the propagation of two of these species at this time--the green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas) and the Kemp's Ridley (Lepidochelys kempi). (Please see letter from Dr. Archie Carr, dated February 13, 1980)

I have developed a technique for semen collection in sea turtles using electric stimulation and have used the semen obtained for artificial insemination.

These stamps, I feel, will serve a valuable function in making people in the United States and those countries receiving mail from the U.S., aware of these species and their endangered status. This will undoubtedly lend support to research involving propagation, general health and maintenance of these species.

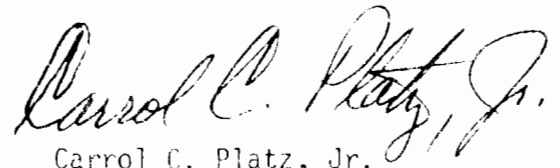
These species are an important part of sea life and, if it were not for man's interference, would still be seen in vast numbers today. As you know, public awareness of such critical issues is often difficult to achieve without a great deal of money and time expenditures. Unfortunately, this vital issue does not have a concerted strong effort to support these requirements due to lack of funds, time and scattered locations of interested parties.

With these stamps, attention will be focused on four endangered species for which there still may be some hope for maintaining self sustaining populations through public awareness.

Issuance of these commemorative stamps would be of great benefit to the species, as well as a credit to the Postal Service for its

support of conservation of these species threatened with extinction which are associated with our country. This is a unique opportunity to bring attention to a threatened reptile, which frequents our beaches and which may, without such attention, become another statistic to add to the already long list of species which have disappeared by man's hand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carroll C. Platz, Jr.".

Carroll C. Platz, Jr.
Research Assistant Professor

5 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to give my support to the proposal to feature sea turtles in a United States commemorative stamp issue. Not only are these colorful and fascinating creatures to depict on a stamp, but such an action is sure to have positive repercussions in terms of conservation of these endangered reptiles. I hope that you are able to give the proposal a favorable review.

Enclosed is a clipping from the Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, March 1980 Vol.V, No. 3, page 10, published by the Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Endangered Species Program, Washington, D.C.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Meylan
3915 SW 20th Drive
Gainesville, Florida
32608



General Post Office

Hamilton 5-24 Bermuda

In reply please
quote the date of
this letter and the
following reference:

PO 2(40d)



August 21, 1980

Mr. George H. Balazs
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P. O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe
Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs,

How delighted I was to hear of your interest in encouraging government postal services to issue commemorative stamps featuring sea turtles and my pleasure to inform you that we are indeed one step ahead and enclose complimentary First Day Covers on Bermuda's Wildlife Definitive Issues and two strips of the sea turtle stamp.

Featured inside each cover is a descriptive liner giving information about each subject and technical details regarding the production of the stamps.

I hope you will find these covers interesting and would invite you to write again should you need further assistance or information.

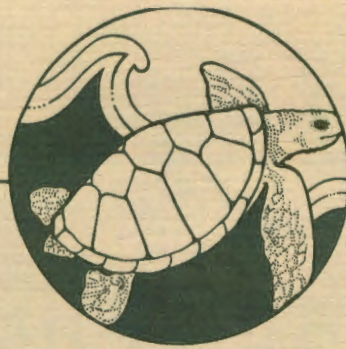
Yours sincerely,

Sydney B. Corbett
Postmaster General

SBC:sdm
Enclosures

cc - David B. Wingate
Conservation Officer
Dept. of Agriculture & Fisheries

George -
Hope this
is okay - corrected
& retyped.
It was great talking
with you last night!



WORLD CONFERENCE ON SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION

November 26-30, 1979 Washington, D.C.

3132 Wyoming St., Apt. 5
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(504) 344-3246

11 September 1980

Mrs. Mary Ann Owens
Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
P. O. Box 1164
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11202

Dear Mrs. Owens:

I am writing to add my support to the proposal ^{for} a set of commemorative sea turtle stamps. The World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation, which was held in the State Department in November 1979, brought together over 300 sea turtle conservationists from 40 nations. One of the points stressed repeatedly throughout the Conference was the need for increased education. Not enough people know that sea turtles are endangered species, largely, if not entirely, as a result of direct human exploitation. A series of stamps would do much to increase public awareness of ~~both the fact that~~ ^{sea turtles} both the fact that ~~they~~ are native American animals and that they are now in danger of extinction.

I hope that you will give this proposal your serious consideration, and that your final opinion is a favorable one.

Sincerely yours,

Karen Bjorndal, PhD
Post-Conference Coordinator

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
HAWAII 96718

N1415

May 20, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Mr. Bolger:

An effort by scientists and conservationists is being mounted proposing issuance of commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles.

I endorse this effort wholeheartedly, and would encourage you to support it. Sea turtle populations worldwide are much depleted.

Commemorative stamps similar to previously issued wildlife conservation series would undoubtedly direct attention to sea turtles and would stimulate conservation and research of these increasingly rare and precious animals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Dan Taylor
Chief, Division of Resource Management

✓cc:

George H. Balazs, Assistant Marine Biologist, U.H. Manoa, Hawaii
Institute of Marine Biology, P.O. Box 1346, Coconut Island,
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

April 14, 1980


Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC
20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I am writing to endorse the idea of issuance of a set of commemorative stamps honoring marine turtles as proposed in Dr. Archie Carr's letter to you of February 13, 1980. Stamps which call attention to various endangered and threatened species do indeed make an impact on those who receive mail utilizing such stamps. In particular, mail to such foreign countries as Japan, France and Mexico would draw attention to their plight. Domestically, the stamps would serve not only to enhance the awareness of the American public, but also to encourage obedience of present laws and statutes as now exist.

Lest you or your staff be worried about psychological impact of using a turtle to represent the speed with which mail is delivered, be assured that marine turtles are quite fast and able swimmers (as opposed to the land tortoise which indeed can be slow).

Sincerely,


Mike A. McCoy
Executive Director, MMA

MICRONESIAN MARITIME AUTHORITY
P.O. BOX D; KOLONIA, PONAPE
EASTERN CAROLINE ISLANDS, 96941

21 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to endorse the proposal already submitted to you by Dr. Archie Carr for issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. For many years I have been doing biological studies on turtles, and during that time their abundance has decreased. Last year I attended the Sea Turtle Symposium at our Department of State and later a series of sessions on their biology at the annual meeting of the American Society of Zoologists in Tampa, FL.

The endangered status of all four species that breed along the coasts of the United States makes it imperative that the public be aware of that fact. Other nations of both the developed and developing regions of the world have portrayed their species. Since some species of marine turtles are known to migrate long distances, even into the colder waters of the North Temperate Zone and lower Arctic regions, it would be well to publicize them. In that way people can become interested both in their conservation and also in research concerning their life histories.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Marie T. Diamond
Professor of Biology

Trinity College
Washington, DC 20017

SINCE NINETEEN HUNDRED



"THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION"

March 17, 1980

William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General:

I am writing to you to support the concept of a set of U. S. commemorative postage stamps that will illustrate various endangered and threatened sea turtle species. I believe the time is entirely appropriate to proceed with this concept, following the highly successful international sea turtle conservation conference in Washington, DC last month, attended by delegates from several dozen nations and held in the U. S. State Department. Sea turtles present exciting possibilities for creative artists, having forms and patterns that would lend themselves well either to a "straight" rendering or to an interpretive, modernistic approach. The species involved should be the green, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, and loggerhead, all of which are endangered or threatened. If a larger stamp series were envisaged - for example, a set of four different designs of the same value se-tenant and two or three higher values, designs for the leatherback, flatback, and olive ridley species should also be entertained.

I should be delighted to provide any further advice or ideas if you feel that the proposal is a promising one. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Peter C. H. Pritchard, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President &
Chief Executive Officer

se

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

921 Lake Sybelia Drive • P. O. Drawer 7 • Maitland, Florida 32751
(305) 647-2615



CITY OF DALLAS
DALLAS ZOO AND AQUARIUM
621 East Clarendon Drive
Dallas, Texas 75203

24 April 1980

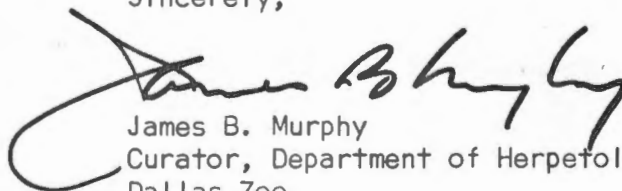
Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

The staff of the Department of Herpetology at the Dallas Zoo strongly supports the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. Since most turtles are critically endangered, this approach would be an effective means of educating the public as to the plight of sea turtles.

Thank you for your consideration toward this matter.

Sincerely,


James B. Murphy
Curator, Department of Herpetology
Dallas Zoo

JBM:jam



April 14, 1980

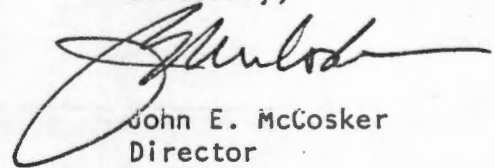
Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I write you concerning a proposal for the issuance of a block of four stamps which will commemorate sea turtles. These animals, once abundant but now rare and endangered as a result of overfishing and the destruction of their nesting colony habitat throughout much of the world, are certainly deserving of the exposure that a postage stamp will provide. Such a contribution to the survival of an endangered species, as well as the role as a stimulator to learn about fascinating natural history of marine turtles, would seem reason enough for them to be featured in this way.

I hope this information will assist you in making this decision.

Sincerely,



John E. McCosker
Director

JEMc:fs

The SIERRA CLUB, Hawaii Chapter

Post Office Box 22897, Honolulu, HI 96822

Telephone: (808) 946-8494

May 20, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Niuanu Pali, by Fisquet, 1837

Dear Mr. Bolger;

Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter would like you to know that we are in strong support of the proposal to issue commemorative stamps displaying four species of marine turtles.

We feel that any efforts to raise the public's awareness and concern for endangered species should be acknowledged. We would like to extend our thanks for your consideration of these endangered species for a commemorative stamp issue. The issue of stamps displaying the four species of marine turtles should do much to stimulate efforts for further conservation and research of sea turtles.

Yours truly,

Anna C. Kaohelaulii

Anna C. Kaohelaulii
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
SIERRA CLUB, HAWAII CHAPTER

SAN DIEGO



TURTLE AND TORTOISE SOCIETY

April 5, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

We have recently been informed that you have been requested to consider four species of marine turtles as themes for a commemorative stamp issue. We feel it is important to have the public view turtles (and tortoises) from a conservation point. A set of stamps would help accomplish this. The public is very unaware of conservation efforts be taken to ensure survival of what they consider to be the "lowly turtle". As they are able to view education efforts, so may their interest be aroused.

We turtle and tortoise conservationists need everyones help if we are to save these gentle creatures that have dwelled on Earth for the past 200 million years.

We urge you to consider and approve the set of commemorative stamp issue as proposed by Archie Carr in his letter of February 13, 1980. Any assistance within our power will be cheerfully rendered upon request.

Sincerely yours,

Vern Kirchman

President

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

713-845-6131

April 29, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing you with regard to the IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group's request for a dedication of four commemorative stamps displaying our vanishing sea turtles.

We think that it is very important to inform the public of the dire situation of this once numerous reptile.

Our state of Texas could possibly be an additional nesting site for the Kemp's Ridley, the most severely endangered sea turtle. Taking this into consideration, along with the fact that the three other sea turtles native to the U.S., the Green Turtle, the Loggerhead, and the Hawksbill are all well on their way towards extinction, it is clear that we, as Americans, should be very concerned with sea turtle conservation.

In closing, I reemphasize the importance of informing the public, at home and abroad, of the bad predicament of the marine turtle. We believe that marine turtle stamps would have a very positive effect on the public.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request, and that of the IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Groups.

Sincerely,

Mark Grossman

Interested Marine Biology Students

George Skripchenko

Ryfton Hughes

Randy Swob

Clint Brueyere

Amy C. Haynie

Thomas A. Marting

Luis Castana

John Skell

CORAL WORLD

27 May 1980

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C.
20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I understand that a proposal has been submitted to your office for the issuance of a block of commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles.

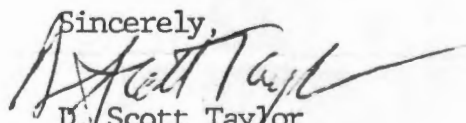
I would like to strongly support this proposal. Such a series of stamps would add much needed help to the fight to preserve the stressed stocks of sea turtles which remain.

The United States should take the initiative in efforts worldwide to conserve all marine resources, and a very good public relations campaign could be achieved through these stamps.

I hope that you will seriously consider this proposal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



D. Scott Taylor
Aquarium Director



VI 00801

ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION, INC.

DR. EDWARD L. TOWLE
President

Please Reply To:

1 Horizon Road
Fort Lee, NJ 07024

May 15, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

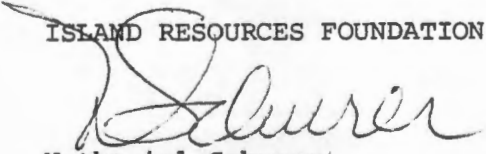
I am writing in support of the proposal fostered by Dr. Archie Carr of the University of Florida, and other leading wildlife scientists throughout the world, for the issuance of a commemorative stamp issue for four species of marine turtles. The public awareness generated by such an issue will certainly help increase the support needed if these very important endangered species are to survive. The recent International Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation highlights the urgency of such programs.

Island Resources Foundation has been active for years in research and protection activities concerning the Green Turtle (*Chelonia Mydas*). Our programs in the Caribbean, and particularly on Aves Island helped persuade the Government of Venezuela to declare this very important nesting site a sanctuary.

I look forward to being able to purchase marine turtle commemorative stamps.

Sincerely,

ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION, INC.


Nathaniel Schurer

NS:lm

copies to Mr. George H. Balazs
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Dr. Edward L. Towle
Island Resources Foundation, Inc.

JUNE 11, 1980

MR. WILLIAM BOLGER
POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20260

DEAR MR. BOLGER:

THE WORLD TODAY OFFERS MANKIND A SPECTACULAR VARIETY OF WILDLIFE TO STUDY AND ENJOY, AND FUTURE GENERATIONS ARE ENTITLED TO AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY JUST AS MANY CREATURES.

UNLESS WE HELP INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS, WE ARE IN JEOPARDY OF LOSING A FRACTION OF THAT RICHNESS: THE "GREEN", "HAWKSBILL", "LOGGERHEAD" AND "KEMP'S RIDLEY" SEA TURTLES ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING EXTINCT.

A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUE OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED-SEA TURTLES WILL INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND DRAW SUPPORT TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED EXISTANCE OF THESE SEA INHABITANTS.

EVERYONE STANDS TO BENEFIT FROM THESE STAMPS--THEIR AESTHETICALLY APPEALING COLOR AND DESIGN WILL BRIGHTEN DRAB ENVELOPES AND ENHANCE STAMP COLLECTIONS AND THE POPULARITY OF TURTLE ITEMS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD PROMISES A QUICK SELL OUT OF THE COMMEMORATIVE SEA TURTLE STAMPS.

WE CANNOT TAKE THE SURVIVAL OF THESE GENTLE CREATURES FOR GRANTED. PLEASE EXERCISE THE POWER YOU HOLD TO HELP OUR WILDLIFE REMAIN AS RICH AND VARIED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS AS IT HAS BEEN FOR OUR GENERATION.

SINCERE ALOHA,

JO ANN BROWNE
47-711-5 HUIKELU ST.
KANEOHE, HI 96744
PH: 239-8940 (808)

May 7, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
U. S. Postal Service
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

The State of Florida, through its Department of Natural Resources, has a long history of marine turtle protection and research. The research includes a highly successful "head start" program and tag returns from Florida released turtles show the need for interstate and international cooperation in the conservation of these animals.

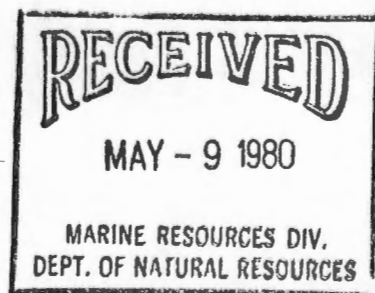
The recent proposal to you by Dr. F. Wayne King for stamps commemorating four species of endangered marine turtles would assist greatly in calling public attention to the continuing need for protection of these valuable species.

Sincerely,

5-8-80

Elton J. Gissendanner
Executive Director

EJG:rws



STATE OF FLORIDA

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

May 8, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

As concerned biology students at Texas A&M University we are well aware of the plight of the sea turtle, in particular the slowly vanishing Kemp's Ridley (Lepidochelys kempi). Worth-while research being conducted in the labs of our university with regard to the homing instinct and nesting behavior of these reptiles is indicative of the efforts which must be employed if the sea turtle is ever to be "relieved" of it's endangered status. The request by the IVCN/SSC that a postage stamp be designed in hopes of emphasizing the ill fate of these creatures here and abroad warrants your utmost consideration.

In the end these commemorative stamps may be only a memorial to an extinct species, but with your help they may become symbolic of the success of the "U.S. Endangered Species Act".

Sincerely,

Laura Burt
Luis Cadena
Kim Russell

Randall C. Ayer
Jeff Smith
Jan Rainey
Carol Boyett
Steven B. Sylvestine
Julia A. Russell
Allison Arnold
Deirdre Wagoner

Center for Natural Areas

1525 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 265-0066

8 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

On February 13, 1980, Dr. Archie Carr wrote a letter proposing four species of marine turtles be considered as themes for a commemorative stamp issue. I represent the entire staff of the Center for Natural Areas in pledging our strong support for the approval of these proposed commemorative stamps.

One of the most important obstacles we must overcome to save these threatened and endangered species is a lack of public awareness concerning the turtles' plight. As Dr. Carr pointed out to you in his letter, and which I am sure you are well aware, commemorative stamps portraying the four nominated species of marine turtles would significantly increase the public awareness of these turtles.

The International Marine Turtle Conference, held here in Washington last November, indicated a strong concern by the approximately 40 attending nations of the future existence and well-being of sea turtle populations. By approving this proposal, the United States Postal Service would be actively assisting in the world-wide effort to save these turtles for future generations.

Sincerely,

George W. Robertson
Resource Management Specialist
CENTER FOR NATURAL AREAS

GWR/dcm



University of Hawaii at Manoa

A Sea Grant College

Spalding Hall 252 B • 2540 Maile Way

Telephone (808) 948-8191 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 / Cable Address: UNIHAW

Marine Advisory Program
2349 Kalaniana'ole Avenue
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 935-3830

May 1, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing this letter to request your committee to consider issuing a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. As a marine biologist and philatelist, I have admired many American and foreign stamps that picture beautiful wildlife - both common and endangered.


During the past year a stamp displaying the rare and endangered Hawaiian Wild Broad Bean was issued and it effectively made the public aware of this newly discovered legume which is threatened by grazing animals. According to our local post office, this stamp was quickly purchased by the public and "sold like hotcakes."

Sea turtles are an endangered resource in the Hawaiian Islands and I am convinced that issuance of the requested stamps will stimulate further research and conservation of these species.

We do look forward to the day when sea turtles return in great numbers to their ancestral nesting beaches on the major Hawaiian Islands.

We do hope your committee will find our proposal favorable.

Sincerely,



Howard A. Takata
Marine Advisory Agent
East Hawaii

HOWARD TAKATA, Marine Advisory Agent
Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program
2349 Kalaniana'ole Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720



HAT/pcm

SEA LIFE PARK



May 29, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to you to ask your Committee to consider sea turtles as a theme for commemorative stamps.

All sea turtles are presently endangered or threatened. Unless recent trends are reversed their continued survival is in jeopardy.

Sea turtles are unique in many ways. They are among the most ancient of vertebrates. While not the fastest animals in the ocean they are one of the most accurate of navigators, returning to small, remote atolls with uncanny accuracy. Because of this trait they are particularly appropriate for the postal service.

In recent years it has become apparent that public awareness is essential if endangered species are to achieve the necessary protection. Commemorative sea turtle stamps could help achieve the necessary public awareness.

Sincerely,
SEA LIFE, INCORPORATED

Edward W. Shallenberger, Ph.D.
Vice President

EWS:w

May 20, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Would you please consider issuing a series of commemorative stamps illustrating the endangered marine turtles in American waters?

Twenty years ago I remember turtle steak being offered on the menus of local restaurants. Our Hawaiian turtle population no longer suffers such depredation but other parts of the world have not yet heard of conservation.

A few years ago I saw turtle pens at Benoa, Bali, Indonesia containing several hundred Hawksbill turtles. Every day three to five of these were loaded onto the bus each trip it made from Benoa to Ben Pasar to be later consumed at religious festivals, so we were told.

Perhaps a series of commemorative stamps would carry to the rest of the world our message of the necessity of conservation of these species and would support attempts presently being made by other departments of our government, such as the ban on the importation of tortoise shell.

Sincerely,

J. B. ORR

JOHN B. ORR
P.O. Box 14
Pahoa, Hawaii 96778



NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

202-797-6800

May 22, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

We understand that a proposal has recently been submitted to you for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. We are strongly supportive of this proposal and hope that it will ultimately stimulate further conservation and research of sea turtles, both nationally and internationally.


The National Wildlife Federation is the largest conservation organization in this country, and is comprised of approximately 4.6 million members and supporters, with affiliates in all 50 states, and in Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. NWF recognizes the need for marine turtle conservation and is highly supportive of all conservation oriented endeavors. Enclosed is a resolution recently passed addressing the management of marine turtles.

The world's populations of marine turtles have been greatly depleted. In November, 1979, scientists and concerned citizens from over 40 nations gathered to develop an international conservation strategy. Public attention was a targeted need. The issuance of commemorative stamps would go a long way towards calling the public's attention to the need for further protection of sea turtles.

As a result of the conservation strategy, several countries have already issued commemorative stamp series featuring marine turtles. The National Wildlife Federation encourages the participation of the United States in the sea turtle preservation effort. The issuance of marine turtle postage stamps would be of great value to this conservation program.

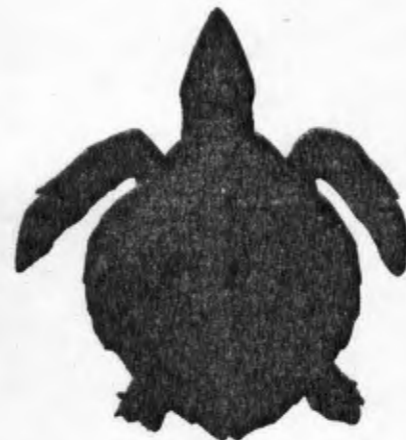
We look forward to the addition of the marine turtles to this country's Commemorative Postage Stamp Series.

Sincerely,


THOMAS L. KIMBALL
Executive Vice President

Enclosure

Southeast Region Sea Turtle Recovery Team



May 19, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

This letter is written in support of the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps depicting sea turtles.

One of the major problems encountered with recovering endangered and threatened species is bringing the problem to public awareness. These stamps would assist us a great deal in that regard.

The Marine Turtle Recovery Team unanously supports this effort and your consideration would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Hopkins".

Sally Hopkins, Co-leader
Marine Turtle Recovery Team

cc: George H. Balazs

Co-Leaders: Peter C.H. Pritchard, Ph.D.
Florida Audubon Society
P.O. Drawer 7, Maitland, FL 32751
(305) 647-2615

Sally Ray Hopkins
South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Dept.
P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, S. Carolina 29412
(803) 795-6350

Members: A.E. Dammann, Ph.D.; Otto Florschutz; Charles Futch; Donald Geagan; H.O. Hillestad; Robert Jones; Milton Kaufmann; Ron Odom; Larry Ogren; Glen Ulrich

NMFS Coordinator: Dr. Joseph Sylvester, NMFS, Duval Building, 9450 Koger Boulevard, St. Petersburg, FL 33702, (813) 893-3721



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

JEAN KING
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

(808) 548-2544

March 19, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I'd like to add my support to the recent proposal to you by Mr. Archie Carr, on behalf of the Scientific Committee of the International Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation, that four species of endangered marine turtles be themes for a commemorative stamp issue. We here in Hawaii have a small population of the Green Turtle that, like the other endangered species residing in our islands, we'd like to see protected from extinction. Public understanding of these unique species' status is an important conservation tool, and the commemorative stamp proposal will increase public awareness. I hope you and your Committee will deem this proposal a worthy one, and consider further issues featuring other endangered species.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

With all good wishes,

Jean King

JEAN KING
Lieutenant Governor



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

LLOYD 500 BUILDING, SUITE 1692

500 N.E. MULTNOMAH STREET

PORTLAND, OREGON 97232

May 15, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I strongly support the proposal submitted to you for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. These stamps, if issued, will help stimulate interest in these threatened and endangered animals and, hopefully, further their conservation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
R. Kahler Martinson

R. Kahler Martinson
Regional Director



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Fisheries Center
75 Virginia Beach Drive
Miami, FL 33149

April 15, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Sea turtles on United States commemorative stamps is a proposal that this program supports.

The sea turtle research program at the Southeast Fisheries Center is responsible for developing needed information on the little-known biology of these threatened and endangered species, in the southeastern United States and all areas of the Western Central Atlantic.

Commemorative stamps of the 4 species of sea turtles would indirectly assist our effort.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick H. Berry
Fisheries Research Administrator
Program Manager for Marine Mammals
and Endangered Species





Department of Natural Resources

COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION
1200 GLYNN AVENUE
BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA 31520
(912) 264-7218

Joe D. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

Robert J. Reimold
DIRECTOR

May 7, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

As you may be aware, there is a growing interest in the welfare of the Sea Turtle. This was recently exemplified by The World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation, held at the State Department building in Washington, D.C. One of the chief concerns expressed at this conference was the insufficient degree of public awareness surrounding the sea turtles tenuous existence, hence the purpose of this letter. It is the consensus of myself and many of my colleagues that four species of sea turtles be nominated for a commemorative stamp issue. These four are (1) Green Turtle (Chelonia mydas), (2) Loggerhead (Caretta caretta), (3) Hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata), and (4) Kemp's Ridley (Lepidochelys kempi).

In years past, the U.S. Postal Service has issued commemorative stamps honoring other endangered species. These were invaluable in making public aware of the species plight, indeed, that they were even near extinction. Through this increased public awareness, we stand a much better chance of stabilizing their population size or even, hopefully, restoring the populations to where they will no longer be in danger of extinction.

If I may be of further assistance or answer any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles F. Cowman, Jr.
Endangered Species Coordinator
Coastal Resources Division

CFC/lb

CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Suite 1108 Banco de Ponce Building • Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00918

P.O. Box 1001, Hato Rey, P.R. 00919

Telephones: FTS (809) 753-4926, 753-4927, 753-4928, Comm. (809) 753-6910.

Telex: "Carifish" 385-790

June 5, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to you in support of the proposal that a series of commemorative stamps be issued for four species of marine turtles.

It is my strong feeling that such stamps would go far in bringing international awareness to marine turtles. This is very important since only international cooperation can prevent their otherwise certain extinction.

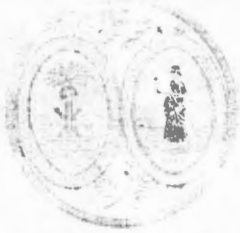
As a resident of the Caribbean Region, and a member of the United States Marine Turtle Recovery Team for the Atlantic species, I am well aware of the situation here which involves so many nations whose waters support these endangered animals. All of these nations must be constantly reminded of the need for conservation of this national resource.

Sincerely,



Arthur E. Dammann
Chief Scientist

AED:as



State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor

RICHARD W. RILEY
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 11450
COLUMBIA 29211

April 30, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I understand that a proposal was recently submitted to your office for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles.

This proposal has my support, and I hope you will seriously consider the merits of such an issuance. Sea turtles are an endangered resource, and the public can be made more aware of their status through issuance of commemorative stamps displaying the turtles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dick Riley".

Richard W. Riley

RWR/tce



American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT OGLEBAY PARK, WHEELING, WV 26003 (304) 242-2160

18 April 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Please accept this letter as one of total support to the requests you have received regarding the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps depicting sea turtles.

The American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums represents virtually every zoological park and aquarium on the North American continent and virtually all of the professional staff members employed in these facilities. Collectively, our members play host to more than 100,000,000 visitors annually. One of the most important themes of our members is conservation. It is on behalf of our members that I request your careful consideration to the issuance of the above-suggested stamps.

Sea turtles are in grave danger, and the issuance of commemorative stamps would go a long way towards calling the public's attention to the need for further protection of sea turtles. Please help us bring the public's attention to their plight and join with us in helping to conserve these magnificent creatures. Interestingly, several foreign countries have already issued stamps depicting marine turtles; and as the strongest conservation-oriented nation of the world, we would like our country to participate in this endeavor.

Your careful consideration and your support will be sincerely appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Robert O. Wagner
Executive Director

ROW/ljb

Copies to: Don D. Farst, D.V.M., AAZPA President
George H. Balazs, IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group

OFFICERS

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Gladys Porter Zoo

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Oglebay Park
Wheeling, WV 26003

DIRECTORS

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New York Zoological Park

DAVID G. ZUCCONI
Superintendent
Tulsa Zoological Park

LOUIS E. GARIBALDI
Curator
New England Aquarium

ELVIE TURNER, JR.
Director
Fort Worth Zoological Park

May 16, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I would like to encourage you to issue the proposed set of commemorative sea turtle stamps. The survival outlook of sea turtles is uncertain at the present time. One important thing that can be done to help insure their survival is to increase public awareness of the sea turtles' plight. I feel that a commemorative stamp would contribute significantly towards this end. Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Deborah Fuller
Research Associate
Coastal Ecology Laboratory
Center for Wetland Resources
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

DF:cml



THE ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

— A Living Museum —

ROUTE 9, BOX 900 TUCSON, ARIZONA 85704 TEL. (602) 883-1380
DAN DAVIS, Director

March 28, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum has been deeply involved in research and protective measures to insure the successful hatching of sea turtles in Mexico for a number of years. Although the Museum is gradually phasing out of its leadership role in this effort, passing that position to the Florida Audubon Society, the Museum continues to maintain a deep concern for the declining status of all sea turtles.

Therefore, I am writing to express my own personal support of the proposal submitted by Professor Archie Carr to issue a commemorative stamp featuring sea turtles. Such an issue would be another effective means of drawing public attention to the endangered status of these marine turtles and stimulating further efforts in the research and conservation struggle to insure the survival of the species.

I know you will give this proposal the careful consideration it so well deserves.

Sincerely,

Wallace Cromwell
Director,
Interpretation-Education Department

lc

enclosures



THE KING'S COLLEGE • BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NEW YORK 10510

14 April 1980

Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20013

Dear Sir:

It recently has come to my attention that a proposal has been submitted for issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. This letter comes in support of the proposal. So frequently I see beautiful animal stamps issued by other countries; and I feel that some attractive sea turtle stamps would be an ideal addition to our current list of commemoratives.

I have spent some twenty years intermittently researching sea turtles mostly in Florida. However, the studies have taken me as far south as Surinam in South America and Nova Scotia in Canada. Incidentally, recently we have discovered the loggerhead, Caretta, laying eggs as far north as the state of New Jersey; and a group has been set up to study what measures would be wise to protect this species there.

The sea turtle conference in Washington last fall generated considerable interest in the need for conservation of sea turtles. Also during meetings of the American Society of Zoologists held in Tampa in late December 1979 there were sea turtle sessions held for several days, and these meetings likewise emphasized the necessity of attention being given to sea turtles with regard to their conservation as well as their biology in general.

It would seem to me entirely appropriate that soon the machinery would be activated for producing commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles; and I am anxious to encourage this effort.

Respectfully yours,

Wayne Frair, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology

WF/rp

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
ZOOLOGY RESEARCH BUILDING
1117 WEST JOHNSON STREET
MADISON, WI 53706

May 20, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

We wish to express our support for a recent proposal to issue a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. These unique reptiles have experienced drastic decreases in the size of their populations, and for some species the threat of extinction is imminent. The United States has assumed a leadership position to mobilize international efforts for sea turtle conservation, and we believe that issuance of commemorative stamps will aid our initiative. The stamps would focus public awareness on the need for protection and conservation of these unique creatures.

Sincerely,

Allan Muth, Ph.D.

AM:ac



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT
CHAPEL HILL

Institute of Marine Sciences

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Post Office Drawer 809
Morehead City, North Carolina 28557

April 9, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260


Dear Mr. Bolger:

I wish to urge your department to move forward quickly on the idea of a series of commemorative stamps of sea turtles. This group of animals deserves such consideration in light of their growing worldwide and U. S. demise. We need to continue to bring before the peoples of the U. S. and the world, as was done during the recent world sea turtle conference in Washington, D. C. attended by 40 nations, an awareness of the plight of these animals as well as their grace and mystique. For what animal comes ashore, hatches, then spends most of its life at sea before we see it again in our coastal waters or as a female coming ashore to complete the life cycle of nesting. Secondly, the U. S. needs a series of stamps on its endangered animals, or animals and plants in general similar to those of such other nations as Japan, Maldives Islands, etc.

We here in coastal North Carolina are fortunate to still see these remarkable creatures and are doing our utmost to insure their survival. They will be topics enlarged upon during this year's national "Year of the Coast" observations. Likewise, a renowned sculptor, Andre Harvey, of Delaware has and is spending time here casting the sea turtle into bronze. Perhaps in the suggested stamps you could depict sea turtles in paintings, as sculptures, and as other important aspects of the American heritage.

Thus, I encourage your department to act with speed as well as purpose in making sea turtles part of our commemorative stamp series. I will be happy to comment or assist in any way possible to see your efforts are achieved at an early date. With all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,


Frank J. Schwartz
Professor of Zoology

FJS/bbb



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGY

ATHENS, GEORGIA 30602

TELEPHONE 404-542-2968

3 April 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I strongly support Dr. Archie Carr's request (13 February 1980) for a series of commemorative stamps on threatened and endangered marine turtles. The need for increased public awareness of these animals is essential.

The State of Georgia has established a marine turtle research and educational program to deal with the many problems associated with the protection of marine turtles in Georgia's estuarine waters. Conflicts of interest arise with industrial pollution, shoreline development, the fishing industries, and beach stabilization practices. As director of the Georgia program, my biggest effort is with public education and public awareness. Any assistance from your office, in the form of a commemorative series, would be most gratefully appreciated.

Sincerely,



James I. Richardson

Director
Georgia Marine Turtle Program

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

Department of Zoology

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

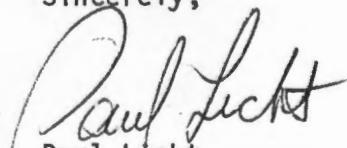
March 20, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I have just learned of a proposal submitted by Prof. Archie Carr that a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles be issued in an attempt to increase public awareness of the conservation issue involved. I wish to add my strong endorsement of this proposal because I am convinced that the conservation issue has reached critical proportions. There has recently been a significant increase in scientific awareness and interest in the sea turtle problem but for future efforts at conservation to be effective, education of the public is essential. A block of commemorative stamps would certainly assist in bringing the issue to the attention of the public at large and might well be instrumental in what may be the last chance to rectify the problem facing these valuable creatures.

Sincerely,


Paul Licht
Chairman of Zoology

PL/r1



THE ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

— A Living Museum —

ROUTE 9, BOX 900

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85704

TEL. (602) 883-1380

DAN DAVIS, Director

March 24, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bolger:

During the past five years, my staff and myself have been engaged in research and conservation of the Green Turtle, (Chelonia mydas), of the Gulf of California and the Pacific coast of Mexico. This research was variously funded by the World Wildlife Fund, the New York Zoological Society, the Chelonia Institute, and independent concerned citizens of Mexico.

We recently shared the results of this ongoing project with fellow researchers and their organizations at the International Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation, held in Washington D.C. in November, 1979. A symposium volume will soon be published consisting of chapters contributed by us and other delegates to the conference.

In the light of our involvement with, and concern for, the sea turtles of the world, we urge you to seriously consider Dr. Archie Carr's request for an issue of commemorative stamps celebrating these unique, endangered species.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Felger
Senior Research Scientist

RSF:lr



CHARTERED 1693
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF MARINE SCIENCE



Gloucester Point, Virginia 23062

Phone (804) 642-2111

8 April 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I wish to express my enthusiastic support of a marine turtle commemorative stamp for the U.S. as suggested by the World Sea Turtle Scientific Committee.

My first-hand experience with sea turtles includes work on over two hundred Virginian loggerhead and ridley strandings each summer. Some of these deaths have been caused by human interference that stems from both a lack of understanding of the coastal species' lifestyles as well as from adverse reactions of fishermen that must remove them from their nets.

I have watched local sea turtle public awareness efforts succeed beyond our hopes in evoking interest and concern for sea turtles. Surely a marine turtle commemorative stamp series would assist our efforts to enlist public support of sea turtle conservation goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Molly E. Lutcavage'.

Molly E. Lutcavage



National Zoological Park Smithsonian Institution · Washington, D.C. 20008

31 March, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Sir:

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUE - MARINE TURTLES

I wish to support colleagues of mine, both in this country and abroad, in requesting that your office consider a commemorative issue on Marine Turtles.

Reasons for this are many: educational value of postage stamps, together with the critical status of U.S. populations of sea turtles and the recent International Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation make it timely to increase public awareness about these animals now.

You will know that several countries, many of them undeveloped, have issued attractive sets on Marine Turtles. The Maldives are a recent example, and I know from communication with the Postmaster General, and other Government Officials there, that this issue has been planned as an educational aid. The Maldives Postal department has been applauded internationally by biologists for their foresighted policy.

I would be pleased to offer whatever information I can to assist in this issue.

Sincerely,

John G. Frazier
Research Associate

HAROLD JEFFERSON COOLIDGE
38 STANDLEY STREET
BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS 01915

May 8, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

The purpose of this letter is to support as strongly as possible the suggestion that the United States should issue a commemorative stamp on which would appear pictures of four species of threatened marine turtles. The protection of marine turtles has been a matter of life-long interest, not only to me but to the IUCN as well as conservation organizations with which I have been associated and which are referred to in the enclosed news release. It is highly gratifying that the International Conference on Marine Turtle Conservation that was organized by President Train of the World Wildlife Fund has resulted in positive action by many countries and it would seem highly appropriate that our government should reinforce this action by issuing the suggested stamp.

With kind regards--

Sincerely,

Harold J. Coolidge

HJC/gsc
Enclosure: News Release

HAROLD JEFFERSON COOLIDGE

38 STANDLEY STREET

BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS 01915

May 8, 1980

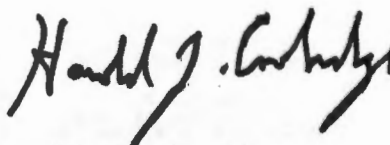
Mr. George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist and Deputy Chairman
IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Dr. Balazs:

Thank you for your kind letter of April 29th.
I strongly support your suggestion that a four
commencement stamps displaying sea turtles
should be issued by our government and am sending
a note to this affect to the Postmaster General.

With kind regards--

Sincerely,



Harold J. Coolidge

HJC/gsc

Enclosure: 5/8 ltr. to Postmaster General



United States Department of the Interior

ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR,
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/OES 121

MAY 12 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I would like to strongly endorse the recent proposal for the issuance of commemorative stamps depicting endangered sea turtles.

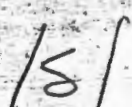
There is an increasing public concern over the plight of these species, as evidenced by mounting endeavors on the part of conservation organizations and the Federal Government to recover the ever-dwindling numbers of sea turtles. Hundreds of participants at the recent World Sea Turtle Conference are looking to public education as an integral part of a world strategy plan to conserve sea turtles, and I believe we should utilize every opportunity and mechanism available in furthering this worthwhile cause.

As you may know, the commemorative endangered flora stamps issued by your department last year generated a great deal of enthusiasm for plant conservation. Moreover, it indirectly stimulated the news media and conservation organizations to promote the conservation of these plants while at the same time publicizing the availability of the stamps.

I am enclosing a copy of our Endangered Species Program technical newsletter featuring your endangered flora stamps so that you may be aware of their "front-page" significance in terms of our program emphasis. We would look forward with great anticipation to featuring sea turtle commemorative stamps in a forthcoming issue of the Bulletin.

If we may be of any assistance to you in this matter, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,


Dona K. Finnley, Editor
Endangered Species Technical Bulletin

Enclosure

cc: AFA Reading
OES (JSpinks)

Mr. George H. Balazs
University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346, Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

FWS:OES:DFinnley:eev 5/9/80



WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

March 14, 1980

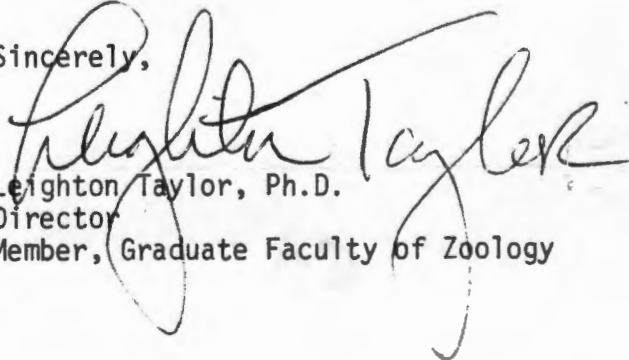
Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to express my support of the proposal submitted to you by Archie Carr regarding the consideration of marine turtles as themes for a commemorative stamp issue. Two species of sea turtles, the green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas) and the hawksbill turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata) are significant species to the ancient Hawaiian culture. They were not only important as food but were an important element in the religion, music, and folklore of the Hawaiian culture. Both of these species are rare in Hawaiian waters today but are occasionally seen by residents and tourists alike and are part of the fascination of our Hawaiian waters.

I think the four species of turtles suggested to you by Mr. Carr would be an excellent theme for a commemorative stamp and I urge your favorable consideration of his suggestion.

Sincerely,


Leighton Taylor, Ph.D.
Director
Member, Graduate Faculty of Zoology

LT:jm

Oceans

a publication of the Oceanic Society

13 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

The staff of OCEANS magazine, and I, heartily support the proposal recently submitted to you, for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying the endangered sea turtles.

OCEANS is a nonprofit publication of the Oceanic Society, an organization dedicated to the protection of the oceans and ocean life, to education in the maritime arts and sciences and to research.

We all strongly feel that any means for saving from, or bringing to the attention of the public, the threat of extinction of any creature, be it marine or terrestrial, is well worth the effort and expense. We hope that the issuance of the commemorative stamps will help, and we fully endorse this proposal.

Sincerely,

Keith K. Howell
Editor

Harry E. Finch
32101 Pacific Coast Hwy.
Malibu, Calif., 90265

May 9, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I respectfully support the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying Sea Turtles. This should be a most worthwhile and productive means to advance the conservation and research of the valuable sea turtles.

I have had the good fortune to have spent much time in the central pacific observing those beautiful large turtles in their natural habitat. And indeed everything should be done, that can be done, to preserve their way of life. It is truly amazing the great distances across the open oceans that the turtles travel, to return to the sun splashed atolls and islands. And the naturalness of their existence and ancient background is representative of a world that needs saving so badly.

Your help and consideration is, and will be, appreciated.

Respectfully,

Harry E. Finch



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Worcester State College

486 Chandler Street

Worcester 01602

20 May 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am a turtle biologist who is currently interested in conservation of the rare turtles of the world. At a recent conference on endangered species at Provincetown, Massachusetts I participated in a workshop to establish priorities and resolutions re: future research on amphibians and reptiles. The one group of animals that drew the most attention was the large marine turtles. While most biologists would argue that money should be spent directly on field research on these animals, I would argue that more effort should be directed at increasing public awareness of these unique turtles. If we can educate the public to correctly identify rare wildlife, then it is likely that this valuable resource can, in some cases, be saved.

I write to you to ask that you consider the issuance of a set of four commemorative stamps depicting four of the marine species, i.e. loggerhead, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, and green turtles. The Scientific Committee of the recently held International Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation would certainly applaud such an issue because it would go far towards satisfying one of their goals. That is the enhancement of public awareness of the survival status of these wonderful creatures. A set of turtle commemoratives would be even more spectacular than the elegant series issued on owls in 1978.

Please give serious consideration to my suggestion as I know that there are a large number of concerned scientists and lay persons that would be very supportive of TURTLE COMMEMORATIVES.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Terry E. Graham".

Terry E. Graham, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Biology

TG:s

BERNICE P. BISHOP MUSEUM

P.O. Box 19011, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 • Telephone 847-8511

April 8, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I understand that a proposal has been presented for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying marine turtles. I am writing to express my individual support for this proposal.

Marine turtles would lend themselves to stamps with interesting and attractive designs. They are part of our natural heritage, in which there is much public interest and which (in the opinion of many) could properly and advantageously be given more attention on our stamps. At the same time, marine turtles are excellent examples of the decline of many species in our fauna and of the whole subject of endangered species. Marine turtles not only exemplify endangerment per se, but also the decline of species of considerable economic and cultural significance in human history.

I strongly favor the illustration of marine turtles on commemorative stamps, and I hope you will ensure that the proposal is carefully evaluated.

Thank you very much for your attention to this request.

Sincerely yours,

Frank J. Radovsky
Assistant Director

FJR:cnh

National
WILDLIFE

International
WILDLIFE

Editorial offices: 225 E. Michigan Milwaukee, Wis. 53202 Phone: 414/273-2486
Publications of the National Wildlife Federation

May 12, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I urge you to adopt the proposal that four species of marine turtles--the green, loggerhead, hawksbill and Kemp's Ridley--be used for commemorative stamps. As you know, the United States has taken the lead in efforts to protect marine turtles throughout the world. And by issuing a special set of stamps depicting these creatures, the United States Postal Authority can help draw attention to their plight. Only through increased public awareness can the future of such endangered animals be insured.

Sincerely yours,



Mark Wexler
Senior Editor

Rodney V. Salm
Department of Pathobiology
The Johns Hopkins University
615 North Wolfe Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21205 U.S.A.

2nd May, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I strongly endorse the proposal for the issuance of commemorative stamps depicting sea turtles.

It is my experience in the field of resource management, and particularly endangered species management, that effective public awareness programmes hold the key to the success or failure of such management endeavours. As you well know, the potential for information dissemination by stamps is far reaching through society. For example, in a nation I know well, the Seychelles, stamps depicting local flora, fauna (including turtles) and habitats has infused a great portion of the populace with a sense of interest, national pride, concern, and responsibility toward their natural heritage.

I urge you to place a commemorative stamp series of sea turtles under serious consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Rodney V. Salm

WILDFOWL FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED

709 Wire Building, 1000 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

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President
J. S. GOTTSCHALK
Vice-President

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June 2, 1980

The Honorable William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear General Bolger:

Upon my return from India, I learned that it has been proposed that you issue a block of commemorative stamps displaying or depicting sea turtles. This is a splendid suggestion and you are urged to give favorable consideration to this proposal.

Several species of sea turtles are on the verge of extinction and most of the national conservation organizations have been helping to stimulate public support for greater protection by state and governmental agencies.

We endorse the idea and I can assure you that such action would meet with widespread public approval.

Sincerely,

CRG/p

C. R. Gutermuth
President

COOK COLLEGE • DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND FORESTRY
P.O. BOX 231 • NEW BRUNSWICK • NEW JERSEY 08903

June 2, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

This letter is in support of the proposal for the issuance of a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles. This is a unique opportunity for the Postal Service to recognize the central role the United States has assumed in the conservation of sea turtles, and to aid in their preservation. The commitment made by the United States to sea turtle conservation was recently underscored when the U.S. Departments of State, Commerce, and Interior joined to help sponsor the first World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation, in Washington. This conference, attended by representatives of 40 nations, created a momentum for conservation which would be greatly helped by the printing of U.S. sea turtle commemorative stamps.

The four species proposed for the stamps (Green Turtle, Hawksbill, Kemp's Ridley, and Loggerhead) are all native to U.S. waters, and are an important part of our national wildlife heritage. They are also beautiful animals, and would make magnificent subjects for postage stamps. If completeness is desired, the Leatherback Turtle (Dermochelys coriacea), last of the five major kinds of U.S. sea turtles, could also be portrayed in a block of four stamps. This could be done by including the Loggerhead and Kemp's Ridley, which are somewhat similar, in the same stamp. The Leatherback is the largest and most spectacular looking of the world's sea turtles (almost as big as a Volkswagen!), and is well worth inclusion in such a commemorative issue. But regardless of whether the leatherback is included, a sea turtle commemorative issue would be a great aid to conservation and an extremely popular stamp among collectors as well.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Ehrenfeld
Professor of Biology

DWE:wp



CARETTA RESEARCH, INC.

POST OFFICE DRAWER E
SANIBEL ISLAND, FLORIDA 33957

May 2, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to ask your committee to consider five species of marine turtles that occur in the United States as themes for a commemorative stamp issue. All of these unique reptiles are experiencing serious survival problems and are all protected under the United States Endangered Species Act.

Under the auspices of the United States Department and a large number of conservation organizations, the United States was recently host to an International Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation, attended by delegates from over 40 countries. One of the goals defined by the Scientific Committee of that conference was to increase public awareness of the survival status of, and principal threats to, existing populations of marine turtles. A commemorative stamp issue would contribute significantly to this end.

The names of species nominated are as follows: Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Kemp's Ridley (*Lepidochelys kempi*), and Leather Back (*Dermochelys coriacea*).

I would be pleased to provide you with any additional information that might be needed in making an evaluation of this for a commemorative stamp featuring sea turtles.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Phillips
Assistant Director
Caretta Research, Inc.

EJP:em

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

CENTER FOR COASTAL MARINE STUDIES
DIVISION OF NATURAL SCIENCES
APPLIED SCIENCES BUILDING

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

May 12, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to add my support to the proposal that your committee considers four species of marine turtles as themes in a commemorative stamp issue. The species proposed are Chelonia mydas, Caretta caretta, Eretmochelys imbricata, and Lepidochelys kempi.

Although these animals are currently protected under the United States Endangered Species Act, it is imperative to their continued survival that the level of public awareness be raised. By utilizing such a highly visible public vehicle as stamp issuance, a vast audience can be made cognizant of these rarely heralded animals.

National wildlife heritage is a valuable asset in any culture. It follows that public sensitivity and support are essential ingredients to preserve that heritage. Once again I urge you and your committee to consider marine turtles as a special focus in a commemorative stamp issue.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Guess
Associate Marine Specialist

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU ZOO KAPIOLANI PARK
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96815

April 18, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C.
20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Commemorative postage stamps have proved invaluable in drawing the attention of the American public to issues and topics that genuinely benefit all of us, such as the recent commemoratives on endangered flora.

Four species of marine turtles found in U. S. waters which also nest on beaches in the Southeastern United States are now listed as endangered by the Federal Government. Their plight was recently the topic of an International Symposium on Sea Turtle Conservation attended by delegates from over 40 countries under the auspices of the United States Government.

I am writing to ask you and your committee to consider these four endangered marine reptiles -- the Green Turtle (Chelonia mydas), the Loggerhead (Caretta caretta), the Hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata), and the Kemp's Ridley (Lepidochelys kempi) -- as the theme for a block of four commemorative stamps on endangered fauna.

I believe the American public will find the subject both topical and artistically attractive.

Yours sincerely,

SEAN McKEOWN
Supervising Herpetologist

SM:hh

cc: Dr. George Balazs
Dr. Archie Carr

May 13, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

This is written in support of the proposal by Prof. Archie Carr that four species of marine turtles be considered for a commemorative stamp issue. I am not a herpetologist and have no special expertise in marine turtles, but I am concerned for their conservation and have some knowledge of the problems as I have been involved in marine mammal conservation activities, and the two groups present similar problems.

Also, I can support Prof. Carr's assertions and recommendations in strongest terms, as I have known him and his work for 20 years, and he is among the most distinguished natural scientists of this or any age. I believe that this proposal merits your most thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Clayton E. Ray
Research Curator
Dept. of Paleobiology

C. E. Ray/NHB E-206 (Mail Stop 121)
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20560



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

MAILING ADDRESS:

Daniel Whiting
Commanding Officer
USCG LORSTA KURE
FPO SAN FRANCISCO
CALIFORNIA, 96619

20 MAY 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

I wish to express my support of the proposal that four species of marine turtles that exist in the waters of the United States be approved as themes for a commemorative stamp issue.

Presently I am the Commanding Officer of the U.S. Coast Guard LORAN-C Station on KURE ISLAND, Hawaii. Three of the four turtles considered for the commemorative stamp issue exist at KURE ATOLL and are being studied in conjunction with the University of Hawaii.

I already receive a large volume of cancellation and cachet requests from philately enthusiasts and feel that the connection between KURE ATOLL and a marine turtle commemorative stamp issue would both increase public awareness of marine turtles and generate a certain degree of philately interest.

Marine turtles are rare and beautiful animals and should provide interesting and aesthetic subjects for a series of commemorative stamps.

Love and Peace,

Daniel Whiting

April 10, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

This is to urge the issuance a series of commemorative stamps on a marine turtle theme as suggested by Dr. Archie Carr in his letter to you of February 13, 1980.

As one who has swam with, roared on, tagged, marked, weighed and photographed the green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas) in its natural environment along the Hawaiian archipelago, my concern is for its perpetuation particularly in Pacific oceanic waters.

Public support for conservation programs for marine turtles is necessary if funds for research, management and habitat preservation are to be forthcoming. Thus publicity, education and appeals to the esthetic senses are vital. Commemorative stamps with realistic illustrations would be an important step in this direction.

Aloha,

Ron

RONALD L. WALKER, Chief
Wildlife Branch

RLW:lth

State of Hawaii
Division of Forestry & Wildlife
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu 96813

May 19, 1980

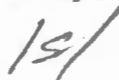
Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I recently learned of the proposal to issue stamps commemorating four species of endangered marine turtles, and am writing to express my strong support.

The principal role of the Wildlife Section of the Department of Justice is to promote effective enforcement of federal wildlife laws, including those designed to prevent exploitation of endangered species, such as the marine turtles. Illegal exploitation of these valuable turtles is a widespread and troubling problem in wildlife law enforcement. We believe that increased public awareness of the need to conserve marine turtles is one effective way to promote compliance with the laws which protect them. Commemorative stamps featuring the endangered marine turtles would certainly contribute towards that end. I therefore urge that you seriously consider the proposal to issue this block of marine turtle stamps.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Berlin
Chief, Wildlife Section
Land and Natural Resources
Division

March 17, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing in support of Dr. Archie Carr's proposal to issue marine turtle commemorative stamps.

Of the four turtle species listed by Dr. Carr, the Green turtle and the Hawksbill turtle are especially important to the people of the Pacific islands, for these two species of turtles are associated with the life style of the islanders. In many of the islands, these turtles also play a vital role in the traditional and cultural history of that island. Each island having their own folklores and legends involving turtles.

The issuance of marine turtle commemorative stamps will certainly emphasize and focus the public's attention not only for the need to protect these marine turtles but the role of these turtles in the every day ~~lives~~ lives of island people.

Sincerely,

HARRY T. KAMI
Chief, Aquatic & Wildlife
Resources
GUAM

cc: George H. Gaians

Fred M. Packard
4058 Elizabeth Lane
Fairfax, Virginia 22032

June 28, 1980

The Honorable William Belger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Belger:

I am writing to endorse Dr. Archie Garr's proposal that a block of U.S. commemorative stamps be issued depicting four species of endangered marine turtles.

Doubtless you have received from Dr. Garr and from the IUCN's Survival Service Commission detailed documentation describing the status of these turtles and the serious threats to their survival. I should like to point out that approval of this proposal by your Service will be beneficial to international conservation programs supported by agencies of the United States Government.

The National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have been engaged in positive programs in Texas and elsewhere to propagate and otherwise support perpetuation of marine turtles. As a former member of the International Park Affairs Division of the National Park Service it was my privilege to serve as U.S. Secretary to the U.S.-Japan Panel on National Parks and Equivalent Reserves. One of our excursions enabled us to visit the protected Akkusu Marine Park off the island of Shikoku. Adjacent to the park was an emporium where the carapaces of many turtles were on display with case after case of curved turtle shell objects, the importation of which into the U.S. is now prohibited. When I protested, I was informed that great numbers of turtles were being imported into Japan, mainly from Panama, and that the officials responsible for the management of marine fisheries did not understand the effects this trade is having on the resource.

It would support the efforts of our Japanese colleagues and of the international agencies working to correct this situation, and others like it, for the United States to dramatize the value of our marine turtles through the issuance of prestigious stamps which would call attention to these conservation programs.

Sincerely yours

Fred M. Packard
Honorary Member, IUCN

Ashi 201



May 20, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

As an ecologist employed by Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), the fourth largest utility in the United States, I have actual experience interacting with a number of threatened and endangered sea turtles. Through extra efforts on the part of the Company, we have been able to operate our power plants on coastal sites and coexist with these animals.

I feel, however, that the public perception of the endangered status of sea turtles is minimal. A commemorative set of stamps for sea turtle conservation would be an excellent method to strengthen a public awareness for these animals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Ross Wilcox".

J. Ross Wilcox, Ph.D.
Ecologist

JRW:eab

bcc: George H. Balazs ✓
Hawaii Institute of
Marine Biology
P. O. Box 1386
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Peter Pritchard, Ph.D.
Florida Audubon Society
P. O. Drawer 7
Maitland, FL 32751

March 27, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger,

I should like to add my support to Dr. Archie Carr's suggestion of a commemorative stamp issue featuring four species of sea turtles. I know that the stamps would be extremely attractive and they would also draw attention to the predicament in which these splendid animals find themselves--on the endangered list, facing possible extinction.

I have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to study the unique basking behavior of green turtles in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. To be able to observe a large sea turtle emerge from the ocean and bask in the sun on the white coral sand beach of a remote atoll is a privilege that few people can enjoy. It is a vivid reminder that sea turtles are capable of prodigious feats of navigation and yet, they are vulnerable.

Sea turtles are of great scientific interest and esthetic value; it would be unfortunate if they become extinct in our time. I am sure that the suggested stamp issue would help enormously to prevent this happening.

Sincerely yours,

G. Causey Whittow, Ph.D.
Professor of Physiology

University of Hawaii at Manoa

GCW:ji

GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA
PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799
OFFICE OF MARINE RESOURCES

In reply refer to:

June 9, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

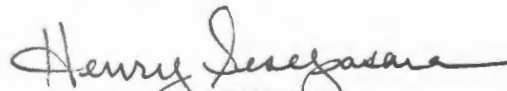
I am writing to express my total support for the proposal by Dr. Archie Carr that sea turtles occurring in the United States and its territories be considered as themes for a commemorative stamp issue.

Two of the four species nominated by Dr. Carr (the Green Turtle and the Hawksbill) commonly occur in American Samoa waters. Our people have traditionally used sea turtles for food and the Hawksbill shell as raw material for handicrafts. Recently, however, both species have experienced a significant decline in population and are now protected under the United States Endangered Species Act. American Samoan effort for further protection has resulted in the establishment of Rose Atoll as a federal wildlife refuge. The beaches of tiny Rose Island are considered the primary turtle nesting area within the territory.

Sea turtle stamps would be extremely popular in American Samoa and the accompanying publicity would be of considerable benefit for turtle conservation throughout the South Pacific.

Please give this matter your careful consideration.

Sincerely,



HENRY SESEPASARA
Director of Marine Resources

National Geographic Society
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

May 30, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I have been informed by George H. Balazs, Assistant Marine Biologist and Deputy Chairman, IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Group, University of Hawaii at Manoa, of the proposal to issue a block of four commemorative stamps displaying sea turtles.

It seems to me that such an issue would be of great interest to the public, and useful in disseminating information about and understanding of these important sea creatures.

A recent article on sea turtles in National Geographic WORLD magazine was well received by our nearly 2,000,000 young subscribers, indicating an interest by the young to match that of their elders who recently attended the sea turtle conference in Washington.

Sincerely,

Ralph Gray
Editor
National Geographic WORLD

RG:jh

bpc: Mr. George H. Balazs ✓

19 March 1980

THE FLORIDA STATE MUSEUM
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



the florida
state museum
museum road
university
of florida
gainesville
32611
904/392-1721

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20280

Dear Mr. Bolger:

Several years ago, the Postal Service issued a block of four stamps commemorating U.S. endangered species. That action played a significant role in making the U.S. public aware of the plight of our endangered wildlife. I would like to ask the Postal Service to issue a new block of stamps commemorating our endangered marine turtles. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. National Parks Service, and U.S. Department of State are all actively involved in efforts to conserve marine turtles as part of various programs administered under provisions of the U.S. Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. In November of 1979, these governmental agencies joined together with the World Wildlife Fund, New York Zoological Society, Defenders of Wildlife, and a number of other conservation organizations to convene the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation attended by more than 300 delegates from 40 nations. The meeting was held in the conference facilities in the State Department. That Conference produced a World Strategy for Sea Turtle Conservation, a strategy which is being implemented by cooperating governments around the world and the United Nations Environment Programme.

In addition, the U.S. Government has a large bilateral program with Mexico for the conservation of the sea turtle resources that we share in common.

For these and other reasons, the issuance of a block of stamps commemorating four species of endangered marine turtles would be very appropriate. I would suggest that the stamps include the green turtle (Chelonia mydas), the loggerhead (Caretta caretta), the hawksbill (Eretmochelys imbricata) and Kemp's ridley (Lepidochelys kemp).

Photographs of these species are available from the U.S. Office of Endangered Species (contact Dr. Ken Dodd, telephone 703-235-1976). I can supply additional materials if needed.

Sincerely,

F. Wayne King, Ph.D.
Director
Florida State Museum

c/ A. Carr
G. Balass ✓



THE INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC FOUNDATION

3979 RICKENBACKER CAUSEWAY, VIRGINIA KEY, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33149

Telephone: (305) 361-5786

Cable Address: INTOCFOUND

14 May 1980

COPY

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I am writing to support the proposal that four species of marine turtles that occur in the United States be considered and approved as themes for a commemorative stamp issue.

Such a commemorative issue, as recently proposed to you by Dr. Archie Carr, would effectively promote public awareness of the plight of these now-endangered species, whose numbers continue to decline, often as a result of human thoughtlessness. Too often, the public is unaware of the hazards these impressive animals face, both in their nesting area and in the wild.

In support of the conservation of these animals, our Foundation will feature a series of "Save the Turtle" stamps issued by the Maldives Islands in the July-August issue of our magazine, Sea Frontiers (which is read by members in over 100 countries). It is only fitting that the United States, as a world leader in the conservation and research of sea turtles, also use this method--a commemorative stamp issue--to express its concern and support.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely

F. G. Walton Smith
President

FGWS:ea

Box 3914
Christiansted
St. Croix
Virgin Islands 00820
May 7, 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

I heartily urge you to issue the commemorative stamps illustrating four sea turtles. I live in a turtle nesting beach, and have seen a tremendous response in my neighbors, and the students I teach, when we are lucky enough to observe a turtle laying her eggs, or the babies hatching. People feel far closer to their world after having watched a six-foot-long leatherback lay her eggs for an hour. It is an experience that all are extremely grateful for. One group of students applauded as the mother crawled toward the sea, and one girl was crying at the beauty and awesomeness of what she had seen.

I encourage you to print the turtle stamps.

Yours,



Dr. John H. Stade

John H. Stade



United States Department of the Interior

ADDRESS ONLY THE DIRECTOR,
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/OES

MAY 12 1980

Mr. William Bolger
Postmaster General
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Bolger:

The Office of Endangered Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, enthusiastically supports the proposal to issue a series of commemorative stamps featuring our Nation's jeopardized sea turtles.

The four turtles recommended are on the U.S. List of Threatened and Endangered Wildlife. A stamp series would contribute to public awareness of the problem, and thus play a significant part in the effort to insure the turtle's survival.

Sincerely yours,

 JOHN L. SPINKS, JR.

Chief, Office of Endangered Species



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

August 21, 1980

Mr. George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Post Office Box 1346
Coconut Island
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Dear Mr. Balazs:

I want to respond to your letter of August 8 with further reference to the proposal for stamps featuring marine turtles.

The Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee is still considering this proposal for future stamp programs. It remains on the agenda for action at a later meeting.

Sincerely,

W. L. Davidson, Jr.
Director
Office of Consumer Marketing



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

September 25, 1980

Mrs. Mary Ann Owens
Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
P. O. Box 1164
Brooklyn, New York 11202

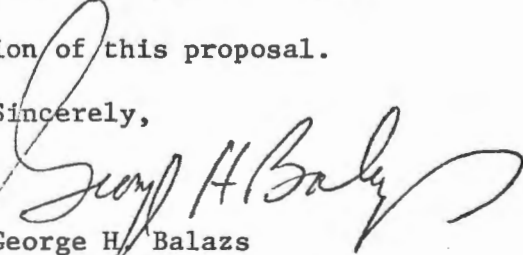
Dear Mrs. Owens:

I thought it would be worthwhile to send you the enclosed collection of photographs and drawing for your consideration with the sea turtle stamp proposal. I have selected these views from my own personal files, but I want to assure you that a substantial amount of additional material displaying the four species of sea turtles can be assembled from other biologists when it becomes necessary.

There are basically six categories of sea turtle behavior and life stages that I feel could superbly portray these species on a stamp issue. These are: 1) a turtle swimming gracefully through the water; 2) a turtle nesting on a sand beach and laying her eggs; 3) a hatchling turtle coming out of a nest and running to the sea; 4) a turtle sleeping underwater under a coral ledge; 5) a turtle basking on a sand beach during the daytime; 6) a turtle feeding on seagrasses. With a block of four stamps showing the different species, each stamp could also include a different portrayal of behavior or life stage. This, in my opinion, would add even further to this attractive, exciting and appropriate subject.

Again, thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

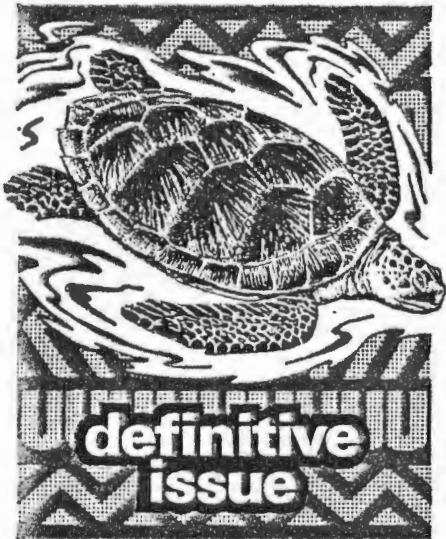
Sincerely,



George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:md

SAMOA I SISIFO



definitive issue

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER

