

George Balazs FY15 Annual Performance Accomplishments  
October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015

**Professional** – *Maintains and demonstrates technical competence and/or experience in areas of assigned responsibility. Produces scientific or technical products/activities that contribute to the achievement of the agency's mission. (40 pts)*

- As MTBAP team member, continued to promote the collection of new data to contribute to all high-value long-term databases.
- Published in Marine Turtle Newsletter, as first author, a sea turtle research guide and a paper on satellite tracking of juvenile Hawaiian green turtles.
- Coauthored a major paper on post-nesting migrations of green turtles in the Federated States of Micronesia.
- Coauthored a major paper on newly discovered adaptive foraging by Hawaiian green turtles. (in Pacific Science)
- Coauthored a major paper (Saito et al. in CCB) on pelagic male loggerhead movements of southern Japan.
- Coauthored two major papers (one as second author) on plastics and sea turtles (Wedemeyer et al. in Marine Biology, and Schuyler et al. in Global Climate Change).
- Published as second author a major paper on non-FP diseases of sea turtles (Work et al. in Diseases of Aquatic Organisms).
- Presented one first-authored paper, and two coauthored papers, at the ISTS in Turkey, April 2015.
- Demonstrated competence in the safe and efficient conduction of field studies for data collection and necropsies to enhance professional collaborations with the National Institute of Standards and Technology and USGS (Kauai initiative).
- Contributed time and effort as a continuing member of the Global Green Turtle Status Review Team during wrap-up activities.
- Accomplished with high success 2 MTBAP Center Milestones involving the Fibropapilloma Summit and revision of demographic manuscript on Hawaii green turtles for Center approval.
- Initiated conduction of research actions with Denise Parker, the Sea Turtle Association of Japan, and Ewha University of Seoul involving expansion of China Region pelagic turtle research.

- Initiated, with S. Brunson and all MTBAP, a broad-based study of sea turtles using Pearl Harbor.

**Administration and Teamwork** – *Plans, organizes and executes work logically. Work is accurate, complete and timely. Consistently develops and sustains cooperative working relationships. Willingly participates in group activities. Communicates regularly with team members, supports team initiatives, and demonstrates respect for team members. (30 pts.)*

- Vigorously promoted a safe and healthy work environment as the top priority for all MTBAP activities.
- Provided comprehensive time, expertise, and motivation-by-example to advance the harmonious teamwork efforts of MTBAP to promote the PSD/PIFSC missions.
- Continuing to vigorously lead the China-USA Working Group Initiative (LMR) and develop IS proposal with J. Wang and J. Seminoff.
- Continued to creatively adapt to the IRC promoting the spirit of MTBAP teamwork and taking professional advantage of this new favorable work environment.
- Teamwork successfully accomplished with Monk Seal Program and the Fish and Wildlife Service to monitor green turtle nesting abundance at FFS during the 2015 season. Identified and recruited an outstanding person to conduct fieldwork under tight timelines.
- Teamwork successfully accomplished contributing to MTBAP External Review.

**Advice/Service** – *Delivers high quality products and services to external and internal customers in accordance with agreed upon time schedules. Initiates and responds to suggestions for improving service. Anticipates and meets the needs of clients and is committed to continuous improvement of services (30 pts).*

- Responded promptly with accuracy and professionalism to all requests for information and data summaries for PIRO partners and all others.
- Reviewed three manuscripts for journal editors and am currently serving on MS thesis committees for two graduate students at the University of Hawaii.
- Continued serving as a Board of Director of the International Sea Turtle Society (year 3 of a 5 year term).
- Wrote three letters of recommendation and endorsement for MTBAP- affiliated personnel.
- Devoted time, talent, knowledge, and advice to the Protected Species Advisory Committee of the WPRFMC. Attended and actively participated in on-site meetings.

- Serve on and am regularly asked to contribute to the Critical Habitat Evaluation Science Committee convened by Headquarters.