

**Protected Species Division - MTRP
Risk Management Assessment – Ocean Capture of Turtles**

| PROCEDURE AND HAZARD | MITIGATION |
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| Preparation and Transportation to Site | |
| 1. Make decision to go. Hazards might include bad weather, poor timing, inaccessible place, jelly fish, not enough people, not enough trained people. | If the risk outweighs the benefit, cancel or postpone the operation. |
| 2. Stage gear at the lab. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gear is stored high on the shelf. | Store heavy items lower on the shelf. Use 2 people to stow, remove. Use a ladder to reach gear on high shelves. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifting heavy or bulky gear. | Use ergonomically correct lifting technique. Use 2 people to lift. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposure to chemicals (formalin, alcohol). | Read MSDS. Complete HazCom training. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exposure to sharps (scalpels and needles). | Store in proper container after use. |
| 3. Gear loading and transport. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifting gear. | Use ergonomically correct lifting technique. Use 2 people to lift. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing gear in truck. | Safely exit the stake bed truck. Don't jump. |
| 4. Drive to site. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stake bed truck, 12 Passenger Van | Use another person as a spotter when trying to maneuver in a tight spot. Acknowledge and check blind spots. Be aware of instability in the van – drive calmly, no jerky steering wheel movements. |
| 5. Unload gear. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifting/Ergonomic | Use ergonomically correct lifting technique. Use 2 people to lift heavy or bulky items. |
| On Site | |
| 6. Transport / Set up gear from truck to site | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to site – damage to feet | Wear protective footwear. Flip flops may not be appropriate, depending on the surface upon which you are walking. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ergonomic sprains and strains. | Use ergonomically correct lifting technique. Use 2 people to lift heavy or bulky items. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injury to body parts | |

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| ○ Feet | Wear protective footwear. |
| ○ Skin | Wear sun screen / long sleeves / hat to protect from sunburn |
| ○ Hands | Wear gloves. |
| 7. Prepare self to enter water. | |
| • What to wear. | Shirt, long pants, wet suit, booties, gloves, to protect from the water, what's in the water, what's on the bottom, the sun |
| 8. Team planning | |
| • Inexperienced people can get hurt because of their inexperience | Pair inexperienced people with experienced people. |
| • Physical hazards can get people hurt | |
| ○ Location of work in the water | Brief hazards related to location. |
| ○ Water temperature | Water can seem warm but still make you cold. Wear wet suit and/or spend less time in the water. |
| ○ jellyfish | Get the jellyfish report. |
| 9. Enter the water. | |
| • Walk | Beware of uneven bottom, sharp rocks/coral, surf/surge. |
| • Scraping the bottom in shallow water | Wear chafing gear. |
| • Boat entry | Enter feet first. |
| • Water entry – contacting obstacle or person | Communicate entry, check the water before entering. |
| • Poor Visibility | Maintain buddy contact and awareness. |
| • Water quality | Check with state, city, county authorities to see if beach is closed. |
| 10. Search for turtle. | |
| • Trouble in deep water | Snorkel in shallow water < 25' |
| • Cuts, scrapes, bruises | PPE |
| • Shallow water blackout | Conduct an awareness brief. Stay in contact with buddy. No bounce dives. No hyperventilation. |
| • Marine organisms | Include in awareness brief. |
| • Shoreline capture – sharp or slippery rocks | Wear booties or other protective footwear. |
| 11. Turtle capture by hand | |
| • Can't see diver in the water because of poor visibility. | Must be able to see the bottom from the top. Must be able to see buddy from laterally in the water. |

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| • Turtle bites | Wear gloves, get good training, use good technique, brief the procedure. |
| • Turtle smacks with flipper | Good training, technique, awareness brief. |
| • Contact with flipper claw | Good training, technique, awareness brief. |
| • Hypothermia | Wear wet suit. Spend less time in water. |
| • Crush body part between fin and shell | Good training, technique, awareness brief. |
| 12. Turtle capture by net. | |
| • Danger – self entanglement | Use a partner. Modify personal gear so there are no points to snag net. |
| • Danger – creatures in the net | Awareness brief – be observant and careful. |
| • Danger –heavy lead line | Make known during awareness brief. |
| • Danger – turtle is entangled in monofilament line and/or fish hook | Make known during awareness brief. Experienced person take the lead in disentanglement. |