



FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Memo to: George Balazs
From: Peter C. H. Pritchard

May 30 1995

George:

It was good to hear from you. I enclose copies of the relevant pages of my field notes from the New Caledonia expedition. Note the drawing of the kind of tag we used on the fourth page -- inscription was: Return SPC/CP REP
BPD5 Noumea Cedex
New Caledonia

Note that we also got one return from Australia -- T15 386 AG -- with inscription "Return Wildlife Box 180, North Quay, 4000 Qld Australia."

The pages on numbers of turtles we tagged each night, and on which island, and also the tabulations of OC carapace lengths and widths, may be useful for your files, or for comparisons with other Pacific populations. My assumption is that the NC turtles are very similar in size and morphology to the Australian ones.

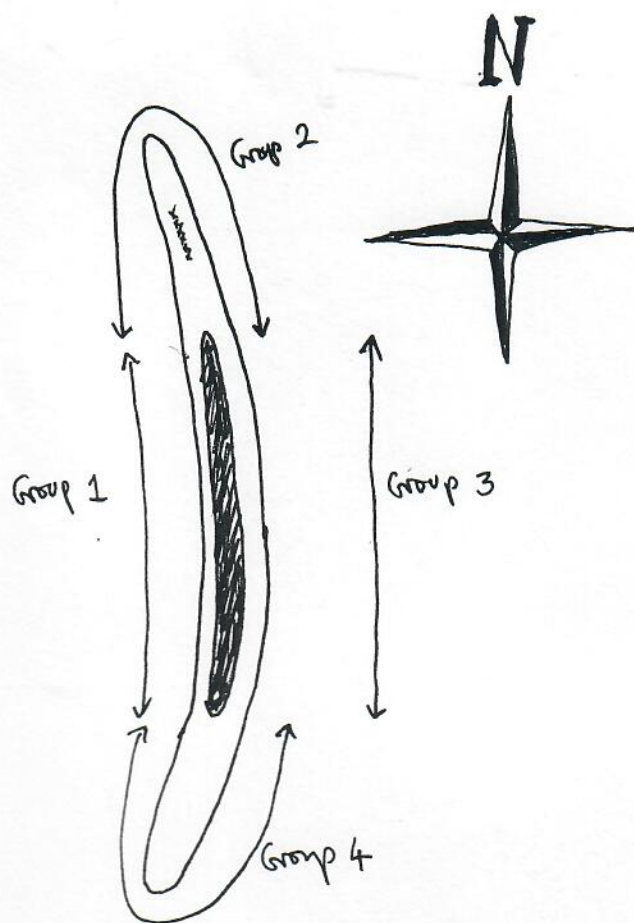
Best regards,

Peter C. H. Pritchard Ph.D.

(If you need a copy of my 3-page write up of the d'Entrecasteaux trip from the Jekyll Island conference, let me know).

2nd - Group - HUON, 12 Dec '91

	OC Length	OC Width	<u>NORTHERN POINT</u>
R 2160	103.5 cm	x 93.5 cm	(8 p.m. start).
R 2161	110	94	
R 2155	110	102	
R 2152	111	102.5	Carapace encrusted
R 2162	99.5	94.5	
R 2166	111	105	
R 2152	99	92	
R 2156	113	105	Flipper bitten ('s).
R 2175	106	98	
R 2170	107	100	
R 2163	108	105	
R 2173	104	97	(died)
R 1910	101	97.5	
R 2051	103	96	Barnacles on neck.
R 1922	108	101	
R 2052	105	96	Reprise
R 2056	99	96	
← R 2059	110	97	
R 2055	106	100	
R 2153	96	86	
R 2169	97	84	
R 1925	111	103	
R 2167	120	110	(3 am).



HUON

Most nesting in ①, esp. towards north = 50 tags used 9pm to midnight. ② fewer - extensive work fronting, esp. on west. Queensland turtle nested near N. of ③.

All dead turtles (about 7) seen on rocks + sand in ②.*
All from this season, ex. a few bones in the pit in middle of zone - ~~xxx~~. Some v. fresh (few days).

* Except one near junction of ③ and ④. Also, one mired (total 8) in north of ②, 12 Dec '91.

HUON - 12 Dec.

3rd group. - east coast (central) beach.

Start: 8.10 p.m.

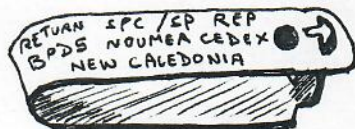
Long (O.C.). Width (O.C.).

R 2067	111	99		2010
R 2068	108	100		2010
R 2073	102	92	—	previously tagged 2015

TIS 386 AG "RETURN WILDLIFE BOX 180 NORTH QUAY
4000 QLD AUSTRALIA"

R 2069	106	106		2020
R 2068	108	103	Digging	2020
← R 2059	103	95	Digging	2025
R 2070	105	97	110 eggs laid.	2032
R 2074	110	96	Digging	2036
R 2075	120	103	Digging	2115
R 2078	102	96	Digging	2120
R 2071	97	89	Digging	2140
R 2079	104	97	Digging	2235
R 2072	103	93	Digging	2305
R 2081	95	87		
R 2083	101	99		2350
R 2085	105	93		2350
R 2082	114	102		2355
R 2086	99	91		0000
R 2076	115	100		0000
R 2077	100	95		0005
← R 2089	110	105		0010
R 2080	110	103		0010
R 2093	106	96		0010
← R 2094	98	90		0015

R 2092	112 cm	102 cm ¹	0015
R 2063	111	100	0015
R 2098	100	92	0015
R 2066	107	96	0020
R 2064	103	97	0020
R 2062	99	94	0025
R 2087	111	104	0025
R 2097	103	94	0030
R 2061	104	95	0030
↖ R 2039	108	103	0035
↖ R 2089	109	99	0040
R 2090	107	96	0040



1 le FABRE. 11 Dec 1991

(Pascal Hamel / Didier AUDABRAN).

(572 tracks visible; 145 new - single tracks).

R 1958	95 cm	x	94 cm.
R 1954	110	x	97
R 1951	107	x	103
R 1952	103	x	95
R 1953	105	x	100
R 1960	104.5	x	98.5
R 2008	108	x	99
R 2023	112	x	102
R 2021	112	x	108
R 2004	110	x	98
R 2005	109	x	100
R 2013	114	x	108
R 2019	105	x	101
R 2018	104	x	97
R 2020	105	x	98
R 2007	100	x	92
R 1969	107	x	100
R 1974	104	x	91
R 1972	111	x	98
R 1973	101	x	94
R 1971	108	x	98
R 2017	108	x	95
R 2012	(not measured - entering sea).		
R 2009	100	x	93
R 2022	103	x	92
R 2006	114.5	x	99

~~100 cm x 99 cm~~

(FRONT FLIPPER DAMAGED).

R 1956/1955	108 cm	x	99 cm	
R 1957	99	x	92	
R 1970	110	x	100	
R 1959	103	x	98.5	
R 1963	121.5	x	102	
R 1964	106	x	100	
R 1968	113	x	102	Carapace damaged
R 1967	104	x	94.5	
R 1965	117	x	103	
R 1961	102	x	88	
R 1966	106	x	89	
R 1962	102	x	100	
R 1975	115	x	107	

All tags finished by midnight (4 hours tagging).
 Turtles tagged all around island. At least 10 more
 resting untagged at midnight. (No survey 0000 to morning).

R 2024	104	x	97
R 2011	106	x	96
R 2014	100	x	89
R 2016	105	x	99
R 2010	103	x	95
R 2003	107	x	95
R 2015	98	x	89
R 2002	101	x	96
R 2001	99	x	90

Dead turtles - MUON, 13 Dec.

13-12

	Long.	Width	
	OC	OC	
* 38 1/4	35	38 1/4"	35" 97 x 88.5
		37 3/4"	36" 95.5 x 91.2
x		40"	36" 101.6 91.2
		35"	32" 88.5
			104.5 x 80.9
* 37 1/4	30	43 1/4"	42" 109.5 106.4
		38 1/4"	37" 97 x 93.6
		39"	37.5" 98.8 x 95
		41"	38" 103.9 x 96.2
			Tagged R 2173

(from last night). Carapace collected for clinic (head buried). 79 shelled eggs, hundreds unshelled.

* 40

* 35

* 42

* 3

* 30

Huon: Many white boobies and brown boobies.

White with well-grown young, often on the beaches.

Saw 2 red-tailed ~~to~~ tropic birds under rocks.

Later saw 3 more, almost together.

2 sandy cays W. of Fabre. No vegetation. 142 or 125 tracks on western, 105 on eastern, but v. subjective (some tracks just wandered across the whole island).

HUON: 13 Dec 1991: Central section, Gp (1).

R 1914	106 cm	102 cm	(Didier).
R 1915	109	100	
R 1916	104	96.5.	
R 1923	103	100	
R 1924	105	100	
R 1929	107	96	
← R 1942	101	97	

Leleixour, 11 Dec 1991 Romain

R 1976	41" x 37"	daylight	103.8 x 93.6
R 1977	42.2" x 39.5"		107 x 100
R 1979	41" x ?		103.9 x ?
R 1978	117 cm x 109 cm		
R 1981	97 cm x 102 cm		<u>99 eggs</u>
R 1982	99 cm x 93 cm		
R 1983	114 cm x 106 cm		
R 1984	111 cm x 100 cm		

(cont'd)

R 1985	97 cm x 87 cm.
R 1986	93 cm x 85 cm.
R 1987	99 cm x 82 cm.
R 1989	106 cm x 96 cm.
R 1988	100 cm x 96 cm.
R 1990	113 cm x 104 cm.
R 1991	99 cm x 92 cm.
R 1992	105 x 95
R 1993	111 x 101
R 1994	114 x 105
R 1995	96 x 91
R 1996	106 x 96
R 1997	104 x 100
R 1999	99 x 90
R 2000	109 x 101
R 1998	101 x 98
R 2132	110 x 100
R 2133	103 x 100
R 2136	104 x 99
R 2138	101 x 90
R 2139	105 x 98
R 2140	101 x 97
R 2141	94 x 85
R 2149	108 x 97
R 2142	104 x 96
R 2149	106 x 97

112 eggs

? →
↓

HUON 12 Dec 1991 Group (4)

R 1945	112 x 105 cm.	(ROMAN)
R 1944	109 x 104	
R 2125	103 x 92	
R 2124	108 x 101	
R 2123	101 x 91	
R 2122	105 x 97	
R 2121/2120	102 x 96	
R 2119	99 x 87	
R 2118	106 x 93	
R 2117	105 x 98	
R 2116	111 x 97	
R 2115	111 x 100	
R 2070	107 x 97	<u>110 eggs</u>
R 2114	103 x 98	
R 2113	106 x 98	Returned next night.
R 2112	107 x 99	
R 2111	105 x 98	
R 2107	101 x 96	
R 2106	100 x 96	
R 2105	116 x 109	
R 2104	98 x 92	

HUON 13 Dec 1991 (Romain Gp.).

R 2102	42" x 37.5"	106.5 x 95 cm
R 2096	43" x 39"	109 x 98.8
R 2095	46" x 40"	116.5 x 101.3
R 2154	38.5" x 35"	97.5 x 88.5
← R 2094	38.5" x 36.5"	97.5 x 92.5
R 2110	44" x 37"	111.5 x 93.6
(R 2013 returned from FASRE - HUON		93 eggs). 2320 hr.

HUON 13 Dec 1991 PCMP

R 2065	41 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 37"	104.5 x 93.6
R 1946	42" x 38 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	106.4 x 97
R 1950	41" x 39"	(48 eggs. (interrupted?). Taken to Aquarium). 104 x 98.8
R 1948	40 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 37"	102.5 x 93.6
R 1949	42 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 36"	107 x 91.1
R 2054	42 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 38 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	107.6 x 97
R 2088	39 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 38"	100 x 96.1
R 2053	43 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 39"	109.5 x 98.8
R 2060	38 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 35"	98 x 88.5
R 2025	39" x 35 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	98.8 x 89.1

(R 1930 - 105 eggs. Taken to Aquarium).

(R 2154 - 73 eggs).

HUON 13 Dec 1991 LUDOVIC/ JEAN.

R 2103	113 cm	105 cm	
R 2171	104	95	
R 2158	109	97	
R 2165	104	97	Big shark bite - 41 x 15 cm.
R 2157	115	110	
R 2168	102	93	
R 2164	102	98	
R 2172	120	113	

Ile SURPRISE 11 Dec 1991 JEAN

R 1909	108 cm	94 cm	Laid 26 eggs, interrupted
R 1911	108	94	
R 1918			
R 1913			
R 1917			
R 1919			
R 1920	104	100	
R 1921			

Ile SURPRISE 10 Dec 1991 JEAN

R 1901	102 cm	90 cm	
R 1902	98	92	
R 1903/4	101	92	
R 1905/6			
R 1907	100	92	62 eggs (two false nests first).

S: SURPAISE
H: HUDN
L: LELEIXOUR
F: FABRE

Tags reportedly put on 2 turtles:

R2094

R2149

R1942

R2039

R2089

R2059

R2152

TAG No.	Island.	Date (Dec, 1991).
1901	S	10
2	S	10
3	S	10
4	(1903 double-tagged)	
1905	S	10
6	(1905 double-tagged)	
7	S	10
8		
9	S	11
1910	H	12
1	S	11
2		
3	S	11
4	H	13
1915	H	13
6	H	13
7	S	11
8	S	11
9	S	11
1920	S	11
1	S	11
2	H	12
3	H	13
4	H	13
1925		

1926	S	10
7	S	10
8	H	12
9	H	13
1930	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	12
1935	H	12
6	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	12
9	H	12
1940	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	12
1945	H	12
6	H	13
7		
8	H	13
9	H	13
1950	H	13

1951	F	
2	F	
3	F	
4	F	
1955	F	
6	(1955 double-tagged)	
7	F	
8	F	
9	F	
1960	F	
1	F	
2	F	
3	F	
4	F	
1965	F	
6	F	
7	F	
8	F	
9	F	
1970	F	
1	F	
2	F	
3	F	
4	F	
1975		

1976	L	
7	L	
8	L	
9	L	
1980		
1	L	
2	L	
3	L	
4	L	
1985	L	
6	L	
7	L	
8	L	
9	L	
1990	L	
1	L	
2	L	
3	L	
4	L	
1995	L	
6	L	
7	L	
8	L	
9	L	
2000	L	

2001	F	11
2	F	11
3	F	11
4	F	11
2005	F	11
6	F	11
7	F	11
8	F	11
9	F	11
2010	F	11
1	F	11
2	F	11
3	F	11
4	F	11
2015	F	11
6	F	11
7	F	11
8	F	11
9	F	11
2020	F	11
1	F	11
2	F	11
3	F	11
4	F	11
2025	H	13

2026	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	12
9	H	12
2030	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	(-tag closed by accident).	
4	H	12
2035	H	12
6	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	12
9	H	12
2040	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	12
2045	H	12
6	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	12
9	H	12
2050	H	12

2051	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	13
4	H	13
2055	H	12
6	H	12
7		
8	H	12
9	H	12
2060	H	13
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	12
2065	H	13
6	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	12
9	H	12
2070	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	12
2075	H	12

2076 H 12

7 H 12

8 H 12

9 H 12

2080 H 12

1 H 12

2 H 12

3 H 12

4

2085 H 12

6 H 12

7 H 12

8

9 H 12

2090 H 12

1

2 H 12

3 H 12

4 H 12

2095 H 13

6 H 13

7 H 12

8 H 12

9

2100 H 13

2101

2 H 13

3 H 13

4 H 12

2105 H 12

6 H 12

7 H 12

8

9

2110

1 H 12

2 H 12

3 H 12

4 H 12

2115 H 12

6 H 12

7 H 12

8 H 12

9 H 12

2120 H 12

1 (2120 double-tagged)

2 H 12

3 H 12

4 H 12

2125 H 12

2126	L	
7	L	
8	L	
9	L	
2130	L	
1	L	
2	L	
3	L	
4	L	
2135	(2134 double-tagged).	
6	L	
7		
8	L	
9	L	
2140	L	
1	L	
2	L	
3	(2126 double-tagged).	
4	L	
2145	L	
6		
7		
8		
9	L	
2150	L	

2151	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	13
2155	H	12
6	H	12
7	H	13
8	H	13
9		
2160	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	13
2165	H	13
6	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	13
9	H	12
2170	H	12
1	H	13
2	H	13
3	H	12
4		
2175	H	12

Big shark bite (41x15cm).

† RIP. (Chef took carapace)

2176	L	11
7	L	11
8	L	11
9	L	11
2180	L	11
1	L	11
2	L	11
3	L	11
4	L	11
2185	L	11
6	L	11
7	H	12
8		
9		
2190	H	12
1	H	12
2	H	12
3	H	12
4	H	12
2195	H	12
6	H	12
7	H	12
8	H	12
9	H	12
2200	H	12

(Numbers of turtles tagged)

HUON, 12 Dec:	125
- 13 Dec:	28
LELEIXOUR, 11 Dec:	54
FABRE 11 Dec:	38 47
SURPRISE 10 Dec:	7
" 11 Dec:	8

269

OVER-CURVE CARAPACE LENGTH DISTRIBUTION, CHOLONIA MYDAS (NESTING
 FEMALES) FROM D'ENNECASTEAU ISLANDS, DECEMBER 10-14 1991.

