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Subject: Signs for Nesting and Basking turtles

I understand there's been some additional email conversation about signage, especially relating to nesting and basking turtles. Maybe I've missed some of the messages, my email has been acting up. But it's fixed now.

There are already signs all over Hawaii of every persuasion, and too many in my opinion. I compare 40 years ago with now. I compare 20 years ago with now. And even just 10 years ago. It's the same all over the USA. But Hawaii is suppose to be special- and indeed it is and we need to strive to keep it that way.

I recommend the conservative approach. Like a good doctor. Does the "patient" really need medicine? As the Hawaii green turtle (and yes hawksbill) population continues to grow- expand in numbers and habitat use- will we really want to put signs warning or teaching about turtle nesting, and turtle basking, all over at each and every place? Where does it end, since new signs (of all types) rarely if ever get taken down by the authorities that put them up. Unless they get stolen-- like the Maui Turtle Crossing signs of several years ago. The USFWS is the lead *federal* agency for sea turtle nesting and basking. Their voice should be heard first and foremost. However in most cases nearly all cases the signs will be on State of Hawaii, or Maui County (or Oahu or Kauai County) controlled lands. The land owners hence need to be consulted right from the start.

I ask that you to Please Pause and Ponder. Thank you, Aloha, George