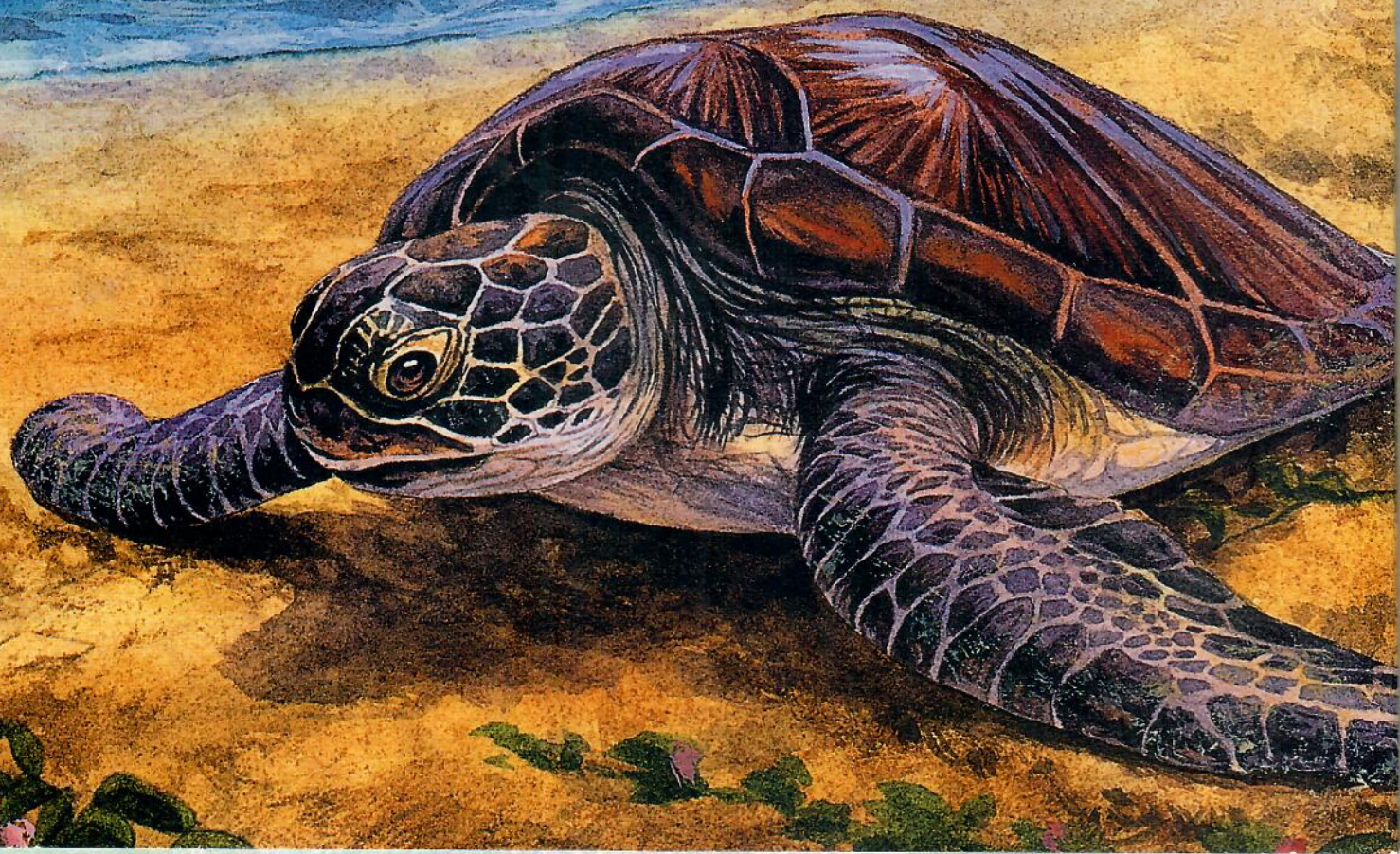
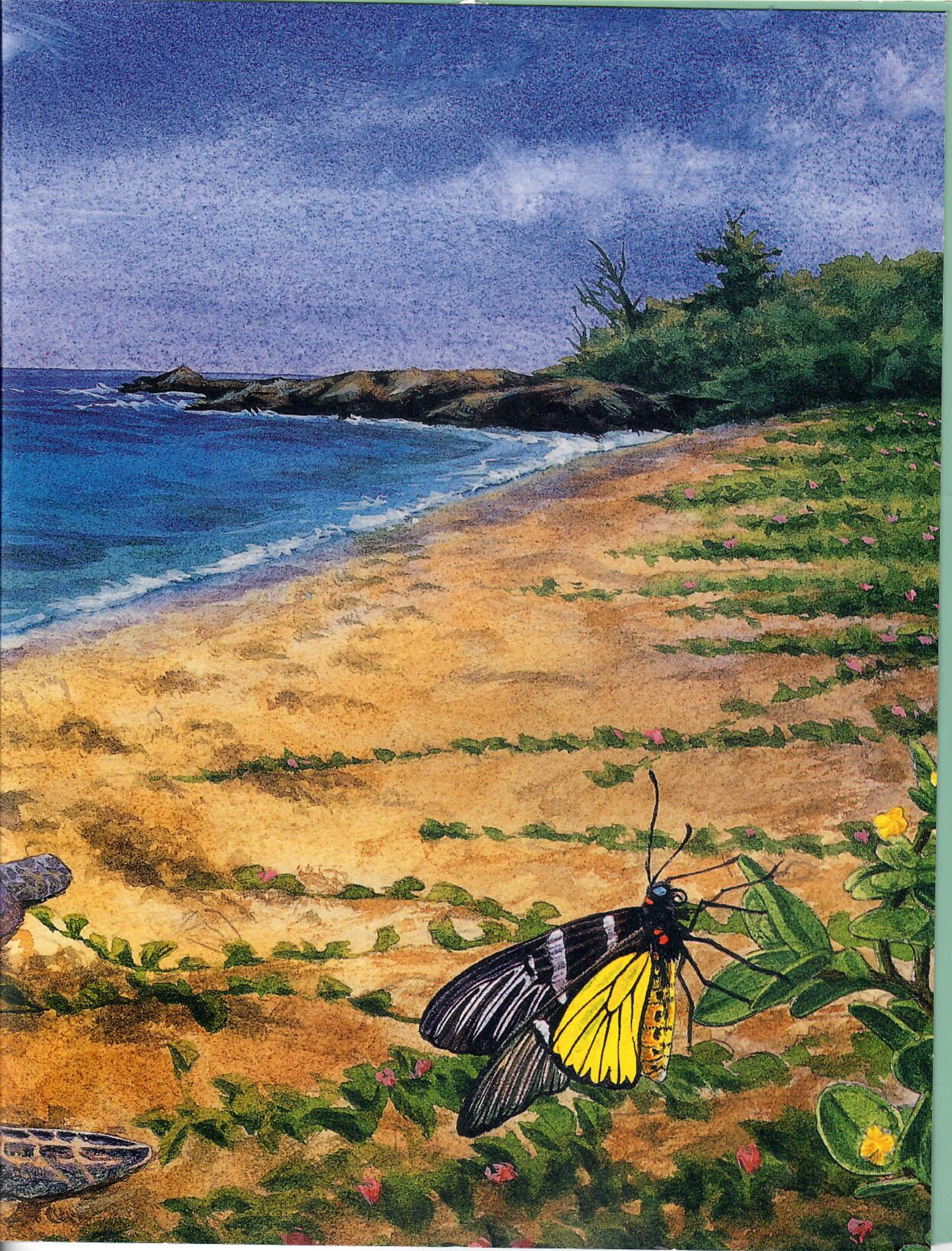


SEA TURTLES

CONSERVATION STAMPS

海龜生態保育紀念票





海龜是海中大型的爬蟲類，早在二億年以前就已經開始出現於這個世界上。然而，在一般人的眼中，牠只不過代表著海中才區區幾斤，有硬殼，但性情溫和的會動而已。在近一兩百年來的環境破壞及人類捕殺獵食後，海龜的數量以急遽減少到瀕臨絕種的程度。因此如何保育這個珍貴而稀有的本土海洋資源，將是我們責無旁貸的工作了。

Sea turtle is a large-sized marine reptile. It appeared on Earth at the age of dinosaur, about 200 million years ago. However, to most people sea turtle is merely a hard-shell large-sized non-vicious seafood. After one to two hundred years over-harvesting and environmental degradation, sea turtle populations has depleted severely, to the endangered states. Therefore, it is our duty to protect this valuable and rare domestic marine resource.





赤蠵龜

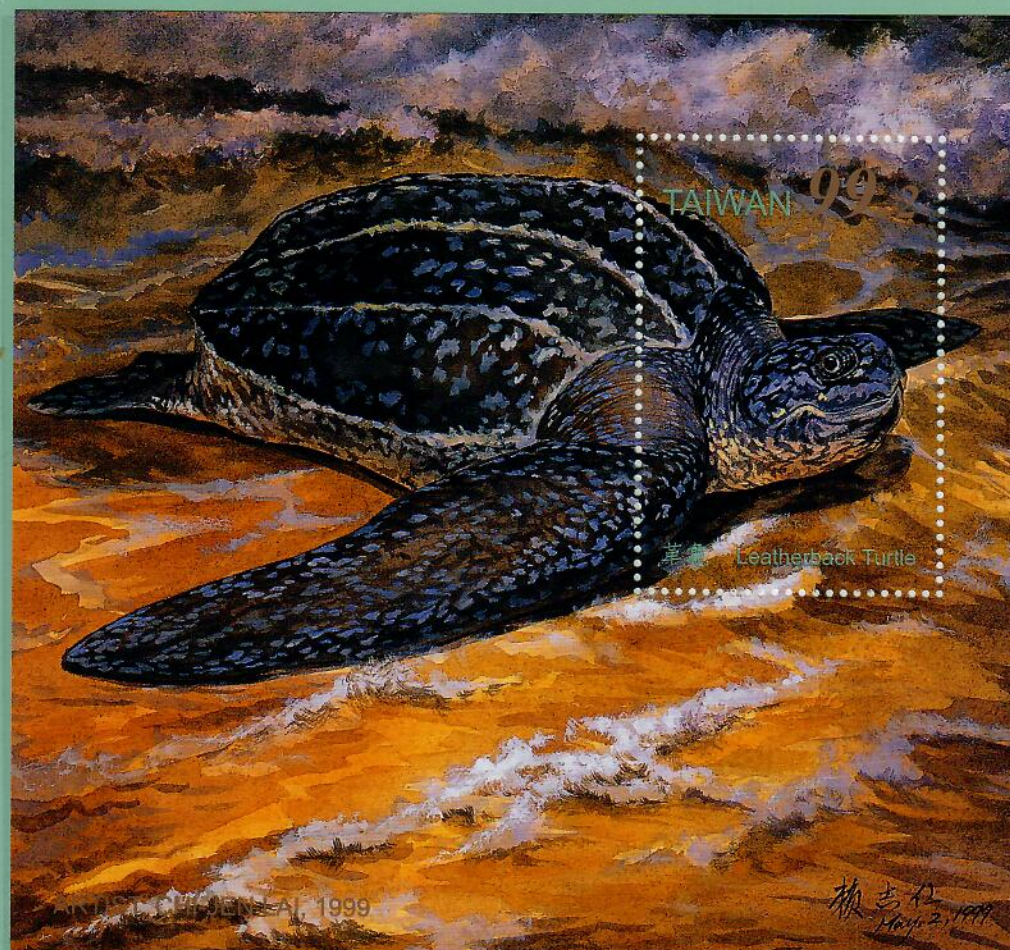
以頭大著稱，具有強而有力的喙，適合用來捕食貝類、蟹、魚及其他的無脊椎動物。牠廣泛分布於全球溫帶及亞熱帶的水域。成龜體長即背甲直線長可達120公分，體重可達200公斤左右，背部為紅棕色。一般而言，稚龜要長12到30年才會成熟，成熟的母龜會於夏天的夜晚上岸產卵，每次產下100到120個卵，稚龜要孵化45到65天才會破殼而出。出生的稚龜體長為45公分左右，體重24克。

Loggerhead Turtle

Caretta caretta gigas

The Chinese common name is red sea turtle. It is famous for the large-sized head, with the strong jaws to crash the mollusk shell, crab and other invertebrate diets. This turtle is distributed widely in the subtropical and warm waters in both hemispheres.

Mature turtle can reaches the body size of 120cm in straight carapace length, and 200kg in body weight. The dorsal carapace is red-brown in color. In general, it takes 12 to 30 years for the hatchling to reaches the adult size. Mature female nests in the summer night. The clutch size ranges from 100 to 120 eggs. The incubation period ranges from 45 to 65 days. The size of hatchling is about 45mm in straight carapace length, and 24g in body weight.



革龜

為所有海龜中唯一不具有硬殼的物種，中國大陸稱為大皮革龜。因其背甲有5到7條稜脊，國人一般稱為楊桃龜或是木瓜龜。牠因沒有硬殼，所以體長可達3公尺背甲直線長，體重超過700磅。牠在熱帶地區的大陸沙灘上產卵，卻以大洋中的水母為食，所以除了上岸產卵外並不在近海中活動。牠的肺活量很大，可潛到1,000公尺深的水中去找水母，其最大的分布範圍可達南北緯65度，因此不但是所有海龜中最大的一種，也是分部最廣的一種。

Leatherback Turtle

Dermodochelys coriacea

Leatherback turtle is the only sea turtle that does not have the hard shell. It is called the big leather turtle in Mainland China. Because it has 5 to 7 ridges on the dorsal carapace, the common domestic name is Yan-tao or Mo-kwa turtle. Due to the lack of hard shell, the leatherbacks can grows up to 3m in straight carapace length and more than 700 ponds. It nests on the beaches of the continent in the tropical areas, while feed on the jellyfishes in the open ocean. Thus, except the nesting season, it rarely approaches the nearshore waters. The lung capacity is large enough for the turtle to dive down over 1,000 meters to search for the deep-sea jellyfishes. The distribution can reach 65 degree in both the northern and southern hemispheres. Thus, it is not only the largest sea turtle in the world but also has the widest distribution range ever recorded.

綠蠔龜

因以海藻及海草為其主食，脂肪中富含葉綠素，故此得名。牠廣泛分布於全球海洋中南北緯30至40度之間。成龜體長即背甲直線長可達100公分以上，體重超過100公斤。通常於夏天的夜晚上岸產卵，每季平均產下6窩卵，每窩約含110個龜卵。

龜卵平均要50天才會孵化出稚龜，體長約67公厘左右，體重約27克，通常於黃昏或夜晚爬出窩巢，回到大海開始其一生的活動。

Green Sea Turtle *Chelonia mydas japonica*

The Chinese common name is black or stone turtle. The English common name derived from the rich chlorophyll contains in the lipid of turtle. It distributed widely in the warm waters between northern and southern hemisphere of 30 to 40 degree latitude. Mature turtle can reaches the body size of over 100 cm in straight carapace length, and more than 100kg in body weight. Females nest in the summer night. She produces on average 6 clutches per season, with the clutch size of 110 eggs.

The incubation period was 50 days on average. The size of hatchling is about 67mm in straight carapace length, and 27g in body weight. It usually emerges from the nest during the dawn, rush to the sea and start its new life.



玳瑁

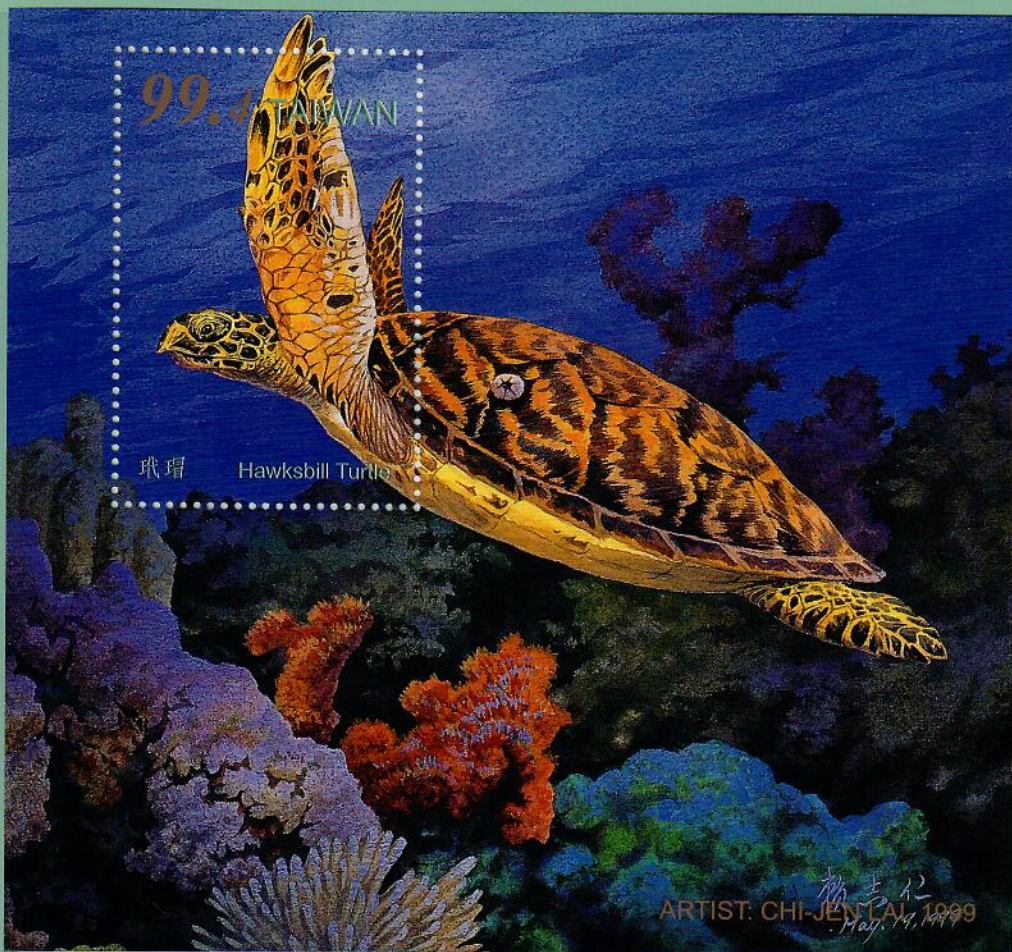
玳瑁以其鷹狀之喙而得名，生活於珊瑚礁區以礁石中之無脊椎甲殼類以及海綿為主食，可能因食物中含有毒性物質，所以其肉中有時會含有致人於死的劇毒。牠廣泛分布於熱帶海域中之珊瑚礁及岩岸區。成龜體長即背甲直線長可達75到85公分，體重可達80公斤以上，成熟的母龜會於夜晚單獨上岸產卵，每季產下4到6窩卵，每窩約含150個龜卵。

稚龜需要47到63天才會孵化出來，稚龜體長約42公厘，體重約為14到15克，至少要長到20到30年才會成熟。

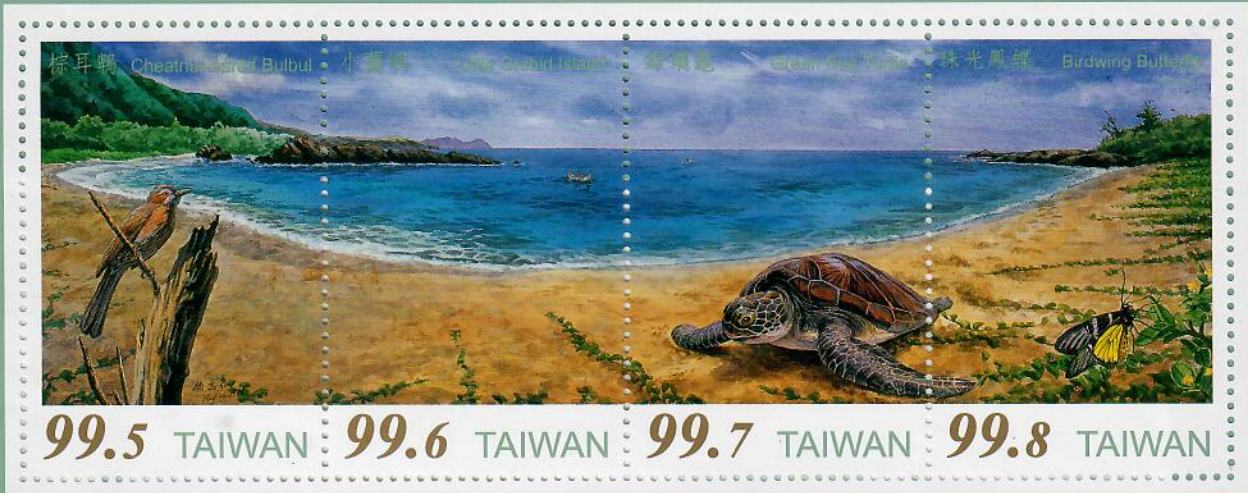
Hawksbill Turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata squamata*

The Chinese common name is eagle-bill sea turtle, this name is derived from the eagle-bill shape of the mouth. It lives in the coral reef and feed mainly on the crustacea and sponge. The meat of this turtle could be poison. This may be related to its diets. It distributed in the coral reef and rocky shores of the tropical oceans. Mature turtle can reach the body size of 75 to 85cm in straight carapace length, and more than 80kg in body weight. Females nest solidly in the summer night. She produces 4 to 6 clutches per season, with average clutch size of 150 eggs.

The incubation period ranges from 47 to 63 days. The size of hatchling was 42mm in straight carapace length, and 14 to 15g in body weight. It takes at least 20 to 30 years before the hatchling can reach the adult size.

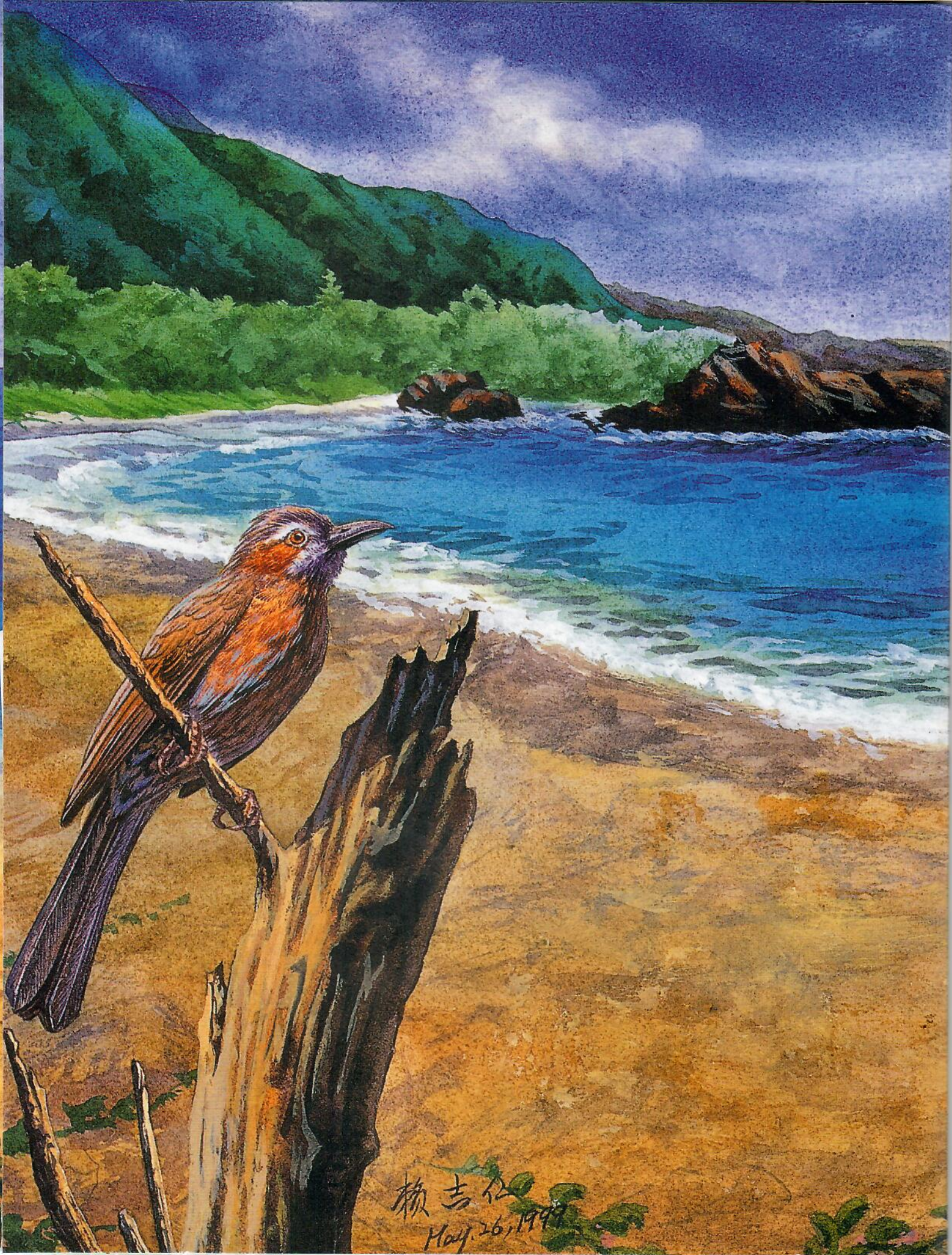


GREEN SEA TURTLE IN ORCHID ISLAND



ARTIST: CHI-JEN LAI, 1999





赖志仁
May. 26, 1999



台灣 在天父地母的呵護下
孕育出無數珍貴奇特的蟲魚鳥獸與花草樹木
在「地球生命週期」中扮演著舉足輕重的角色
海龜生態保育紀念票的發行
即冀以喚醒人們心中沉睡已久的「自然心靈」
並達成人與自然間健康而永續的平衡

Taiwan, with its special, wonderful and abundant resources of nature,
plays a very important role in the " life cycle of the Earth ".
The purpose of issuing the Sea Turtles Conservation Stamps
is to receive our " nature spirit " which has slept long in our hearts and minds,
and to commemorate the desire to reach our eternal balance of life.

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