

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, 32611



DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY
223 BARTRAM HALL
904-392-1107

4 August 1983

The Director
World Wildlife Fund Indonesia
P. O. Box 133
Bogor, Indonesia

Dear Sir:

Reports of the high levels of exploitation of marine turtles in Indonesia have caused growing concern among the members of the IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group. At a recent meeting, I was asked by the membership of the Group to urge you to give proposals for monitoring the levels of exploitation of sea turtles in Indonesia your serious consideration.

Many of the sea turtles harvested in Indonesia are migrants from nesting beaches in western Australia. Although these populations are protected in Australia, the high rate of capture in Indonesian waters may well undermine the effects of the Australian conservation efforts. The turtle populations that both nest and feed in Indonesian waters are under an even greater pressure because they are harvested in both breeding and foraging habitats.

Any WWF money spent to assess levels of exploitation, either in cooperation with Australia or unilaterally, would be a wise and important investment of conservation funds. I hope that you will find it possible to take appropriate action toward furthering the conservation of this important resource.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Archie Carr".

Archie Carr
Chairman, IUCN Marine Turtle
Specialist Group